

Seaweed Study Group – Sound Water Stewards Spring 2023

Open to all SWS MEMBERS.

Sessions will be via zoom on alternate Mondays, via field trips when tides allow, and via independent study modules. Members may attend any or all sessions.

Zoom address will be sent prior to first session.

Note: Camano field trips may be different days than those on Whidbey.

Zoom Session 1 – April 3 – **Introduction to Seaweeds**

Introduction to Study Group

3 modalities – zoom, field trips, independent study modules

participation options

outline for series

resources - field guides, online sites

additional? what do you want?

Study Content for Day

“Seaweed” / “Algae”

Three major groupings aka “colors’ inc. evolutionary history

Seaweed Bodies - anatomy, differences from plants

Focus on **Bladderwrack – a Seaweed for All Seasons**

reading/exploration options and resources

Field Trip – **Exploration, the Thin Ribbon, and the Greens**

- Whidbey – **April 10** at Bush Point 1:30 - 3:30 (Monday)

Zoom Session 2 – April 17 – **Seaweeds Most Encountered**

Review of April 10 field trip inc Q&A
readings & other explorations

What primary seaweeds did we find?
Groupings?

Study Content for Day

Edible vs Palatable vs Inedible

Harvesting & preserving – best practices

The Greens

Others most often encountered

reading/exploration options

Field Trip — Seaweeds Most Encountered Onsite

- Whidbey: [April 23](#) at Libbey Beach Park 11:30am, - 1:30pm (Sunday)

Zoom Session 3 — May 1 — The Mighty Kelps

Communities and Environments
Aquaculture & Other Developments and Uses
Stars of the Kelp World

Field Trip — The Mlghty Kelps Onsite

- Whidbey: [May 11](#) at Libbey Beach Park 1 pm - 3 pm (Thursday)

Zoom Session 4 — May 15 — Reds....the Baffling Beauties

Characteristics of red seaweeds
The Spectaculars
The Complex

Field Trip — May 19 — Reds...the Baffling Beauties Onsite

- Whidbey: [May 19](#) at Libbey Beach Park 10:30 - 12:30 (Friday)

Zoom Session 5 — Seaweeds: Next Adventures (may be done in persons or as hybrid)

Savoring....Preparing...Using
Pressing....Displaying...Studying....Using the Microscope
Practicums and Ongoing Options
Personal Discoveries, Stories and Delights
Wrap-Up Questions & Answers

ESSENTIAL TOOLS FOR SEAWEED STUDIES

ID GUIDES

EZ-ID on Seaweeds aka Common Intertidal Seaweeds and Seagrasses of the Salish Sea.

Pacific Seaweeds: A Guide to Common Seaweeds of the West Coast Updated & Expanded,
by Louis D. Druehl & Bridgette E. Clarkson. Harbour 2016

The 2016 edition is ESSENTIAL if you are serious.

If unsure, earlier editions, much smaller and mainly in black & white, are available online.

EQUIPMENT

strong walking stick — some seaweeds are only found beyond slick and wobbly cobbles!
waterproof boots, shoes — closed toes only
seaweed harvesting license — if you want to take samples for study, pressing or eating
collection equipment - if you want to take samples, ziplock bags in a water safe carrier are fine
(optional) camera — waterproof or with waterproof cover & neutral waterproof backing paper

MORE INFORMATION AND QUESTIONS

Contact Jeanie McElwain epiphany@whidbey.net or 812-340-1259

