

# The Current

News for March 2023



## From Our Community



### New Maritime National Heritage Area

As reported in the South Whidbey Record: Whidbey Island's many miles of coastline are now included in a federally recognized district meant to foster collaboration and promote maritime culture, industry and history in Washington state.

The area encompasses 3,000 miles of Washington's saltwater shoreline from Grays Harbor county to the Canadian border, including the borders of Whidbey Island and numerous other islands within the Puget Sound region.

The designated area extends one-quarter mile inland from the mean high tide line, though agencies located farther inland may still be considered part of the partnership network. Read more about this exciting project here:

[Maritime Washington Heritage Area Info](#)

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## MyCoast: WA Seeks Citizen Scientists



MyCoast is a collaborative project that asks citizens to submit photos of extreme coastal weather and tidal events to help track and learn.

The WA Dept of Natural Resources is collaborating with project partners that include: the US Geological Survey, Washington Sea Grant, the Snohomish Marine Resource Committee, and the Northwest Straits Initiative.

Information collected through MyCoast's website is used to characterize beach change and the impact of nearshore hazards in order to enhance awareness among decision-makers and stakeholders.

Photos include King tides, bluff erosions, large marine debris, abandoned boats, and storm surge. To date, Washington participants have submitted 6916 reports with 10,004 photographs.

Sea level rise and its impacts is a growing area of interest for Whidbey Island. You can download the MyCoast WA app, and see photos at this link:

### **MyCoast: Washington**

## **Noxious Weed Workshop**



The flyer is for a 'Noxious Weed Workshop' presented by Sound Water Stewards. It features the title 'KNOW YOUR WEEDS' at the top with three circular images of different weeds. Below this, it says 'Noxious Weed Workshop with Seth Luginbill, Noxious Weed Coordinator, Island County Noxious Weed Control Board'. A yellow circle contains the date '3-11-2023' and location 'Greenbank Farm, 765 Wonn Rd, Whidbey Island, 10:30 to 12:30'. A QR code is labeled 'SCAN TO REGISTER'. At the bottom, it lists 'FUTURE WORKSHOPS & WORK PARTIES' with dates and topics: '4-14-23 - Poison Hemlock', '6-23-23 - Tansy Ragwort', and '8-11-23 - Thistle'. Logos for 'MASTER GARDENER FOUNDATION', 'Island County', and 'PACIFIC RAIN FOREST' are also present.

**Saturday, March 11**

**10:30 – 12:30**

**@ Greenbank Farm in Barn A**

Sound Water Stewards and Seth Luginbill from the Island County Noxious Weed Control Board are hosting the workshop: *Know Your Weeds!*

Learn about identifying invasive weeds, techniques to remove them, why it's important to prevent them, and info about property owners' legal responsibilities.

The workshop is free but participants are encouraged to register, more info is here:

### **Learn Your Weeds Workshop**

## **Port of Coupeville News**

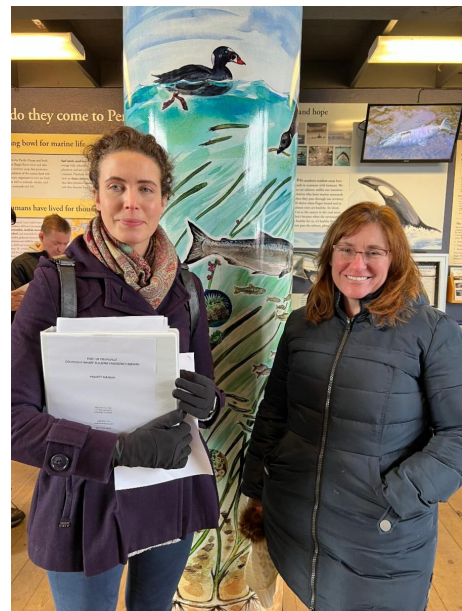
### **Coupeville Wharf Roof Repair**

The Wharf roof repair project is out to bid! The project team is led by Port of Coupeville's Project Manager, Mary Hogan and RMC Architects' Lexie Costic. The structural engineer team is Swenson Say Faget.

A roof repair contractor will be chosen by March 24th, and repair work will begin approximately April 3rd. It is estimated to be a two-month project, so end date is June 2nd (or sooner).

The Wharf roof was aging, but suffered significant storm damage in recent winters. The new roof is a black metal material that adheres to preservation standard that honors the historical significance of the Wharf.

We anticipate minimal (if any) disruption to public access of the wharf. Follow us on social media for any updates @portofcoupeville



### **Raising the Wharf for Rising Sea Levels**

The Port of Coupeville is in the early stages of exploring the engineering options to potentially raise the Coupeville Wharf. The photo below shows the dock higher than the Wharf during a recent King tide. This project would take important steps to protect the structure to better withstand predictions of sea level rise in the Puget Sound.

Initial meetings with Nikel Brothers, an Everett-based industrial structural moving company, includes review of a process that would raise the wharf 4-6 feet. More background work needs to be done, and we will report back on plans so stay tuned!

If you'd like to learn more about the science behind how sea level rise is predicted to effect Coupeville, you can watch this hour-long video from the city's recent public meeting on the topic. In addition to impacts on infrastructure and buildings, other concerns are flooding, erosion, and habitat loss.

### [Coupeville Sea Level Rise meeting](#)



### **Wharf Whale Wheel Repair**

Shout out to volunteers Jim Short and Randy Chambers for their repair work on the Whale Wheel at the Coupeville Wharf entrance.

The carved wooden wheel pays tribute to Orca whales, which are frequent visitors to Penn Cove.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Port of Coupeville Board Meetings**

Zoom Conference Call. For instructions on participating, visit the Port website here:

<https://portoc.org/commission-meetings/meeting-agendas/>

**Wed, March 8, 10 a.m.**

### **Port of Coupeville Commission Meeting,**

To participate, see instructions above.

**Wed, March 22, 1 p.m.**

### **Port of Coupeville Commission Meeting,**

To participate, see instructions above.

**Sat, March 25, 8:30 - 2:30**

### **Flea Market**

Historic Barn A @ Greenbank Farm

**Wed, April 12, 10 a.m.**

### **Port of Coupeville Commission Meeting,**

To participate, see instructions above.

**Wed, April 26, 1 p.m.**

### **Port of Coupeville Commission Meeting,**

To participate, see instructions above.

## **Greenbank Garden Club Plant Sale**

**@ Greenbank Farm**

**Saturday, April 29**

**10:00 - 2:00**

**Save the Date!**



**Share *The Current* with friends and colleagues!** Help us expand our network by forwarding this newsletter to others. New contacts can sign up by simply clicking on the link below.

**SUBSCRIBE  
HERE**

**Sat, April 29, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**  
**Greenbank Garden Club Plant Sale**  
@ Greenbank Farm

**Sat, May 13**  
**Island County Master Gardener**  
**Plant Sale**  
@ Greenbank Farm – Save the Date!

**Sat, May 13, 11 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**  
**Penn Cove Water Festival**  
Coupeville, WA

Stay updated on all of our upcoming events  
by checking our [events calendar](#).

#### **Rent Greenbank Farm**

Greenbank Farm is available for weddings  
and special events. Call us at 360.222.3558  
or click on the link below for details on how  
to rent the farm.

Find out  
more



Contact the editor with suggestions.

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