



SnoValley Tilth 2014 Annual Report

2015 Plans for the Year

- Operate the Carnation Farmers market for its 12th season.
- Work with two University of Washington interns to develop farm and food related children's activities at the Carnation Farmers Market.
- Develop the Experience Farming Project. Raise funds to hire a farm manager.
- Expand tool sharing cooperative.
- Continue to host membership meetings year-round.
- Distribute a revised hard copy of our member directory for 2015. Maintain the online directory. Create a revised map showing locations of member farms.
- Focus fundraising events with two farm dinners and one auction. Reduce scale of the St. Paddy's Day event; continue Farm Faire and Pig Roast.
- Continue community partnerships (including Cedarcrest FFA, SVPA, 2015 Seed Exchange).
- Expand capacity for SVT to implement our strategic plan through membership involvement.

2014 Activities

Membership

- Hosted 12 educational membership meetings. Educational topics included the Certified Naturally Grown program, seed saving, field preparation for planting, pollinators, farming and climate change, community kitchens, and new markets for local food products. In the summer months we met on local farms and participants toured the farms and learned directly from the farmers. Programs were partially funded by a grant from the King County CSA program.
- Updated and maintained the online directory.
- Submitted a grant proposal to fund creation of a revised farm member map as well as a printed and online directory.

Market

- Hired a Market Manager to run the market from February through November.
- Operated the farmers market within budget through October with a harvest market on November 25th.
- Held our second annual Arts Month, third annual Thanksgiving Harvest Market, and first annual bike to market day.
- Donated nearly 3,000 pounds of fresh, local produce to Hopelink and other area foodbanks.
- Exploring options for a Saturday market.

New Farmers

- Ran the Experience Farming Project with seven participating farmers.
- Formalized policies for the program and the role of the farm manager
- Began exploring opportunities to expand the program to other locations and drafted Building Tilth Guidelines toward this effort.
- Ran the local chapter of CRAFT (Collaborative Regional Alliance or Farmer Training) for new farmers and farm interns.



SnoValley Tilth 2014 Annual Report (cont.)

Fundraising, Events, and Outreach

- Received notification from the IRS of approval of our 501(c)3 status.
- Enrolled in the PCC Scrip Program. Hired a coordinator for our 2015 Fundraising Auction.
- Held a fundraising auction, three farm dinners, and two seasonal events (second annual St. Paddy's Day and fifth annual fall Farm Faire). Net profit from these activities was \$22,285.
- Continued to expand outreach through social media such as Facebook, Wordpress blogs, and website. Attended the Bastyr Herb and Food Fair, the Duvall Heritage Festival, Timber Music Festival (Carnation Farmers Market), Snoqualmie Valley Seed Exchange. Presented at Moms Group of Snoqualmie Valley, Cedarcrest FFA.
- Refined our mission and vision statements.

Policy

- Represented farm interests on the Farm, Fish, Flood Commission (King County), engaged with the King County Kitchen Cabinet efforts, and continued our role as a member of the Regional Food Policy Council.
- Joined the steering committee for the formation of a local Watershed Improvement District (coordinated by SVPA).

Community Partnerships

- Partnered with Seattle Tilth and other organizations to submit a proposal for use of the Tall Chief Property. Will serve on the steering committee if the proposal is selected.
- On the planning team for the 2015 Snoqualmie Valley Seed Exchange
- Assisted in planning an initial meeting about creating a meat processing facility in the Snoqualmie Valley.
- Connect Oxbow Native Plant Nursery staff with local farmland to collect native seeds, including the Stuart Landing Property, home of the Experience Farming Project.
- Hosted a table at the 2014 SVPA annual fundraiser
- Funded a scholarship to a Cedarcrest FFA student.
- Served as a sponsor of the 2014 Tilth Producers of Washington annual conference
- Worked with Riverview School District and other farm and agency partners on Farm to School efforts.