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Puget Sound Forest Stewardship E-Newsletter

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The Puget Sound Forest Stewardship E-Newsletter is sent out periodically as news and announcements become available. Please feel free to forward and share this information with others who may be interested.

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Forester's Notes

After the last newsletter, you probably weren't expecting to hear from me this month. But some recent GOOD news warrants a short newsletter so that we do not leave last month's sour note hanging!

First of all, some great news in Snohomish County – the county council voted to restore Extension funding so we're back in business. This is a great opportunity for Snohomish County folks to thank their local councilmember for making stewardship and education a priority. We are also, barring last minute changes, looking good in Skagit County – an opportunity for Skagit folks to thank their local commissioner for supporting stewardship and education.

The big kicker has been King County, and it looks like we may have some good news there within a couple of weeks. It looks like there may be some money to keep the forestry program going in King County. It is not a done deal yet, but we are working out the details and it looks very promising that we may be back in business there. Again, nothing concrete yet – but enough to get excited about.

With some good news to share, some great accomplishments over the past year to look back on, and in recognition of all the wonderful support from all of you, I think there is cause for celebration. To that end, I propose we start the new year off right in January with the first ever Forest Stewardship Social – read below for details!

To give you a quick preview of other things coming up in 2010, we're working on rescheduling the Ties to the Land class (again...) for sometime in March and/or April (I promise the dates will stick this time!). We are also planning to roll out an online version of Coached Planning in the spring, and we'll have at least one live class in the fall (two if I can swing it). And of course, we'll have our summer field day.

As a reminder, for the rest of this month and probably as far out as early February, I will be out of the office a lot doing a ton of traveling to different meetings and trainings to prepare some good stuff for next year (along with a wee bit of vacation time to visit family). It seems like I spend more time in the airport than my office! I've also been spending a little time away to do program planning and some "scholarly" activities for the university. I've already put together a brand new WSU Extension publication to add to our forestry series, and it is now in review. I have a couple more in the works as well, so some new stuff should be ready for consumption in mid-2010.

In the meantime, please do feel free to call and email and I will respond as I am able – just be aware that, depending on when you catch me in the travel cycle, it may take longer than usual for me to get back to you.

I hope you all enjoy whatever holiday celebrations and traditions you have planned, and I hope to see a whole bunch of you at the social in January. Until then, "Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good night!"

Kevin W. Zobrist
WSU Area Extension Educator
Serving King, Snohomish, and Skagit Counties

Forest Stewardship Social

We've got a lot to celebrate - successful partnerships, great accomplishments, and surviving from the brink of funding elimination. Join us for the first ever Forest Stewardship Social to celebrate and get to know your fellow landowners.

There will not be planned program - this is purely a social event for fellowship, fun, and getting to know other forest owners. Everyone is welcome! This will be potluck, so please bring a dish and/or a beverage to share. We will provide plates, cups, etc., as well as coffee and tea.

The social will be 6:30 – 9:00 PM on **Friday January 15th** at the Snohomish County Extension building in Everett. Easy access from I-5, Hwy 2, and the Mukilteo Ferry. Landowners and interest folks from all counties are welcome!

Please RVSP so we can get a head count. RSVP and more details (including map and directions) are available at <http://snohomish.wsu.edu/forestry/social2010.htm>.

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