

WASHINGTON FARM FORESTRY ASSOCIATION INVITES YOU TO THE **2024 ANNUAL MEETING AND FIELD TOUR**

Hosted by the Pierce Chapter of the WFFA

Managing Your Timberlands for Wildlife

April 28, 2024

Executive Board Meeting

Hotel Murano

Tacoma, Washington

April 29, 2024

Annual Meeting

Hotel Murano

Tacoma, Washington

April 30, 2024

Field Tour

Joint Base Lewis-McChord

Tacoma, Washington



Register NOW at
www.wafarmforestry.com/AM24

Washington
FARM FORESTRY
ASSOCIATION



Managing Your Timberlands for Wildlife

The Pierce Chapter of the Washington Farm Forestry Association (WFFA) invites you to join us on April 28-30, for our 2024 Annual Meeting (AM24). We begin with our Executive Board (EB) meeting on Sunday and an evening social with Ken Bevis (DNR Wildlife Biologist with his guitar) as our entertainment. Monday will be our meeting day, all happening at the Hotel Murano in Tacoma. Tuesday will be our Field Tour at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM). Details on registration, location, lodging and driving directions are available on the last page. The Hotel Murano has offered special room rates of \$164 plus taxes and fees (available until April 8).

We are looking forward to catching up with all our forestry friends and learning about wildlife (good and bad) and how to best manage our lands with them.

April 28, 2024 – WFFA Executive Board Meeting, Early Arrival Check-in, Registration Packet Pick-up, and Informal Evening Gathering featuring Music and Entertainment by Ken Bevis

The WFFA EB meeting will be held at the Hotel Murano in the early afternoon to allow EB members to attend in-person or remotely. EB attendees will RSVP to be provided lunch as part of the meeting.

We will offer AM24 check-in starting at 5:00 PM on Sunday for those opting to check-in early. We invite you to meet at 5:00 PM for an informal evening gathering (dinner and drinks on your own) in the hotel's Bar960. We are pleased to announce that Ken Bevis will be entertaining us with his folkstyle singing and guitar, to set the tone for AM24. Wear your AM24 name tag and enjoy this great opportunity to visit with your WFFA friends, old and new.

April 29, 2024 – WFFA Annual Meeting: Managing Your Timberlands for Wildlife

Monday's program will offer a full day of wildlife experts. The morning will have a variety of speakers, from how to manage your timberlands for pollinators, to what to do with those nuisance animals, both two- and four-legged. The afternoon will continue with great speakers touching on how to entice wildlife, big and small.

Raffle Fundraiser – A raffle fundraiser will be held on April 29th. Ticket holders must be present to win. All proceeds will be donated to the Steve Stinson Scholarship Fund. Each Chapter is encouraged to provide at least one raffle item. To donate raffle items, contact Linda Seaman at ladydoc58@gmail.com by April 8.

Exhibitors and Vendors – Welcome to our AM24 exhibitors and vendors. Those who are interested must register as an AM24 attendee and should contact Dick Hopkins at hopkinsforestry@yahoo.com by April 8, if you have not already registered.

Sponsors – Companies or individuals that sponsor AM24 will be recognized in the program handout and during the AM24 events. These donations will diminish the AM24 registration costs. Donations other than monetary donations (attendee swag bag items, raffle items, etc.) are welcome. Please contact Dick Hopkins at hopkinsforestry@yahoo.com by April 8.

Memorial to Honor Our Members Who Have Passed – Our attendee binders will include a section that honors our WFFA tree farmers from around the state who have passed in this last year. If you have a member to honor, please email their name, their birth year and year of passing, Chapter membership, and a photo to Kelly at info@wafarmforestry.com by April 8.

Special Request – Our AM24 dinner meal we will feature a slideshow of *Wildlife on Your Timberlands – Where the Wild Things Are*. By April 8, please email hopkinsforestry@yahoo.com your photos of the funny, scary, cuddly or nuisance wildlife and critters on your tree farm. Include photographer and a brief caption with the year. This is a great way to participate in AM24!

April 30, 2024 – Field Tour at JBLM

The AM24 Field Tour will be at JBLM. Box lunch with tour registration is provided. We will leave the Hotel Murano after breakfast (provided for our prepaying attendees) and meet at our first stop (directions will be provided in your meeting packet); from there, we will carpool to keep the number of vehicles to a minimum.

Washington Farm Forestry Association 2024 Annual Meeting Schedule

Sunday, April 28, 2024 | WFFA Executive Board Meeting and Informal Evening Social

Hotel Murano, 1320 Broadway Plaza, Tacoma, WA 98402

- 12:00 PM **WFFA Executive Board Meeting and Luncheon** – Torcello/Burano Meeting Room
5:00 PM **AM24 Early Check-in and Registration Packet Pick-up** – Hotel Murano, follow signs
5:00 PM **Informal Evening Social** – Bar960 | Music from Ken Bevis, No Host Bar, complimentary appetizers – Enjoy music, appetizers, beverages then dinner on your own in Bite Restaurant

Monday, April 29, 2024 | WFFA 2024 Annual Meeting – Managing Your Timberlands for Wildlife

Hotel Murano, 1320 Broadway Plaza, Tacoma, WA 98402

- 7:00 AM **Check-in and Registration Packet Pick-up & Buffet Breakfast**
8:00 AM **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
8:15 AM **Making It Work with Beavers in a Riparian Forest, and Other Wildlife Challenges**
9:00 AM **Pollinator Habitat on Working Timberlands**
9:45 AM **Break** – Visit Vendors, purchase Raffle Tickets, enjoy refreshments *sponsored by Millwood Timber*
10:15 AM **Panel Discussion: Nuisance Wildlife**
11:15 AM **Mini Break** – Visit Vendors and purchase Raffle Tickets
11:30 AM **Washington Tree Farm Program Awards Ceremony and Luncheon**
1:00 PM **Mini Break** – Visit Vendors and purchase Raffle Tickets
1:15 PM **Wildlife in Managed Forest Habitats: Deliberate Diversity**
2:15 PM **Panel Discussion: Enhancing Tree Farms for Wildlife – Stories from the Forest**
3:15 PM **Break** – Visit Vendors, purchase Raffle Tickets, enjoy refreshments
3:45 PM **Preview of Joint Base Lewis-McChord Tour for Tuesday**
4:30 PM **WFFA Annual Business Meeting / State Elections / Annual Report**
5:15 PM **Social Hour – No Host Bar**
6:00 PM **Dinner and Evening Slideshow Program** – Enjoy all the wildlife photos from our Tree Farmers

Tuesday, April 30, 2024 | Field Tour of Joint Base Lewis McChord – Location information to be provided

- 6:30-8:00 AM **Buffet Breakfast** – Hotel Murano | Provided only to those AM24 attendees that prepaid
8:45 AM **Attendee Check-in** | Check-in location to be provided
9:00 AM **Welcome and Introductions and Depart on Field Tour of Joint Base Lewis McChord**
pine savanna wildflowers, native ponderosa pine, prescribed fire management; largest Puget lowland prairie, endangered species conservation/status; avian programs, habitat interface, public lands day grants; salmon habitat restoration, wetland restoration challenges; variable density thinning, oak plantings; wetland restoration projects, Oregon spotted frog program; heart of the pine woodlands, fire management, wrap up tour
12:30 PM **Lunch** | Box lunches provided to prepaying attendees

Visit the WFFA website, www.wafarmforestry.com/AM24, for additional information about the Annual Meeting, including links for those opting **register online**.

NOTE: WFFA has applied for SAF Continuing Education Credits and Master Logger Credits for AM24 attendees.

If you have questions, please contact: Dick or Paula Hopkins at hopkinsforestry@yahoo.com.

We look forward to seeing our farm forestry friends and making new ones!

**3 Great Options for
Attending AM24:**



Attend only
AM24



Attend only the
Field Tour



Attend all three
days' events!

Online Registration is OPEN at
[www.wafarmforestry.com/AM24!](http://www.wafarmforestry.com/AM24)

Register NOW for the 2024 WFFA Annual Meeting!

Registration: The AM24 registration fee is \$175 per person and **Registration closes April 8th**. Registration includes: Sunday evening reception; Monday breakfast, educational programs, break refreshments, the Washington Tree Farm Program Awards Ceremony and Luncheon and dinner; and Tuesday breakfast. The Tuesday Field Tour is \$25 per person including a box lunch. The Field Tour can be purchased separately from, or in addition to, the AM24 Registration. You can choose to attend only AM24, only the Tuesday Field Tour or attend all events. **Register online, via mail or via phone.** Take in all the information available at AM24!

Location: On Sunday, April 28, we will offer early check-in at the Hotel Murano and we will have an informal evening gathering in the hotel's Bar960. We can catch up with our WFFA friends and enjoy singing entertainment from Ken Bevis, nature troubadour. All activities on Sunday and Monday will take place at the Hotel Murano. The Tuesday, April 30 Field Tour will be held at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. Attendees will not need base access to attend the Field Tour.

Lodging: Reduced rate rooms are available at the **Hotel Murano** (1320 Broadway Plaza, Tacoma, WA 98402) until **April 8**. Call the Murano Reservations Department at 833-217-9398, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM PST, for reservations. Make sure to say you are with "**Washington Farm Forestry Association 2024**" to receive the special WFFA Group Rate of **\$164**, plus taxes and fees (rate includes complimentary self-parking). Please note that after April 8, room prices will be based on availability.

Driving Directions: Put the Hotel Murano or Joint Base Lewis-McChord address (below) into your phone's navigation system.

Hotel Murano, 1320 Broadway Plaza, Tacoma, WA 98402 | Distance to Murano: Fr Seattle: 33 mi. | Fr Vancouver: 135 mi. | Fr Spokane: 293 mi.

Joint Base Lewis-McChord Parking Site, See exact location in AM24 packet | Distance to JBLM from Hotel Murano (approx. 20 min.) ~15 mi.

Combine business and pleasure! Plan your late Spring Mini Vacation to the relaxing Hotel Murano in beautiful Tacoma.

Enjoy the fellowship of your WFFA members and come away renewed and inspired for your tree farm's future.

Perhaps you're looking for the perfect way to encourage your spouse to attend the Annual Meeting? Downtown Tacoma offers a variety of activities including a paved walking path along the waterfront and shopping in the historic downtown area.

Register NOW for WFFA's AM24: *Managing Your Timberlands for Wildlife*