KITTITAS FOREST LANDOWNER NEWS

A periodic publication of the Kittitas Chapter, WFFA

February 2010 ,,,,,,,,,,Via email and USPS

Mark your Calendars

Kittitas Chapter
Ellensburg, April 3, 2010

This year our chapter will be co-hosting a ***"Ties to the Land"*** workshop at the Kittitas Valley Event Center (KVEC) in Ellensburg. This is an all day event, tentatively from 8:30 to 4pm.

"Ties to the Land" is a facilitated, interactive workshop providing a practical introduction to succession planning for family forests and farms and the generations that will succeed them.

The program helps families recognize potential barriers to succession, and presents a range of communication tools and skills families can use to guide their way through the intergenerational transfer process.

Succession planning can be difficult at the best of times. When forest and farm land is at stake, the differences among family members in values, goals and lack of critical skills can lead to disaster. Without an effective plan, the owners' intentions may not be realized. This in turn, may put the future of the land in limbo. Millions of acres of family owned forests and farms will change hands within the next decade and many of these transfers will happen with virtually no planning. For more info see: www.tiestotheland.org

Here in a nutshell is what has been organized so far:

1) We have reserved the Teanaway Room at KVEC.
2) Other co-hosts so far are:
   - WSU extension forestry
   - The Family Forest Foundation
   - Cascade Land Conservancy
   - Kittitas Coutny Conservation District
   - Cattlemen & Hay Growers Assoc.
3) Steve Stinson from the FFF will be the facilitator.
4) Andy Perleberg from WSU is in charge of the registration flyer preparation and mailing and pre-registration and News Releases.
5) Phil will recruit 3 or 4 chapter volunteers to assist with the beverage station and delivery of on-site sack lunches.
6) Beverages will be included in the registration fee.

The Registration fee of $75 per family for non-WFFA members and $45 per family for WFFA & other Assoc. members; includes the work book and DVD. Fresh sack lunches will be provided at approximately $8 each. Registration will be limited to 30 families, first come, first serve.

Related Kittitas News

In 2009, Kittitas County adopted a *Transfer Development Rights (TDR) Ordinance.* TDR's are a market-based procedure to conserve family farms and forests and promote sensible growth. Kittitas Chapter members, Franki Storlie and sisters were the first in the County to participate by selling TDR's on their Parker Ranch in the Umptanum. For more details on TDR's go to www.cascadeagenda.com

Welcome New Members: Chuck Adams, Larry Fudacz, and Joe and Lisa Skvarla.

We are saddened to report the passing of John Smith, a long time member and supporter.

Reminder: If you have not paid 2010 dues, please do. Thanks for your continuing support.

send your comments to Phil at hessphil@msn.com or 509-952-0678