

## **2009 SAN JUAN ISLANDS “GOOD STEWARD” ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARD**

### **Guidelines and Criteria for Nominations**

**Purpose:** To recognize individuals, families, and businesses for extraordinary contributions and activities that have made a significant impact on the conservation, protection, and stewardship of the San Juan Archipelago through on-the-ground actions or management of private lands and/or businesses. These contributions will be recognized in the following categories: **Shoreline Stewardship, Farmland Stewardship, Woodland Stewardship, Village Stewardship, Business Stewardship, Individual Stewardship, Youth Stewardship and Educator Stewardship**. These honors are referred to as the “Good Steward Awards”.

**Who May Nominate:** Anyone who is familiar with the individual, landowner or business may nominate; individuals/families and businesses may also self-nominate. Members of Conservation Summit Steering Committee cannot submit nominations.

**Eligible Recipients:** Any individual, family, or business whose place of residence or commerce is based in the islands of San Juan County. Federal, state, county, special district, municipal government, and non-profit agencies are not eligible, with the exception of public school educators.

#### **Award Guidelines:**

1. One award will be given to an individual/family in each of the following categories: Shoreline Stewardship, Farmland Stewardship, Woodland Stewardship and Village Stewardship.
2. One award will be given to a business in the category of Business Stewardship
3. One award will be given to an individual in the category of Individual Stewardship
4. One award will be given to a student in the category of Youth Stewardship
5. One award will be given to an educator in the category of Educator Stewardship
6. Places of residences/business may be in any part of San Juan County.

7. Nominations will be received by Conservation Summit Steering Committee. Final selection of award recipients will be made by members of this committee.
  
8. All nominees will be notified of their nomination. The Steering Committee may wish to visit individual properties to aid in award selection.

## **Important Dates to Remember**

Nomination Deadline: March 27, 2009

Nominators acknowledged: March 30, 2009

Winners Notified: April 6, 2009

Awards Ceremony: Saturday, April 18, 2009

Winners Announced in local media: April 18, 2009

## **Selection Criteria**

This list was developed primarily to aid the Steering Committee in making its selection. When making your nomination, we ask that you consider the following criteria (this is not meant to be a comprehensive list, but a set of guiding principles). **Your nomination does not have to incorporate all of these criteria; indeed, there may be other criteria not listed that are just as important, so be sure to include those suggestions on your nomination form.**

### **Woodland Stewardship Award**

- 1) Land is privately owned
- 2) Any size parcel is eligible; includes a forested portion (either conifer or deciduous).
- 3) Landowner has made improvements/alterations to land using Low Impact Development techniques; including, but not limited to: vegetated roofs, rain gardens, bio swales, pervious pavement, green/sustainable building, soil conservation
- 4) Landowner practices active water conservation (water-saving appliances, rain catchment, etc)
- 5) Landowner promotes forest health through low-impact forestry techniques
- 6) Landowner conserves native plants in maintaining property or has been actively planting native species; noxious weeds are actively removed or not present; property contains rare plant species
- 7) Landowner has kept snags and downed logs in place to promote wildlife habitat

- 8) Landowner uses alternative energy sources (solar, wind, geothermal)
- 9) Landowner has wetland and riparian management zones that exceed forest practices minimums
- 10) Portion of land has old growth forest (conifer or deciduous) that landowner is actively maintaining/protecting
- 11) Landowner has land conserved in perpetuity through a conservation easement or has donated a portion of their property for conservation purposes.
- 12) Landowner works progressively with neighbors or nearby landowners to encourage similar practices

### **Shoreline Stewardship Award**

- 1) Land is privately owned
- 2) Any size parcel is eligible; parcel includes shoreline (high or low-bank waterfront) portion
- 3) Landowner has made improvements/alterations to land using Low Impact Development techniques; including, but not limited to: vegetated roofs, rain gardens, bio swales, pervious pavement, green/sustainable building, soil conservation
- 4) Landowner practices active water conservation (water-saving appliances, rain catchment, etc)
- 5) Shoreline portion is unfettered by docks, bulkheads or other alterations and remains in close to natural state
- 6) Structures are within setback guidelines
- 7) Feeder bluffs are allowed to replenish sediments and create new habitat
- 8) Property stormwater drainage is channeled/contained properly
- 9) Landowner conserves native plants in maintaining property or has been actively planting native species; noxious weeds are actively removed or not present; property contains rare plant species
- 10) Landowner uses alternative energy sources (solar, wind, geothermal, micro-hydro)
- 11) If shoreline contains forage fish spawning habitat, landowner has taken steps to maintain or restore the tidelands and/or has been cooperative in local research and/or restoration efforts
- 12) Landowner has land conserved in perpetuity through a conservation easement or has donated a portion of their property for conservation purposes.
- 13) Landowner works progressively with neighbors or nearby landowners to encourage similar practices
- 14) Landowner monitors effectiveness of on-site sewage system and makes repairs or improvements as necessary.

### **Farmland Stewardship Award**

- 1) Land is privately owned
- 2) Any size parcel is eligible; portion of property should be actively farmed or contain livestock
- 3) Property must be part of San Juan County's Open Space-Ag designation
- 4) Landowner has made improvements/alterations to land using Low Impact Development techniques; including, but not limited to: vegetated roofs, rain gardens, bio swales, pervious pavement, green/sustainable building, soil conservation
- 5) Landowner practices active water conservation (water-saving appliances, rain catchment, etc in home, irrigation (if used) integrates drip irrigation)
- 6) Landowner practices any of the following sustainable farming techniques:
  - Rotational, planned grazing
  - Nutrient management (mgmt. of manures, crop residual, use of compost)
  - Multi-cropping/companion planting
  - Edge buffers maintained for wildlife
  - Riparian habitats protected, integrated into whole farm plan
  - Cover cropping or ground cover maintained
  - Irrigation (if used) integrates drip irrigation for water conservation
- 7) Landowner conserves native plants in maintaining property or has been actively planting native species; noxious weeds are actively removed or not present; property contains rare plant species
- 8) Landowner contributes to wildlife habitat by providing wildlife corridors through farmed portion of property, maintaining snags or brush piles, or has left portion of property in wild and unaltered state
- 9) Landowner uses alternative energy sources (solar, wind, geothermal, recycling, biofuels)
- 10) Crops support local food system and agricultural production
- 11) Landowner has excluded livestock from ecologically sensitive areas (wetlands, riparian areas, timberland).
- 12) Landowner has program in place to manage livestock waste
- 13) Landowner has land conserved in perpetuity through a conservation easement or has donated a portion of their property for conservation purposes.
- 14) Landowner works progressively with neighbors or nearby landowners to encourage similar practices or is active in local agricultural issues
- 15) Landowner uses conservation technical assistance
- 16) Landowner participates in local conservation/and/or farming organizations, or opens farms for tours by the public.

### **Village Stewardship Award**

- 1) Land is privately owned and located in the Townships or villages of Friday Harbor, Roche Harbor, Eastsound, Olga, Deer Harbor, Orcas, West Sound, or Lopez Village
- 2) Parcels less than 1 acre in size are eligible
- 3) Landowner has made improvements/alterations to land using Low Impact Development techniques; including, but not limited to: vegetated roofs, rain gardens, bio swales, pervious pavement, green/sustainable building, soil conservation
- 4) Landowner practices active water conservation (water-saving appliances, rain catchment, etc)
- 5) Landowner conserves native plants in maintaining property or has been actively planting native species; noxious weeds are actively removed or not present; property contains rare plant species
- 6) Landowner uses alternative energy sources (solar, wind, geothermal, micro-hydro)
- 7) Landowner has created wildlife habitat on their property by any of the following practices: maintaining brush piles, placing bird nest boxes or bat roosts, providing year-round source of fresh water, maintaining snags, planting or maintaining native seed/berry/nut producing trees or shrubs, or has left a portion of their property in a wild/untended state
- 8) Landowner works progressively with neighbors or nearby landowners to encourage similar practices

### **Business Stewardship Award**

- 1) Place of business must be registered and occur within the islands of San Juan County
- 2) Business must be open for at least 1 year
- 3) Business diverts waste products through reuse, recycling, composting, or other processes.
- 4) Business practices energy and water conservation techniques
- 5) Business sells/promotes environmentally-sensitive products, processes, and lifestyle choices.
- 6) Business is within pedestrian/bicycle access of ferry terminals
- 7) Avoids polystyrene (styrofoam), minimizes packaging, and uses recycled or biodegradable supplies
- 8) Business owner takes active role in encouraging similar practices
- 9) Business supports local economy by purchasing/selling local goods
- 10) Minimizes use of toxins such as solvents, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, oil-based paints, and corrosives, and participates in annual hazardous waste “round-ups”

- 11) Business supports local conservation efforts, marine stewardship and clean water practices; continually strives to improve in areas of environmental sustainability

### **Individual Stewardship Award**

- 1) Individual must be a full-time resident of the any part of the islands of San Juan County
- 2) Employees of federal, state, county, special district, municipal government, and non-profit agencies are not eligible (with the exception of educators)
- 3) Activities performed by individuals should not be something already prescribed, or required by someone's job
- 4) Individual has played an active role in conservation-related activities through volunteer and community work
- 5) Individual has made significant contribution to community's awareness of environmental issues
- 6) Individual "practices what he/she preaches" through green living practices
- 7) Individual has shown superior leadership, skill, persistence or creativity in developing and implementing an environmental program or resolving a controversial environmental matter.
- 8) Individual has helped create, protect, and/or care for a special place in their community.

### **Youth Stewardship Award**

- 1) Youth must be a resident of San Juan County, and under the age of 18.
- 2) Stewardship award is open to all age groups; K-12 Nominations for this award can be made by the students themselves, a family member or friend, a teacher, or other members of the community.
- 3) If student was involved in a teacher-led project, student demonstrated leadership and initiative in the administration of the project and facilitated involvement of his/her peers
- 4) If student developed their own project, student demonstrated leadership in the design, coordination, and implementation of the project.
- 5) Student displayed depth of knowledge of conservation subject
- 6) Student's project (whether self-directed or not) has had a positive environmental impact on the local community with visible long-term benefits
- 7) Student is actively involved in extra-curricular activities that protect the environment (e.g., volunteering or raising funds for local environmental causes).

### **Educator Stewardship Award**

- 1) Open to any educator teaching full or part-time in the public, private, or home-school system in San Juan County.

- 2) Educators at all grade levels (K-12) are eligible.
- 3) Teacher was personally responsible for developing a conservation education project to be implemented in the classroom.
- 4) Teacher was personally responsible for creating a conservation education project to be implemented outside the classroom
- 5) Teacher consistently weaves a conservation ethic in their teaching curricula.
- 6) Teacher practices responsible conservation ethic within classroom (recycling, energy conservation) and encourages students to do the same
- 7) Teachers project/program extends beyond classroom to benefit other classes, the school district, or the greater community.

**All nominations, and any supporting material, must be received in writing or through email by March 20, 2009). Please see “Important Dates” heading for other key dates to remember.**

**The 2009 Conservation Summit Steering Committee is:**

*Lincoln Bormann, San Juan County Land Bank; Stephanie Buffum-Field, FRIENDS of the San Juans; Kathleen Foley, the San Juan Preservation Trust; Jeff Hanson, Marine Resources Committee; Helen Venada, San Juan County Public Works; Susan Key, San Juan Islands Conservation District; Robin Jacobson, San Juan Islands Visitors Bureau; Jenny Atkinson, Whale Museum; Fiona Norris, San Juan Nature Institute; Shann Weston, WSU Extension Beach Waters Program; Charlie Anderson and Pamela Gross, San Juan Island Community Foundation; Maureen Marinkovich, Compost-it; and Liz Illg, Nonprofits Unlimited.*