



Education,  
Research,  
Stewardship

# Beach Log

DECEMBER 2007



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
ISLAND COUNTY EXTENSION

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## Seal Necropsies Performed

Island County Beach Watchers Sandy Dubpernell and Monem Mahmoud Abdel, and Skagit County BW Caroline Spehar participated in Central Puget Sound Marine Mammal Stranding Network's necropsy session on October 5th. Dr. Stephanie Norman, D.V.M. headed up the team as one adult harbor seal and six seal pups that had been found dead on Island County beaches in recent weeks underwent postmortem examination. The three volunteers helped with the dissections, took photos, recorded data, and assisted with the collection of tissue and body fluid specimens. The seals had been picked up in various stages of decomposition and that led to a very stinky workday. In spite of the smell, the findings were fascinating from a scientific standpoint, as necropsies of the various animals revealed a badly fractured skull, parasitic nematodes, both normal and abnormal blubber layers, and a ruptured bowel with resulting peritonitis.

*Mary Jo Adams, BW Class of 1999*



Caroline Spehar and Monem Mahmoud Abdel prepare to open the abdominal cavity of a seal pup that had been found dead on a Whidbey Island beach.



Dr. Stephanie Norman and Monem Mahmoud Abdel look on as Sandy Dubpernell takes photos to document findings during the examination of a dead seal pup.

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## Monitoring Highlights

### Nighttime Tidepooling

Thanksgiving weekend brought not only holiday feasting but also a series of superb evening low tides. Nine Beach Watchers took advantage of them to head out for some nighttime tidepooling adventures.

Waters at Rosario Beach dropped to -2.7 feet on Friday November 23rd allowing a group of six to see organisms seldom revealed. The weather was a bit chilly but there was no wind and the presence of a big silvery moon made for ideal conditions as the tidepoolers set out. And there was a lot to see! Six species of nudibranchs were discovered with numerous individuals of each species. The group observed white lined (*Dirona albolineata*), shaggy mouse (*Aeolidia papillosa*), sea lemon (*Archidoris montereyensis*), barnacle eating (*Onchidoris bilamelata*), clown (*Triopha catalinae*) and golden (*Dirona pellucida*) nudibranchs. John Opheim's favorites were the brilliantly orange spotted clown nudibranchs. In addition to the flashy nudibranchs, Judy Opheim said a highlight for her was seeing gumboot chitons, one of which was hanging partially peeled away from a rock revealing its foot and ctenidia (gills). Monem Abdel Mahmoud took a close look at the keyhole limpets, check-



*Mary Jo Adams Photo*

Team photo 11-23-07



*Mary Jo Adams Photo*

A keyhole limpet tips back his shell to reveal a commensal scaleworm

ing for and finding the commensal worm that sometimes hitchhikes along. Debbie Bitts spotted a decorator crab, probably a sharpnose (*Scyra acutafrons*) sporting a heavy coating of sponge over its entire carapace. Sarah Schmidt, was impressed by a brittle star revealed when a rock was turned over and she was also fascinated by a brachiopod.

The following evening brought an even more impressive low tide with waters falling to -3.4 feet as three more Beach Watchers and four guests made the trek to Rosario. Nighttime tidepooling had apparently been a hot topic at one Thanksgiving dinner, catching the imagination of a Whidbey Island woman so the following day, she tracked down her friendly neighborhood Beach Watcher (Jean Summers) to find out if she could come along. Sure enough, she arrived at Rosario boots and headlamp in hand and she brought along two friends. By the end of the evening, this trio was bedazzled not only by the intertidal organisms but also by the Beach Watcher contingent of Charlie Seablom, Barry Dunn, and Ann Koehler-Christensen who pointed out, identified, and interpreted Rosario's intertidal life for them. The Beach Watchers also had great fun exploring the beach. Charlie used his keen eyes to detect a leopard nudibranch (*Diaulula sandiegensis*) and several tiny leather limpets (*Onchidella borealis*) which are nudibranch relatives but have a lung instead of gills. Ann and her husband Dale echoed sentiments of the previous night's group when they gave their votes for favorite finds to the keyhole limpets with commensal worms and the clown nudibranchs. Barry



noted a peanut worm (sipunculid) and brooding stars (Leptasterias sp.) among her highlights. Arriving back at the shelter house at evening's end, the group discovered a varmint, (a raccoon? Bigfoot?) had helped itself to a package of cookies intended as a post-tidepooling snack. Mother Nature withheld one final treat until the last three participants arrived at their cars to head home at which time a great horned owl perched high in a nearby tree let loose with a series of vocalizations, bidding a goodnight to all.

*Mary Jo Adams, BW Class of 1999*



*Mary Jo Adams Photo*

Decorator crab with sponge on carapace



*Mary Jo Adams Photo*

Charlie Seablom and Ann Kohler-Christensen check out a green sea urchin

## Planning the Marine Education Center at the Coupeville Wharf

Recently the Port of Coupeville commissioners adopted a 20-year Comprehensive Plan that, among other things, says that the Coupeville Wharf should, over time, become a Marine Education Center (MEC). The Port has asked the Island County WSU Extension/Beach Watchers program to coordinate the effort to develop a long-range plan for the proposed Center.

It should be noted that at this time there are no expectations or constraints expressed by the Port as to what the MEC might be. No specific space beyond the breezeway, which is now being used for static exhibits (Rosie, Rudy, and Orca displays and the underwater camera), has been made available. The Comprehensive Plan does say that space may become available as current commercial leases expire; therefore, those engaged in planning have a clean slate onto which to express the most imaginary and visionary thoughts and ideas.

A determination has been made that the initial phase planning should engage as many potential "stakeholder" groups as can be identified, and seek from them a vision of what a MEC should be. A PowerPoint presentation is being developed for use with the various groups. The 10- to 15-minute presentation will trace the history and evolution of the Coupeville Wharf and will lead people into responding to the question "What comes to mind, and what do you see, when you hear the words *marine education center*?"

The PowerPoint will be reviewed by the expanded Wharf Rehabilitation Action Team (Wharf RATs) group as soon as it is completed, perhaps by the end of this year. Any suggestions for "tweaking" will be incorporated. Groups to which the PowerPoint should be shown will be identified and divided up among the RATs, who will take the presentation to their assigned group(s) during the first three months of 2008. All input will be recorded.

When the outreach sessions have been completed, the input will be analyzed and compiled into a Statement of Vision for the MEC. A new PowerPoint will be created from this statement. It will be taken to the stakeholder groups, either individually or at one or more community gatherings. Ideally this process will be completed by the end of June 2008, and the Statement presented to the Port of Coupeville for its consideration.

*Graham Johnson, BW Class of 2006*

Dates to Remember  
Upcoming Camano Island and Whidbey Island Events  
and Other Items of Interest

**CAMANO**

**Monday, Dec 3 Camano Monthly Meeting**, 9 am to 12 noon at the Camano Center

**Friday, Dec 7 Camano Holiday Party**, 5:30 pm to 10:00 pm Camano Island Country Club

**Friday, Dec 28 Camano Steering Committee Meeting**, 10:15 am to 12:15 am Camano BW Office

**WHIDBEY**

**Wednesday, Dec 12 Committee Meeting (Sound Waters)**, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon Rm 131

**Thursday, Dec 13 Island County Holiday Party**, 5:30 to 9:00 pm Freeland Hall, 1515 Shoreview Dr.

**Friday, Dec 14 Breakfast w/ Beach Watchers**, 8:30 am to 9:30 am Neals Clover Patch in Bayview

**Tuesday, Dec 18 LEP Meeting**, 11:00 am to 12:00 noon 101 NE 6th St., Coupeville, WA

**Tuesday, Dec 18 BW Advisory Council Meeting**, 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm 101 NE 6th St., Coupeville, WA

**Tuesday, Jan 8 2008 LEP Annual Meeting**, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm Coupeville Rec Hall

**Tuesday, Jan 8 2008 Beach Watcher Annual Meeting**, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm Coupeville Rec Hall

**Wednesday, Jan 9 2008 Committee Meeting (Sound Waters)**, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon Rm 116

**Friday, Jan 11 2008 Breakfast w/ Beach Watchers**, 8:30 am to 9:30 am Neals Clover Patch in Bayview,

**Tuesday, Jan 15 2008 Advisory Council Meeting**, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm call for location 360-679-7391

**Tuesday, Jan 15 2008 LEP Board Meeting**, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm WSU Extension Office, Coupeville

**\*Please Note\***

The Island County Holiday Party on December 13th has changed venue. This year it will be held at the Freeland Hall at 1515 Shoreview Dr. It has recently been remodeled and is a wonderful old building commanding a full view of Holmes Harbor. Please, please, please in an effort to conserve energy, build holiday spirit and help with parking, CARPOOL! There will be a prize given for any





## Coordinators Corner

### Meeting of all Meetings!

If you haven't attended one of the hundreds, maybe thousands of Beach Watcher meetings this year would you mind sharing your secret of success with me?! I personally have not managed to avoid the numerous meetings that keep this action orientated program running, nor have I wanted to. There is nothing more productive or energizing than a gathering of Beach Watchers.

This is why I'm particularly excited about the meeting of all meetings that happens just once a year. Of course I am talking about the Annual WSU Beach Watcher meeting on January 15th at the Coupeville Rec Hall. There will be some of the usual Advisory Council business electing some fantastic new members but the majority of the meeting will be a review of 2007 Beach Watcher efforts and a number of exciting reports from volunteers on the various projects being created and run in 2008.

Some new projects that you will hear about is the expansion of the Escape Cord Crabbing project to Whidbey, Camano Islands Speaker Series, class of 2007's Dog Poo research project, a new training for "Climate Stewards" and many, many more. This is a wonderful opportunity to get the best picture possible in one sitting of all the amazing things the Beach Watcher program does.

It is a double bonus to be having the Annual LEP meeting on the same day. This year there will be six available seats on the board which will be open to the Waste Wise, Lighthouse docents, and Beach Watcher volunteers. The LEP board has adopted new bylaws and will be continuing to work on the management and growth of their biggest fundraiser, the Lighthouse License Plates. If you are at all interested in representing Beach Watchers on the board please contact Kristen Cooley (360)679-7391. The Board meets on the third Tuesday of every month from 1-3 pm. See you all on January 15th!

*Kristen Cooley, Program Coordinator, BW class of 2006*

### Free DVD on Shoreline Living

You now have the opportunity to own a free copy of a fantastic DVD, "Shoreline Living: Protecting Our Shorelines and Puget Sound." This 34-minute video was produced by Erica Guttman of WSU Extension in Thurston County, with funding through Puget Sound Action Team (now Puget Sound Partnership).

The DVD features local experts instructing on topics that are important to those who live on or near the shoreline. Hugh Shipman of Washington State Department of Ecology explains beach processes, bluff geology and erosion, just as he did at your Beach Watchers training. Doug Myers from Puget Sound Partnership teaches about the marine wildlife on our beaches. Roger Giebelhaus, a Thurston County Planner, talks about development along the shoreline and on bluff properties. And Kevin McFarland with Sound Urban Forestry shows how to properly prune and cut trees to retain views without harming the tree.

The second program on this DVD is "Plant it Right: Restoring our Streams." Joslyn Trivett, a restoration ecologist with Sound Native Plants, demonstrates how to properly plant bare root trees and shrubs, live stakes, and potted or containerized plants. Most of this information is not stream-specific and is just as useful for those who live near the shoreline.

This DVD is offered free to Island County residents by Island County Shore Stewards and Island County Planning and Community Development. Funding was through a Centennial Clean Water Grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology. If you would like your free copy (in a protective clamshell case), pick one up from Kristen Cooley at the Lighthouse, at the WSU Extension office, or contact Scott Chase, 360-387-3443, ext. 258, or e-mail [shorestewards@wsu.edu](mailto:shorestewards@wsu.edu).

*Scott Chase, Island County Shore Stewards Coordinator, BW Class of 2002*



## Invite a Friend and Make Plans for Sound Waters University on February 2

When the top state leader of Puget Sound recovery steps inside Coupeville Middle School on Saturday, Feb. 2, WSU Beach Watchers are planning a surprise.

“A packed house,” says Peg Urstad, one of the organizers of Sound Waters 2008. Keynote speaker David Dicks is director of the new Puget Sound Partnership, charged by Gov. Christine Gregoire with restoring Puget Sound’s health by 2020. It is a daunting job.

“Mr. Dicks’ job takes him all over the state but there is nothing like Sound Waters. We want to get his attention,” Urstad said. “We want to pack that school and show Mr. Dicks that the Beach Watchers and public of Island County are eager to work with him. We live right here in the middle of Puget Sound and we care.”

With a sparkling new venue in the newly rebuilt Coupeville school, this year’s event will be the biggest and best in Beach Watchers’ history. Last year more than 500 people from Whidbey, Camano and surrounding areas packed the old middle school for a day of speakers and classes on island living. This year the new facility can comfortably hold 600, 700 or more.

“So we are ready to grow – and fast,” said Ann Koehler-Christensen, publicity co-chair. “We dreamed of having this space and now we have it. We are counting on Beach Watchers to personally invite their friends who have

never attended before. We need your help. Promise them a day of discovery and friendship, and make your plans right now.”

Sound Waters is many things. Attendees choose any three of more than 60 classes to attend throughout the day. Classes run the gamut from intertidal creatures to native plants, nature photography, shellfish cooking, sustainable living and septic care. Registration includes the keynote speaker and a boxed lunch, and best of all, hundreds of passionate, interesting friends!

Online registration will open Wednesday, Jan. 2, at [www.beachwatchers.wsu.edu](http://www.beachwatchers.wsu.edu). Mark your calendar and register right away when the web site opens to make sure you get your favorite classes.

*Dan Pedersen*

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## Wanted: Spirited Individuals to Become Beach Watchers

Recruitment is now underway for the Beach Watchers Class of 2008. As Beach Watchers, you are encouraged to talk with your friends about the value and enjoyment of Beach Watchers involvement.

Training classes will take place every Monday and Wednesday in March and April, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., primarily at Race Road Fire Hall. Interesting and informative field trips will be interspersed throughout the training, to places such as Deception Pass State Park, Skagit County’s Padilla Bay and Cama Beach State Park.

Friends (and current Beach Watchers) desiring to learn more about Island County Beach Watchers should log on to [www.beachwatchers.wsu.edu/island/](http://www.beachwatchers.wsu.edu/island/). There are myriad opportunities, of all activity and skill levels, from which to choose a meaningful and fun project. Click on “Who We Are” to view an application. Applications may also be obtained by mail through Kristen Cooley (360-679-7391), at the WSU Extension office or at the Admiralty Head Lighthouse. Class size is limited, so advise your friends to act fast!

Remember: Friends do not let friends NOT become Beach Watchers!

*Finn Gatewood, BW Training Committee, BW Class of 2006*



*Photo by Dan Pedersen*

Matt Klope and Sandy Dubpernell answer questions about marine mammal pelts while preparing for their Sound Waters class during the lunch hour last year.



## Citizen Science Pigeon Guillemots Projects 2008

Whidbey Audubon Society and the Marine Resources Committee have been conducting surveys of the Pigeon Guillemots nesting in the bluffs of Whidbey Island for the last four years. We're looking for volunteers to expand the projects in 2008. We plan to continue all these projects for several years in order to collect reliable, statistically significant data.

**How many Pigeon Guillemots congregate at the colony sites on Whidbey and Camano Islands? The** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) counted the birds in the Pigeon Guillemot colonies throughout the Sound from 2000 to 2002. We plan to follow their protocol to census the birds on Whidbey and Camano Islands for at least the next three years so we can compare our data with theirs. The birds congregate at the colony sites in May. The protocol developed by WDFW requires the counts to begin 15 minutes after sunrise and continue for 3 hours with seas at  $\leq$  Beaufort 3. We plan to count each colony three times during the month of May. To do this study we need volunteers with boats and at least two volunteer counters on each boat. We do have some funds to offset the costs of launching and gasoline.

**How many burrows contain chicks? Eggs hatch in late June and early July. Adults feed the** chicks by delivering fish to the burrows. Volunteers will need to visit their colony for 2 hours once each week for six weeks beginning in July to observe the adults bringing fish, and to document, with GPS or photos, the burrows receiving fish. Some of the colonies are quite spread out so we may need to have two or more volunteers at each site.



**What fish species fish are being delivered to the chicks? In 2007, Houston Flores, an** intern from Western Washington University, obtained data indicating the adults deliver primarily blennies just after hatching, but by the time of fledging also deliver sculpins. We propose to confirm or refute his results by doing a more extensive, systematic study at four colonies on either side of Whidbey. Pigeon Guillemots usually paddle around carrying the fish before delivering them to the chicks. With a spotting scope it is usually possible to identify the fish. Volunteers will spend 3 hours on each of four visits to the selected colonies to identify the fish. This study could be combined with the one above if a team of volunteers visits the colony.

For more information on these projects, contact Frances Wood [wood@whidbey.com](mailto:wood@whidbey.com) or 360-341-2326 or Phyllis Kind [phizhawk@whidbey.com](mailto:phizhawk@whidbey.com) or 360-331-6337.

*Frances Wood, BW Class of 2001*

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## Become a Climate Steward!

Mark your calendars for all four Thursdays in the month of February from 9:00 am—1:30 pm. This is a focused training available to anyone (you don't have to be a Beach Watcher to join) interested in learning more on something we hear about so often but can still be so confusing, climate change. This training will be held at Padilla Bay Reserve in partnership with Skagit and Island County Beach Watchers and the Northwest Clean Air Agency. It will cover the following but not be limited to...

- An overview of what the Northwest Clean Air Agency is and its role in protecting air quality, as well as an overview of the Beach Watchers and Padilla Bay and the intent of this program.
- The science and projections of climate change.
- Impacts of climate change globally and locally.
- Actions individuals can take to minimize changes.
- What local cities, towns, counties, and states are doing.
- To register, please call the Island County Beach

Watcher office at (360)679-7391 with a your name and contact phone number.



## New J pod calf photographed off Whidbey Island

Orca Network received the great news on November 7th from NOAA Fisheries researchers Brad Hanson and Candi Emmons that a new calf had been discovered with J pod while they were with them in the Seattle area. The new calf was born to 33-year-old J14, and is her fifth calf. Her first calf died in 1991 at four years of age, but her last three calves, born in 1995, 2001 and 2004, have all survived, and Brad described the new calf's behavior as "active for a new calf—swimming under the research boat and taking long dives."



*Photo by Gene and Marilyn Ohlson*

The newest member of J pod, J43, nestled between mom, J14, and big brother J30, photographed off Lagoon Point, west Whidbey Island, Nov. 6 at 3:30-4 p.m.

Soon after we received this great news, a participant on our Whale Sighting Network sent us photos taken from a home at Lagoon Point on Nov. 6 when J pod swam past west Whidbey Island. Upon close inspection we found the new little J43 nestled between her Mom, J14, and her 12-year-old brother, J30! The calf was not present the previous afternoon when NOAA Fisheries was with J pod near Seattle, so likely was born between Monday night and Tuesday afternoon and was less than 24 hours old when the photo was taken.

J43's birth brings J pod up to 26 members and the total population of the Southern Resident orcas to 88, not counting Lolita, the L pod whale at the Miami Seaquarium.

If you see orcas swimming by, look for the new tiny fin nestled amongst them, and of course, give us a call at 1-866-ORCANET to report the sighting!

## L sub-pod visits California

Also of note is that nine members of L pod were photographed and confirmed off Bodega Bay, Calif. on Oct. 30. Cascadia Research was in the area conducting humpback whale surveys and were very surprised to have the L11s & L12s show up. Though L and K pods have been sighted in California waters in the past, this sighting is unusual in that the rest of L pod was still in the San Juan area on Oct. 30, and it is unusual for them to stray so far apart at this time of year.

Unfortunately this sighting was one week before the San Francisco oil spill, which happened less than 50 miles from where the L pod whales were seen. There have been no further sightings of them, so it is not known if they were still in the area when the spill occurred, but this incident demonstrates the fact that critical habitat for Southern Resident orcas extends far beyond Washington's borders, and spills as far away as San Francisco or Johnstone Strait, B.C. can easily impact this endangered population. Orca Network is working with NOAA Fisheries and the Center for Whale Research to help track orcas off the entire west coast, to gather more information about their winter travel patterns and determine areas of critical habitat.

For more information and great photos, or to sign up for our Whale Sighting Network e-mail list, visit [www.orcanetwork.org](http://www.orcanetwork.org).

*Susan Berta and Howard Garrett, Orca Network*



*Mary Jo Adams Photo*

Merry Christmas from *Urticina Crassicornis*



## New BW Intertidal Game on Website

If you haven't checked out the new and exciting interactive "Intertidal Game" on the Beach Watcher website you are missing out!!!! Created by Neal and Connie Clark in conjunction with Mary Jo Adams and the website team it appeals to young and old. There is a warning attached though. At the bottom it states "Warning: this game may become addictive". If this game is the next generations addiction then I don't want a cure. Have fun!

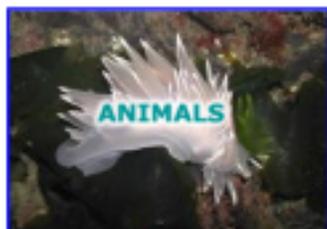
<http://www.beachwatchers.wsu.edu/ezidweb/explore/>

*Kristen Cooley, Program Coordinator, BW class of 2006*

### Come Explore

### \*\* An Intertidal Game \*\*

of the Intertidal Fauna and Flora of the Salish Sea



*Brought to you by WSU Beach Watchers*

**Sound Waters**

A One-Day "University"  
For Everyone

Saturday, February 2, 2008  
Coupeville

Presented by WSU  
Island County  
Beach  
Watchers

Bald Eagle  
The Original  
Beach Watcher

Keynote Address:  
**The State of the Sound**  
Presented by David Dicks  
Executive Director of Puget Sound  
Partnership

Registration starts  
January 2, 2008  
[www.beachwatchers.wsu.edu/island](http://www.beachwatchers.wsu.edu/island)

Photo by Bill Hahn



# Lighthouse Holidays!



## 2007 Holiday Lighthouse & Gift Shop Schedule

Open 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm  
on the following days

November 23, Friday  
(Day after Thanksgiving)

November 24, Saturday

November 25, Sunday

December 1, Saturday

December 2, Sunday

December 8, Saturday

December 9, Sunday

December 15, Saturday

December 16, Sunday

December 22, Saturday

December 23, Sunday

December 27, Thursday

December 28, Friday

December 29th, Saturday

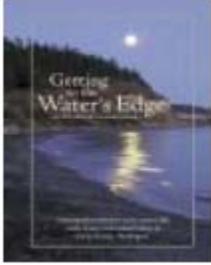
December 30th, Sunday

## What's New at the Lighthouse This Holiday Season?

For a few weeks during the holidays, Admiralty Head Lighthouse will be decked out in holiday Splendor. Visit our two new replica exhibits, featuring the "work room" work bench and the "Lighthouse Keepers" tool chest, both of which the keeper would have used in lighthouse projects and maintenance. Then follow the popcorn and cranberry garland and apple wreaths to the gift shop, where you'll find wonderfully unique holiday gifts for everyone on your list.



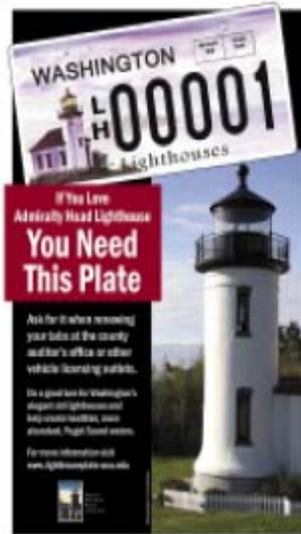
## Shop Locally For Your Holiday Gifts This Season!



Here are two great gifts ideas that are available locally and support our environmental programs and beautiful Lighthouse. Getting to the Water's Edge book is the perfect gift for Island County residents. Besides beautiful pictures, there are maps and descriptions along with directions to all public beach accesses, clamming beaches, dog parks, geology, beach

etiquette, and much more. Every time I look at the book I find more wonderful treasures. You can buy this book and support LEP programs.

These books can be purchased for \$16.25 which includes tax from the Lighthouse, main office, local bookstores, or any coordinator. Or if you don't want to give 'stuff' you may consider giving a Washington Lighthouse License plate. You can't actually buy a plate as the gift but you can give a gift certificate and include a \$40 check. It's a gift that keeps on giving and anyone with a car needs a license plate! With each plate sold LEP receives \$28 to support our programs and help restore the Admiralty Head Lighthouse. You can pick up a gift certificate envelope at the Lighthouse or contact me and I'll get you one!



*Janet Hall, Waste Wise Coordinator*

## Electronics Recycling

The holidays are coming up, people are looking to buy new computers and TV's but what do they do with their old ones? Most folks in Island County just throw them into the garbage. Waste Wise and Beach Watchers are teaming up with Island Recycling to offer responsible recycling for TV's, monitors, laptops, cpu's, printers, faxes, DVD's, VCR's, wire, cables, keyboards, mouse, etc. There will be a fee for folks to bring in their electronics which would cover cost to have them recycled in an environmentally responsible way by "Total Reclaim" in Seattle. Freeland is already collecting and we are looking for volunteers to help Coupeville kick off their collection in mid January. There will be advertising about this event starting in mid-December.

What I need to know is ARE YOU WILLING TO HELP!!!

Please contact me ASAP!

*Janet Hall, Waste Wise Coordinator*



## More About Electronics Recycling

Did you know that electronics-waste is growing at three times the rate of other municipal waste? Although electronics-waste accounts for only one to four percent of municipal waste, it may be responsible for as much as 70 percent of the heavy metals in landfills, including 40 percent of all lead. In addition, electronics contain valuable metals like aluminum! Recycling or donating your old computer or phone:

**Conserves natural resources.** Recycling recovers valuable materials from old electronics that can be used to make new products. As a result, we reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce pollution, save energy, and save resources by extracting fewer raw materials from the earth.

**Protects your surroundings.** Safe recycling of outdated electronics promotes sound management of toxic chemicals such as lead and mercury.

**Helps others.** Donating your used electronics benefits your community by passing on ready-to-use or refurbished equipment to those who need it.

Try and find out where the items end up - some unscrupulous outfits just ship the old machines to China to be buried. For more information about "ecycling", visit <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/recycle/ecycling/donate.htm>.

*From the Northwest Clean Air Agency, Climate Care Weekly Email Tips*



## Thank you, thank you!

Thank you for all the generous donations given in response to our annual fundraising letter. Your support and commitment to helping our precious Puget Sound environment and our spirited and active community alive and healthy for future generations is deeply appreciated.

## Look at This!

If you're interested in seeing what lurks in the subtidal depths around Island County but don't want to don 60 pounds of scuba gear to plunge into frigid water, check out Jan Kocian's website, <http://jankocian.smugmug.com/>.

Jan is a Whidbey Island scuba diver/underwater photographer/artist who takes wonderful photos of our subtidal neighbors and adds information about the pictured organisms and commentary on the dive. He recently added a series of amazing photos of a determined moon snail's pursuit and capture of a cockle in Holmes Harbor. You'll recognize many sea stars, nudibranchs, crabs and other critters found on our beaches and learn how they spend their time while submerged. Jan frequently adds new photos, so this is a website you can come back to again and again. Check it out!

*Mary Jo Adams, BW Class of 1999*

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## Double Your Money

If you have not yet made a contribution and would like to double the amount you give there is a donor willing to match 5 \$100 donations if they are received by the end of the year. Please mark your donation in some way so we know it is for the matching fund. Thank you so much.

**THANKS! To all the Beach Watcher Volunteers who contributed articles, typed, edited, and prepared the Beach Log for mailing. Kudos to Cheryl Bradkin, Arlene Stebbins, and Kristen Cooley who help pull it all together each month.**



***"In the end we will conserve only what we love;  
We will love only what we understand;***

***We will understand only what we have been  
taught."***

***~Baba Dioum, Senegalese ecologist***



**DEADLINE FOR NEXT BEACH LOG  
January 20, 2008**