SKAGIT COUNTY PASTURE MANAGEMENT OUTREACH & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WSU Skagit County Extension and Skagit Conservation District are working together to help livestock owners better manage pastures to reduce fecal bacteria pollution and nutrient runoff risk to support safe, year-round shellfish harvest in downstream Samish, South Skagit, and Padilla bays.

What we’re doing

The Skagit County Pasture Management Program educates and offers help to local residents to put in place proper pasture management practices. Find us in the community:

- Hosting hands-on workshops
- Attending fairs & community events
- Tabling at farm and livestock stores

Upgrading your farm or ranch

We offer technical assistance for small farmers and ranchers to develop a tailored, Best Management Practice (BMP) plan. Cost share funds are available for installing BMPs for qualifying participants.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Every farmer, rancher, livestock and pet owner has a role in maintaining the vitality of our watersheds and shellfish beds. Learn more about the issue and find actionable resources at our website.

WHY IS THIS ISSUE IMPORTANT

Without proper pasture management, nutrients and fecal bacteria may pollute local waterways that flow to our bays.

Poor water quality can adversely impact people’s health and the Puget Sound ecosystem including:

- Shellfish beds
- Groundwater quality
- Swimming beaches
- Toxins in fish
- Orcas

ABOUT WSU SKAGIT EXTENSION

WSU Skagit Extension engages communities and organizations by connecting them to the knowledge base of the university by fostering learning and the application of research. With over 2 dozen programs, WSU Skagit Extension provided outreach and educational programming to over 35,000 people in 2018.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

https://extension.wsu.edu/skagit/
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