

The Current

News from the Port of Coupeville

February 2019



Port Improvements on the Horizon in 2019

Spring is fast approaching and promises to be very productive for the Port of Coupeville. Work is underway on vital improvements at our two historic properties, the Coupeville Wharf and Greenbank Farm. Both sites should welcome record traffic in 2019, with community events at an all-time high. So read on to learn more, and plan a visit soon to see the work in progress.

At the Wharf



A Return to Her Roots

Meet the Port's newest team member, Danielle Vracin, who took over as the Wharf Manager in January. Born and raised in Coupeville, Danielle has spent most of her life working in and around the water. She received a B.S. degree in Biology from Portland State University before embarking on a ten-year career at sea that included stints as a fisheries biologist in Alaska and a protected species observer in the Gulf of Mexico. She looks forward to improving the

boater experience at the wharf and interacting with visitors and locals. "I'm very happy to park my duffle bag and enjoy land again for a change," she said.

Restoring an Icon

Work continues at the Wharf on a number of improvement projects. Later this month, the Port will install new signage for boaters and place floats under the mooring dock for better stability. Plans for a total redesign of the entryway continue as part of a collaboration with the Coupeville Historic Waterfront Association. And the Port is exploring funding sources for a critical piling replacement project. Part of the five-year project will include contracting with an engineering firm to assess the condition of the historic building and potential stabilization prior to piling repairs.



[Learn More](#)

At Greenbank Farm

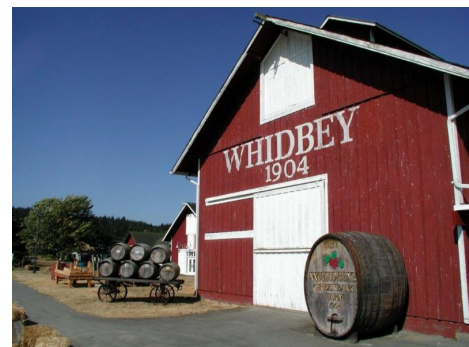


Your Voice Matters

The Port of Coupeville appreciates those who recently shared concerns about a gun rights event at Greenbank Farm. It reminds us of how fortunate we are to live and work in such a caring community. Greenbank Farm is rented to the public for a variety of functions and the Port must be lawful in managing access equitably. And while this may mean leasing to groups whose views differ from some in our community, we will continue to advocate for the values of unity, respect and inclusiveness that make this island such an extraordinary place.

Historic Barn Returns to Life

Thanks to grant funding from Island County's Rural Economic Development Program and community donations, the Port recently replaced the large metal roof rafters on the 1904 barn at Greenbank Farm. Now watertight, the barn has been well used this winter by local organizations. Work has also begun to repair the barn's entry overhang, replacing damaged sections with new beams and footings. A big shout out to Greenbank resident Judi



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Moore and farm merchants who helped raise donations to cover one-quarter of the overhang repair costs.

Veteran's Farm Program To Launch

The Port extends a very warm welcome to **Boots To Roots Whidbey Island**, a new veterans farm program based at Greenbank Farm. The non-profit group has leased five acres to teach and train vets and family members about food growing and farming practices. The program will host a plow demo day on Saturday, March 30 at 9 a.m. in the north fields at Greenbank Farm to prepare for planting. Learn more and how you can get involved by visiting their [website](#), [Facebook](#), or via [email](#).



Salty Acres Brings on the Blooms

Greenbank Farm is blossoming with the recent addition of Salty Acres, a veteran-owned and family-run farm specializing in fresh flowers, produce, ocean greens and Penn Cove sea salt. Salty Acres has leased a greenhouse and garden where they will grow heritage and heirloom flower varieties for events and farmer's markets. Come see their gorgeous blooms at Greenbank Farm this summer or learn more on their website.



[Learn More](#)

Got A Gator or Farm Utility Vehicle?

Do you have a Gator or a farm utility vehicle that's sitting idle? If so, Greenbank Farm is seeking a donated or low-cost vehicle in good condition for farm, trail and dog park maintenance. Port staff are currently doing farm chores on foot, so a utility vehicle will help save time and labor. Reach us at 360.222.3558.



Share Our Donor Appreciation

In recent months, Greenbank Farm has received a number of donations from caring community members whose passion for the farm is boundless. We are deeply appreciative of these gifts which enable us to make ongoing improvements. Green thumbs up to:

- **Nancy Manjikian** for her generous contribution to



build a beautiful new information kiosk to honor the memory of her daughter Ani Manjikian.

- **Jana and David Ketchum** for their gifts of a full suite of furniture, Xerox copier and other essential business items to the Port office.
- **Judi Moore** for her efforts to raise funds to restore the barn roof and walkway.

Upcoming Events

February 23, 9 a.m.:

Whidbey Conservation District Native Plant Sale, main barn, Greenbank Farm, open to the public.

March 2 & 3:

Mussel fest 2019, savor world-famous Penn Cove mussels in downtown Coupeville.

March 14, 10 a.m.:

Port of Coupeville Board Meeting, Jim Davis House at Greenbank Farm.

March 30, 9 a.m.:

Boots to Roots Whidbey Island Plow Demo Day, northeast fields, Greenbank Farm. Watch a 1950 John Deere B tractor pull a No.44 two bottom plow as vets prepare for spring planting. Weather contingent with back-up date of April 6.

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



[Find out more](#)



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