



Events & Opportunities



Orca Recovery Day - Fun for the Whole Pod!

October 19th, Multiple Locations & Times in the County

You, your friends and your loved ones are welcome at one of several restoration events throughout the county to help the endangered Southern Resident Orca population! More stewards means more salmon, and more salmon means more orcas.

DeCoursey Park & Peck Property, Puyallup, 9am-12pm - Family friendly activities, music and tree planting. Right along a salmon-bearing stream.

Triangle Depave Planting, Tacoma, 10am-12pm - Planting pollinator-friendly plants in an area that had pavement removed this summer.

South Prairie Creek Preserve, Orting, 9am-12pm - Planting trees and shrubs to enhance salmon habitat. Optional bird walk with an expert at 8 am, as well!

Bradley Lake Work Party, Puyallup, 9am-12pm - Care for existing plants and remove invasive plant species to improve water quality for salmon.

Metro Parks Tacoma and EarthCorps are also offering volunteer opportunities at Titlow Park and Tahoma Salt Marsh. You can learn more about these partner events on the [Better Ground website](#).

[Find a Volunteer Site Near You!](#)



Monthly Board of Supervisors Meeting

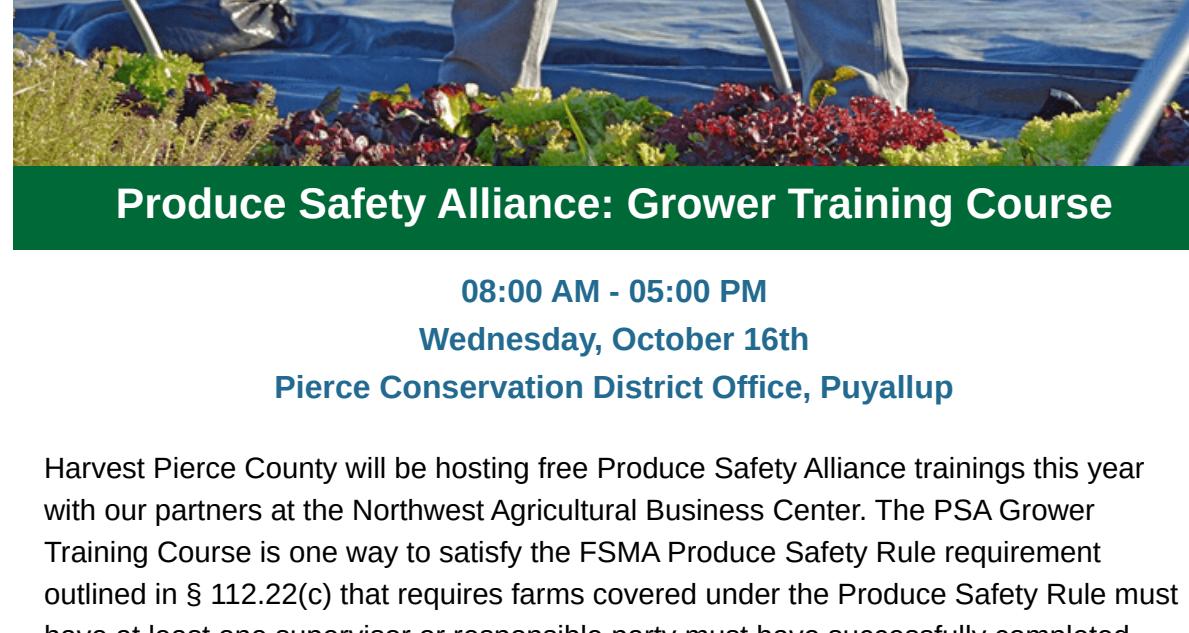
October 9th from 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

In Person at PCD Office and Virtual

Open to the public. Our monthly Board of Supervisors meeting to update work accomplished and future plans.

[Calendar Event](#)

[Agenda](#)



Green Tacoma Day

09:00 AM - 12:00 PM

October 12th

Tacoma, WA

Green Tacoma Day is an annual day of service that offers great opportunities for the Tacoma community to get to know each other and our local green spaces. This year's celebration will be on Saturday, October 12, 2024, from 9 AM to noon. Participants are encouraged to take individual actions and participate in volunteer activities to help protect and restore natural spaces in their neighborhoods.

[Register](#)



Produce Safety Alliance: Grower Training Course

08:00 AM - 05:00 PM

Wednesday, October 16th

Pierce Conservation District Office, Puyallup

Harvest Pierce County will be hosting free Produce Safety Alliance trainings this year with our partners at the Northwest Agricultural Business Center. The PSA Grower Training Course is one way to satisfy the FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirement outlined in § 112.22(c) that requires farms covered under the Produce Safety Rule must have at least one supervisor or responsible party must have successfully completed food safety training at least equivalent to that received under standardized curriculum recognized as adequate by the Food and Drug Administration.

[Register](#)

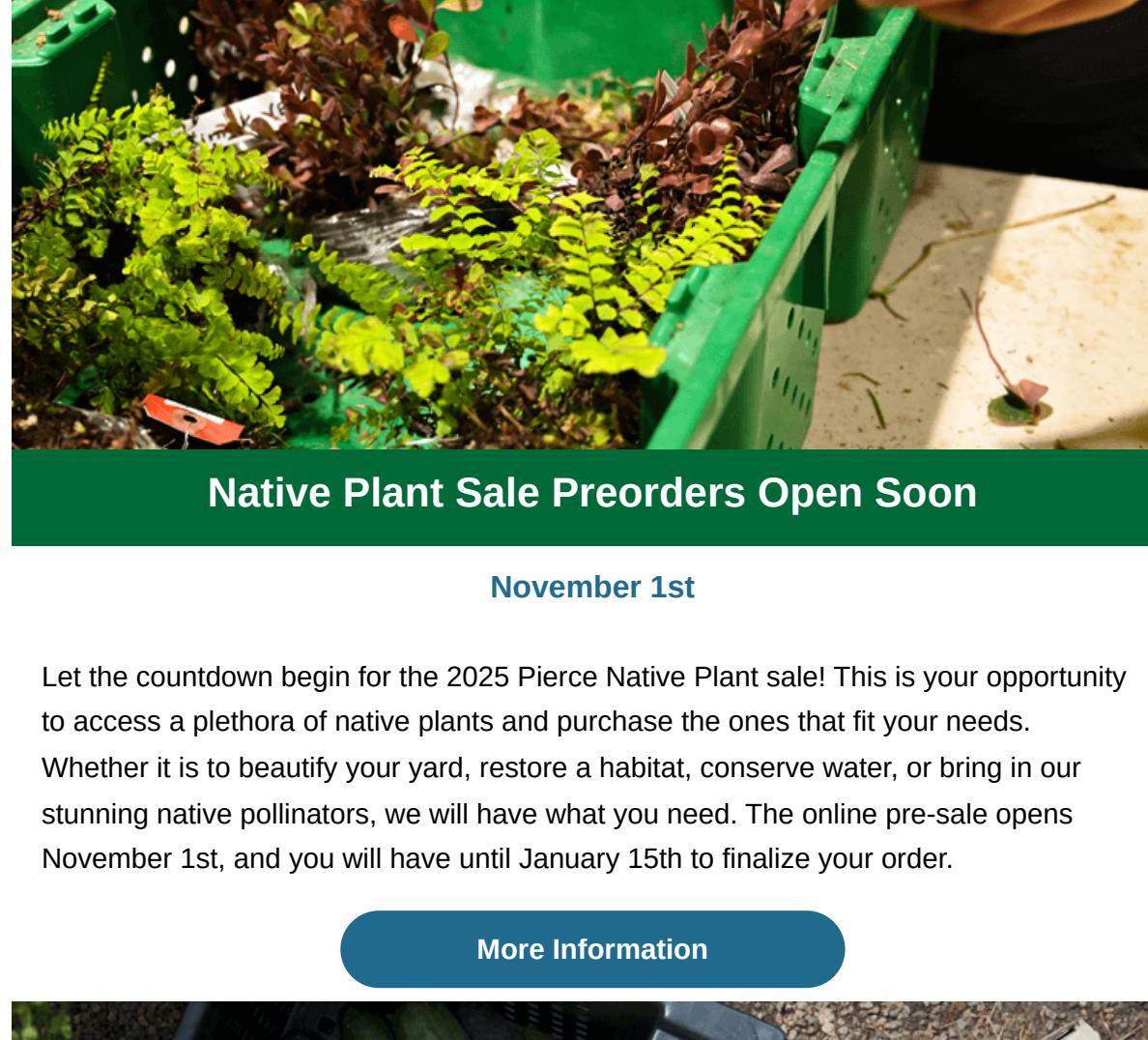
Farm Foundations Application Open

October 1st - November 15th

If you're interested in learning how to grow your own food, work on a small vegetable farm, or expand your skills in food production, Harvest Pierce County is offering Farm Foundations Training. This free adult educational program is designed to give access to the knowledge and experience of a full-time farm internship without the commitment. It combines virtual classes with field work, at farms within Pierce County, to give

participants a well-rounded perspective on the realities of food production. Applications open October 1st and the priority deadline is November 15th, please join us for the 2025 season.

[More Information](#)

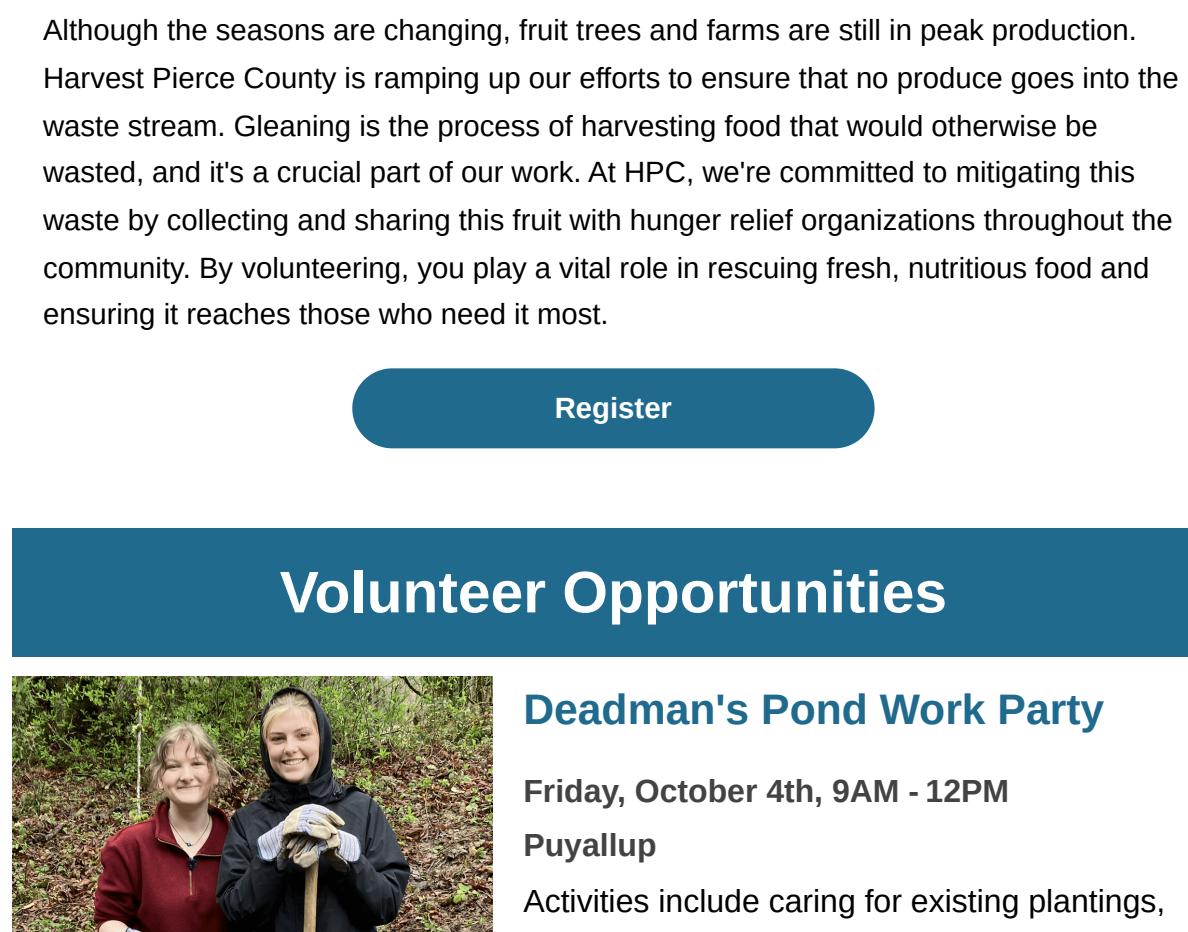


Native Plant Sale Preorders Open Soon

November 1st

Let the countdown begin for the 2025 Pierce Native Plant sale! This is your opportunity to access a plethora of native plants and purchase the ones that fit your needs. Whether it is to beautify your yard, restore a habitat, conserve water, or bring in our stunning native pollinators, we will have what you need. The online pre-sale opens November 1st, and you will have until January 15th to finalize your order.

[More Information](#)



Fall Gleaning

Various Times

Various Days

Various Locations throughout Pierce County

Although the seasons are changing, fruit trees and farms are still in peak production. Harvest Pierce County is ramping up our efforts to ensure that no produce goes into the waste stream. Gleaning is the process of harvesting food that would otherwise be wasted, and it's a crucial part of our work. At HPC, we're committed to mitigating this waste by collecting and sharing this fruit with hunger relief organizations throughout the community. By volunteering, you play a vital role in rescuing fresh, nutritious food and ensuring it reaches those who need it most.

[Register](#)

Volunteer Opportunities

Deadman's Pond Work Party

Friday, October 4th, 9AM - 12PM

Puyallup

Activities include caring for existing plantings, mulching and removing invasive species such as Himalayan blackberry and English ivy. This streamside habitat supports water quality, our local wildlife, and pollinators.

[Sign Up](#)



Whittier Park Work Party

Saturday, October 5th, 9AM - 12PM

Fircrest

Activities include caring for existing plantings, mulching and removing invasive species such as Himalayan blackberry and Canadian thistle. This streamside habitat supports water quality, our local wildlife, and pollinators.

[Sign Up](#)



Silver Creek Work Party

Saturday, October 12th, 10AM - 12PM

Tacoma

Activities include caring for existing plantings, mulching and removing invasive species such as Himalayan blackberry and Canadian thistle. This streamside habitat supports water quality, and pollinators.

[Sign Up](#)



Waughop Lake Work Party

Saturday, October 12th, 9AM - 12PM

Puyallup

Activities include caring for existing plantings, mulching and removing invasive species such as Himalayan blackberry and Canadian thistle. This streamside habitat supports water quality, and pollinators.

[Sign Up](#)

Adriana Hess Work Party

Saturday, October 12th, 9AM - 12PM

Puyallup

Activities include caring for existing plantings, mulching and removing invasive species such as Himalayan blackberry, non-native trees, and English ivy. This streamside habitat supports water quality, and pollinators.

[Sign Up](#)

Nelson Nature Park Work Party

Saturday, October 26th, 9AM - 12PM

Orting

Come join PCD as we continue our restoration efforts at South Prairie Creek Preserve as we mulch trees and shrubs!

[Sign Up](#)



Green Puyallup Day

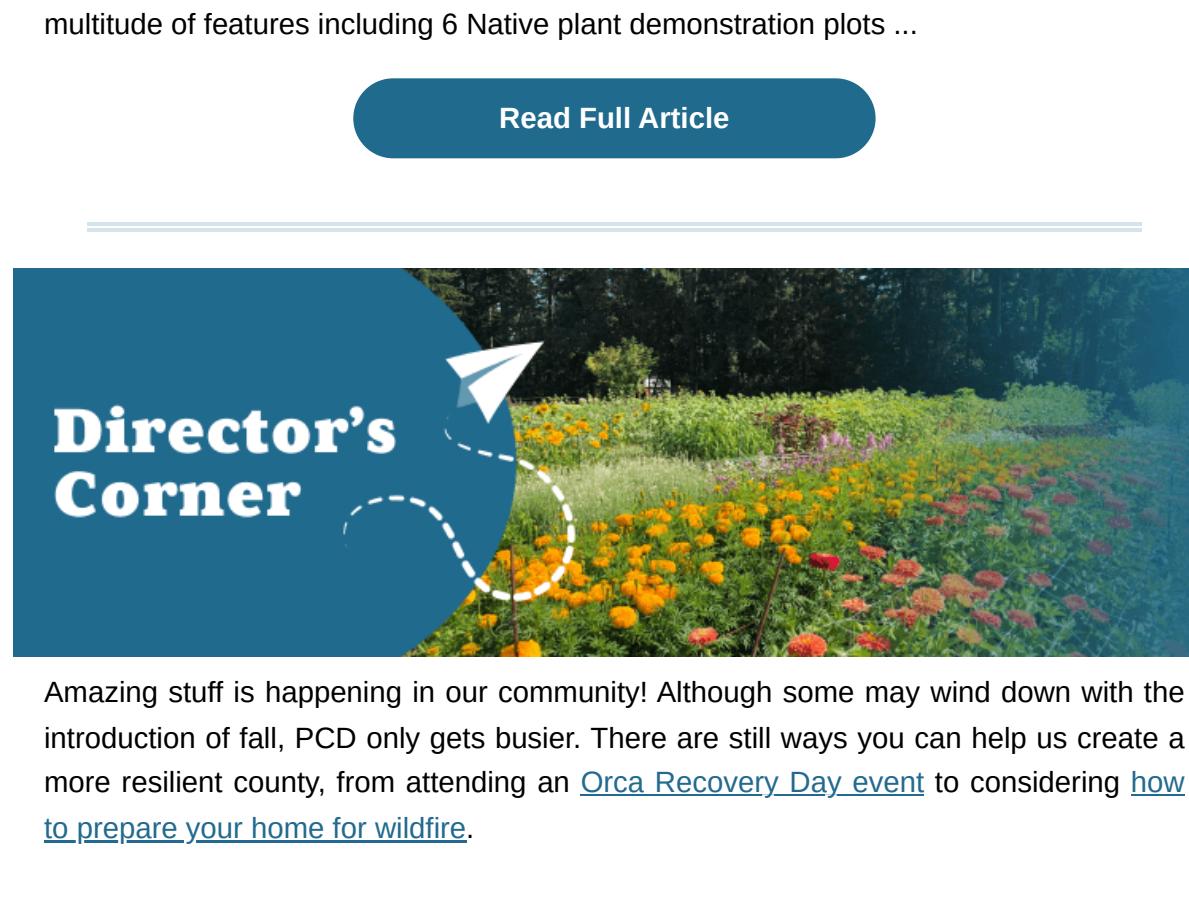
Saturday, November 2nd, varied times

Puyallup

Activities include caring for existing plantings, mulching and removing invasive species such as Himalayan blackberry and Canadian thistle. This streamside habitat supports water quality, our local wildlife, and pollinators.

[Sign Up](#)

News from Pierce CD



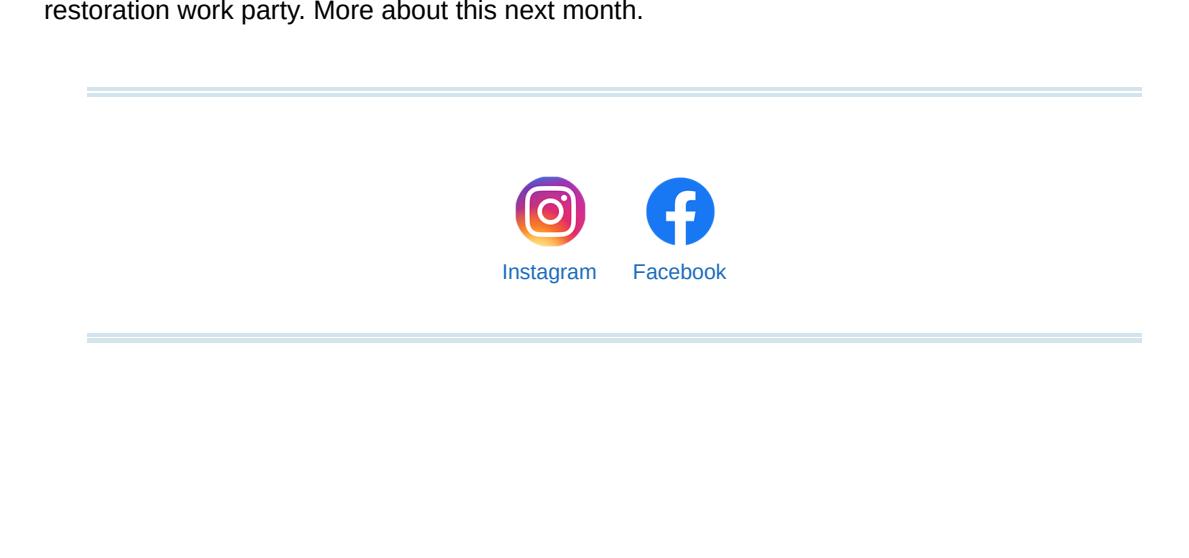
Volunteers proudly show off a newly planted strip at Dead Man's Pond.

Progress on Dead Man's Pond

Kids return to school, leaves changing colors, and the holiday season is approaching. If you're looking for a way to volunteer, give back, or embrace the spooky season, join us at Dead Man's Pond! Located on the beautiful Puyallup loop trail, this site hosts a multitude of features including 6 Native plant demonstration plots ...

[Read Full Article](#)

Director's Corner



Amazing stuff is happening in our community! Although some may wind down with the introduction of fall, PCD only gets busier. There are still ways you can help us create a more resilient county, from attending an [Orca Recovery Day event](#) to considering [how to prepare your home for wildfire](#).

We are also happy to welcome back many of our AmeriCorps members back for a second year. They make our programs shine, and we appreciate all of the hard work that they put in, as well as our partnership with Washington Service Corps.

I'm excited for everything that the fall has in store for Pierce Conservation District. I hope you'll consider reaching out and connecting with us this season!

- Executive Director, Dana Coggon.

In the Conservation Community

[Sustainable Solutions Weekly Classes](#) - Did you know that Pierce County hosts FREE classes designed to equip you with skills to create a more sustainable community? Harvest Pierce County's edible garden classes are just one part of this effort!

[Fall Pruning Workshop](#) - Learn proper pruning techniques for fruit trees and other trees and shrubs in this workshop from Thurston Conservation District.

[FirFest](#) - Get a free tree at Whittier Park in Fircrest on November 23rd! There will also be a restoration work party. More about this next month.



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