

WSU PUYALLUP HIGHLIGHT

August 11, 2005

***WSU Scientist presents on riparian buffers and environmental uses of hybrid poplar in July.
--Two hot topics in Natural Resource Sciences.***

Jon Johnson hosted a WSU Riparian Buffer Field Day at one of the program's experimental sites off the Nookachamps creek in Skagit County in July. There were 15 participants including farmers and other interested individuals. Jon presented an overview of the project on Riparian Buffers and some preliminary water quality results. Carolyn Henri, WSU Resource Economist and project team member, presented her analysis of the economic cost of establishing and maintaining buffers on agricultural land. Then the team gave a demonstration of how groundwater is correctly sampled and participants were able to actually measure nitrate in the water using field test kits. The field day concluded in the afternoon with a presentation on fecal Coliform, by Rick Haley, Director of the Skagit County Water Quality Program.



Photo: Jon Johnson presenting at the Riparian Buffer Field Day in Skagit County.

Jon was also invited to speak to a group at the Department of Ecology Spokane office in July. He began with a PowerPoint presentation on the environmental uses of hybrid poplar, followed by a question and answer period. Around 30 people attended this event including personnel from the Department of Ecology, some from as far away as Yakima, and consulting engineers and wastewater operators from the Spokane region.

Weekly Highlights provided by the people and programs of WSU Puyallup. To include a highlight in an upcoming announcement, please contact either Heather Schriver, hschrive@wsu.edu, 253-445-4504, or Jon Newkirk, jnewkirk@wsu.edu, 253-445-4568

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