



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 29, 2009

CONTACTS:

Dan Williams – 206.616.6353 or dw7@u.washington.edu

Teri King – 360.432.3054 or wsgcanal@u.washington.edu

Olympia Workshop Will Teach the Basics of Shellfish Growing

Washington Sea Grant is offering “Shellfish in Your Front Yard,” a day-long workshop that will teach participants to identify, cultivate and safely harvest shellfish on their beaches.

This free workshop is scheduled for Saturday, May 23, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at Prosperity Grange No. 315, 3701 Steamboat Island Rd. N.W., Olympia.

Participants will learn about the biology of bivalve shellfish, which shellfish grow best on their beach type, and various methods for enhancing tidelands with clams, oysters and mussels. Each workshop will also focus on ways to protect water quality so that harvested shellfish will be safe to eat.

Workshop instructors include local shellfish farmers and Washington Sea Grant staff. Each workshop will feature classroom and on-the-beach activities. One-on-one technical assistance will also be offered to all participants, as part of the Bivalves for Clean Water program.

Space is limited, so pre-registration is required. To register or for more information, contact Teri King or Janis McNeal, Washington Sea Grant, at wsgcanal@u.washington.edu or 360-432-3054.

Funding for the Bivalves for Clean Water program is provided in part through EPA Grant Number C9-00044905 to the Washington Department of Ecology from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Department of Ecology allocates and administers funding for this project. Based at the University of Washington, Washington Sea Grant supports marine research and works with communities and businesses to manage and protect marine resources.