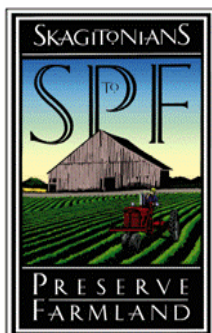


SKAGITONIAN

Winter/Spring 2016



www.skagitonians.org

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A Year in Review

2015 continued to be a year of growth and accomplishments for our organization, highlighted by the wonderful and generous support of our SPF Members! YOUR support and voice helped lead to the following accomplishments in 2015:

- Continued to work on our largest farmland preservation project in our history: 387 acres of farmland on Cook Road.
- Increased our Outreach & Education efforts through new Talking Fields sites and a record high FOUR educational Farm Tours!
- Held our first ever “Our Valley, Our Future” Breakfast event where we recognized achievements in the past, present and future of agriculture.
- Met with the Governor’s Senior Natural Resource Staff in Olympia regarding habitat restoration and farmland preservation.
- Presented SPF’s work at the American Planning Association’s National Conference, Farmland Preservation Conference, Snohomish Sustainable Lands Strategy Executive Committee, Snohomish Ag Advisory Board and various small group meetings.
- Welcomed Teresa Bennett to our team, as our volunteer Outreach Specialist.
- Successfully prevented the annexation of 50 acres of farmland into the City of Sedro-Woolley.
- Held our third highest grossing Harvest Dinner & Auction to support our mission and work.

As we roll into 2016, we look forward to even more great things happening for Skagit agriculture. Thank you for being a part of our team and for your deep belief in our important work.



Clear Valley Settlement: Eight Years Later

SPF recently received \$44,000 to permanently protect farmland—the first installment payment from an agreement reached with Clear Valley Environmental Farm, LLC eight years ago.

In 2008, Clear Valley Environmental Farm LLC (Clear Valley), proposed to restore and rehabilitate wetlands on 396 acres of farmland on the outskirts of Mount Vernon on the Nookachamps Creek. SPF appealed the project’s environmental determination and after a long process of hearings, entered into a settlement agreement.

Under the terms of the 2008 agreement, SPF withdrew their appeal of the shoreline and grading permits and Clear Valley agreed to contribute \$6,000 to the Skagit County Farmland Legacy Program for every credit sold from the bank to mitigate the impacts to farmland. The settlement agreement also called for permanently protecting approximately 220 acres of farmland. SPF holds the money in trust as a third party, and will make the funds available to the county’s Farmland Legacy Program once the trust account reaches \$100,000.





YOU'RE INVITED on the SPF Spring Farm Tour!

Theme: "Value-Added Agriculture"

Date: **Friday, May 20, 2016**

Time: 8:00am—3:00pm

Cost: \$20 for SPF members

\$30 for all other guests

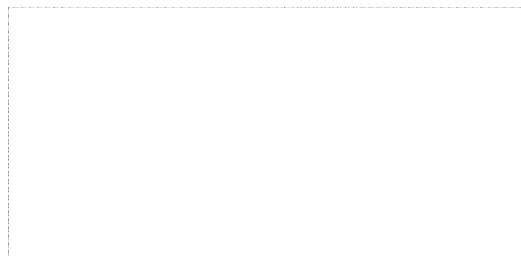
Lunch & Transportation provided!

Reserve your spot today. Space is very limited.

www.skagitonians.org



Skagitians to Preserve Farmland
PO Box 2405
Mount Vernon, WA 98273



2016 Events – Save The Dates

Mark your calendar
and join us for these
FUN events:



Spring Farm Tour Friday, May 20

Our Valley, Our Future Breakfast
Wednesday, June 8

Summer Farm Tour Saturday, June 25

18th Annual Harvest Dinner & Auction
Saturday, Sept 17

Celebrate Skagit in Seattle
Thursday, Nov 3

Watch our website for information on
reservations, ticket prices, sponsorships for
these events and more!

www.skagitonians.org

Coldwell Banker Bain

SPF was selected to participate in the **Community Partnership Program** with Coldwell Banker Bain in Anacortes. Each time a SPF member, or friend or relative of a member, buys or sells a home with our friends Don Elliott or George Roth, SPF will receive 10% of the commission!! Check out the SPF website for details!



Introducing "The Dirt"

Be on the look out for our new monthly email called **The Dirt**. It's designed to inform, educate and WOW people about farming in the Skagit Valley....and there is MUCH to share!

The Dirt will arrive via email on the 4th Wednesday of each month, so be sure to sign up on our email list so you don't miss out on...



Would you like to receive our News Bulletins
and other communications via EMAIL?

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www.skagitonians.org

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