



Getting Connected

Networks for Washington State Small Farms

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Washington State small farm and direct marketing businesses can take advantage of the classes, workshops, field days, and conferences that are held throughout the state. These opportunities are offered by non-profits, county agriculture programs, Washington State University (WSU) Extension and Small Farms Program, as well as the WSDA, USDA and many local partners and farmers. Typically, these training events are funded by grants and designed to be affordable to farmers. Most organizations rely heavily on email and social media to announce events and share information. If you do not have access to the Internet, please call the phone numbers below to have resources mailed to you. This fact sheet includes an overview of:

- Key listservs and online newsletters;
- Farm business resources;
- Ongoing technical, business and other farmer support; and
- Free farm listings for Washington State.

Key Listservs & Online Newsletters

The following groups manage listservs that regularly post upcoming events for small farms. The topics range widely, from technical trainings to farmer field days and harvest celebrations. Please go to the web address and follow directions to be added to a listserv. *There are also excellent groups and listservs at the local level.* Contact your county extension office, conservation district, USDA service center, farmers markets, or area non-profits for more information.

Cascade Harvest Coalition

www.cascadeharvest.org

The Cascade Harvest Coalition's listserv is a "forum for sharing information about local farms and food, events, policy and other timely ag-related news." To subscribe, please email mary@cascadeharvest.org.

"Green Times"

www.news.cahnrs.wsu.edu/category/green-times

"Green Times" is a monthly electronic newsletter about organic agriculture, small farms and a wide range of related issues from the Washington State University College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences (CAHNRS), WSU Extension and the Agricultural Research Center.

Office of Farmland Preservation

<http://ofp.scc.wa.gov/preservation-news>

The Washington State Conservation Commission's Office of Farmland Preservation has a comprehensive monthly newsletter that aggregates current media stories, training opportunities, and new reports related to food, food systems and farming.

Rural Roots

www.ruralroots.org/resources/email

Rural Roots is a nonprofit organization that provides education and networking in Inland Northwest. It organizes several listservs “to foster education, discussion and community development.”

Tilth Producers of Washington

www.tilthproducers.org/list-serve

The Tilth Producers of Washington has an active listserv. They also host farm walks (in partnership with WSU Small Farms Team) and an annual conference, and publish the *Tilth Producers Quarterly* journal of organic and sustainable agriculture, a policy blog, and producer directory.

WSU Small Farms Program’s Washington Family Farm Resources E-News

www.smallfarms.wsu.edu/joinemaillist.html

Designed to serve farmers, this listserv announces key educational events and resources for Washington small farms.

Washington Sustainable Food & Farm Network

www.wsffn.org

The Washington Sustainable Food & Farming Network is nonprofit organization that uses education, organizing and advocacy to advance sustainable food and farming programs and policies in Washington State. Go to their website to sign up for their listserv.

Farm Business Resources

The following resources may help you run your farm business in Washington.

Access Washington

www.access.wa.gov/business

“Access Washington” is a portal to government agencies and services available through the State of Washington. There is a “Doing Business” section that has direct links to business-specific topics.

“Cultivate The Soil: Resources For Beginning & Small-Scale Farmers & Ranchers In Washington State”

www.wshfc.org/farmranch/CULTIVATETHESOIL.pdf

This is a comprehensive directory of resources put together by the Washington State Housing and Finance Commission in 2008. While, it is somewhat out of date, it is still helpful in mapping out the breadth of resources available in Washington.

Small Business Guide - Washington State

www.ora.wa.gov/documents/small_business/small_business_guide.pdf

The Washington State’s Governor’s Office of Regulatory Assistance has an excellent Small Business Guide available that outlines clear steps in your business development and who to contact for help.

The Capital Press Agricultural Weekly

www.capitalpress.com

The Capital Press is an excellent news source for keeping in touch with agriculture throughout the West Coast.

“Sustaining the Pacific Northwest”

www.csanr.wsu.edu/pages/pubs (search under “SPNW”)

“Sustaining the Pacific Northwest” was a monthly newsletter on organic agriculture research, education, and other resources from the WSU Center for Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resources. Archival issues from 2003 through 2010 are available online.

WSU Center for Sustaining Ag and Natural Resources Publications Database

www.csanr.wsu.edu/pages/pubs

The CSANR database serves as a catalog of available resources on dozens of sustainable agriculture and food systems topics. You can either browse Program Areas and Topics or search for relevant publications by key words.

Ongoing Technical, Business and Other Farmer Support

The following organizations offer classes, workshops, webinars, farm walks and other educational opportunities for new and established farmers in Washington.

Ag Forestry Leadership Program

www.agforestry.org

(509) 926-9113

Cascade Harvest Coalition / Farm Link

www.cascadeharvest.org

(206) 632-0606

Commodity Commissions

www.agr.wa.gov/Portals/CommFair

Edmonds Community College, Horticulture Department

Sustainable Agriculture Education (SAGE) Collaborative, Urban Agriculture Program

www.edcc.edu/hort/sustainable-agriculture.html

(425) 640-1739

The Evergreen State College Organic Farm

www.evergreen.edu/organicfarm

(360) 867-6160

Gorge Grown Food Network

www.gorgegrown.com

(541) 490-6420

Northwest Agriculture Business Center

www.agbizcenter.org

(888) 707-2021

Organic Seed Alliance

www.seedalliance.org

(360) 385-7192

Pacific Northwest Center for Holistic Management

www.pnchm.org

(509) 869-1182

Quillisascut Farm School

www.quillisascut.com

(509) 738-2011

Rural Roots

www.ruralroots.org

(208) 883-3462

Seattle Central Community College, Earth and Environmental Sciences Department

Sustainable Agriculture Education (SAGe) Collaborative, Bioregional Food Systems Program

www.seattlecentral.edu/sustainable-agriculture

(206) 934-3800

Skagit Valley College, Environmental Conservation Department

Sustainable Agriculture Education (SAGe) Collaborative, Small Farm Agriculture Program

www.skagit.edu/directory.asp_Q_pagenumber_E_518

(360) 416-7816

Sustainable Agriculture Education (SAGe) Collaborative

www.edcc.edu/hort/sustainable-agriculture

www.seattlecentral.edu/sustainable-agriculture

www.skagit.edu/sustainable-agriculture

(206) 436-9433

Tilth Producers of Washington

www.tilthproducers.org

(206) 632-7506

Washington State Department of Agriculture

www.agr.wa.gov

(360) 902-1800

Washington State Farm Bureau

www.wsfb.com

(360) 357-9975

Washington State Farmers Market Association

www.wafarmersmarkets.com

(206) 706-5198

Washington State Grange

www.wa-grange.org

(800) 854-1635

Washington State Small Business Development Centers

www.wsbdc.org

(509) 358-7765

Wenatchee Valley College, Sustainable Agriculture and Resource Systems

www.wvc.edu/directory/departments/agriculture/default.asp

(509) 682-6600

WSU College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences

www.cahnrs.wsu.edu

(509) 335-6967

WSU Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources

www.csanr.wsu.edu

(253) 445-4626

WSU Extension

A list of County Extension Offices is available at www.ext.wsu.edu

WSU Organic Farm

www.css.wsu.edu/organicfarm

(509) 335-5893

WSU Small Farms Team

www.smallfarms.wsu.edu

(509) 663-8181 Ext 235

WSU Small Farm Program’s Cultivating Success: Sustainable Small Farms Education

www.cultivatingsuccess.org

(509) 663-8181 Ext 235

Free Farm Listings for Washington State

If you are interested in promoting your farm and products online or on farm maps, the following are good places to start. There may also be specific regions and counties that provide listings.

Food Hub – EcoTrust

www.food-hub.org

(503) 467-0816

Gorge Grown Food Network

www.gorgegrown.com/columbia-river-gorge-food-resources.cfm

(541) 490-6420

Local Harvest

www.localharvest.org

(831) 515-5602

Rural Roots Local Food Guide

www.ruralroots.org

(208) 883-3462

NABC Network

www.agbizcenter.org/farm-network

(888) 707-2021

Tilth Producers Directory

www.tilthproducers.org

(206) 632-7506

Puget Sound Fresh Farm Guide / Cascade Harvest Coalition

www.pugetsoundfresh.org

(206) 632-0606

WSU Farm Finder

www.smallfarms.wsu.edu/farms/locate_search.asp

Recommended Fact Sheets

2. Resources for Spanish-speaking Farmers
3. Resources for Hmong Farmers

For further information, to provide comments, or suggest a resource to add to this fact sheet, please email smallfarms@agr.wa.gov or call (360) 902-2888.