



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

The AG Sounder Newsletter

October 2024

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



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

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SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON GRAZING ASSOCIATION

EXPLORATORY

CO-BUYING FARMLAND WEBINAR

Wednesday, October 23

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Virtually via Zoom

Join the SW Washington Grazing Association for a webinar on what co-buying property looks like. Hear from guest speaker Aherlow Kasjaka from Thurston Asset Building Coalition.

What to Expect:

- **Introduction to Co-Buying:** Understand the basics and potential benefits.
- **Open Discussion:** Share your needs and interests in co-buying.
- **Explore Options:** Learn about different co-buying models and how they might fit your goals.

All are welcome!

Please email sierra.smith1@wsu.edu to register.



WSU EXTENSION
Thurston County



Thurston Asset
Building Coalition
connecting partners, building strong communities.



Please email sierra.smith1@wsu.edu to register.



Farmer Stress Assistance & Wellness Event

Saturday, November 2nd 9:00am-4:00pm
Napavine High School
405 4th Ave N. E Napavine, WA 98532

Farming can be extremely stressful. Agriculture is known to be a dangerous occupation full of potential stressors like weather, changing economic markets, and machinery breakdowns. When those start to compound many farmers experience excessive stress, making it hard to move forward to positive solutions. Due in part to the stressors faced in farming, agricultural workers have rates of suicide much higher than the average rate. Farmers need support now more than ever.

During this free, one day workshop, we will explore how farmers can care for themselves to sustain their tenure in agriculture. You will walk away with practical knowledge and resources to help manage the stressors of agriculture. While we understand that some of these topics may be challenging to address in our agricultural community, it is necessary in order to be proactive in community health and wellbeing

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

Tilth Alliance Presents

Taste of PNW Organic

Thursday | November 14 | 1-7pm | Vancouver, WA

A farm-to-wholesale trade event for organic producers and buyers in Oregon and Washington



Sidhu Farms | WA



Organically Grown Company | OR

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Farm Sense: Farm Financial Training

November 19th - December 10th
Tuesdays, 3:00pm - 5:00pm

Farm Sense is a four-session workshop from Penn State Extension that teaches farmers how to understand financial statements such as the cash flow statement, the balance sheet, and the income statement. Course participants will learn how to organize and use financial records to make informed financial and production decisions. The concepts covered promote better internal decisions for farm management and stronger relationships with external partners, such as farm lenders. Farm Sense is an approved FSA Financial and Production Management borrower training course.

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



WSU Extension Plants a Camas Garden at the Meyer's Point Ecological Research Station in Olympia

In early October several members of the Nisqually community garden gathered with WSU Extension staff and ethnobotanist Elise Krohn to plant 5000 camas bulbs in a hay field in North Olympia. The intention is for this garden to be annually harvested and replanted by our local indigenous communities. This trial planting will show how well camas can adapt to agricultural grasslands that have been established on old forest soils. If successful, this project could help to facilitate the planting of this iconic prairie species and important first food on pastures and hayfields across our region.



USDA Organic Dairy Marketing Assistance Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced \$58 million is available for marketing assistance to eligible certified organic dairy producers through the Organic Dairy Marketing Assistance Program (ODMAP) 2024 to help expand the market for organic dairy and increase the consumption of organic dairy. ODMAP 2024 is a one-time cost-share payment based on marketing costs on pounds of organic milk in 2023, or estimated costs for 2024, with a payment rate of \$1.68 per hundredweight. Eligible producers include certified organic dairy operations that produce milk from cows, goats, and sheep. Your local FSA agent can help convert non liquid dairy products into fluid pounds to determine payment. Applications are due November 29, 2024.

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



Representative Strickland Visits Nisqually Tribe to Tour Future Projects

"Rep. Marilyn Strickland took a tour of the Nisqually Indian Tribe Tuesday, Oct. 8, to visit the tribe's existing and future projects funded by a \$5.4 million grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Strickland toured the tribe's public safety building and the elders village, among other visits on her trip.

"When they passed the Inflation Reduction Act and this grant program, it's one thing to say that we have a program where money is available, but it's another thing to be thoughtful, strategic and smart in submitting an application to actually get these dollars," Strickland said to tribal members. "These grants are very competitive. I want to give you all props for just doing the work and the plans."

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



FACT Fund-A-Farmer Grant Opportunity

Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT) is offering \$3,000 Fund-A-Farmer Welfare Improvement Grants for livestock farms that are looking to improve the lives of their food animals, pursue approved animal welfare certifications, or increase sales and distribution of products that already have approved animal welfare certifications. *Note that this grant is national, and increasingly competitive with a ~12% success rate.*

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



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