



LEWIS COUNTY FARM FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

Affiliated Chapter of Washington Farm Forestry Association

MAY 2019 TWILIGHT TOUR

What: Tour of Port Blakely's Fenced Cedar Plantation
(and other interesting things along the way)

Who: Mike Warjone and Port Blakely staff

When: May 21, 2019 – **6:00 pm** **NOTE EARLIER STARTING TIME!!**

Where: Meet at the Salkum Timberland Library (2480 US-12) for carpooling. It will take about 30 minutes to drive from there to the site, thus our earlier-than-usual start. It also takes about 30 minutes from the Lewis County Courthouse to the Salkum Library, so be sure to allow enough time. Once the caravan of vehicles has departed, you won't be able to follow.

Port Blakely will have some vehicles but if you have a pickup with crew cab or SUV and are willing to drive on logging roads, please come prepared to take passengers. The road is not suitable for regular sedans.

Small forest land owners like to grow western red cedar but deer like to eat it! Conversations are common among members about how we've tried (and often failed) to keep the deer from eating our cedar trees. Vexar tubes have been used by many of us, but are expensive and labor intensive

Nine years ago, Port Blakely put a fence around a 28-acre plantation of western red cedar. The trees have grown exceptionally well. Fencing seems like it would be too expensive but it may be comparable in cost to all those Vexar tubes and bamboo, especially if you pay people to install and maintain them!

If time allows, we can also view some commercial along the route.

Report on 2019 WFFA Annual Meeting

Attendees at the meeting heard speakers on the 20-year-old Forest and Fish Agreement which set the rules for riparian buffers that we follow today.

U.S. Forest Service Chief Vicki Christiansen gave an evening talk where we learned that as a child, she lived across the road from John Kingsbury, whose tree farm we visited on Saturday. He mentored her and hired her as one of the first women forestland firefighters in the state. Vicki

also presented the 2019 Washington State Tree Farmers of the Year award to Richard and Debra Pine, our 2018 Lewis County Tree Farmers of the Year! They will be entered in the competition for the 2020 National Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year.



Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday May 15: South Sound FFA. Tour of the Cranberry Lake Foundation forestland, near Shelton. Visit WFFA web page for details.

Tuesday June 18: LCFFA Twilight Tour of the Clowe Tree Farm near Mossyrock

Tues. July 16: LCFFA Twilight Tour and Picnic – Elmore Vance Tree Farm near Randle
They are our 2019 Lewis County Tree Farmers of the Year

Tuesday August 20: LCFFA Twilight Tour of Heitzman/Laulainen Tree Farm near Winlock

Saturday August 24: Forest Owners Field Day near McCleary