



# Island County

Serving the communities of Camano & Whidbey Islands

## UPDATED LINKS: Island County Natural Resources Newsletter February 2025

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## Natural Resources Newsletter

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February 2025

### Announcements



#### Island County Conservation Futures Fund Program

Island County Conservation Futures Fund Program 2025 funding cycle began on January 15th for both acquisition and maintenance & operations projects. Applications for both project types can be found [here](#). The deadline for submitting applications to the program is March 3, 2025.

For more information, [please click this link](#).

#### Conservation Future Program is looking for a board member!

Want to be more involved? The Island County Conservation Futures Program is seeking one Citizens Advisory Board Member from Island County District 2. Learn more about the CAB on the [CAB webpage here](#).

#### Marine Resources Committee 2023-2024 Annual Report



The Marine Resources Committee had a great year full of activities to help protect and restore our marine habitats in Island County. Check our Annual Report to learn more about our work. This report is not all inclusive so you will get to learn about other projects in future reports.

[View the full report.](#)

## Programmatic Updates

### Marine Resources Committee Meeting (MRC)

Held the 1st Tuesday of Every Month 3:00p-5:00p

Monthly Marine Resources Committee Meeting  
WSU Extension Office  
406 N Main St., Coupeville, WA 98239

[Join us via Zoom!](#)

For more information, please visit our page: <https://www.islandcountymrc.org/>

### Shore Friendly - Influencer Workshop

Influencer Workshop! Registration link: [Contractor Workshop Camano & Whidbey](#)

Come join us for our Shore Friendly Contractor Workshop!

This is a FREE workshop for landscape professionals, arborists, drainage specialists, excavation servicers, and contractors working on marine shoreline properties. ISA CEUs will be available for qualified professionals.

Topics include: Local Geology, Ecology, and Vegetation Understanding Shoreline Armoring Pruning, Planting, and Weed Control Local Rules and Permitting Hydrology and Bluff Drainage Solutions Cultural Resources Lunch provided. Stipends available to those who qualify.

- Friday, February 7th | Camano Island, 8:30am-3pm
- Friday, February 21st | Coupeville, 8:30am-3pm



### Learn + Act



## Shore Friendly Living - Restoring the Connection Between Land and Water

This video is the fifth in a series made by the Northwest Straits Foundation in partnership with other Shore Friendly programs across Puget Sound.

The Shore Friendly program was created to provide shoreline landowners with resources to maintain and protect their investments while also protecting the fish and wildlife that need healthy nearshore habitats to thrive.

Although we may view the upland portion of the beach as separate from the marine waters, the trees, shrubs, insects, and birds of the upland are actually intrinsically connected to the marine waters and the animals that live there.

This video takes a look at the bigger picture of the marine ecosystem by showing the connection between all of the species that use the shoreline, and how bulkheads, or other forms of shoreline armoring, disrupt that ecological balance.

[Click this link to watch the video.](#)

Resources and more information:

- [Shore Friendly Program | Island County, WA](#)
- <https://nwstraitsfoundation.org/>

### Shoreline Trivia

SHORE FRIENDLY

# Shoreline TRIVIA!

Which answer best describes the type of body of water that is the Puget Sound?

A) A Sea  
B) A Complex River System  
C) An Estuary  
D) The Ocean

\* Answer in the caption

QR code

This design was prepared by the Island County Shore Friendly Program which is funded wholly or in part by the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program, and Habitat Strategic Initiative Lead.

The Answer is C!

### Shore Friendly Plant of the Month

American Dunegrass

Dunegrass is a resilient grass on the backshore of the beach that helps control coastal erosion by cutting winds and guarding against storm damage. It can tolerate salt spray, unstable substrates, low nutrients, and little to no fresh water.

Do you have questions about your shoreline property? [Request a visit.](#)



Thank you for your interest in Island County Natural Resources.

For more information, contact Jen Schmitz: [J.Schmitz@islandcountywa.gov](mailto:J.Schmitz@islandcountywa.gov) or 360-914-0841.

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