



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

The AG Sounder Newsletter

June 2025

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



In This Issue:

- Olympia Camera Club Field Trip - July 16th
- SW Washington Grasslands & Grazing Photography Competition - Submissions accepted now through Nov 15th
- Introduction to Shepherding Course - June 22nd
- Thinning for Forest Health Workshop - June 24th
- Explore Your Farm Dreams - August 18th
- Introducing Early Blue conservation grazing demonstration site lease recipient: Weeping Willow Ranch
- Whole Farm Planning - Sept 22nd - Nov 3rd

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

[Make a Gift Today!](#)



REGISTER NOW!

**Olympia Camera
Club Field Trip
July 16th**

4-7pm, Randle, WA

**Photos can be entered in the
Southwest Washington Grasslands
& Grazing Photography Contest!**

Photo credit: Quarter Circle 2C Ranch

Register now for this field trip co-sponsored by WSU Extension and the Olympia Camera Club!

*Must be an Olympia Camera Club Member to attend.
Membership details provided here: [MEMBERSHIP | Olympia Camera Club](#)

To register for the Field Trip, click [here](#).

Email sierra.smith1@wsu.edu for more information

ANNOUNCING: SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON GRASSLANDS & GRAZING

Photography Contest!



Agricultural photography can convey stories about farming, natural resources, and the day-to-day lives of farmers.

No matter your skills, consider participating in this photography contest to showcase your work and tell the story of local, grass-based agriculture.

Farmers have the inside story, so producers themselves are encouraged to join in!



Submissions are accepted
May 1st through November 15th, 2025

Click [here](#) to learn more.



Introduction to Shepherding

June 22

Withywindle Valley Farm



Spend the day on a working farm with shepherd, Carissa Miller, learning about the ancient practice of keeping sheep ethically and sustainably in today's world. This course is for those considering starting a flock or current sheep farmers looking to improve their systems

Shepherding Course with sliding-scale fee

Topics covered in the course will include:

- Determining goals: Fiber? Meat? Business? Land management?
- Rotational grazing: how to access pasture, portable fencing, and paddock building
- Sheep handling, systems, & shelter
- Health: Vaccine and medication administration, assessing body condition, trimming hooves, & nutrition
- Planning your year from breeding to lambing
- Starting a flock & more

Click [here](#) to register.



Thinning for Forest Health Workshop and Walking Tour

Tuesday, June 24th
Shelton, WA

Thinning can improve tree health and vigor, provide income, create wildlife habitat, and improve biodiversity. Enjoy an evening of learning and conversation with a forest health expert, complete with a walking tour of a working forest.

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



EXPLORE YOUR FARM DREAMS

EXPLORE LOS PASOS HACIA UNA GRANJA

Monday August 18th online via Zoom 6-9pm

Lunes el 18 de agosto en línea con Zoom 6-9pm



Explore Your Farm Dreams Workshop

Dreaming of beginning or expanding your own small farm? The WSU Cultivating Success™ series of courses combines workshop and farmer-direct learning experiences to help foster the success of new and existing farms. First up in the series is **Explore Your Farm Dreams**, a 3-hour workshop designed to help you explore the development of a small farm enterprise offered on August 18th from 6-9pm.

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

Introducing: Weeping Willow Ranch



Introducing: Early Blue Conservation Grazing Demonstration Site Lease Recipient - Weeping Willow Ranch

Weeping Willow Ranch, located in the South Bay area of Olympia, is a family-run operation with deep agricultural roots and a 50-year legacy in horses. Originally founded as a dairy in the early 1900s, the ranch is now owned by Jeff and Diane Pust and managed by Emma Pust and Carlos Chavez. Today, the ranch is home to a thriving equine and cattle operation, specializing in training horses for Roping, Ranch Riding, and competition in the National Reined Cow Horse Association.

WSU EXTENSION CULTIVATING SUCCESS

Mondays online via Zoom / Los lunes en línea con Zoom 9/22 - 11/3 6:00pm-8:00pm

WHOLE FARM PLANNING

PLANIFICACIÓN DE

TODA LA GRANJA



Whole Farm Planning Course

The WSU Cultivating Success™ series of courses combines workshop and farmer-direct learning experiences to help foster the success of new and existing farms. The **Whole Farm Planning Course** will be held on Mondays, 6:00pm to 8:00pm, September 22 through November 3. Offered statewide, courses will be conducted online using the Zoom platform with in-person field trips available in regions of WA state. In addition, courses will be offered with Spanish language interpretation.

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



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Email
Us

Visit our
Website



WSU Extension Thurston County | 3054 Carpenter Rd SE | Lacey, WA 98503 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!