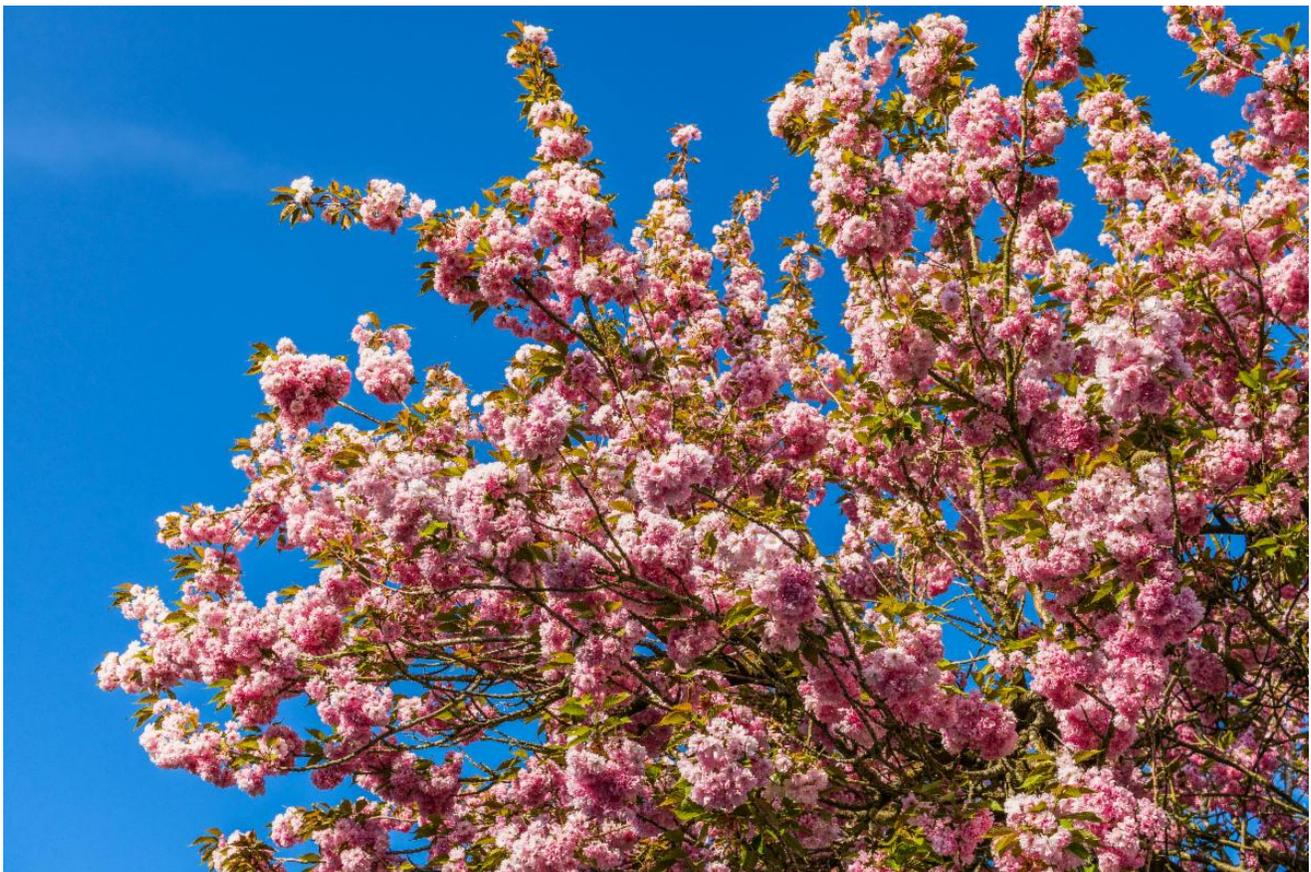




WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

The AG Sounder Newsletter

April 2024



Do you have an event or story you would like featured in
The Ag Sounder? Let us know!

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- WA Meat Up Mobile Beef Butchery Workshop
- Save the Date - We Rise Economic Empowerment Retreat - June 10-11
- Save the Date - Colvin Ranch Farm Walk - June 12

Help support the Cougs with a donation to WSU College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Resource Sciences

Make a Gift Today!

2024

27 YEARS

FREE

COMMUNITY FARM LAND TRUST

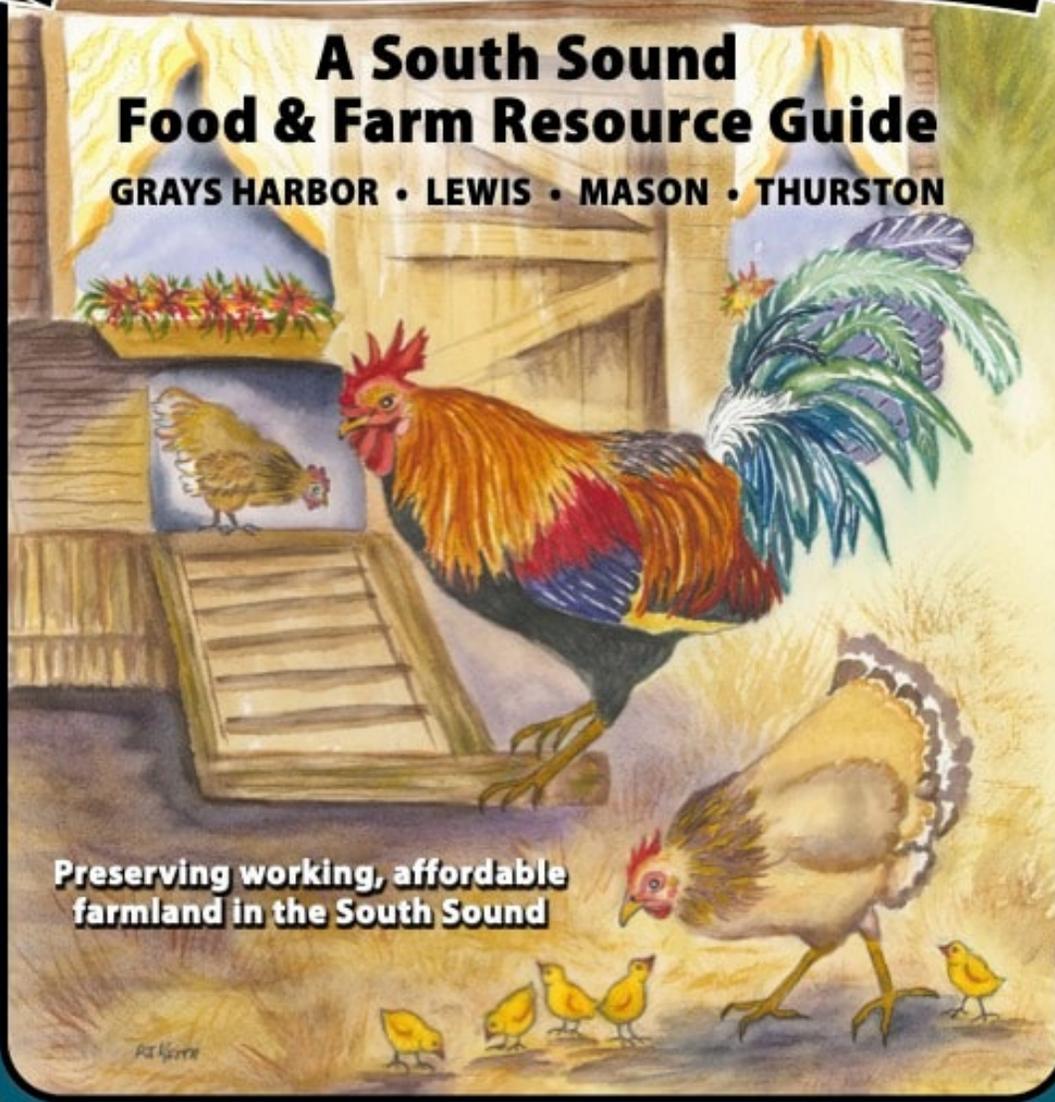
FRESH FROM THE FARM

**A South Sound
Food & Farm Resource Guide**

GRAYS HARBOR • LEWIS • MASON • THURSTON

FARMER INTERVIEWS • FOOD BANK GUIDE • CSA GUIDE

MARKET GUIDE • PRODUCT GUIDE • AND MORE!



**Preserving working, affordable
farmland in the South Sound**

Regional Farm Map & Directory • Farm Stand & Market Map

For the latest information on our work please visit: CommunityFarmLandTrust.org   @SSCFLT

2024 Fresh From the Farm Guide Now Available

The Community Farm Land Trust (CFLT) publishes the Fresh from the Farm Guide every year as part of their mission to support local food and agriculture. This is a free, educational resources for underserved populations and residents from our entire region to learn where to find local, affordable, fresh and healthy foods through CSAs, farm stands, markets, food banks, as well as nutritional incentive and matching programs available in our four county region of Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, and Thurston Counties.

Click [here](#) to view the guide.



Survey of Agricultural Industry for Knowledge of, Attitudes Towards, and Willingness to Produce Bioenergy Crops

This survey aims to assess your knowledge of, attitudes towards, and willingness to produce or have second-generation bioenergy crops produced in your community. For clarification, a second-generation bioenergy crop is a non-food crop produced in an agricultural setting that will be used to produce energy. Examples of second-generation bioenergy crops include XanoGrass, napier grass, switchgrass, miscanthus giganteus, and energy cane. Bioenergy products produced from second-generation bioenergy crops include energy pellets, green hydrogen, ethanol, and renewable diesel.

Click [here](#) to take the survey.



Local Farm Growing New Crops, Fighting Climate Change

"Taking on climate change isn't too big of a challenge for Warren Neth, owner of Cosmic Carrot Farm in Yelm.

In 2020, he lobbied for the grant monies from the Washington State Sustainable Farm and Fields fund, and last month, he received approximately \$8,000 to plant an alley-cropping system to grow berries with the highest levels of antioxidants.

Alley-cropping systems are an agroforestry practice in which rows of trees or shrubs are planted to create alleys in which agricultural or horticultural crops are produced, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In Neth's case, annuals like vegetables were planted between rows of perennials like berries.

The initiative supports local farmers across the state by providing them with funds to plant crops that reduce carbon, add biodiversity and help farms fight climate change."

Click [here](#) to read the full article.



National Agritourism Survey

The 2024 National Agritourism Survey is now collecting responses, and you are invited to participate! All agricultural operations that welcome visitors – whether for on-farm education, direct sales, entertainment, recreation, special events, and more – are invited to complete the survey. So, if you offer education or rent event space on your farm, have a farmstand, a petting zoo, offer pick-your-own, farm stays, or other on-farm experiences, your insights are crucial.

By participating in this survey, you'll help us pinpoint the types of support farmers like you require – whether it's business assistance, developing networks, applying for grants, or navigating zoning and liability issues. Our goal is to help build the resources you need, improve your access to critical information and opportunities, and shape policy decisions that impact your industry.

Click [here](#) to take the survey.



Pasture, Grazing, Grasslands: Sharing Ecological Grazing Knowledge Across Cultures

A new page on the Thurston County WSU Extension website has been created as a resource that pulls together some ecological knowledge for managing pastures and grasslands from other parts of the world that may be transferrable to western Washington. This includes a basic pasture/forage management focus, as well as a focus on biodiverse grasslands managed for production and habitat values. The initial entries were/are gathered from late April into early May 2024 from a research trip to northern England, Abondance (France), and the Carpathian plain in Hungary. The goal is to transfer ecological knowledge among herders, ranchers, graziers, researchers and others, knowledge that is at threat of being lost

Click [here](#) to learn more.



Veteran Women For The Land Learning Circles

American Farmland Trust, in partnership with Annie's Project, Farmer Veteran Coalition, Oregon State University, Rogue Farm Corps, Spokane Conservation District, Washington Farmland Trust, and Washington State Department of Veteran Affairs is offering two Women for the Land Learning Circles for *women and non-binary military veterans in agriculture* in May! These events are farmer-to-farmer, focusing on getting resources and information into the hands of veteran producers. Lunch and snacks will be provided, and the events are free to attend! Travel stipends are available for military veteran participants.

Accessing Markets: Certifications & Value-Added Product

Thursday, May 2nd 9:00am - 3:00pm

Click [here](#) to learn more and register.

Urban Farming: Building Community & Connections

Thursday, May 16th 10:00am - 3:00pm

Click [here](#) to learn more and register.

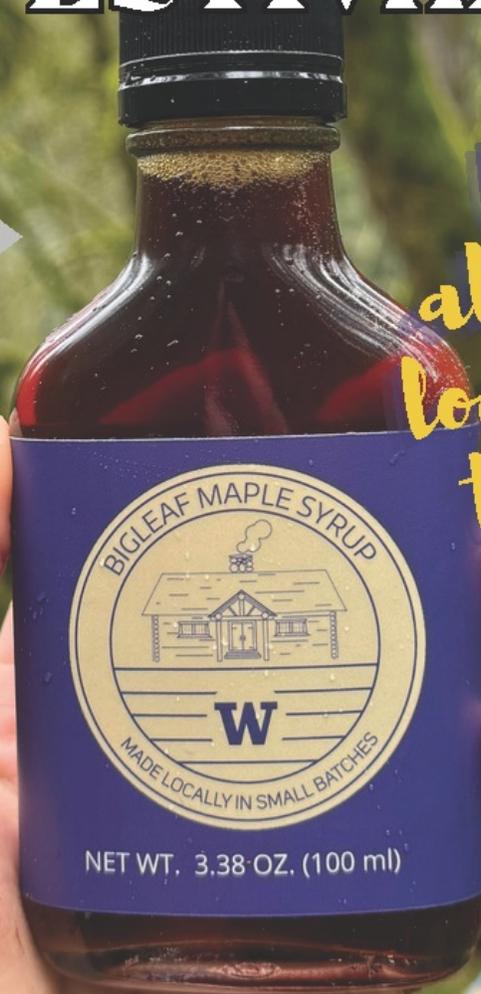
The University of Washington, Washington State
University, and Oregon State University
present the 3rd annual

BIGLEAF MAPLE FESTIVAL

Saturday,
May 4th
9:30 to 4:30

Learn
about our
local maple
trees and
making
syrup!

\$25 per
car



REGISTER ONLINE: <https://bigleafmaple.eventbrite.com>



📍 Pack Forest
9010 453rd St E
Eatonville, WA 98328

Picnic with us! 🍔
Pack a lunch OR burger
lunch available \$18/adult

Click [here](#) to register.

Thurston's

HUNGER WALK



SAVE the DATE!

**Sunday, May 5
3:00 PM**

Huntamer Park
618 Woodland Square
Loop SE, Lacey WA



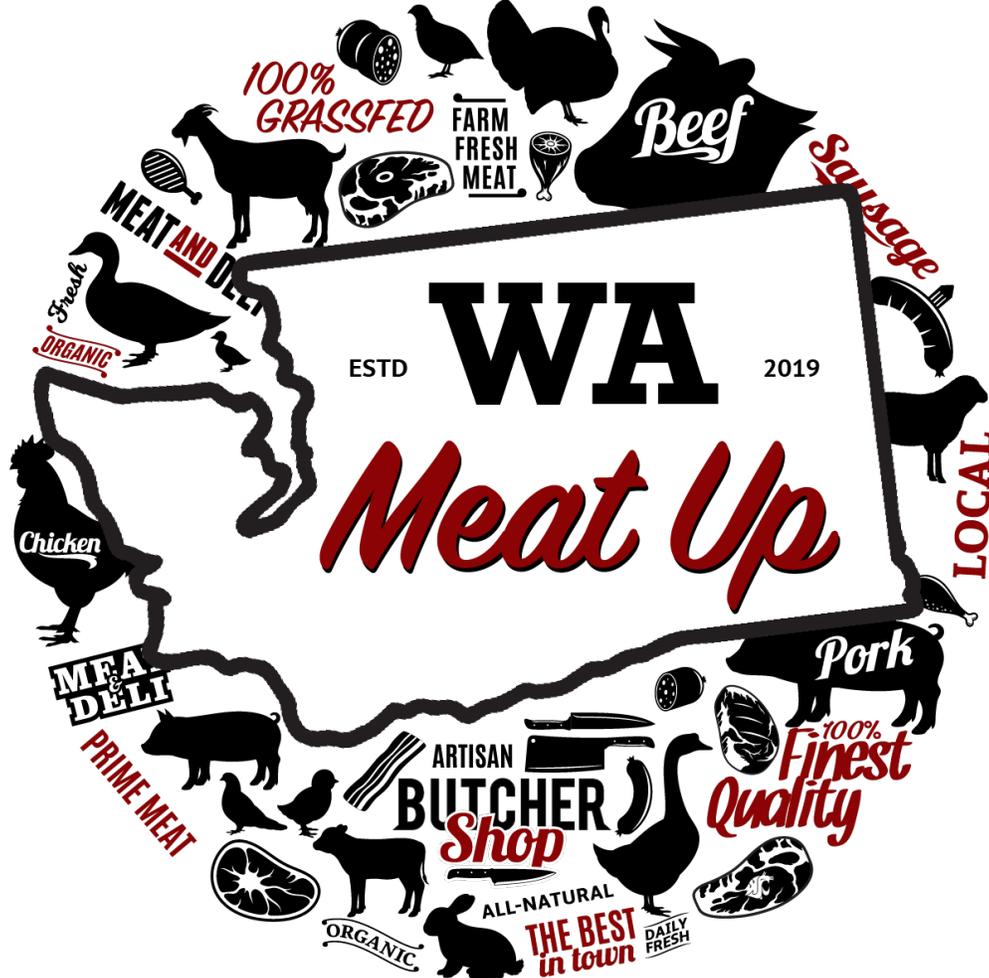
Benefits The Community Kitchen
& Thurston County Food Bank!



The Community Kitchen
Feeding Hope



GIVE what you can. **WALK** if you want.



WA Meat Up Mobile Beef Butchery Workshop

May 8th - 10th
Moses Lake, WA

The WA Meat Up Mobile Butcher Truck is bringing WSU Meat Science Workshops to butchers and meat producers around the state! Learn about the whole process from feeding livestock to cooking cuts! They'll go over feeding programs, live animal evaluation, harvest, carcass evaluation and breakdown, and creating value-added products.

Click [here](#) to learn more and register.

WE RISE

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT RETREAT



Millersylvania State Park Retreat Center

JUNE 10TH

5:00pm - 9:00pm

**Social Services Provider
Networking Dinner
Reception**

JUNE 11TH

8:00am - 8:30pm

**Community Economic
Empowerment Retreat
& Resource Fair**

Attend • Vend • Speak • Donate

LEARN MORE AT:

thurstonabc.org/we-rise



**REGISTER
FOR FREE!**



Click [here](#) for more information and to register.



Colvin Ranch Farm Walk 2024

Wednesday, June 12th 5:00pm - 7:00pm
16816 Old Hwy 99 SE Tenino, 98589

Come visit the historic Colvin Ranch, learn about their cattle operation, and see their beautiful fields. Colvin Ranch is a family-owned and operated grass-fed cattle ranch located in Tenino. The ranch was homesteaded by Ignatius Colvin, who came to Washington on the Oregon Trail in 1851 from Boone County, Missouri, and is one of the oldest ranches in the county still owned by the original family. Four generations later, the Colvin Ranch family heritage continues through their humane livestock handling, stewardship of the land, and sustainable grazing practices that allow native and endangered plants to flourish alongside their thriving cattle.

Please email anna.salafsky@wsu.edu with any questions.



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