



King County

FALL *for* SALMON



SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER 2008



FALL is the right time of the year to spot mature **sockeye, chinook** and **coho salmon** as they return to spawn in King County's beautiful streams and rivers.

This guide lists the best places to **watch salmon**, and offers simple tips on how you can help protect water quality, improve salmon runs and restore salmon habitat.

Visit www.dnr.metrokc.gov/wlr/pi/fall4salmon/ for more information.

IT'S

Salmon Season

AGAIN!

Spot the spawners this fall in the Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed

Fall is here, and salmon are once again returning to streams and rivers around Puget Sound to spawn. Watch for these natural beauties as they complete their epic migration at these locations:

Bear Creek north of Redmond, with help from Water Tenders volunteers on **Sept. 27** from 1-4 p.m., **Oct. 2** from 3-6 p.m. and **Oct. 4** from 1-4 p.m. For more information, call Dick Schaezel at 425-788-5083, dickandmary1@yahoo.com, or www.watertenders.org and click on "salmon viewing locations."



Bear Creek, from **late September to mid-November**, visit the Redmond Organization of Shared Environments, a 3/8-mile-long trail created and maintained by local students. Located behind Redmond's Classic Nursery, the trail is self-guided – or call to schedule group tours (suggested donation of \$1 per person for tours). For more information, call 425-882-1846 or lyhussey@comcast.net. Visit 12526 Avondale Rd NE in Redmond during business hours every day of the week.

Sammamish River, on **Sept. 20** and **Oct. 4**, from 9 -11 a.m. (and one other date TBA), with salmon-spotting stations along the Sammamish River Trail south of the 85th Street Bridge, sponsored by the City of Redmond.

Interpretive naturalists from Nature Vision will lend you a pair of polarized glasses to help you spot adult coho, sockeye and chinook salmon migrating and tell you how to help these amazing animals flourish. For more information, contact Peter Holte at 425-556-2822, or pholte@redmond.gov.

Little Bear Creek, at Rotary Park in Woodinville, **Oct. 11, 18** and **25**, from 10 a.m. – noon. Volunteers will be on site to help identify fish and answer questions. The park is at 19518 136th Ave. NE. For more information, call 425-489-2754 x2221, or debrac@ci.woodinville.wa.us.

Kelsey Creek, during October, at the Mercer Slough fish ladder, south of Southeast Eighth Street in Bellevue. Call 425-452-5200 for updates before you go. From I-405, go west on Southeast Eighth and left on 118th Avenue Southeast. Park in lots just before and after the site, and follow the signs to the creek and interpretive signage.

Issaquah Salmon Hatchery, Sept. 27, Oct. 12 and **Oct. 18**, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Guides at the hatchery bridge will lead tours and answer questions. Watch salmon spawning from the bridge or through viewing windows. For more information, call 425-392-8025, or visit www.issaquahfish.org. The hatchery is at 125 W Sunset Way in Issaquah.

Pipers Creek/Carkeek Park, weekends from Nov. 8 to Dec. 14, Salmon Stewards will be available to answer questions about the salmon's life cycle and habitat along Pipers Creek between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Welcome the salmon home at a special event **Nov. 28th**, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. For event details, and for more information on becoming a Salmon Steward, call 206-684-0877, or www.seattle.gov/parks/environment/carkeek.htm.



North Creek, Sept. 27, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Snohomish County Surface Water Management staff will help you spot salmon returning to North Creek. The event takes place at the corner of 224th Street Southeast and 23rd Drive Southeast, within the Canyon Park Business Park in Bothell. For more information, contact Suzi Wong Swint at 425-388-6476, or swwint@snoco.org.

Cedar River, Oct. 11, 18, 19, 25 and 26 and Nov. 1. Come see the Cedar River Salmon Journey, as bright red sockeye salmon spawn at four sites along the Cedar River near Renton from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. each day. Experienced volunteer naturalists will be on hand to point out the salmon and answer questions. Sponsored by the Friends of the Cedar River Watershed. For more information, call 206-245-0143, e-mail naturalists@cedarriver.org, or visit www.cedarriver.org.



Ballard Locks in Seattle, **through October.** Watch salmon migrate up the fish ladder at Ballard's Hiram M. Chittenden Locks. Professional naturalists provide salmon talks several times each day. Call 206-783-7059 for current information.

For more information on all of the opportunities above, visit www.kingcounty.gov/salmon and click on **Salmon SEason**, or call 206-296-8016. You'll also find lots of great links on our Web site to learn how to protect salmon and their habitat this fall – and year 'round.

You can also see salmon in the Snoqualmie Valley

Learn about salmon while you walk, run or ride along the Snoqualmie Valley Trail. Educational signage and salmon-inspired artwork guide you through the watershed's unique features. Signage sites include McCormick Park in Duwall; the Tolt River Bridge and Griffin Creek Bridge in Carnation; and Meadowbrook Slough in Snoqualmie. Excellent salmon viewing sites include Tolt-MacDonald Park, Chinook Bend and the Tolt River footbridge on the Snoqualmie Valley Trail in Carnation and the Raging River in Fall City. Get a Snoqualmie Valley Trail Map: <http://www.duwallwa.gov/apps/formspubs/SnoqValleyTrailMap.pdf>.

Restore streams and wetlands by planting native trees and shrubs

King County Parks wants to improve our stream corridors for salmon and other wildlife. You can make a difference by spending a day volunteering alongside us at any of several work parties. Native plants provide shade and help keep the water cool. Their roots help hold the banks in place and control runoff and erosion which keeps the water cleaner.

To join a planting event call Tina Miller, volunteer coordinator, 206-296-2990, or e-mail at tina.miller@kingcounty.gov to register and to get directions. Events are from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Dates and Locations

October 11 – Flaming Geysers Park along the Green River, east of Auburn

October 18 – Porter Levee Natural Area along the Green River, east of Auburn

October 25 – Skyway Park – Wetland Enhancement

November 1 – Log Cabin Natural Area along Issaquah Creek

November 8 – Cavanaugh Pond Natural Area along the Cedar River, east of Renton

November 15 – Chinook Bend Natural Area along the Snoqualmie River, near Carnation

November 22 – White Center Heights – wetland enhancement

Oct. 4 from 9 a.m. - noon

Walker Preserve Restoration in Normandy Park

Work earlier this year will have helped to control invasive, non-native plants. Today we control a bit more ivy and plant native trees and shrubs to improve the health of this park.

Oct. 18 from 9 a.m. - noon

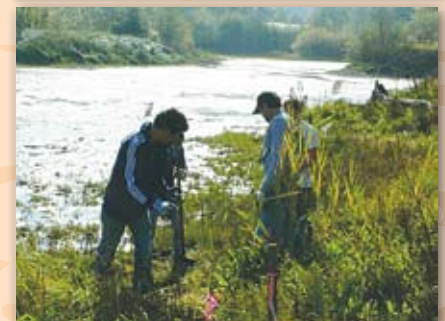
Miller Creek renewal at South 144th Way in Burien

This will be the final maintenance work for the year at this site, where restoration began in October 2007. Come out to help weed, possibly plant a few trees, and spread mulch.

To register for more information, contact Dennis Clark, basin steward, 206-296-1909.

Become a salmon watcher

King County's Salmon Watcher Program trains volunteers to watch for fish on creeks in the Lake Washington watershed. Salmon watchers help King County know where salmon are spawning and of changing stream conditions. For more information on becoming a salmon watcher, contact Jennifer Vanderhoof at 206-263-6533, or at jennifer.vanderhoof@kingcounty.gov, or visit <http://www.kingcounty.gov/salmon> and follow the link to the Salmon Watcher Program.



Wastewater treatment facility tour

Where does it go when you brush and flush? Tour a wastewater treatment facility and see how wastewater is cleaned and recycled.

Call 206-296-8286 to arrange a tour for your group or class. Bus transportation is available for school groups. <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wtd/tours/index.htm>.



Oct. 4, 10 a.m. - noon West Point Treatment Plant open house and archeology tour

Visit the treatment plant during this open house and take a tour of the archeology of West Point Beach in Seattle's Discovery Park. Space is limited, please RSVP by calling 206-263-6028. For more information on West Point visit <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wtd/westpoint/>.



Duwamish Alive!

Oct. 11, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The Duwamish River flows through urban and industrial areas of King County, through South Seattle and into Elliott Bay. Although it has been polluted by industry and overburdened storm-sewer drains, the river still supports wildlife today, including several salmon species and a wide array of other fish and wildlife.

Join King County staff and volunteers as they roll up their sleeves and help restore the Duwamish River. The annual Duwamish Alive! event is a chance for people to reclaim their river by weeding invasive plants, planting native species, mulching planting areas and picking up trash.



10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Volunteer at any of these Duwamish River sites: West Duwamish Greenbelt, Gateway Park North, Duwamish Riverbend Hill, Codiga Park, Herring's House Park and more to be added. For information about volunteering at Duwamish Alive!, visit www.pugetsound.org, or e-mail, register@pugetsound.org.

Native plant salvage volunteer

Volunteers are needed for the DNRP Native Plant Salvage Program. Help dig up native plants from sites scheduled for construction. Plants salvaged are replanted at restoration sites all over King County. Help dig from 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., or from 12:30 - 4 p.m. for potting at dates to be determined in November and December. Volunteer for either a half day or for the entire event by contacting Greg Rabourn at 206-296-1923 or greg.rabourn@kingcounty.gov.

Naturescaping workshops

Learn how to create a low-maintenance, wildlife friendly, native plant landscape at one of King County's "Naturescaping" workshops this fall. Some workshops include an opportunity to collect plants at salvage sites for your own yard. For more information, contact Greg Rabourn at 206-296-1923, or greg.rabourn@kingcounty.gov.

Become an EcoConsumer

Balance consuming and conserving: King County's EcoConsumer Program guides you to resources to make greener purchasing choices. Being an EcoConsumer helps the environment and saves you money. For more information, or to schedule an EcoConsumer presentation, contact Tom Watson at 206-296-4481, tom.watson@kingcounty.gov, or visit www.KCecoconsumer.com.

Programs for teachers

King County offers a free resource conservation assembly program to elementary schools; classroom workshops on resource conservation, habitat stewardship and environmental leadership for students in grades 1-12; and assistance in planning projects related to waste reduction, recycling and other environmental topics. Visit <http://www.metrokc.gov/dnrp/swd/education/index.asp> or contact Donna Miscolta at 206-296-4477, or donna.miscolta@kingcounty.gov.

Natural Yard Care classes

Attend a series of three free trainings featuring design and maintenance techniques that protect families and fish and wildlife. Classes will be held in Federal Way, Sammamish, Redmond and Kent from September through October.

Call Doug Rice at 206-296-8360 for dates and registration information.

Join a watershed program

Are you interested in getting involved with salmon conservation at the watershed level? Are you looking for a way to get your hands dirty while learning new skills and helping the environment? Do you want to get involved, but feel that you'd need some training first?

The WSU King County Extension Watershed Stewardship Program is for you. The next training class begins in spring 2009, with applications available in January. For more information, visit <http://www.king.wsu.edu/enviro/stewardship.htm> or contact Tara Zimmerman at 206-205-3203.



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This information is available in alternative formats. Call 206-296-6500 or 711 (TTY Relay).