



Stillwaters Environmental Center

RIPPLES AND REFLECTIONS

May, 2016

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WHAT'S ON OUR MINDS - Reflections from the Stillwaters staff & board members

Earth Day Thoughts



As we write this, we are approaching Earth Day, which we will spend in the woods, as close to our nurturing Earth as possible. This year we have many reasons to be troubled about the fate of

Earth — in our community and globally. As often happens, one of our favorite authors, E. O. Wilson, has wisdom to offer.

Soon after salmon were listed in 1999, a Stillwaters board member introduced us to the writing of E. O. Wilson. At that time Dr. Wilson was a Pellegrino University Professor. Joleen discovered his writing was quite accessible to general readers, and he had a remarkable collection of books that she couldn't resist reading and sharing. His graceful and yet precise way of writing on complex topics earned him two Pulitzer prizes and the admiration of scientists and general readers around the world.

Dr. Wilson is now a professor emeritus at Harvard, lives in Massachusetts, and has just concluded his last book of a trilogy: Half-Earth: Our Planet's Fight for Life.

Half-Earth is an honest look at the damage to the planet caused by our species' ignorance, but it is also an expression of hope. **Most importantly, it can be a blueprint for saving the planet.**



Dr. Wilson proposes that only by committing half of Earth's surface to nature, in its natural state, can we hope to save the life-forms that live here, including humans. Setting aside at least half of the planet in reserve, we might achieve a stable level of life.



This Half-Earth goal is a model of conserving all good habitat, rather than focusing primarily on saving only the most endangered species. If the conservation window closes, all species will be endangered. We truly can't replace high-quality, natural habitats once they are destroyed.

It is, Wilson points out, a moral question of whether we cherish the common good, value our own human tribe, and respect the tribes of all other species. We need a major shift in moral reasoning, with commitment to all of Earth.

"Wildlands are our birthplace. Our civilizations were built from them. Our food and most of our dwellings and vehicles were derived from them. Our gods lived in their midst."

"Nature in the wildlands is the birthright of everyone on Earth. The millions of species we have allowed to survive there, but continue to threaten, are our phylogenetic kin. Their long-term history is our history. We always have been and will remain a biological species tied to this particular biological world. Millions of years of evolution are indelibly encoded in our genes. History without the wildlands is no history at all."

Joyfully, we are caretakers of our natural home and responsible for its survival, which in turn is our humanity's hope for survival.

WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE

Find a place to jump in . . .



- **Stillwaters Fish Passage Monitoring** — *Citizen Scientists are doing estuary, stream & salt marsh monitoring, sediment analysis, & data recording. Vegetation & elevation surveys, tidal height, & the monthly bird count are some of the other activities. Watching for invasive European Green Crabs is a new pursuit. Monitors needed! See page 6.*



- **Interns from U.W. Program on Environment & WWU-Huxley** — *connecting students to the watershed & field work has been excellent training for them & helpful for us. Two interns were here for winter term & two more are starting with us this summer.*
- **Training & Teaching** — *New Monitors are training on the job. Interns from WWU-Huxley are learning from their field work here. We taught a class on beavers at WWU, and hosted two WWU classes for field trips. We're planning EcoFest, a Beach Walk & EcoCruises. See p. 4*
- **Trail, Campus, & 'Earth' Work** — *the campus is getting spruced up for EcoFest & our Annual Dinner. A new sign graces our driveway entry.*
- **Outreach** — *We're installing the interpretive signs for the watershed in 6 locations. A new website for Stillwaters is great & it's growing!*
- **Event Planning** — *EcoFest planning is in high gear; it will be on June 4.*



We are also planning for our Annual Dinner Fund Raiser, on August 14. More Event Planners needed! See p. 3 & 5

- **Fund Development** — *our usual fund raising continues while we collect funds to remodel the Tree House & improve the campus.*
 - **Book Sale & Native Plant Sale** — *Our Annual Used Book Sale is a year-round activity — with books to sort, & lots to list online. Native Plants for our nursery are potted up, & the nursery is getting tidy. Could use a "green thumb"!*
 - **Office Assistance & Mailings** — *these are critical! Jump into a mailing party or help out in the office regularly.*
 - **Meeting & Planning by the Stillwaters Staff, Board & Committees.** *A big Board planning retreat is planned for next month.*
- That's a lot going on! See p. 6, call to sign up, & join us this summer!**

Thanks for these special donations:

- ♦ **Office furniture, propane heater, & patio supplies** from *Ron & Cindy Eber, Sandra Bauer & Andy Constant*
- ♦ **Office Supplies & Padded mailing envelopes** from *many of you*
- ♦ **Used Books** from *many folks—don't stop!*
- ♦ **Pest Control** from *Critter Ridders*
- ♦ **Legal Advice** from *Beebe, Roberts & Bryan, & Isaac Anderson*
- ♦ **Chiropractic Services** from *Gaitlink Chiropractic Center in Kingston*
- ♦ **Access to their land for monitoring** from *Suzanne Arness, Jenny Davis, Steve & Sally Heacock, Kingston Hill Homeowners*

STILLWATERS SPONSORS



We are honored & energized by our sponsors! These businesses have an interest in a vibrant community, clean water, & an educated population. Therefore, they support Stillwaters.

STILLWATERS SPONSORS for 2016:

KINGSTON-NK ROTARY CLUB
BEEBE, ROBERTS & BRYAN, PLLC
GAITLINK CHIROPRACTIC
CHINOOK PROPERTIES
COLUMBIA BANK
KITSAP PHYSICAL THERAPY

If you or your business would like to join this auspicious group, contact us (360-297-1226).

EcoFest 2016 — A new take on a Kingston tradition!

June 4, 11am– 3pm
Stillwaters Environmental Center
26059 NE Barber Cut Off Rd

Low Tide Beach Walk
From Kingston Farmers' Market
starts at 9:30 am

Bring the Family — Join the community at EcoFest for a Science & Nature Festival!

- ◆ Learn about the restoration science & research at Stillwaters — take a salt marsh tour with our scientists
- ◆ Take a mini-class: birding, native plants or ethnobotany, solar power, & more to come!
- ◆ Build habitat huts with your children
- ◆ Enjoy delicious food and meet new folks
- ◆ Relax while listening to live music
- ◆ Meet West Sound Wildlife's ambassador animals

*EcoFest Supporters: Power Trip Energy; Friends of Miller Bay;
West Sound Wildlife Shelter*



JOIN THE FUN — TUESDAY, MAY 3 — GO TO
WWW.STILLWATERSENVIRONMENTALCENTER.ORG

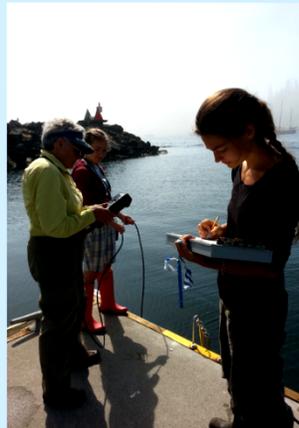
DONATE TO STILLWATERS
ONLINE ON **MAY 3** TO
STRETCH YOUR
DONATION & DO EVEN MORE FOR EARTH!

give
BIG



A REMINDER FOR
YOUR FRIDGE

Kitsap GREAT
GIVE
MAY 3, 2016



You can donate anytime between midnight Monday night & midnight Tuesday night. You'll find the links to either site at www.stillwatersenvironmentalcenter.org.

Why give on May 3? Your gift will be 'stretched' with donations from the sponsor funds. Last year we got an 8.4% match from Seattle, and a 25% match (with prize money) from Kitsap Great Give.

Kitsap Great Give Contests — these are some critical ways to increase our donations by winning contest prizes.

* **Most individual donors during the day for a small non-profit.** *Last year we came in second place in this category—let's aim for first place this year! Tell your friends!*

* **Most donors in the environmental category.** *We'll have some competition here!*

* **Golden Ticket**—randomly selected donation every hour from 9 am to 9 pm.

So there's lots of ways to make our funds go further — it's easy and fun!

GREAT GIVE — GIVE BIG DAY TUESDAY, MAY 3

This is the day to donate to your favorite cause (Stillwaters, of course) online at either our Kitsap Great Give site or our page at the Give Big campaign of the Seattle Foundation.

SUMMER EDUCATION



For more information, call 360-297-1226 or email info@stillwatersenvironmentalcenter.org — see you this summer!

BIRDING WITH THE BEST! — Monday, May 2 — 8:30 am — meet at Carpenter Lake behind Gordon Elementary School. The Stillwaters monthly Bird Survey Team would be thrilled if you wanted to join them May 2.



They visit regular birding locations at Carpenter Lake, Arness Park, and at the estuary on W. Kingston Road. All ages and experience levels are welcome to participate or just observe. We'll provide binoculars, birding tips, and plenty of fun!

LOW-TIDE BEACH WALK

Saturday, June 4 — 9:30 am — Just before EcoFest. Walk starts at the Kingston Farmers' Market — explore North Beach with a beach naturalist at a very low tide. Suggested donation for beach walk: \$5/person.



MARINE ECO-TOURS
Sundays, May 15 or 22, June 12, or July 10 — 10am—2pm. A four hour boat tour with Paul Dorn, Suquamish Fisheries biologist, Joleen Palmer, Stillwaters scientist, & Betsy Cooper, marine biologist.

COST: \$40/person, or \$60/2 persons

SUMMER NATURE CAMPS

This year we have decided to take a sabbatical from camps. We have a busy summer of college classes on campus, interns from WWU & UW, our Annual Dinner & Auction in August, and the book sale in September. We plan to use this time to research and develop some new ways to offer our programs, hopefully in ways that will merge popular elements of nature camps with our citizen science efforts around the watershed.

GOT BOOKS????



Annual Used Book Sale dates:

September 9 thru October 9

Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays, 10 am - 4 pm

We need your books NOW! What can we use? All kinds of books—new and old. What **NOT** to bring us . . . Any encyclopedia, Readers Digest novels, dated computer books, or badly damaged books.



Drop them off any time on the porch of the Tree House—the first building on the left as you come down our drive. If you need help call 360-297-1226. THANKS!

Go Green for Puget Sound.

Puget Sound Starts Here.org



Rethink home yard projects to protect Puget Sound.

See our new guide about rain gardens, cisterns, permeable paving and much more.
www.CleanWaterKitsap.org

 **Clean Water Kitsap**
Partners in Stormwater Solutions

You are invited to . . .



Stillwaters Environmental Center's

"Under the Trees"

Dinner & Auction

Sunday, August 14 — 4-7 pm in the gardens of Stillwaters



Sponsored by Columbia Bank

**Speaker—Leonard Forsman,
Suquamish Tribal Chair**

**Vinyl Music over the Years — your
choice!**

**Seasonal Foods & Beverages
Silent Auction**

**Enjoy the Gardens and Woods
After-Party S'mores & Campfire**

**TICKETS: \$65 each, includes hearty dinner,
appetizers, desserts, wine, and beverages**

OR, purchase a table of 8 for \$500

Tickets available at:

Stillwaters Environmental Center
26059 Barber Cut Off Road; Kingston

OR call 360-297-1226

Order soon—last year we sold out!

WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE



NEW MONITORING ACTIVITY — In conjunction with the U.W. Sea Grant program, we will be looking for any invasive European Green Crabs in our salt marsh. There is a potential of invasion of Puget Sound pocket estuaries, like ours, by these very problematic, non-native crabs.

A loan of specialized equipment allowed us to get a baseline **ELEVATION SURVEY** of the marsh. We'll see how things change when the new 150' bridge is built in 2017, replacing the 5' culvert under W. Kingston.



SCIENCE EDUCATION grows out of our marsh & estuary monitoring & restoration program. We recently hosted WWU classes, & WSU Extension Stream Stewards, and visited classes at WWU & the Options program. We'll soon be hosting field trips for Options, home-schoolers, & Suquamish & Viewridge Elementary Schools.



Volunteers are Making it Happen!

All of what we do at Stillwaters is done by or with our volunteers! Join us! Call 360-297-1226. Here's our crew so far in 2016 — Thanks!! *15+ hours **50+ hours ***100+ ****250+ hours



Sandra Bauer
Jenise Bauman*
Mark Baze
Frederick Branchflower
Barbie Brooking
Madison Carlson
Betsy Collins
Betsy Cooper
Lucy DeBolt
Kinley Deller*
Patti Pearson-Deller*
Dave Dixon
Nancy Dumcum*
Hillary Eichler
Debbie Engel
Shari Evans*
Mary Gleysteen
Samantha Glines
Charlie Golden
Susan Golden
Laura Hahn
Sally & Steve Heacock
Jenny Hoffman
Bert Jackson
Gavin Jaravata***
Brennan Jacobson
Zann & Craig Jacobson
Severne Johnson
Nancy Karle*
Kate Kuhlman*
Mark Libby
Sally Manifold

Maria Marsala
Melissa Mason
Sue Michaelis**
Akaisha Miller***
Julia Miller
Sorana Nance
Linda Nelson*
Cindi** & Tom Nevins*
Tom Ostrom
Kathryn Owen
Gretchen Palmer
Ken Patterson*
Ken Patterson, Jr
Kathy Peters
Mardie Prescott*
Paul & Kayleen* Pritchard
Elizabeth Ramirez
Faith Raymond
April Ryan*
Tom Schroeder
Sonja Selboe
Fiona Shannon
Sharon Smuin
Evan Stoll
Carolina Veenstra*
Melinda West
Audrey Wolf
Glenn Wooten
Laurie Yamamura*
Bridget Young

Thank you!

STILLWATERS' WISH LIST



Contact Naomi Maasberg at 360-297-1226 or naomi@stillwatersenvironmentalcenter.org.

For the Monitoring Program, Trails & Property:

- Pop-up tents in good condition
- Garden tools, Hammers, Pliers, Measuring Tapes, loppers
- 6-foot or 4-foot folding tables
- BOOKS for the used book sale
- Lumber & construction materials in usable, good condition
- Re-bar and PVC type pipes, flagging tape
- Non-perishable snacks for camp or meetings

For the Office:

- Scratch Paper - 8 1/2 x 11", staples removed
- Bond paper, 8 1/2 x 11", white or color—recycled paper is great!

OR See our Amazon.com wish list for more ideas

VOLUNTEERS ARE PRICELESS around Stillwaters! Get on our email list to be notified of projects & respond when you can. Here's a few opportunities:

- ◆ **SPRING CLEAN-UP** : Help needed NOW—no specific work parties scheduled—just let us know when you can help out for an hour or so.
- ◆ **ECOFEST**: We need help on set up day - **June 3, 10am—4 pm**. We also need help at EcoFest on **June 4**. Call now to sign up!
- ◆ **SORT or LIST BOOKS**: We really need people to list books online, in the office—we have boxes of books priced & ready to list. It's fun to evaluate the books, describe them for buyers, fill in the form, & watch them sell! Or you can help sort books for the Book Sale. Your schedule is fine. Training provided.
- ◆ **PROPERTY & TRAIL WORK**: Special gardening, painting, clean-up, & other odd jobs.
- ◆ **WATERSHED MONITORS**: Collect water quality data monthly in estuary or creek—stream monitoring on Sundays, estuary dates vary. Also need monitors for salt marsh & estuary sampling of soils, bugs, & more. Training is provided.



- ◆ **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**: Help needed for EcoFest or Dinner Planning, Architecture Committee, Development Committee, & Board of Directors.

OTHER CURRENT PROJECTS

- * Trim trails— repair/rebuild Pond Trail
- * Weed planted areas
- * Native Plant Nursery tending, potting plants
- * Plant cedars in upper wetland
- * Fix gutters on barn; fix Tree House roof
- * Paint door & rails on porches

To volunteer, call 360-297-1226 or email to kari@stillwatersenvironmentalcenter.org

STILLWATERS' STORE



STILLWATERS SHIRTS

HABITAT HOLLOW kids' Ts feature a very favorite spot at Stillwaters. Artwork is done by a former Nature Camper, Gianni Nguyen. Blue or Green shirts, Children Sizes xS, S, M, L, XL \$ 12



HERON SERIES Ts — The favorite heron logo on either long or short sleeved shirts, women's style or unisex style. All **ORGANIC COTTON**, high quality shirts! Note: Women's style sizes are fitted, & run smaller. Sizes S, M, L, xL in most shirts.

Unisex sizes — traditional Ts

Charcoal gray short sleeve with blue ink, \$20
Navy long sleeve, with light green ink, \$22

Women's style — scoop neck Ts —

Wasabi green short sleeve with white ink, \$20
Purple long sleeve, with white ink \$22

STILLWATERS CLASSICS — Our traditional logo on cozy organic cotton hoodie sweatshirts or a roomy grocery bag style tote.



Women's hoodie in Black, with white logo. Women's style sizes run smaller. Sizes S, M, L, XL \$35
Unisex hoodie in Olive green, with white logo. Sizes S, M, L, XL \$35

TOTE — Ecru tote with navy logo. \$ 10



EARTH DAY OWL T-SHIRT
100% cotton short-sleeve T with our logo on the sleeve & a fun Earth Day owl in scrapbook patterns on the front. Dark Chocolate color. Sizes S, M, L, xL, xxL \$ 12

"STILLWATERS SAMPLINGS"

It's a 265-page hardback cookbook, with yummy recipes from friends of Stillwaters. \$10



All prices include tax. Shipping will be added: \$4 per item. Discover, VISA & MasterCard accepted. To order call 360-297-1226, email info to naomi@stillwatersenvironmentalcenter.org,

TO SUPPORT STILLWATERS



___ My membership gift of \$25.00 is enclosed

___ My additional donation is enclosed for \$ _____

For the ___ General Fund ___ Property Fund

___ Make it a ___ monthly or ___ quarterly pledge donation of \$ _____ (\$25 min)

Please send

- ___ Stillwaters cookbook(s) (\$10 ea.)
- ___ Kids' Habitat Hollow T-shirts (\$12 ea)
- ___ long-sleeve T-shirts, (\$22 ea)
- ___ short-sleeve T-shirts, (\$20 ea)
- ___ Hoodie sweatshirts (\$35 ea)
- ___ Totes (\$10 ea)
- ___ Owl T-shirts (\$12 ea)

(enclose all details of style, color and size)

Please add shipping of \$4 per item.

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ OR

Charge \$ _____ on my credit card

_____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

___ I have an in-kind donation of _____

___ I would like to volunteer to _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Stillwaters is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization; all gifts are tax-deductible, as allowed by law.



GET THE CURRENT NEWS BY EMAIL

You can get your *Ripples & Reflections* newsletter via email, if you choose! You can also receive weekly updates on the latest programs (or get both!). Just send your email address to

naomi@stillwatersenvironmentalcenter.org

Kitsap! GREAT
GIVE
 MAY 3, 2016

give
BIG



**ON TUESDAY, MAY 3 —
 GO TO**

WWW.STILLWATERSENVIRONMENTALCENTER.ORG

**DONATE TO STILLWATERS
 ONLINE THAT DAY
 TO GET YOUR
 DONATION
 MATCHED!**



CALENDAR DATES



GREAT GIVE - TUESDAY, MAY 3
 is a very BIG day for us! This is the day to donate to your favorite GREAT cause (Stillwaters, of course) online at either our Kitsap Great Give site or our page on the Give Big campaign of Seattle. See page 3

ECOFEST — JUNE 4 — 11am-3pm
 It's new and improved! This 17 year old Earth Day festival is taking on a new form! Still fun—still free—still great! See page 3.

**“UNDER THE TREES”
 Annual Dinner & Auction
 Sunday, August 14 — 4-7 pm**
 This event is also changing—we're going to be outside in the gardens of Stillwaters for a luscious dinner, music, silent auction & great speaker. See page 5.



Stillwaters Environmental Center
 26059 Barber Cut Off Road
 Kingston WA 98346

nurturing a sustainable world through education

Nonprofit Org.
 U.S. Postage
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 Kingston WA
 Permit #11

Return Service Requested

Stillwaters Environmental Center engages families & communities in advancing the health of Puget Sound watersheds. This happens through education, preservation & restoration.

The Board of Directors: Jenise Bauman, Fredrick Branchflower, Kinley Deller & Patti Pearson, Kate Kuhlman, Naomi Maasberg, Joleen Palmer
 Advisory: Wendy Armstrong, Dave Hildebrand, Mardie Prescott, Karen Ross

