

Appendix L: Education and Outreach Programs

The following program descriptions are summaries of recent education and outreach efforts addressing salmon recovery in the East Kitsap Salmon Recovery Watershed Planning Area. The following list is representative and not meant as an exhaustive survey. It is important to note that education comes in many forms and this sampling intends to highlight some of the many avenues Kitsap County employs to educate about salmon in our area.

Kitsap County Public Works –Surface & Storm Water Management Education & Outreach Program (SSWM) (www.kitsapgov.com/sswm)

The Surface and Stormwater Management (SSWM) Program is a multi-agency program designed to address non-point pollution and flood control. The program was developed in response to the Federal Clean Water Act, the Puget Sound Water Quality Management Plan, and locally developed Watershed Action Plans. The core purpose of the program is to address non-point pollution, which has been identified as the primary source of pollution in Kitsap County's streams, lakes and marine waters. Non-point pollution is pollution that is carried from roofs, yards, streets and other land surfaces by stormwater runoff. SSWM Program funding supports programs implemented by the Kitsap Conservation District, Kitsap County Department of Community Development (DCD), Kitsap County Health District, and Kitsap County Public Works. The Program is administered by Kitsap County Public Works.

Kitsap County Department of Community Development, Natural Resources Division (<http://www.kitsapgov.com/nr/>)

The Natural Resources Department contributes to salmon recovery on multiple levels. The website provides up-to-date outreach materials and announcements for the general public. The department partners with multiple entities to educate the public and provide opportunities for involvement. Several efforts of note are included below.

Kitsap County Stream Team (www.kitsapgov.com/nr/nr/streamteam)

Kitsap Stream Team, a program of the Natural Resources Division and funded by the Surface and Stormwater Management Program focuses on getting citizens out to salmon habitat, monitoring their migrations and continually growing citizens' awareness of salmon in their local streams and achieving success in recovery efforts. Stream Team's mission is to coordinate and facilitate volunteer projects that protect and enhance the health and productivity of aquatic ecosystems by promoting reliable stewardship of county streams and wetlands by individuals, schools and community groups through outreach and public involvement.

As recorded in Stream Team's annual report: *Fifteen revegetation and stabilization projects were implemented throughout 2003. Of these, five were conducted in the Dyes Inlet watershed, two in the Curley Creek watershed, which drains into Yukon Harbor, and one in the Burke Bay, Sinclair, and Liberty Bay watersheds. 206 volunteers participated and contributed approximately 458 hours of time revegetating sites throughout the year. Clear Creek, which drains into Dyes Inlet, and Salmonberry and Cool Creeks, which drain into Yukon Harbor, required more than one site visit to complete the planting portion and monitoring. Additionally, one nearshore site along Sinclair Inlet was revegetated with the assistance of West Sound*

Technical Skills Center's Natural Resource classroom, with on-going efforts to restore and maintain the shoreline. Furthermore, maintenance was provided at two sites along Barker Creek as well as two county owned wetland mitigation sites. These sites, located at West Kingston Rd and the Central Kitsap Wastewater and Treatment Plant, are monitored annually to free the newly installed native vegetation from encroaching weeds and determine success of the project.

In a cooperative effort between the Stream Team, North Kitsap School District and Central Kitsap Kiwanis/Clear Creek Task Force, KC Surface and Stormwater Management, Kitsap PUD, a total of 18 watershed tours were conducted with well over 1,200 students attending throughout the spring season. Approximately 30 teachers and parent/adult chaperones provided assistance during the tours – involving tree planting, salmon release, benthic “bug” sampling, and water quality monitoring - at Clear Creek, Gamble Creek, and Buck Lake.

To celebrate Earth Day 2003, the Stream Team participated in the celebration festivities at Stillwaters Environmental Education Center in Kingston, on April 19. In addition, the Stream Team helped prep the area prior to the celebration by joining volunteers of SEEC in building a boardwalk that extends from the main office to the critical wetland area and estuary. In another supportive role, the Stream Team sponsored one Eagle Scout project that involved restoring the shoreline of Salisbury Park with walking paths and native vegetation.

Stream Team performed twenty-six public presentations and training workshops to youth and civic groups, schools and streamside property owners and community groups during this reporting period. Included were a stream monitoring and results workshop for the Cutthroat of Carpenter Creek, and training workshops for volunteers who participated in the Benthic Macroinvertebrate Biomonitoring Program and spawner surveys. Stream Team also participated in the planning and implementation of the Kitsap Water Festival at Olympic College and Salmon Tours, and helped coordinate the Kitsap County Fair Watershed displays. Additionally, the Stream Team conducted presentations at both of the Water Festival and Salmon Tours events, in which over 1,000 students and 60 participants, respectively, were given ideas for best management practices (BMP's) and the opportunity to learn about salmon and how to conserve our natural resources. Furthermore, the Stream Team conducted eight school visits throughout the North to the Central Kitsap School District to talk to teachers about water quality test kits and their proper usage as well as to present to the students water quality issues that are caused by human influence and what we could do to act more responsibly.

In a coordinated effort between Stream Team and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Stream Team has for the 4th year collected information on summer chum by conducting spawner surveys of Harding, Thomas, Seabeck, Stavis and Little Anderson Creeks. This year, an “extra help” person was hired to help lead the spawner survey effort and help train three new volunteers who also participated in the fall chum and coho spawner surveys of two East Kitsap streams, coordinated through the Suquamish Tribal Fisheries Department.

Twenty-two volunteers were recruited and trained to conduct biological monitoring and spawner surveys donating over 180 hours. Volunteers collected benthic macroinvertebrate samples at twenty-one sites from nineteen streams between August 15 and October 15, 2003, including four replicate samples for QA/QC requirements. A lab analyzed the samples and the results will be

incorporated into a trend study, with results compiled from the efforts of Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and County Surface and Stormwater Management. A Centennial Clean Water Fund – Section 319 grant for \$26,360.00 awarded to Stream Team by the Washington State Department of Ecology fund years 2001 – 2003 of the study.

Community Salmon Fund

The Natural Resources Division also administers the Community Salmon Fund, which provides the means for landowners to actively participate in habitat restoration. In 2004 the Kitsap County formed a partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to establish the Community Salmon Fund (CSF). The Community Salmon Fund offers grants of up to \$5,000 to stimulate small scale, voluntary action by landowners, community groups, and businesses to support salmon recovery on private property. The goals of the CSF are to fund habitat protection and restoration projects that have a substantial benefit to watershed health by stimulating creativity and leadership among various constituencies to address conservation needs. Target constituencies that can be particularly helpful in salmon recovery include farmers, rural forest owners, suburban homeowners, and owners of businesses and industries. In 2004, The CSF awarded nearly \$60,000 to 11 habitat restoration projects, with an additional total of \$139,617 of matching funds contributed by award recipients. Grantees combine both restoration and community outreach as part of their projects, thereby accomplishing two major goals of salmon recovery.

Kitsap County Public Works –Surface & Storm Water Management Education & Outreach Program (SSWM) (<http://www.kitsapgov.com/sswm>)

Numerous successful programs are generated through the SSWM Program's education and outreach efforts. SSWM funded programs through Public Works include school programs, youth camps, tours, adult and youth educational events, and public outreach on stormwater issues. The program is currently completing installation of watershed boundary signage throughout the County.

Since 2003, the program has been working with local carwash fundraising efforts to reduce their contributions to stormwater loads. This innovative program introduces alternatives to the youth waving signs for charity carwashes and soaping and rinsing cars in parking lots areas, not meant to filter such loads. This program provides coupons from local carwashes that have proper mechanisms to manage their runoff so that organizations and schools can still offer carwashes as fundraisers, but the activity now can occur at proper facilities, thus reducing heavy soapy water loads to the stormwater system. The program works with six automatic car washes and three self-serve operations and is currently advertising this new program to the community.

In collaboration with numerous other agencies, schools and youth groups, SSWM education & outreach staff participates in World Water Quality Monitoring Day held each October. In 2003, over 30 groups and individuals participated in monitoring water quality and reporting results to an international database.

SSWM is a key player in producing the annual Water Festival, as outlined below. Additional youth education programming includes a salmon puppet show, and a salmon habitat enhancement activity for the Enviroscape watershed model that travels to classrooms in the County. Classroom presentations average about 30 per year in addition to the 1000+ students that are reached annually through the Water Festival. Students also have the opportunity to tour their own school's stormwater system. SSWM and Kitsap Public Utility District collaborate annually to present a Water Wonders Day Camp. The camp includes three days of watershed activities for kids ages 7-12, including games, art, exploration, stories and songs.

Kitsap Stormwater Consortium

The SSWM Outreach Program coordinates the Kitsap Stormwater Consortium. The Consortium includes representatives from nine government agencies around Kitsap County including local Navy establishments. The Consortium's goal is to increase the general public's knowledge of how their everyday activities contribute to water pollution in Puget Sound and provide them with information on how they can minimize their impact. Recent projects have included a successful pet waste issues and disposal education program. Other efforts include written publications, booths at outreach events and education with local veterinarian and pet supply retail outlets.

Kitsap County Public Works - Solid Waste (<http://www.kitsapgov.com/sw/default.htm>)

Public Works' efforts benefiting salmon are numerous. The department produces and disseminates literature on salmon friendly gardening, composting, native plants, and waste reduction and hazardous waste. Workshops, outreach to schools and the media and an extensive website keeps the public knowledgeable in ways they can lessen their impact on salmon through individual actions. New programs include mercury for digital thermometer exchanges in an effort to keep hazardous mercury out of the waste stream. The department is focusing on hazardous waste reduction outreach with new publications and programs and provides opportunities for Kitsap County residents to easily and properly dispose of hazardous waste items.

The Green Works program reaches out to the business community by providing free information, assistance and referrals to help Kitsap County businesses improve their environmental performance. Green Works staff educates business owners and managers by focusing on waste prevention, recycling, energy conservation and water conservation.

A developing program, Climate Wise Kitsap will increase awareness of recommended actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The concepts of sustainability and how business practices affect climate change will be introduced to Kitsap County businesses and residents.

Kitsap County Facilities, Parks & Recreation (<http://www.kitsapgov.com/parks/>)

The department now operates with an Integrated Solid & Hazardous Waste Management Plan (based on the Tri-County Model which was created in response to initial ESA salmon listings). The program reduces use of toxic chemicals and pesticides and phases-in least toxic control

methods. Parks has interpretive signage on some County Parks properties. County Parks partners with Seabeck Alki Salmon Team, Stillwaters and the Chums of Barker Creek on properties near Kingston, Seabeck and Barker Creek. Working with Chums of Barker Creek to buy riparian habitat along the Creek with a long-term goal of interpretive work with schools.

Kitsap County Health District (<http://www.kitsapcountyhealth.com>)

The Kitsap County Health District Water Quality Program works to protect public health by identifying Kitsap County surface waters impaired by bacterial contamination, prioritizing them for clean-up, and conducting pollution identification and correction projects to identify and correct sources of pollution. The Pollution Identification and Correction Program (PIC) is a watershed-based data collection, education, and enforcement effort geared toward property owners/occupants. Failing on-site sewage systems are the primary vehicle for bacterial contamination. While agency's efforts are aimed at decreasing threats to human health, salmon habitat can benefit indirectly by improving water quality and educating landowners about individual impacts on water quality. Educational efforts are bolstered by extensive outreach techniques, volunteer opportunities and proactive educational workshops providing landowners the necessary tools for maintaining their on-site sewage system.

The agency offers repair fee waivers for extreme financial hardship; extensive technical assistance for failing on-site systems; proactive door-to-door educational talks; publications; and pre and post project public presentations, proactive educational programming. Other outreach includes press releases (i.e. PIC projects, water quality data reports, shellfish closures); media interviews; news articles; cable access spots; informational door hangers in PIC areas; public signs water quality hotline; mailings; contamination signage in aquatic areas (i.e. swimming, shellfish harvesting); and presentations and displays at water quality conferences.

Kitsap County Health District participates in the Kitsap Stormwater Consortium and co-produced and disseminates an excellent brochure on pet waste and provides pet waste education at outreach events and the media. Health District funded Mutt Mitt dispensers are available at public sites where pet waste is prevalent.

Kitsap Public Utility District (<http://www.kpud.org/education/education.html>)

The Public Utility District (PUD) offers wellhead protection workshops, school presentations, day camps, water conservation programs and wise-water gardening education and teacher education. The PUD Education Programs are offered for the citizens of Kitsap County to educate them about water resources. Programs focus on effect of human actions on water resources in the local watershed. Issues of water quality and quantity and solutions to non-point pollution in the local watersheds are highlighted. The agency provides suggestions for practices and volunteer activities that will ensure a continued supply of clean water. Also offered are community workshops for adults and programs for children including Junior Water Watchers and the Water Festival. Individual presentations or field trips on non-point pollution solutions, groundwater model demonstrations, stream insects as indicators of water quality and water story telling are available. Teacher workshops to train teachers to use water curriculum in their classrooms are sponsored. Educators may borrow groundwater and watershed models as well as curricula, books and videotapes are also available.

Kitsap Conservation District (<http://www.kitsapcd.org/>)

The Conservation District (CD) works upon request with landowners on best management practices for agricultural lands. The Conservation District works one-on-one with landowners on farm management plans, habitat restoration, fencing projects, incentive programs, reducing runoff to streams and nutrient management. The CD also produces workshops on manure management, mud management, native plants, and preparing your farm for winter. Outreach is also achieved through brochures, newsletters, special events, community meetings, demonstration sites and direct mailings to 5,300 landowners.

Suquamish Tribe (www.suquamish.nsn.us)

The Suquamish Tribe partners and collaborates in salmon education & outreach throughout the County. The Tribe work with state, local and community entities on research and restoration projects, school presentations, and works with volunteers on several salmon related projects. The Tribe partners with the City of Bainbridge Island on a long-term beach seining research effort involving volunteers to further research knowledge and community education in a citizen-based monitoring effort.

City Of Bainbridge Island (www.ci.bainbridge-isl.wa.us)

The City provides workshops, conferences, and other events about shoreline & watershed stewardship, stormwater management, habitat, pesticides, including co-sponsoring the annual Environmental Conference and the annual Salmon Homecoming. Educational literature and a website are produced and maintained to distribute information to residents. The City works with schools to provide salmon education activities, including participating in National Water Quality Monitoring Day; speaking to local school classes and participating in school field trips. Visible means of outreach include roadside stream & name signage and information booths at local community festivals, including annual 4th of July and Blackberry Festivals.

The Shoreline Stewardship Program incorporates workshops, technical and financial assistance, and project partnerships that lead to shoreline habitat restoration & enhancement. The Wildlife Corridor Network works with neighborhood groups to maintain voluntary riparian and upland wildlife corridors. The City sponsors the Watershed Council, an active citizen stewardship coordination body. In partnership with the Suquamish Tribe, trained volunteers assist with beach seining efforts to monitor fish populations. Volunteers also assist with restoration & enhancement projects, including riparian planning and noxious weed removal. Volunteers, including school and youth groups, help with stormdrain stenciling.

Washington Sea Grant Program – University Of Washington (www.wsg.washington.edu)

The Washington Sea Grant Program brings research-based University resources to bear on marine water quality issues in Kitsap County. Sea Grant provides education, information and technical resources to local governments, tribes, industry, schools, community groups and individuals. Working collaboratively with other Kitsap area agencies and organizations, the WA Sea Grant Program provides workshops, educational events, technical assistance and publications on water quality, nearshore habitat, stormwater, shoreline slope stabilization techniques, monitoring and restoration. Sea Grant coordinates local entities working on

nearshore outreach efforts and encourages ongoing collaborative approaches. Sea Grant is a co-sponsor and co-chair of Water Festival, and helps fund and produce shoreline workshops and other educational efforts that benefit Kitsap County.

Puget Sound Action Team (www.psat.wa.gov)

Local liaisons form the outreach and technical assistance arm of the Action Team partnership to protect and restore Puget Sound. They provide local and tribal governments, citizens and businesses with tools and information such as model programs and ordinances, scientific research, educational materials and sources of funding. They build partnerships and support community-based education. Linked as a team, the liaisons bring a Soundwide knowledge of issues involving water quality, habitat, and shoreline and watershed planning. They offer practical solutions to deal with local problems.

Kitsap County WSU Extension (www.kitsap.wsu.edu)

WSU Master Gardeners maintain and provide extensive resources and education on native plants and least-toxic pest control methods. Native vegetation and water quality are key elements to healthy salmon habitat. Trained master gardeners create demonstration projects; staff outreach booths at garden stores and outreach events; and are a source of technical expertise on native plantings. Master Gardeners also serve as Master Composters and Master Weed Advisors accomplishing the goals of reducing the waste stream and toxics thus enhancing native plant habitat and salmon habitat. WSU also runs a Coached Forest Stewardship program enabling small forest owners to better steward their land as habitat.

Kitsap Environmental Education Programs Network (KEEP)

The Kitsap Environmental Education Programs (KEEP) Network is an informal bi-monthly gathering of representatives from private, non-profit and governmentally sponsored environmental education programs in Kitsap County. The purpose of these meetings is to exchange program, event and organizational information and build a relationship network that supports environmental education volunteers and programs throughout the county.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Mid Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group (MPSFEG) www.midsoundfisheries.org

The Mid Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group works with communities to maximize self-sustaining salmon populations. They work cooperatively with private landowners, agencies, tribes and others to identify, design and implement projects that improve salmon habitat. MPSFEG operates in both King and East Kitsap. The group has an outreach and education program that works with local schools, sports groups and businesses to provide salmon education programs and restoration projects. Mid Sound puts on the annual Enumclaw salmon festival and participates in numerous Kitsap County events.

The Pogie Club

The Pogie Club is a community fishing club that is active in both restoration and education activities. The group feeds fish in the Gorst rearing ponds; participates in the Suquamish Tribe's outmigration study; and volunteers with WDFW seining efforts. The Pogie Club hosts an annual salmon viewing and open house at Jarstad Park.

Stillwater Environmental Education Center (www.stillwatersenvironmentalcenter.org/)

An independent, non-profit organization, Stillwaters runs numerous volunteer-driven projects and educational programs on limited resources and personnel. In partnership with Stream Team and the County biologist, Kitsap Conservation District, Washington Sea Grant Program, and others, Stillwaters works at the youth and adult levels to engender stewardship and action in their local region.

Stillwaters oversees the Cutthroats of Carpenter Creek that monitors water quality at four sites on Carpenter Creek and are expanding efforts to the Appletree Cove estuary. Volunteers conduct benthic macroinvertebrate monitoring, salmon spawning surveys and beach seining, all supervised by Kitsap County natural resources staff. Stillwaters is involved with numerous restoration projects on their own land and neighboring lands. Outreach and education are integral components to these projects that include culvert replacement for fish barrier removal, stream remeandering, and invasive plant removal and wetlands restoration.

Beyond monthly meetings, face-to-face outreach with neighbors, newsletters and special events, Stillwaters maintains and is expanding a nature center and classroom for integration into N. Kitsap School District programming. Their land includes boardwalks and trails incorporated within view of beaver ponds and wetlands and will soon include interpretive signage. At another site, the boardwalk leads to a salt marsh viewing platform. The Stillwaters trail system connects to trails throughout 200 acres of adjoining lands, providing citizens an unusual opportunity to explore and learn about their watershed and its connections to salmon habitat.

Other products include:

- Growing Green Residents & the EcoBinder – A household education program on septic, stormwater, and smart growth principles. The EcoBinder, an environmental resource guide, is distributed through workshops.
- EcoFest – Annual Earth Day celebration for the community, with 600 participants and over 40 educational exhibits and displays
- Sustainability Discussion Courses – Using a text from the Northwest Earth Institute for small group discussion over 8 or 9 sessions.
- Summer Classes for the Family – Various topics and schedules
- Community Outreach – Educational booth at Kingston Farmers Market and presentations for community groups
- Creek Tours – Public tours of watershed
- Newsletter & Newspaper articles – Educational articles in quarterly
- SW newsletter and monthly Kingston Community News
- Carpenter Creek Integrated Watershed Curriculum – including skill standards for Natural Resource Careers
- School-Based Estuary Curriculum
- Field Studies Design – On-site programs at Stillwaters
- On-Site Visits – teachers & classes from nearby schools using SW for field studies
- Programming with private schools, youth clubs and homeschoolers utilizing Integrated Watershed Curriculum
- Children’s Summer Classes – multi-day classes for children from 4 -12, on various topics

Chums Of Barker Creek (www.kitsapgov.com/nr/nr/organizations/cbc.htm)

The overarching mission of the Chums of Barker Creek is the preservation of the Barker Creek ecosystem. The major educational goal of this non-profit focuses on the Three Springs Outdoor Classroom site. This 10-acre site was purchased by Kitsap County after much advocacy for the land on behalf of the Chums of Barker Creek. They are now in the process of obtaining grant money to design/create trails/viewing platforms that will protect the sensitive environment while allowing students to study in this natural area of bogs, springs, old growth trees, native plants. This endeavor is listed on the WA Dept of Ecology as a Success story.

The Chums of Barker Creek maintains an extensive mailing list to educate local citizens on activities and actions in the area that have bearing on the watershed. The group is a member of the Washington Environmental Council and the West Sound Conservation Council and the Fairgrounds Neighborhood Coalition. Board members have been represented on County Commissioner Appointed committees such as the Central Kitsap Community Council, the Open Space, Parks and Recreation Committee, the East Kitsap Salmon Recovery Committee, the WRIA 15 committee.

The Chums have acquired more than one million dollars for acquisition and restoration projects on Barker Creek. (SRFB funding for acquisition of sensitive environmental parcels total \$761,000. A private foundation(Bella Vista) has donated \$30,000 for acquisition of an additional parcel The County had previously spent at least \$800,000 on replacement of culverts to improve

salmon runs at Barker Creek and Nels Nelson Rds. The culvert at the estuary will be replaced because of SRFB funding. \$30,000 from Bella Vista Foundation has been added as matching funding for the replacement of this culvert. Without the efforts of the Chums of Barker Creek, these improvements would not have been accomplished. The group is currently working to secure protection for additional areas of the watershed to maintain habitat in this rapidly growing part of the County.

Clear Creek Task Force ([/www.clearcreektrail.org/](http://www.clearcreektrail.org/))

This non-profit organization relies almost exclusively on volunteer efforts to accomplish their goals. Clear Creek Task Force, a partnership of numerous organizations, works on salmon enhancement projects; stream sensitive trail development with interpretive signage; creating an interpretive center, greenway preservation, and stream habitat restoration. They partner with Kitsap County Stream Team, the Central Kitsap Kiwanis and local schools on riparian restoration projects and salmon fry release programs.

Seabeck Alki Salmon Team (<http://homepages.donobi.net/salmon>)

This group focuses mainly on K-12 education work. Classroom presentations (by the student group members) on salmon habitat and recovery issues are tremendously successful and popular. The group helped obtain a site near Seabeck named Nick's Lagoon, after a student Nick who helped discover salmon usage of the lagoon area there. Student meet weekly for discussions, outings, speaking engagements and art projects all woven together with the theme of stewardship and the positive outcomes that are possible through dedication and effort.

Liberty Bay Foundation (www.libertybayfoundation.org)

In collaborative partnership, this volunteer driven group works to restore habitat and water quality of Liberty Bay through native revegetation projects, water quality and macroinvertebrate monitoring, education and community stewardship.

West Sound Conservation Council (WSCC) (www.weave.org/wscweb.htm)

West Sound Conservation Council is a coalition of conservation groups in the West Puget Sound dedicated to bringing the voice of environmental responsibility the public debate.

- Attain a balanced use of natural resources
- Rehabilitate damaged ecosystems
- Increase public commitment to environmental stewardship
- Achieve responsible public environmental policies

- Ensure enforcement of environmental regulations
- Hold public officials accountable as stewards of public resources

Member Organizations include:

Chums of Barker Creek, Hood Canal Coordinating Council, Kitsap Audubon Society, Kitsap Citizens for Responsible Planning, Kitsap Conservation Voters, Friends of Miller Bay and the North Kitsap Coordinating Council.

Kitsap Audubon Society (www.kitsapaudubon.org)

The Kitsap Audubon Society provides stewardship and learning opportunities for their members and the community at large. The group partners with other local groups to provide volunteers for restoration and maintenance projects and species and habitat studies. While mainly focused on avian issues, the group has regular educational events on an array of issues related to habitat and various species. Their website has information to involve their members in education and policy events in addition to listing field trips and volunteer projects. Kitsap Audubon Society is a professional member of the Marine Science Society.

Poulsbo Marine Science Center (www.poulsbomsc.org)

The Marine Science Center in conjunction with the Naval Undersea Museum, provide the Science Education Alliance outreach programs on salmon. Staff goes to the classrooms and provide the following units:

Grade 1 - Salmon, Egg to Adult: Students compare the life cycles of fish and insects. They observe, touch and draw adult salmon (non-living specimen) and observe preserved eggs and developmental stages of baby salmon. They sequence cutouts, matching an adult salmon and insect to their corresponding life cycles. In addition to the teacher, 4-5 volunteers are needed.

Grade 3 - Fish Body Language: Students observe how humans use their sense organs to choose and ingest food. They compare the external parts of a salmon with the human structure counterparts. Next, they investigate the internal organs of a salmon, contrasting the digestive system with that of humans. In addition to the teacher, 4-5 volunteers are needed for this lesson.

Extension Lesson – Salmon-Inside/Outside: Students observe the external parts of a salmon. They describe, discuss and label these parts, focusing on the unique characteristics of fish. They then examine the internal organs of the fish, locating and naming as many as they can, using handouts. They compare the fish's external and internal parts to those of humans.

The Marine Science Center also offers educational beachwalks; marine naturalist workshops for adults; outreach to programs to daycares, preschools, libraries and community groups; and children's summer day camps.

Bainbridge Island Land Trust (www.bi-landtrust.org)

Bainbridge Island Land Trust seeks to preserve and steward lands providing wildlife habitat and other significant conservation values. In addition to acquisition, the Land Trust engages

landowners in discussions on ways to preserve their land, often through tax benefit programs. The group also co-sponsors the Environmental Conference and holds annual native plant sales. Land Trust volunteers actively maintain and restore land trust properties and participate in noxious weed removal.

The Great Peninsula Conservancy (www.greatpeninsula.org)

The Great Peninsula Conservancy, a Washington non-profit organization, is a regional land trust working to protect forever the rural landscapes, natural habitat and open spaces of our region. The Conservancy works with private and public landowners to protect habitat for salmon and other species through the acquisition or donation of conservation easements -- agreements in which the landowner agrees to restrict uses of the land that are incompatible with conservation of the habitat. Occasionally the Conservancy also purchases land outright in order to protect it, as recently occurred at the Curley Creek Estuary. Current acquisition or restoration projects related to salmon habitat in Kitsap County (the Conservancy also works in Mason and Pierce County) include Chico Creek, Curley Creek and Salmonberry Creek. The Conservancy also sponsors several community groups working on projects that benefit salmon habitat such as the Clear Creek Task Force and Friends of Miller Bay.

Kitsap Diving Association

Kitsap Diving Association spearheads an annual clean-ups of Sinclair Inlet in partnership with numerous local groups and agencies. The group promotes understanding and stewardship of local marine resources.

Kitsap TREES

Kitsap Trees cultivates a public awareness and appreciation of trees, fostering community forestry programs; emphasizing development of educational programs for schools and training for the public; stimulating increased funding for acquisition and maintenance of new and existing trees and forests; and promoting partnerships with private enterprise and residents in Kitsap County.

EVENTS

Kitsap Water Festival (www.kitsapgov.com/nr/waterfestival)

Water Festival is a one-day event that reaches 1,000 Kitsap County 4th graders each year since 1994. Students learn about the salmon life cycle; hydrologic cycle; habitat; pollution prevention; groundwater; watersheds; marine science and other pertinent topics. Federal, state, local agencies, non-profit organizations and the private provide presentations sector. This event provides students an unparalleled opportunity to learn about water and who use it in fun, educational environment.

The goals of Water Festival are to:

- Increase community awareness of the importance of water and natural resource issues
- Allow children to see the causes of and effects of pollution
- Teach children how their actions affect water quality
- Encourage children and their families to be good stewards of the environment
- Enable teachers to gain the skills and knowledge necessary to routinely include water education in their classrooms
- Teach children the concept and importance of water conservation
- Teach children the importance of preserving salmon and other habitat
- Introduce teachers to the latest in natural resource curricula and available local resources
- Give the community an opportunity to directly participate in the education of our youth
- Teach children the necessity of clean water

Kitsap Salmon Tours (www.kitsapgov.com/sswm/outreach.htm)

Each year, Kitsap County SWMM, Kitsap Public Utility District and the Washington Sea Grant Program partner with other agencies and organizations to produce the annual Salmon Tours. Held in the fall, this event provides an opportunity for participants to travel by bus to three or four different sites around the county to view salmon and learn about salmon. At each site, biologists meet with the group to discuss salmon, habitat, human impact, and how that particular site is important to salmon.

K-12 Education

A thorough discussion of all K-12 efforts specific to salmon is beyond the scope of this section. It is important to note the effort put forth by both the Kitsap County and Bainbridge Island schools to integrate salmon education into their curricula. Both partner with tribes, agencies and organizations to present educational units and lectures in the classrooms, field trips and hands on restoration and learning opportunities. Both school districts participate in the annual Water Festival. Individual teachers have full units on salmon utilizing salmon in the classroom, lessons and field trips. The integration of professional and volunteer community expertise integrated into the learning experience presented to Kitsap County school children relating to salmon is extensive and provides rewarding and meaningful educational experiences throughout the K-12 educational systems.