

DIG THIS by Peg Tillery (for 8-08-07) Anniversary Celebrations Galore © 2007

August is a month for celebrating. The whole week of August 6 is the First Annual Noxious Weed Awareness Week. Later in the month during the Kitsap County Fair and Stampede we'll be celebrating three anniversary events - Kitsap County's 125 year birthday; 60 years of the Kitsap Fair and Stampede; and 90 years of Washington State University Extension in Kitsap County. Let the fun begin!

The whole week of August 6 Dana Coggon, Kitsap County Noxious Weed Control Coordinator, will be at various locations throughout the county to provide information on noxious weeds. By the time you read this column a few of the events will be past, but on August 8 starting at 6 p.m. at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds, 1200 Fairgrounds Road, take a walk on the weed side. Wear comfortable walking shoes and meet in front of President's Hall.

The Noxious Weed Advisor Short Course runs on August 9, 16 and 23 at the Silverdale Community Center in the Poplar Room. The Cost is \$15 for the three-session course. You can attend from either 1-4 p.m. or 6 to 9 p.m. Contact the WSU Extension Office at 360-337-7157 to register.

On Friday August 10 attend a lunch and learn event at the Norm Dicks Government Center in the Chambers Room at 345 6th Street in Bremerton. The noxious weed talk is from noon to 1 p.m. Bring your own lunch.

Another weed walk is scheduled for Friday August 10 on the Clear Creek Trail starting at the Old Mill Park on Bucklin Hill Road. Meet in the parking lot of Old Mill Park at 6 p.m. Wear comfortable walking shoes.

If you'd like to help with the Indianola Ivy Pull (and learn how to remove your own pesky ivy in the process) show up at NE Gerald Cliff Road and NE Seaview Avenue in Indianola from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Bring gloves, tools to cut ivy (clippers and hand tools) and garbage bags.

Get ready to begin celebrating three Kitsap County anniversaries – the 125 year anniversary of Kitsap County, 60 years of the Fair and Stampede and 90 years of WSU Kitsap Extension. Attend the Kitsap Fair and Stampede and celebrate all these events in one location. You'll find historical photo displays and learn about the histories of our area. The Open Class exhibits and displays in President's Hall are all arranged around the theme of "Sixty Years and Still Kicking." The Historical Society Building at the Fair will have education, information and historical memorabilia to enjoy. WSU Extension Kitsap displays and information are in the front section of the Cat and Archery Barn. Check out all these areas at the Fair this year from August 22 through 26, open from morning through night.

This year the Fair Premium Book is only online but you can stop at the Kitsap County Parks and Recreation Office at 1200 NW Fairgrounds Road or call 360-337-5376 to pick

up copies if you do not have access to the internet. The Fair Premium Book explains all the categories for entering items for ribbons at the fair. You'll find detailed rules and each section has a contact person listed just in case you have questions or encounter difficulty interpreting the rules. I promised the WSU Master Gardeners in Open Class Horticulture and also Aggie Allpress in Floriculture I'd encourage everyone to enter cut flowers, houseplants, hanging baskets, fruit, veggies and other horticulture and floriculture items in the fair. Please don't disappoint Aggie and the Master Gardeners.