

Cowlitz



Farm Forestry Association

Affiliated Chapter of Washington Farm Forestry Association

You are enthusiastically invited to the Cowlitz Farm Forestry Association (CFFA) and the Cowlitz Conservation District co-sponsored annual dinner meeting. Following dinner, brief business meetings and elections are planned for both the Cowlitz Conservation District and the CFFA.

Date:	March 16, 2011
Time:	Opens: 5:00 dinner: 6:00, Meeting: 6:30-7:30
Location:	Cowlitz County Conference Center – Expo Center at Fairgrounds 430 Washington Street, Longview, WA

Dinner is \$25 and will be lasagna and rosemary chicken. If you plan on attending the dinner, please RSVP to Lisa Martin 425-1880 or Sara Pursley 274-7297 by March 10th.

Outline of the evenings events:

- ↑ Time to mingle with your fellow tree farmers and friends.
- ↑ Election of a member to the Cowlitz Conservation District Board (election open from 4:30 to 8:30) and the election of the Cowlitz Farm Forestry officers.
- ↑ Report from the Conservation District on last year's activities.
- ↑ Chris Rasor will give a presentation on establishment and management of **alder** plantations and answer questions.
- ↑ Door Prizes! These will include many gift certificates to local businesses.

If you are interested in becoming more involved in CFFA, you are welcome to attend board meetings. If you are not getting our emails and would like to, please email cowlitzfarmforestry@gmail.com and we will add you to the Cowlitz Chapter list. We will email updates concerning CFFA board meeting times and items of general interest. The email list will not be shared with anyone. Additional volunteers would be appreciated for the upcoming seedling sale March 5 & 6. The three shifts are March 5, 7:00 am to noon and noon to 4:30 pm and March 6, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. If you would like to help with the seedling sale, please call Ron Pursley 274-7297 evenings or leave a message, so he can schedule you. Also, please tell your friends and neighbors about our annual seedling sale, March 5th from 8-4 and March 6th from 10-2 at Bob's in Longview on Hudson Street or share the enclosed flyer with them or post the flyer.

Our chapter needs many more new members and we need the current members help. I **strongly** encourage each current member to recruit a new member. With the reduced **new member rate** and the Cowlitz chapter paying \$10 the cost for 2011 is only \$35 for the first year. This can be buying a membership for any or all the kids or for a neighbor, or convincing a neighbor(s) to buy their own or all the aforementioned.

Legislative Update:

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1192 and **SENATE BILL 5783** are companion bills and they both decrease streamside buffers (RMZs) by about 50% which would make them similar to Oregon’s and Idaho’s and these states meet the federal endangered species rules. They would be available to landowners that harvest an average of 2 million board feet or less per year and would apply to **harvest units** of 20 acres or less. Utilizing this option would make you ineligible for the FREP program for this harvest. Both of these bills also allow some management within the buffer, as new trees grow, provided RMZ function is maintained. House Bill 1192 is sponsored by Representative Brian Blake and supported by Representative Ed Orcutt. Senate Bill 5783 is sponsored by Senators Hargrove and Shin.

Send a brief message to your district legislators in one phone call with the in-state toll-free Legislative Hotline 1-800-562-6000 or go to the website www.leg.wa.gov/ to the Washington State Legislature website to email or phone your individual district legislators. Please let your legislators know how important these bills are to you and you may mention that this will keep your forest land economically viable so you will not have to grow houses instead of trees when the economy rebounds.

Hope to see you buying trees at the seedling sale and at the annual dinner. Take care,

WFFA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Spouse's Name _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-Mail address(es) _____

Dues Level (Please Select One)

- New Member rate for Cowlitz Chapter \$35 (for other chapters it's \$45)
- General – Owning 1 - 40 acres \$65
- General – Owning 41 - 200 acres \$125
- General – Owning 201+ acres \$175
- Lifetime (one-time payment) \$1,700
- Associate – Not owning forest land \$65

Membership in one local chapter is included. Chapter preference/county _____

Additional Chapter Memberships ____ @ \$10 each

Circle desired chapters(s): Blue Mountain, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Kittitas, Lewis, North Central, Northeast Washington, Olympic, Pacific, Pierce, South Sound, Spokane, Upper Puget Sound, Whatcom

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please mail this form to: WFFA, PO Box 1010, Chehalis WA 98532

If you prefer to use a credit card, either call WFFA office at (360) 736-5750 or go to their website www.wafarmforestry.com.