

# Whidbey Island Forest Owner's Field Day

*Revised 9/8/2017*

Saturday September 9, 2017 - Clinton, WA

*Gates and vendors/exhibits open at 8:00am*

Workshop Sessions*		9:00-9:10	9:20-10:10		10:30-11:20		12:10-1:00	1:10-2:00	
<b>Animal Damage Control</b> <i>(Ken Bevis, WA DNR)</i>	Vendors/Exhibits Open <b>8:00 AM</b>	Welcome and Orientation		Break		Lunch (bring your own) and Vendors/Exhibits	6		Glendale Shepherd Farm & Creamery Farm Store is Open <b>2:10 PM</b>
<b>Fire Prevention and Pruning</b> <i>(Kelsi Franzen, Whidbey Island Conserv. District)</i>							1	1	
<b>Forest Health</b> <i>(Kevin Zobrist, WSU Extension)</i>			5				5		
<b>Forestry GPS</b> <i>(Kelsey Ketcheson, WSU Extension)</i>							4		
<b>Invasive Species</b> <i>(Seth Luginbill, Island County)</i>			2					2	
<b>Measuring Trees</b> <i>(Kelsey Ketcheson, WSU Extension)</i>			4						
<b>Native Tree and Plant ID</b> <i>(Kelsey Ketcheson, WSU Extension)</i>							5		
<b>Property Tour &amp; Sawmill Demo</b> <i>(Steve Swanson, Swanson Tree Farm)</i>			B					B	
<b>Shiitake Mushroom Culture</b> <i>(Kevin Zobrist, WSU Extension)</i>							1		
<b>Thinning</b> <i>(Boyd Norton, WA DNR)</i>			3					3	
<b>Tree Planting and Seedling Care</b> <i>(Boyd Norton, WA DNR)</i>							3	3	
<b>Wildlife Habitat</b> <i>(Ken Bevis, WA DNR)</i>							6	6	

\*Numbers indicate Station/Meeting location for times offered; B = "The Barn" (registration/gathering area)

## Session Descriptions:

**Animal Damage Control** – It's wonderful to see wildlife enjoying your forest, but what if they enjoy it a little too much and start damaging your trees? Deer and many other animals can do significant damage to your trees. Learn how to identify threats and prevent or at least mitigate damage.

**Fire Prevention and Pruning** – If a wildfire breaks out on the island, will your home survive? Learn practical techniques to apply to your house, yard, and surrounding woods to help your property to better withstand a fire. Learn about proper pruning techniques for reducing ladder fuels and improving aesthetics.

**Forest health** – Learn how to identify, treat, and prevent forest health problems related to damaging insects, diseases, and weather.

**Forestry GPS** – A GPS device can help you take care of your forestland so you never get lost in the woods again. Learn how a GPS works, what a device can do for a forestland owner, and what to buy or download for managing your forestland.

**Invasive Species** – Learn how to identify and control aggressive, damaging weeds and brush that can thwart the growth of your trees and take over your property.

**Measuring Trees** – Knowing the density and sizes of your trees is key to figuring out how best to care for them and monitor their growth. Learn how to measure tree diameter, tree height, tree volume, and the number of trees per acre. We'll do hands-on practice with a variety of different measurement tools.

**Native Tree and Plant ID** – This is a beginner's session on learning about common forest plants that call your property home. Take a walk in the woods and learn to identify key tree and shrub species that grow on Whidbey Island. If you are new to tree and plant ID, this is the perfect way to get started on your way to being a Whidbey plant expert. For those of you who are already comfortable with your ID skills, this may be mostly review for you — but you can always help instruct!

**Property Tour & Small-Scale Sawmill Demonstration** – Take a walking tour of the Swanson Tree Farm with owner Steve Swanson to hear his family's story of stewarding their tree farm, see the ingenious work they have done, and see their working small-scale sawmill.

**Shiitake Mushroom Culture** – Your forest understory is the perfect place to grow your own delicious shiitake mushrooms on logs. Find a shady spot and a few fresh logs and you're ready to start! Learn what type of logs to use, where to get plug spawn, and inoculation and fruiting steps.

**Thinning & Forest Ecosystems** – Learn why thinning is so important in maintaining ecosystem health, how to tell when trees need to be thinned, how much to thin, and which trees to keep or remove.

**Tree Planting and Seedling Care** – Planting trees and getting them to survive and grow can be a challenge. Learn what trees grow well on Whidbey Island and what you need to know to be successful. Discussion includes getting areas ready for planting, seedling selection, proper planting techniques, and controlling competing vegetation after planting.

**Wildlife Habitat** – Learn about the wildlife that call Whidbey Island home, and simple, effective strategies to improve habitat for on your property.