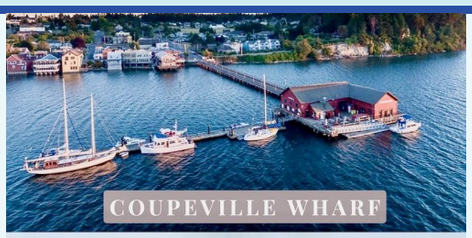
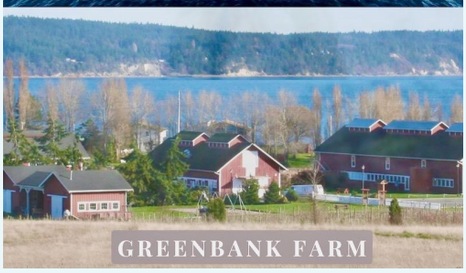
The Current

News for June 2025





Port of Coupeville News

Wharf Anniversary Party

There's a lot to celebrate this July when we mark the 120th anniversary of historic Coupeville Wharf.

You're invited to the anniversary party on Sat, July 19th – save the date!

WHARF 120TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY
Mosquito Fleet Ship Virginia V

We're pleased to welcome the Virginia V to the Wharf anniversary event. The ship will be open for tours at the Wharf dock. Plus, two special Penn Cove cruises are available!





Anniversary Kickoff Cruise
Sat, July 19 | 11:00 AM – Noon

Set sail on a one-hour cruise through the serene waters of Penn Cove! Departing from historic Coupeville, this special kickoff cruise offers breathtaking views of the coastline, nearby islands, and a refreshing sea breeze—perfect for a mid-summer adventure.

Kickoff Cruise Tickets

Happy Hour Cruise
Sat, July 19 | 5:00 – 6:00 PM

Unwind with us on a one-hour Happy Hour Cruise around the picturesque waters of Penn Cove. This afternoon sailing features unbeatable views, great company, and your favorite drinks available from our cash bar—the perfect way to toast to summer in Coupeville!

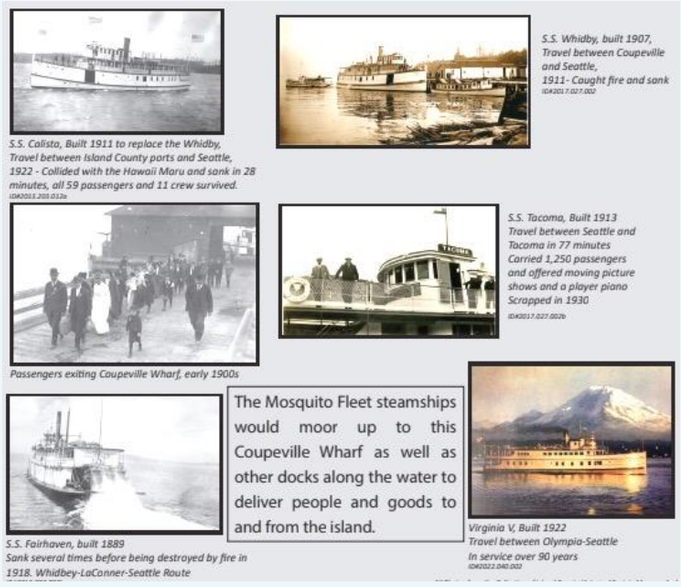
Happy Hour Cruise Tickets

COUPEVILLE WHARF HISTORY
Mosquito Fleet: A Mighty Swarm

The Coupeville Wharf originally served an important economic role for Whidbey Island residents as boat travel was the Island's only link to the mainland.

Farmers especially benefitted by the ability to transport crops, and the Wharf played a vital role in establishing Whidbey's agricultural heritage – that still is a major employer today.

The construction of the Deception Pass bridge in 1935 made vehicle travel to/from Whidbey possible, and ferry service from the Wharf was discontinued. The Wharf took on a new role as a historic tourist attraction and gathering place on Penn Cove for community events.



Port of Coupeville Infrastructure Improvements



New Wharf Sea Wall Fence

Due to storm damage, the sea wall at the pier shoreline had to be rebuilt. And our maintenance team built a nice new fence.



New Farm Pasture Access Road

A much-need new gravel road was installed at Greenbank Farm to facilitate farmers' access to fields + pastures.



New Wharf Paint

The Wharf received a new coat of paint as we near the end of a multi-year restoration project.

The custom color is "Historic Wharf Red." We're getting things ready for the 120th anniversary party Sat, July 19th -- save the date!



New Farm Barn Roofs

Roof repair work is underway now on two Greenbank Farm barns. The new roof is wood shingles, in compliance with historic preservation guidelines.

Wander Whidbey Youth Scavenger Hunt

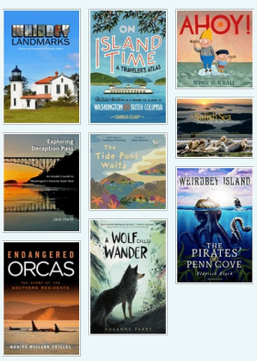


The Port of Coupeville joins other Whidbey Island community groups to participate in the Sno-Isle Libraries Scavenger Hunt.

Each location has challenges, the Coupeville Wharf is on the map!

Visit the Coupeville Wharf: Identify 2 different marine mammals that live in the Puget Sound.

Scavenger Hunt maps are available at all libraries.



Books to accompany family members as you complete the Whidbey Island Scavenger Hunt.

Wander Whidbey Book List

Wharf Anniversary Party Free Music



Live Music Schedule

We've planned a festive line-up of local musicians for the stage at the Wharf Anniversary Party

Bring your friends + family!
The music is free!
Times are approximate.

Greenbank Farm
Retail Space for Rent

The Farm's retail space #103 is available for rent starting July1st.

It's currently occupied by Island Antiques and Collectibles, which is moving next door.

For a tour and more info, please email Chris at executivedirector@portofcoupevile.org



2025 Master Gardener Education Series

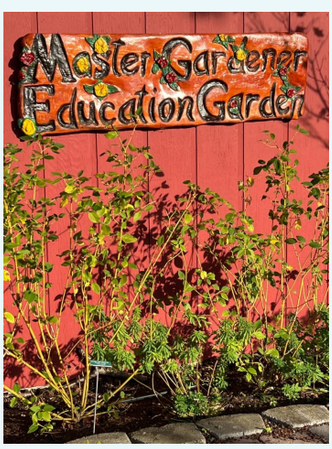
"Exploring Garden Plants for Pests and Disease"

Sunday, June 15, 1-2 pm
Greenbank Farm

Learn to incorporate plant disease and pest detection & diagnosis into your gardening habits. See a variety of samples for investigation and learning.

This free workshop is part of the annual monthly garden education series hosted by Island County Master Gardeners. The full series calendar is available here:

Garden Education Series



Coupeville Waterfront Music Series

Wednesdays
June to August
4-6 PM

Enjoy free music Wednesday afternoons at the Wharf!

The Whidbey Island musicians performing are listed here:

Busker Music Schedule



New "Nautical Northwest" License Plate

The boards of the Whidbey Island Maritime Heritage Foundation (Schooner Suva) and Historic Whidbey (Haller House) recently announced that the long-awaited "Nautical Northwest" specialty license plate was passed by the Legislature last month! Senate Bill 5444 was signed into law in May by Governor Bob Ferguson.

Nautical Northwest features images of the Coupeville Wharf and Schooner Suva in Penn Cove!

Proceeds of plate sales will support our two nonprofits in preserving Whidbey Island's heritage resources. The new license plate is expected to be available in 2026. We will be sure to provide updates.



ISLAND COUNTY HISTORY MUSEUM
New Permanent Exhibit

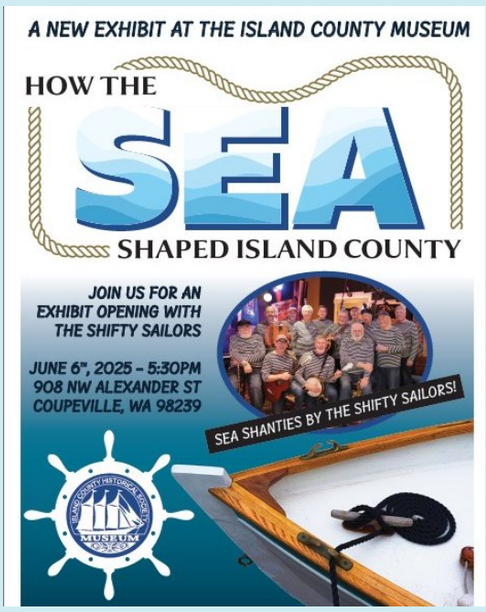
Grand Opening: June 6th, 2025 at 5:30PM

This new permanent exhibit celebrates maritime history in Island County. Learn about what life was like onboard ship for sailors in the age of sail, the lives and careers of local captains, and see Vancouver's journey. Steer a ship's wheel, try tying nautical knots, and sneak a peek inside a sea chest.

Kicking off the exhibit opening will be a lively performance from the Shift Sailors.

Stay tuned for news about a Coupeville Wharf exhibit -- coming in July!

Island County History Museum



Event Calendar

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, June 11, 10:00
Port of Coupeville Commission Meeting
To participate, see instructions above.

Wed, June 25, 2:00
Port of Coupeville Commission Meeting
To participate, see instructions above.

Sat, July 19th, Noon to 6:00
Wharf 120th Anniversary Party
Coupeville Wharf

Sat & Sun, August 10 + 11
Coupeville Arts Festival

Sat, Sept 6, 11:00 - 5:00
Greenbank Farm Harvest Faire

Sat, Oct 4, Saratoga Orchestra
Oktoberfest

Harvest Faire 2025
Save the Date!

You're invited to the Greenbank Farm Harvest Faire on Sat, Sept 6



Share *The Current* with friends and colleagues!

Help us expand our network by forwarding this newsletter to others. New contacts can

Greenbank Farm

Stay updated on all of our upcoming events by checking our ***events calendar***.

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