

## HIGHLIGHT

Restoration along Clarks Creek continues with community partnership planting project



*(Above left: One- year growth from March 2006 tree-planting project; Middle: Jeri Ayala (left) and Mickey Bean team up to plant their first tree; At right: Ann Coons from Friends of Clarks Creek ( right) and sister help plant Western Cedar.*

On April 19<sup>th</sup>, WSU Puyallup hosted the second tree-planting project along the 3000 feet of Clarks Creek that indicates the northern campus boundary. Working with Lorin Reinelt, Watershed Coordinator from Pierce County Water Programs, members of the Clarks Creek Partnership planted 80 evergreen and deciduous trees. Key partners involved in this project include the Puyallup River Watershed Council (PRWC), Friends of Clarks Creek, the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, the City of Puyallup, and the Pierce Conservation District. WSU Puyallup tree-planters included Jon Johnson, Jason Moorman, Chad Carter, Wendy Hoashi-Erhardt, Jeri Ayala, Mickey Bean, and Tanyalee Erwin.

Clarks Creek supports five species of salmonids: Chinook, Coho, Chum, Steelhead and Cutthroat Trout. The Clarks Creek Riparian and Wetland Restoration Program was identified as a high priority project in the 2006 Clear/Clarks Creek Basin Plan to restore flood storage, improve water quality and enhance habitat. A recent evaluation of Pierce County Watershed Action Plans identified riparian zone replanting as a high priority to improve water quality, control invasive vegetation, and enhance shading. As a member of the Clarks Creek Partnership, WSU Puyallup is continuing to work on future restoration efforts along the creek, promoting and initiating public involvement in replanting efforts for riparian zones adjacent to streams.

### WSU Puyallup: Solutions for the Region; Programs for Its People

*Highlights is provided by the people and programs of WSU Puyallup from February through December. For story ideas for upcoming Highlights, please contact either Tanyalee Erwin, [terwin@wsu.edu](mailto:terwin@wsu.edu), 253-445-4504, or Jon Newkirk, [jnewkirk@wsu.edu](mailto:jnewkirk@wsu.edu), 253-445-4568. If your email is set to text messages only and you wish to see the graphical version of this Highlight, please email Tanyalee.*