



WASHINGTON TREE FARM PROGRAM

Annual Report 2019

Dear Tree Farm Supporters,

2019 has been a really special year for us. Our program received national recognition because one of our tree farmers was named National Tree Farmer of the Year and one of our inspectors was awarded National Inspector of the Year. These accomplishments represent the hard work of our tree farmers and inspectors working together to achieve the common goal of sustainable forestry. It also represents the support and advice our partners have provided through educational opportunities and support as we continue to meet the many objectives of our tree farmers.

It's also often said that great teams are comprised of many individuals working together on all the little things that make something great. I have personally seen this in my involvement with the Washington Tree Farm Program. As you work on your tree farms, think about how you can best support this program into the future. Maybe it's using your talents and becoming involved with the executive committee or maybe it's a donation that can help us hosting trainings, forest field days, or forest management plan workshops. You would be surprised how far a small donation of time or money can go to making this program stronger into the future.

See you out in the woods,

Bob Obedzinski, 2020 Chair

2019 Highlights

This year our program has 1,178 Tree Farms across the state, which is certified 365,000 acres.

- This was made possible by our 108 inspectors who conducted 167 inspections.
- Our volunteers donated 4,275 volunteer hours.
- The Pine O'Neill Company was recognized as the 2019 Washington Tree Farmer of the Year.
- Washington State received the following national honors from the American Forest Foundation.
 - The New family received the 2019 National Tree Farmer of the Year Award for their work on their 150 -acre Nourse Tree Farm located in Arlington.
 - The 2019 Inspector of the Year was awarded to Bob Obedzinski.



Our Mission

The Washington Tree Farm Program (WTFP) is dedicated to the viability and sustainability of family forests in Washington. Through our administration of the American Tree Farm System in Washington State, we provide recognition for excellent forest management, a comprehensive education program that meets the needs of our current and future members, and third-party certification of sustainable forestry practices for our members. We honor the hard work and dedication of Certified Tree Farmers and Volunteer Inspectors through our annual recognition programs.

2019 Highlights cont.

In September, the WTFP hosted its annual Fall Forestry Seminar: Climate Change: Understanding it, Planning for it and Creating a forest resilient to it. Fifty tree farm enthusiasts were in attendance and the reviews of the seminar were positive. Videos of the seminar are available at <http://watreefarm.org/2019-fall-forestry-educational-seminar-presentations/>.

WTFP partnered with Washington State University Extension to reach over 300 attendees at summer forest field days. We conducted outreach at coached planning classes, the Washington State Society of American Foresters Annual meeting and local Chapter meetings, and Washington Farm Forestry Association Chapter meetings.

2020 Projects

WTFP received a grant from the American Forest Foundation to develop a program that will assist Tree Farmers in updating their forest management plans. The program will include in-person seminars held around the state, one-on-one discussions, and videos. We will announce dates of these seminars in our newsletter and on our website so stayed tuned.

Our Sponsors

The success of WTFP is due to not only our volunteers but also to the generous financial support of donors. Thank you for helping us continue the tradition of sustainable forestry in the Pacific Northwest.

Partners

Washington Farm Forestry Association

Merrill & Ring

Ring Family

Key Donors

Idaho Forest Group

Port Blakely, US Forestry

SFI State Implementation Committee

Washington Forest Protection Association

Member Donors

Atkins Family

Martha Konicek

John Lawder

New Family

Obedzinski Family

Letourneau Family

Wefer Family

Patricia Witter

Business & Foundation Donors

Alpine Evergreen

Green Crow

Hemphill-O'Neill

The Washington Tree Farm Executive Committee

Chair – Robert Obedzinski

Vice Chair – David New

Treasurer – Doug Hooks

Technical Committee Chair

IT Support - Jon Matson

Communications Chair – Andrea Watts

Program administrator – Elizabeth Ide

NW Inspector Coordinator – Tom Westergreen

SW Inspector Coordinator – Charles Lorenz

CW Inspector Coordinator – Robert Obedzinski

East Inspector Coordinator – Darrin Gooding

Past co-chairs – Jenny Knoth and John Henrikson

Financial Summary

Income	
Contributions	\$30,577.56
Grants	\$8,032.00
American Tree Farm System Funding	\$7,145.00
Program income	<u>\$3,381.62</u>
Total revenue	\$45,136.18***

*** This number does not include \$4,000 that received in early 2020 from the U.S. Forest Service to produce the 2019 Tree Farm of the Year videos.

Expenses	
Inspection & Programs	\$5,203.53
Tree Farmer of the Year Program	\$5,844.87
Marketing	\$3,138.18
Meeting and Travel	\$3,607.87
Office and Administration	\$1,237.74
Payroll	<u>\$28,315.13</u>
Total expenses	\$47,347.32