



Up Next—

Donkey Creek Chum Festival!

Saturday, September 19,
10 am to 4 pm, Harbor History Museum

*Visit the Donkey Creek Chum Festival
Facebook page for more information.*

Chum Festival visitors learn what individuals can do to conserve healthy salmon runs and biodiverse watersheds. In conjunction, CVA will feature large maps of our watershed and our updated stewardship goals.

Volunteers needed. Call Lucinda 253-858-3647.



Crescent Creek has Chum, too, Summer 2015

Let's give them a good start in life!

Stewardship at Home

- Learn and share information about the wildlife habitat “edges” in our watershed.
- Consider registering and advertising your property as “wildlife friendly” with the National Wildlife Federation.
- Encourage a network among neighbors of Backyard Habitats, public lands, and other undeveloped spaces to serve as viable fish and wildlife corridors.
- Identify flooding patterns in our watershed. Plant more trees and native plants strategically throughout the watershed to absorb runoff and recharge aquifers.
- Promote the installation of rain gardens and bio swales to neutralize pollutants and flood events.
- Work with extension offices and Conservation District to reduce fertilizer and other toxic runoff into streams, wetlands and Puget Sound.

Political Actions for Stewardship

- Monitor and participate in land use decisions that affect the public benefits of the natural environment.
- Advocate for conditions that minimize threats to wildlife habitat fragmentation.
- Identify parcels within and adjacent to areas of rich native biodiversity that may become available for purchase or conservation as public areas. Prioritize conservation, restoration, and purchase opportunities for biodiverse areas.
- Support Low Impact Development strategies for new developments and for retrofitting.
- Propose new parks, open spaces, and trails with native vegetation in order to buffer developed areas from wildlife habitat areas.

Continuing Stewardship Projects

- Develop signage to inform residents and visitors about native wildlife and ecosystem services.
- Sponsor annual or bi-annual native vegetation planting events.
- Sponsor invasive species eradication events.
- Sponsor “bioblitz” activities led by experts to verify the efficacy of conservation strategies.
- Promote a fish and wildlife monitoring plan for our watershed.

National Wildlife Federation will also be at Chum Festival



A fine way to keep all watersheds Chum salmon friendly

Register your yard

A **one time** donation registers your property (never fear, no regulations, no inspections) and also gives you benefits of a one year membership in National Wildlife, a quarterly magazine, and emailed tips for conserving our rich environment. Such a deal! Consider buying the optional Certified Wildlife Habitat sign.

Pick up a paper registration form at the Chum Fest, or go to NWF's [Garden For Wildlife](#) page.

More resources for good stewardship—

KGI Watershed Council

CVA is a member of this Council serving Key and Gig Harbor Peninsulas and surrounding islands

“Over 65,000 people live in the area. Since the mid-1980’s a number of plans and activities have been developed to address problems related to water within the KGI Watershed. The majority of these efforts have been focused on improving water quality, particularly in shellfish growing areas.” **Find and like KGI on Facebook.**



Pierce County Conservation District is offering [training](#) for volunteer Stream Monitors, Saturday, Sept. 26, 9:00am—12:00pm

- **Learn how to collect and record water quality data on streams.**
- **Help Pierce Conservation District monitor one of many streams throughout Pierce County.**
- **Watch our streams for changes that threaten natural stream function.**
- **Make a difference in your environment.**

For more information contact Isabel Ragland: (253) 845-9770 x103 or IsabelR@piercecountycd.org

Good Land Use Planning needs local input—

3 Vacancies on Gig Harbor Peninsula Land Use Advisory Commission (LUAC)

To volunteer for a local land use commission takes a serious commitment, of course. The GHP LUAC, also identified as PAC, meets nearly twice a month, usually for two hours. In this public meeting, Planning and Lands Services present pending applications for development that cannot be permitted outright. The local commissioners evaluate the proposal according to our Community Plan and take public comment before making a recommendation to the Hearing Examiner.

In my first year of service I have found I do one to two hours of study and preparation for each meeting. As a new commissioner I’ve put in additional hours just to learn about Land Use Planning in unincorporated Pierce County.

In addition, very important and very exciting to me, our LUAC may be involved in revising the Community Plan itself in the next 2 years. That likely means additional “committee work” that will be shared, I expect, with non-commissioners.

The good part of this volunteer job is that, other than the two Wednesday evenings, it can be done on one’s own schedule, and usually at home online. You can call me with questions if you like,

Commissioner Lucinda Wingard 253-858-3647.

More info at the Pierce County website for [Planning and Lands Services](#).