
Small Acreage Landholder Outreach Program 2020 Annual Report

Submitted to Clark County Public Works, Clean Water Program

Submitted by WSU Clark County Extension

Terry Koper, Small Acreage Program Coordinator

Justin O'Dea, Interim Program Director



WSU Clark County Extension



Department of Public Works
Clean Water Program

Executive Summary

The Small Acreage Program served 885 people with workshops or class-series in 2020 (Table 1). Participants and graduates owned at least 1166 acres. The expo, harvest celebration, and tours did not take place, due to the pandemic. In lieu of those events not taking place, four additional Best Management Practice workshops were offered and three additional factsheets were converted to webpages. Of the workshop and class-series that took place, a significant majority of respondents agreed they would use what they learned to change their land management practices.

Table 1: Summary Statistics for Events

	Participants / Graduates	Acreage Owned	% Learning Something	Intend to Make Changes N (NR)
Ag Business	32			
BMP Workshops	664	664	59%	9 (30)
Expo**				
Harvest Celebration**				
LOL	25	222	92%-100%	12 (1) average
Septic/Well WS	138	280	80% average	42 (69) average
Tours**				
Women in Agriculture	26			
	885	1,166		

**N = number of responses; NR = no response*

*** Did not take place, due to pandemic*

Note: The BMP data refers to the one BMP workshop that was offered independently (Backyard Composting). While the other BMP workshops were held in conjunction with the Living on the Land class-series and that data is cumulatively recorded under LOL. The independent Well and Septic Workshops were averaged together.

Task 1 - Best Management Practices (BMPs) Guidelines

Task 1a – Information Resources

Throughout the year, the Coordinator adds announcements for all events and relevant materials where appropriate to the WSU Extension calendar (<http://extension.wsu.edu/clark/calendar/>); Small Acreage webpage (<http://extension.wsu.edu/clark/naturalresources/smallacreageprogram/>) and to the program Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/smallacreageprogram>).

The program also tracks public use of the many resources available on our website to determine demand and ascertain use. This includes factsheets, video clips, announcements, and general program information (Table 2). For example, users visit the main page most often, where the program posts new classes and links to the different program areas. Traffic to the main program webpages is down since 2018. *Five Quick Steps to Reduce Mud* video clip was the most viewed video clip in 2020. Eight additional factsheet PDFs were converted to webpages to make them more accessible. The PDFs remain on the website, so they can be shared and printed.

Table 2: 2020 Small Acreage Webpage Activity

Video Clips	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	YTD
Manure Management	98	52	131	97	378
Reducing Mud on Small Acreages	7	3	407	8	425
Five Ways to Protect Riparian Areas	52	48	33	33	166
Livestock Exclusion and Off Channel Watering	3	5	10	19	37
Managing Manure	29	16	11	79	135
Five Quick Steps to Reduce Mud	148	330	273	537	1288
Total Views	343	458	870	779	2450

Issues and Recommendations. The analytic sites for the factsheets and website visitors have changed and the coordinator is working to regain access to this data.

Task 1b – Publications

The Coordinator submitted an article to *The Reflector* and to *The Columbian* newspapers to promote the Living on the Land (LOL) class series and the land stewardship principles it promotes. The article covered the major topic areas in the LOL classes: property inventory, soil, water, waste, grazing, and weeds (Appendix A).

The following eight PDF Factsheets were converted into webpages and posted on the Small Acreage webpage at <https://extension.wsu.edu/clark/naturalresources/smallacreageprogram/small-acreage-publications-and-videos/>:

- [Simple Tips for Well Maintenance](#)
- [Inspecting Your Septic System](#)
- [Composting Manure](#)
- [Improving Drainage](#)
- [Simple Steps to Protect Your Surface and Well Water](#)
- [Managing Roof Runoff](#)
- [What Can You Do On Your Land](#)
- [Water Quality Assessment Guide](#)

Issues and Recommendations. The article did not appear to be run by either *The Reflector* or *The Columbian*. The coordinator is working towards tracking the website traffic to these factsheet pages.

Task 2 - Public Education & Outreach

Task 2a – Establishing a Wider Mailing List

The program sent 1127 postcards to small acreage homeowners in three sub-watersheds of the East Fork Lewis River Watershed (Breeze, Jenny, and Rock Creeks) in October to advertise eight upcoming events (Appendix A). The postcard also included a link the upcoming Poop Smart program from the Clark Conservation District.

Issues and Recommendations. There are none at this time.

Task 2b – Living on the Land: Stewardship for Small Acreages

The Living on the Land class-series ran 8 weeks, from October 20 to December 15. This was an online only class-series and it was held in conjunction with the statewide Whole Farm Planning class-series for those participants that chose to attend both. The first half of each class featured a statewide speaker, while the second half of the class was devoted to Clark County specific topics with local speakers. The Coordinator promoted the LOL series at previous events as well as in the East Fork Lewis River mailer postcard and Public Health’s inspection notifications.

Twenty-five individuals from 16 households graduated.

While over a third (39%) of those responding heard about the LOL class through email (Table 3). Two individuals heard about it through a Small Acreage Postcard sent targeting the East Fork watershed. Sixteen percent heard through events and other sources. This data can be somewhat misleading since

Table 3: How Participants Learned About the LOL Class

Source	Responses* (NR)
Small Acreage Events	7
E-mails (office listservs, local partner newsletters)	30
Media (Small Acreage Facebook / Extension Website)	6
Flyers (feed stores, veterinarians, and libraries)	0
Newspaper PR / Ads (The Reflector, Post-Record, The Columbian, and FYI)	7
Word of mouth	9
Small Acreage Postcard	2
Other	16
Total	77(0)

** = includes multiple responses from those that took the pre-survey*

some participants heard about the course in multiple ways.

Of the 37 registrants, 25 graduated by attending five or more classes, 17 (43.5%) attended at least seven of the eight class sessions, while seven attended every session (Table 4).

Table 4: LOL Attendance

Classes Attended	# Attendees	As % of Attendees
8	7	19%
7	10	27%
6	6	16%
5	2	5%
4	2	5%
3	0	0%
2	2	5%
1	8	22%

Total	37	100%
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The 25 graduates of the class all came from Clark County (Table 5). This year most graduates came from north Clark County. Historically, most graduates have come from central Clark County.

Table 5. Geographic Distributions

Location		Average 2003-2019	2020	City Totals (2003-2020)
North	Amboy	1	0	28
	La Center	3	5	99
	Ridgefield	3	7	127
	Yacolt	1	0	82
	Woodland (Clark Co.)	1	0	41
	Subtotal	9	12	377
Central	Battle Ground	6	4	305
	Brush Prairie	2	0	139
	Subtotal	8	2	444
South	Camas	1	0	157
	Vancouver	4	8	95
	Washougal	2	1	107
	Subtotal	7	9	359
Out of County		2	0	164
Totals		24	25	1344

Graduates owned at least 222 acres, with the average of 8.9 acres, somewhat below the average 10.3 acres owned between 2003 and 2019 (Table 6). Sixty nine percent of the parcels were 5 acres or less. The largest acreage was 110 acres.

Table 6: Graduate Property Characteristics **

		Average 2003 - 2019	2020	Total
# Graduates		82**	25	1344
# Properties		24	16	396
Ac Owned	Total Acreage	246	222	4154
	Avg Ac/ Property	10.3	8.9	10.5
	Smallest	0.1	0.2	0.1
	Largest	80	110	110
	< = 5 ac	11	11	184
	>5 - 10	6	3	105
	>10 - 20	3	1	47
	> 20 ac	3	1	45
Yrs On Land	Average	7	NA	7
	Least	0	NA	
	Most	66	NA	66
Land with:	Septic System	21	14	348
	Well	18	13	294

**Not all graduates provided all information.*

***This number seems high, as the class size is typically not larger than 30 per year.*

Seven keep livestock, while six keep larger types of livestock: alpacas, goats, horses, pigs, and cattle (Table 7).

Table 7: Number of Livestock Owned*

Livestock	Average 2003 - 2019	2020	Total
Poultry	185	104	3058
Alpacas	19	2	307
Cattle	20	13	325
Horse / Donkey	19	12	316
Goats/ Sheep	33	7	533
Swine	9	4	145
Llama	4	0	58
Rabbits	29	0	471
Total	317	142	5213

** Understates total since not all participants provided information.*

Knowledge Increases. Participants also rated their knowledge on each topic before and after each workshop using a scale of one to five: a response of one indicates poor, two fair, three average, four good and five excellent. Knowledge before and after the class was measured using a class self-evaluation. A change in knowledge of 1 indicates the respondents learned some, 2 they learned a moderate amount, 3 they learned a lot, and 4 indicates the learned an extreme amount. Due to some inconsistencies in the evaluation output, the data was not all able to be calculated and therefore the totals do not always equal 100%. Across all class topics, at least 11% (11%-100%) learned some to a lot of knowledge (Table 8). At least 3% (3%-100%) of respondents learned a moderate to a lot about the major topic areas.

Table 8: LOL Knowledge Level Change

LOL Class	Knowledge Area	Before and After Class Knowledge Change (As percent of respondents averaged)					
		Same	1	2	3	4	N (NR)*
Ag Marketing and Economics	Four topic areas: Clark County agriculture, direct marketing of agricultural products, value-added agricultural products, and agricultural business opportunities	35%	35%	29%	0%	0%	3(3)
Well & Septic	Four topic areas: septic system maintenance and self-inspection certification and well maintenance.	36%	30%	17%	18%	0%	14(15)
Forest Management and Agroforestry	Four topic areas: Agroforestry and its benefits, species interactions, common systems, forest health for traditional forest management on small acreage	6%	46%	48%	0%	0%	7(25)
Soils	Four topic areas: major nutrients for plant/soil health, soil chemistry, understanding soil tests, benefits of soil life	17%	57%	27%	0%	0%	4(10)
Weeds	Four topic areas: weed management plan, life cycle of weeds, identifying and controlling weeds	55%	25%	17%	0%	0%	7(8)
Wildlife	Four topic areas: types of local wildlife, creating habitat, discouraging unwanted wildlife, Native pollinators and their habitats	4%	8%	3%	0%	0%	5(5)
Healthy Watersheds	Four topic areas: Clean Water Program background, how collects and uses funds, your part in protecting waterways, signs of healthy/unhealthy streams	11%	45%	11%	0%	0%	6(6)
Pasture Management	Four topic areas: grazing management, common pasture grass/legume species, feed and forage needs of livestock, hay quality evaluation	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	1(9)

Issues and Recommendations. Evaluations were converted to a digital format this year; the results were inconsistent. The Coordinator is working with IT to resolve the inconsistencies in results.

Task 2c – Well and Septic Maintenance Workshops

During the well and septic workshops, the Coordinator opened each workshop with a summary of best practices impacting water quality before the Public Health speakers presented. During the December workshops, Chuck Harman and Sean Hawes presented on septic systems and Jamee Searcy and Miles Lawson presented on maintaining potable wells. Participants pay \$15 to attend these workshops.

Of the 109 participants (not including the septic session in the LOL course) who attended the workshops, 14% of respondents learned about the workshops through Public Health’s inspection notification, followed by 13% from newspapers, and 12% who learned through Small Acreage Events and 12% from an email (listservs and local partner newsletters, etc.) (Table 9).

Table 9: Responses to Promotion

How Participants Heard of Events	Responses (NR)
Small Acreage Events	13
E-mails (office listservs, local partner newsletters)	13
Media (Small Acreage Facebook / Extension Website),	8
Flyers (feed stores, veterinarians, and libraries)	1
Newspaper PR / Ads (<i>The Reflector</i> , <i>Post-Record</i> , <i>The Columbian</i> , and <i>FYI</i>)	14
Word of mouth	1
Small Acreage Postcard	0
Septic Inspection Notification	15
Other	11
Total	107 (2)

All respondents indicated they would use the information they learned, potentially positively impacting the 280 acres participants own (Table 10).

Table 10: Well and Septic Workshop

Date	Participants	Intend to Use Information % Yes N (NR)	Acreage Owned	Workshop Location
March 5	28	100% 14 (14)	78	Heritage Farm, Hazel Dell
June 24	34	100% 2 (34)	129	Online
August 19	27	100% 19 (8)	48	Online
December 15	20	100% 7 (13)	25	Online
Totals	109	100% 42 (69)	280	

Participants evaluate their knowledge about selected topics before and after attending the workshop (Table 11). Evaluation results show that at least 82% of respondents increased their knowledge four topic areas on well and septic system maintenance and health. An average of 70% of respondents improved their knowledge about how their management practices impact clean water.

Table 11: Well and Septic Workshop Knowledge Level Change

Workshop	Knowledge Area	Before and After Workshop Knowledge Level Change (as percent of responses)					N (NR)**
		Same	1	2	3	4	
March 5	Knowledge of four topic areas	30%	20%	28%	15%	7%	13(15)
	How my management practices impact clean water	29%	29%	21%	14%	7%	14(14)
June 24	Knowledge of four topic areas	0%	0%	25%	50%	0%	1(33)
	How my management practices impact clean water	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	1(33)
Aug 19	Knowledge of four topic areas	6%	22%	47%	18%	6%	7(20)
	How my management practices impact clean water	20%	20%	60%	0%	0%	5(22)
Dec 15	Knowledge of four topic areas	17%	21%	35%	19%	7%	7(14)
	How my management practices impact clean water	43%	14%	29%	14%	0%	7(13)
**All Classes	Knowledge of four topic areas	20%	22%	36%	18%	7%	28(82)
	How my management practices impact clean water	30%	22%	33%	11%	4%	27(82)

*Percentages do not always add up to 100% because these are averages.

**N = number of responses; NR = no response

Well and Septic workshops longitudinal impacts

A short follow-up survey (single page) for 2019 and 2020 will be sent to participants this upcoming year.

Issues and Recommendations. These workshops went online after the first workshop and ensuring that evaluations were completed and the datasets complete was a challenge. Improvements were made to this process throughout the year and will continue to be made.

Task 2d – Best Management Practices Workshops

The Coordinator held 7 workshops throughout the year. Six of the workshops were part of the Living on the Land class-series and were open to the public to attend as stand-alone workshops.

The Coordinator promoted the workshops widely, through press releases to local newspapers, Facebook posts, website content, and listserv emails, and a targeted mailer to a selected watershed and on septic system inspection notifications (Table 12). About 63% of participants learned about the workshops through digital media and email.

Table 12: Responses to Promotion

How Participants Heard of Events	Responses (NR)
Small Acreage Events	10
E-mails (office listservs, local partner newsletters)	38
Extension Website	28
Digital Media (Small Acreage Facebook)	11
Flyers (feed stores, veterinarians, and libraries)	0
Newspaper PR / Ads (<i>The Reflector</i> , <i>Post-Record</i> , <i>The Columbian</i> , and <i>FYI</i>)	2
Word of mouth	4
Small Acreage Postcard	12
Other	18
Total	123 (18)

* N = number of responses; NR = no response

All survey respondents of the Backyard Composting workshop indicated they learned something new and intended to use the information (Table 13).

Table 13: BMP Workshops

Date	Topic	***Participants	Intend to Use Information % Yes N (NR)	***Acre age Owned	Overall Rating	Workshop Location
Aug 18	Backyard Composting	39	100% 9 (30)	188	3	Online
**Nov 10	Forest Management and Agroforestry	8	**	120	**	Online
**Nov 17	Soil Fertility	4	**	5	**	Online
**Nov 24	Weeds Management	16	**	84	**	Online
**Dec 1	Wildlife Habitat	17	**	128	**	Online
**Dec 8	Healthy Watersheds	8	**	8	**	Online
**Dec 15	Pasture Management	20	**	131	**	Online

*N = number of responses; NR = no response

**Offered with *Living on the Land*, see Table 8 for evaluation results

***Registrants beyond *Living on the Land* attendees

At least 59% of respondents increased their understanding of managing compost (Table 14). Eighty percent increased their knowledge about how composting impacts clean water.

Table 14: BMP Workshop Knowledge Level Change

Workshop	Knowledge Area	Before and After Workshop Knowledge Level Change (as percent of responses)					
		Same	1	2	3	4	N (NR)*
Backyard Composting	Three topic areas covering Compost Management	42%	42%	17%	0%	0%	3 (36)
	How my management practices impact clean water	20%	60%	20%	0%	0%	5 (34)

*N = number of responses; NR = no response

BMP workshops longitudinal impacts

No follow-up surveys were mailed out in 2021.

Issues and Recommendations. Additional Best Management Practice workshops were offered in lieu of not being able to offer the Small Acreage Expo, tours, or the Harvest Celebration due to the pandemic this year. Follow-up surveys for 2019 and 2020 will be sent in 2021.

Task 2e – Outreach Events and Promotional Activities

General Outreach. The program mailed postcards to a targeted area of the East Fork Lewis River Watershed (Task 2a) and added inserts to Septic System Inspection notification mailers from Public Health to help broaden participation. The Coordinator attended Clark County and Food System Council meetings and gave updates on the program. The coordinator sent program promotional materials to a Spanish speaking event and promoted the Whole Farm Planning class-series specifically to Veterans and Spanish-speakers.

Small Acreage Exposition. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic Small Acreage Expo was cancelled in 2020. Additional Best Management Practice workshops were offered later in the year in lieu of this event.

Clark County Fair. The 2020 Clark County Fair was cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

WSU Harvest Celebration. The Clark County Harvest Celebration was unable to take place in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. A list of 10 farms with descriptions and contact information were posted on the Small Acreage website attempt to connect residents with farms.

Veterinarian outreach. The program sends flyers to local veterinarians about animal related events.

Low impact development. There were no specific LID events, although the Program does promote materials on LID practices.

Equine Community. Although the coordinator reached out to several Equine groups and spoke with group leaders, the program did not deliver promotional talks before Equine groups due to no response from these groups.

Issues and Recommendations. While the COVID-19 Pandemic greatly impacted the program offering in-person events, a broader audience was reached by offering workshops and classes online.

Task 3 - Model Small Acreage Properties

Task 3a – Land Tours

Due to no in-person contact, the program did not offer property tours in 2020.

Issues and Recommendations. There are none at this time.

Longitudinal impacts of Tours 2012 -2018

No follow-up surveys were sent out in 2020.

Task 3b – Land Steward Recognition

Due to no in-person contact, the program did not assess land for this program, although six interested individuals were sent self-assessment materials. If they met the criteria, they will be contacted for in-person assessments once it's safe to do so.

Issues and Recommendations. See above.

Task 4: Impact Evaluation & Reporting

Task 4a – Evaluations

Workshop Evaluations. The program conducts post-event evaluations for each workshop, tour, and class where appropriate. Spouses and partners are encouraged to fill out separate evaluations. Registration and attendance are tracked and recorded, along with evaluation results and comments. Participant suggestions and comments are incorporated as appropriate in planning for future events.

Impact Reporting (follow-up surveys on workshops and tours). No follow-up surveys were sent out in 2020.

Information Requests. The Coordinator responded to over 16 requests for information in the fourth quarter (124 for the year) on upcoming events, agricultural business ventures, septic systems, drainage, animal husbandry, and stormwater management. Individuals who contact the program receive relevant factsheets and flyers for upcoming events as well as verbal and written guidance applicable to their concerns.

Task 4b – Reporting

Reporting. This report constitutes the final report for 2020.

Issues and Recommendations. There are none at this time.

Promotions. The Program uses a number of means to advertise program offerings (Table 15). Looking across all events for the year, the most successful promotions are through emails, followed by digital media (including the Small Acreage Website and Facebook) and other means.

Table 15: Responses to Event Promotions

How Participants Heard of Events	Responses
Small Acreage Events	30
E-mails (office listservs, local partner newsletters)	81
Digital Media (Small Acreage Facebook / Extension Website),	52
Flyers (feed stores, veterinarians, and libraries)	1
Newspaper PR / Ads (<i>The Reflector</i> , <i>Post-Record</i> , <i>The Columbian</i> , <i>FYI</i>)	23
Word of mouth	14
Small Acreage Postcard	14
Septic Inspection Notification	15
Other	45
Total	275

Table 16 summarizes the 2020 summary of program activities.

Table 16: Progress Summary

Program Elements			2020 Goals	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	YTD	% 2020 Goals
Best Management Practices (Task 1)	Information Resources	Materials added to reference files	ongoing	1	1	1	1	4	
		Post links and resources to website	ongoing	1	1	1	1	4	
		Track website hits	ongoing	1	1	1	1	4	
		Track website document downloads	ongoing	1	1	1	1	4	
	Publications	Article	1			1		1	100%
		Five web pages created from factsheets	5				8	8	160%
Public Outreach and Education (Task 2)	LOL Class Series	LOL series	1				1	1	100%
		Graduation	20				25	25	125%
	Well & Septic Workshops	Well & septic workshops	4	1	1	1	1	4	100%
		Attendance	80	28	34	27	49	138	173%
	BMP Workshops	BMP Workshops	3				3	3	100%
		Attendance	30				32	32	107%
		Revise & maintain speaker's list	ongoing	1	1	1	1	4	
	Outreach Events & Promotional Activities	Workshops in lieu of SA Expo	2			1	2	3	150%
		Attendance	75				58	58	77%
		Clark County Fair	0					0	
		Workshops in lieu of WSU Harvest Celebration	1				1	1	100%
		Attendance	10				4	4	40%
		Additional Events as identified						0	
	Mass Mailing	Postcard mailing	1000				1127	1127	113%
Model Properties (Task 3)	Property Tours	Workshops in lieu of Conduct tours	2				2	2	100%
		Attendance	30				33	33	110%
	Sign Recognition	Assess properties for signage program	6					0	0%

Impact Evaluation and Reporting (Task 4)	Evaluation	Summary of Attendance							
		Attendee Evaluations Returned	290	15	0	0	0	15	5%
		Requests for assistance		55	21	32	16	124	
	Reporting	Quarterly Reports	3	1	1	0		2	66%
		Annual Report	1				1	1	100%

**Appendix A:
Example Promotional Materials**

ARTICLE

FLYER

PRESS RELEASE

REFLECTOR ADVERTISEMENT

FACEBOOK POSTS

POSTCARD

HARVEST CELEBRATION BROCHURE

LOL Article – submitted to *The Reflector* and *The Columbian*

Eighteen Years of Stewardship in Clark County

Class series teaches Clark County residents with small acreage and farms all about land stewardship.

What does it mean to be a steward of the land? It's a simple idea: care for the land to conserve it for the future. For 18 years, WSU Clark County Extension's Small Acreage Program has taught stewardship principles through their Living on the Land class series.

This course will be offered fully online this year. This year's course will not only bring local experts each class to teach key stewardship principles to small acreage land stewards, but students will also be able learn from teachers throughout the state.

Teachers from the class series share their advice on land stewardship practices ranging from soil rehabilitation to pasture management, dealing with stormwater and more:

Inventory: The first step to stewardship is understanding the property's assets. Taking an inventory of resources and creating a map of the property helps with future goal planning. A property plan notes specific resources such as an orchard, barn or water body, and any problem areas such as a weedy field or standing water. As one plans out new goals for their land, such as expanding pasture, they can look back at their map and see how current resources support or hinder new goals.

Soil: Soil is one of the most important resources of the land. If it is well cared for, it will support the growth of crops and help pastures soak up the rain. "To know the health of the soil, a first step is to get a soil test", says Terry Koper, Extension's Small Acreage Program Coordinator. Koper adds, "A soil test will show how much fertilizer to apply so only the plants are fed and not nearby water bodies". Heather Havens, manager of Concentrates Inc. outside of Portland explains "another way to ensure healthy soil is to avoid tilling your soil more than absolutely necessary. There is a whole world of beneficial insects, bacteria and fungi alive in the soil creating a network of nutrients for your plants roots".

Water: Rivers, streams and lakes are an amazing resource for swimming and fishing but can become a muddy, algae filled mess when overwhelmed with contaminated stormwater runoff and livestock traffic. Eric Lambert, Public Works Clean Water Specialist, states that "you can keep water bodies on your property healthy by planting trees, shrubs, grasses and sedges around water bodies to filter any pollutants from stormwater runoff." Add fences to block livestock from trampling stream beds and fouling water with their waste," adds Lambert.

Waste: "Poorly managed septic systems leach waste into our waterways," explains Sean Hawes, Public Health O&M Specialist. "Getting regular inspections ensures a septic system is working properly, reducing the chance for costly septic system repairs or replacement". Animal waste also wreaks havoc on our rivers and streams. Horses and cows produce 50 to 60 lbs. of manure each day. "Compost the manure to create a resource you can use and be sure to cover your manure pile with a tarp during the rainy season to keep the manure from running off into our local water bodies", states Koper.

Grazing: Overgrazing is the easiest way to kill a pasture. Plants need to rest. To get the most out of a pasture, follow "the 3-inch rule." Gary Fredricks, WSU Extension Specialist and pasture and livestock expert explains that "when grass is below 3 inches, take livestock off to allow the grass to regrow. Only put livestock back on a pasture when the grass reaches 6-8 inches."

Weeds: Jeff Duval of Clark County Vegetation Management advises landowners to create an Integrated Weed Management (IWM) plan. IWM combines several weed management strategies – physical, biological, cultural, and chemical – into one continuous plan. Hauge states, "survey your property

Whole Farm Planning: Living on the Land Class Series

When: Tuesdays, September 22 – December 8, 2020. 6:30-8:30pm

Where: Online Zoom Classes

Cost: \$35/person or \$50 per couple

Register: go.wsu.edu/smallacreage

annually for weeds and adapt your strategies based on your success and your goals. If you need help identifying weeds and choosing management strategies, you can reach out to Vegetation Management for help.”

You can learn from each of these local experts first-hand as WSU Extension and Clark County Public Works Clean Water Program launch their 18th annual Living on the Land class series. Terry Koper, Small Acreage Program Coordinator states, “This class is a great opportunity to learn how to better manage your land. Not only will it help you become a better land steward, you will also learn how to effectively manage your problem areas such as muddy pastures and weeds”.

“This course will not only connect you to your local community, but this year students will have the unique opportunity to learn from statewide presenters, as well”, says Koper. Statewide topics include:

Statewide Whole Farm Planning Course topics include:

Sustainability Concepts - Whole Farm Planning -
Evaluating Resources - Enterprise
Assessment - Marketing & Biz
Strategies - Farm Production
Practices - Ecological Soil
Management - Integrated Pest & Weed
Management - Livestock Considerations &
Intensive Management - Equipment & Facilities

Military Veterans!

*You are eligible for scholarship supported through a
VA Farm Grant administered through the WDVA.*

¡Curso traducido al Español!

**Un curso de 12 semanas ofrecido en línea, cada
martes de 6:30pm a 8:30pm, iniciando el 22 de
septiembre al 8 de diciembre.**

Course offered with Spanish language interpretation and
facilitation.



Sample Promotional Flyer

Ag Entrepreneurship & Business Planning

Learn small farm business planning skills from industry experts and local farmers. Finish a business plan to guide your farm enterprise!



Date: Wednesdays,
Jan. 22 - March 25, 2020

Time: 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Cost: \$100 per farm or family
(Partial scholarships available on a limited basis)

Where: Hazel Dell, WA

Learn:

Business Planning
Marketing Options
Market Analysis
Record Keeping
Budget Management
Business Structures
Legal Issues
Risk Management
Financing
& more



Questions?

Contact: Teresa Koper at teresa.koper@wsu.edu
or 564-397-5729

Pre-registration survey required:
<http://tiny.cc/2020AgBiz>



WSU CLARK COUNTY EXTENSION
Small Acreage Program

WSU Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and special needs who contact 564-397-5733 at least two weeks prior to an event.

Sample Press Release



WASHINGTON STATE
UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

WSU Clark County

For Immediate Release

August 11, 2020

Contact: Terry Koper
WSU Extension Clark County
Tel: 564-397-5729
E-mail: terry.koper@wsu.edu

Learn How to Compost

Clark County, WA – Have more organic matter than you know what to do with? Learn new tips and techniques for composting that can: reduce pile size, create a valuable soil amendment, reduce pests, and keep our water clean. This workshop will cover composting practices. Participants will receive excellent resources and hear from Clark County Public Health composting specialist Peter DuBois.

Workshop: Backyard Composting

Date: Tuesday, August 18, 2020

Time: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Location: Online Zoom Webinar

Cost: FREE (but must register at least a day in advance)

Register at: <https://compost2020.bpt.me>

Questions, contact: Terry.Koper@wsu.edu or 564-397-5729

This workshop is put on by the Small Acreage Program which is made possible by joint sponsorship from WSU Clark County Extension and Clark County Public Works Clean Water Program.

WSU Extension programs are available to all without discrimination. Persons requiring special accommodations should call WSU Clark County Extension at (564) 397-5733 prior to the event.

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###

Sample Advertisement – *The Reflector*

Small Acreage Program Online Workshops

Get the most out of your small acreage!

Well and Septic System Maintenance 10/27 and 12/10/2020

Register at: ws10272020.bpt.me or ws12102020.bpt.me

**Forest Management 11/10/2020 - forest11102020.bpt.me Soil
Management 11/17 - soil1117.bpt.me**

Weeds Management 11/24/2020 - weeds11242020.bpt.me

Watershed Stewardship 12/08/2020 - water12082020.bpt.me

Pasture Management 12/15/2020 - pasture12152020.bpt.me

For more information, visit: <http://go.wsu.edu/smallacreage>

**For assistance contact: WSU Clark County Extension
564-397-5729 / terry.koper@wsu.edu**

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Got Acreage?

- Make your property look better
- Reduce chore time
- Improve your animals' wellbeing
- Enhance your soil and pasture
- Reduce mud
- Protect your drinking water and streams
- AND more!!!



Small Acreage Program

Sponsored by:

WSU Clark County Extension

**Clark County
Clean Water Program**

Sample Facebook Post

The image shows a sample Facebook post for an event titled "Living On the Land - Stewardship for Small Acreages". The post features a red header with the event title, a description of the 8-week course, and a list of topics. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, October 20, 2020, at 6 PM PDT to 8:30 PM PDT. The post includes a calendar icon with the number 20, a "Whole Farm Planning - Living on the Land" title, and a "Free · Online Event" label. The post also has a "Details" section with 16 people responded, an "Event by WSU Extension Small Acreage Program" label, an "Online: go.wsu.edu" link, and a "Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 6 PM PDT – 8:30 PM PDT" timestamp. The "Insights" section shows "Last 7 Days: Feb 16 - Feb 23" and two metrics: "People Reached" and "Responses".

Living On the Land - Stewardship for Small Acreages

New to living on acreage or just want to improve your property?
This 8-week course will help you reach your goals.

Living On the Land teaches important topics on land management for small acreages. Participants learn practices that enhance natural resources and make improvements through a whole-property approach.

Topics include:

- Inventorying resources
- Soil health
- Pasture & grazing management
- Living with wildlife
- Controlling weeds
- Managing animals

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2020 AT 6 PM PDT – 8:30 PM PDT

Whole Farm Planning - Living on the Land

Free · Online Event

Event Ended Insights

About Discussion

Edit ...

Details

16 people responded

Event by WSU Extension Small Acreage Program

Online: go.wsu.edu

Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 6 PM PDT – 8:30 PM PDT

Insights

Last 7 Days: Feb 16 - Feb 23

People Reached Responses

19

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2020 AT 6 PM PDT – 8 PM PDT

Well and Septic System Maintenance Workshop

Online Event

Wells & Septic System Inspection & Maintenance

Learn how to self-inspect your gravity fed septic system & maintain both septic systems and wells

Learn how to:

- Prevent costly repairs
- Protect your drinking water
- Maintain your well and septic system

Don't lose precious dollars down the drain!

About
Discussion

Edit
...

Details

10 people responded

Event by WSU Extension Small Acreage Program, Clark County Public Health and Clark County WA Public Works

Online Event

Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 6 PM PDT – 8 PM PDT

Insights

Last 7 Days: Feb 16 - Feb 23

People Reached

Responses

Well and Septic System Maintenance Workshop

Edit
...

Details

10 people responded

Event by WSU Extension Small Acreage Program, Clark County Public Health and Clark County WA Public Works

Online Event

Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 6 PM PDT – 8 PM PDT

Price: Free · Duration: 2 hr

Public · Anyone on or off Facebook

Join us to learn about maintaining your well and get certified to self-inspect your residential gravity-fed system (every other inspection can be self-inspection alternative with p... See More

Home
Online

Hosts

WSU Extension Small Acreage Program
Education

Clark County Public Health
Government Organization · Public Service

Clark County WA Public Works
Government Organization · Public Service

Insights

Last 7 Days: Feb 16 - Feb 23

People Reached

Responses

Audience

Ticket Clicks

Women 35-44
27% of total reach

1
+0 last 7 days

See More

Go With Friends

See All

0
WENT

10
INTERESTED

Postcard Mailer



Rectangular?



Harvest Celebration Brochure

Posted on the Small Acreage Program website: <https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/2079/2020/09/HC-Program-2020.pdf>

22nd HARVEST CELEBRATION DAY



This Year Online Only

22nd Annual
Honoring Clark County Farms
September, 2020



WASHINGTON STATE
UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION



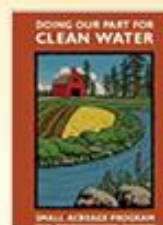
Showcasing the Bounty of
Clark County Farms

Farm Guide at:
[http://go.wsu.edu/
smallacreage](http://go.wsu.edu/smallacreage)

Showcasing the Bounty of Clark County Farms



This sign indicates farms implementing practices to protect water quality as part of a program sponsored by the Clark County Clean Water Program in partnership with WSU Clark County Extension.



1. **Gifts of the Planet Farm** - 42117 NW 34th Ave., Woodland [facebook.com/Gifts-of-the-Planet-Farm](https://www.facebook.com/Gifts-of-the-Planet-Farm) (360) 356-5116 This two-acre farm with its organic certification grows apples, pears, blueberries, blackberries, raspberries and more. Learn about growing blueberries, apples and pears and how we worked with the NRCS to get our 30x35 foot high tunnel.
2. **White Oak Alpacas** - 39908 NE 12th Ave., Woodland whiteoakalpacas.com (360) 263-7214 From Fleece to fashion learn what it takes to transform a fleece into wearable garments, all things alpaca. This is an alpaca ranch and is connected with a network of alpaca enthusiasts, including alpaca and llama therapy and local hand spinners spinning fiber into yarns. Our Sheared Delights farm boutique offers: hats, mitts, scarves, gloves, socks, shawls, yarns, and roving alpacas.
3. **Gather and Feast Farm** - 2706 NE 369th St., La Center <http://www.gatherandfeastfarm.com/> (503) 224-0370 Gather and Feast Farm is a 20-acre farm that grows vegetables and fruit trees to organic standards. Gather and Feast Farm is also the home of laying hens, broiler hens, quail, and ducks; as well as Scottish Highland Cattle: all raised free of pesticides, herbicides, and chemicals. From farm dinners to agricultural camps for kids, this is an innovative and interactive farm.
4. **Coyote Ridge Ranch** - 2404 NW Coyote Ridge Rd., La Center <http://www.facebook.com/coyoteridgewa> (360) 263-2521 or 360-607-8797 Coyote Ridge has a wide variety of vegetables and fruits available for u-pick, including peppers, eggplant, kale, chard, corn, squash, figs, boysenberries, apples, and eggs for sale. Coyote Ridge brings produce to Salmon Creek Farmer's Market at Legacy Hospital.
5. **Greene Jungle Farm** - 3316 NW 289th St, Ridgefield <http://www.greenejunglefarm.com/> This is a family friendly diversified farm in Ridgefield, Washington. We are an Animal Welfare Approved (AWA) farm, which ensures that our chickens, pigs, cattle, and sheep are well-cared for and enjoy happy, healthy lives. Our farming philosophy is "Beyond Organics" and we consider the interdependence of the biological and physical aspects of the farming process to build sustainable integrated systems. The farm offers pastured raised meats, and U-pick vegetables and fruits for purchase.
6. **Baurs Corner Farm** - 4316 NW 169th St. Ridgefield WA [facebook.com/BaursCorner](https://www.facebook.com/BaursCorner) Baurs Corner Farm is a 29 acre farm. This farm has recently converted most of the pear orchard to hazelnuts. This is a quaint and beautiful family farm offering: u-cut dahlias, vegetables and fruits, and education about vintage tractors.
7. **Serendipity Alpaca Ranch** - 2630 NE 253rd Street Ridgefield [facebook.com/Serendipity-Alpaca-Ranch](https://www.facebook.com/Serendipity-Alpaca-Ranch) We are a cottage industry with a farm fiber store, and a small breeding program. We will talk about animal husbandry practices, including composting alpaca manure.
8. **Dilish Farm** - 22904 NE 58th Street, Vancouver 98682 <https://dilishfarm.wordpress.com/> Dilish Farm is a new farm in Clark County as of 2020 and is an organic and no till practicing farm while maintaining permaculture ideas at the forefront. We grow veggies and flowers from regional seed companies, while also utilizing seed saving techniques for more adaptability to our microclimate. We are trying to generate a closed system with no off farm products, utilizing chickens and Icelandic sheep for land management and we compost the manure. We also offer options for eggs and wool in our CSA. Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/dilishfarms and [instagram.com/dilish-farm](https://www.instagram.com/dilish-farm) to learn about our CSA shares and farm stand.
9. **Half Moon Farm** - 14737 NE 159th St, Brush Prairie www.halfmoonfarm.com 360-514-9223. Fresh cut flowers, produce and farm fresh eggs, raw local honey and products and herbs. Beeswax candles and Handcrafted goat milk soaps are offered from the Farm Store. We keep bees and offer honey tasting. Also, we have 3 lamancha goats that we use for brush clearing. Organic practices are used on this farm. We have a Farm Store operating under Covid Rules and you can visit our www.facebook.com/halfmoonfarm315/ or call for more information.
10. **Botany Bay Farm** - 13513 NE 132nd Ave, Brush Prairie www.botanybayfarm.com Botany Bay Farm is family-run and pasture-based. We invite you to come see how we work together to produce something rare today: pastured beef, chicken, pork and eggs from animals raised without any soy or GMOs. Meats and eggs are available for purchase. We have a small farm store.

To view this program online visit -
<https://go.wsu.edu/smallacreage>

Make the Farm Connection!
Invest in Your Community - Buy Local

Terry Koper, Small Acreage Coordinator, Washington State University Clark County Extension

This is a challenging time and Clark County farms face an uncertain future – a future that depends on community support. Global competition, high production costs, land prices, cheap food policies, and a fast growing population unfamiliar with farming pose daily challenges. Today, our food often comes to us shipped hundreds or thousands of miles from where it was produced. Many consumers do not give much thought to the farmer who grows and raises this food. Less than two percent of Americans work on a farm. Much different than the 50% who did so in 1900.

The face of farming in Clark County looks much different today than it did even 20 years ago when local farming included large dairies, expansive berry fields, prune production, and diverse livestock operations. Today, many of the dairies are gone, farming acreage has shrunk, and most farms do not produce large amounts of commodities for processing or wholesaling.

Farming Adapts in Clark County

Our local farmers adapt to changing conditions in order to become sustainable. To remain economically viable, farmers diversify what they grow or raise, they sell more than raw fruit or vegetable (for example, tomatoes become salsa), and they sell their products directly to the community. In order to remain environmentally sustainable, they steward their land, after all, their livelihood depends on good stewardship. To foster sustainable communities, they connect with community members, not only providing access to local and fresh products, but also connecting as neighbors.

Buying Clark County farm products supports both farms and our community. Spending some of your food dollars on local farm products keeps money in our local economy and provides the farmer a living. Local farming keeps us more secure from interruptions in the global food system. We receive many indirect benefits from local farms: farmland makes better habitat for wildlife than a parking lot; it slows down rain runoff and recharges groundwater better than developed land; farmland provides aesthetics; and farms keep us connected with our agricultural heritage. So, support your community by supporting your local farms.



Why Buy Local?

Economic Diversity & Economic Development. Local farms provide jobs and keep your food dollars in the local economy.

Food Security. Production of, and access to, fresh, safe, food.

Preservation of Landscapes. Farms provide green space, productive landscapes, groundwater recharge, flood control, & wildlife habitat.

Tourism. Local farms attract visitors.

Reduced Transportation & Energy Costs. Food traveling hundreds of miles to market can impact the environment and the economy.

FIND LOCAL FARMS

[HTTP://FARMFINDER-CAHNRS-WSU-EDU/](http://FARMFINDER-CAHNRS-WSU-EDU/)



Find farms in Washington and Oregon

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