

Spring 2006

**WSU Whatcom Extension
Watershed Master / Beach Watcher
Application Packet**

Thank you for your interest in the WSU Whatcom County Extension Watershed Master / Beach Watcher Program. WSU Extension Watershed Masters are trained and certified volunteers who are providing education and leadership throughout Whatcom County on natural resource issues. Selected individuals will receive 100 hours of training about watersheds and their resources.

This application packet consists of:

- this cover letter;
- the three-page application form titled Part A;
- Part B of the Volunteer Application Form (background disclosure); and,

If any part of the packet is missing, please contact us at the telephone number or email addresses below. Part B is a background disclosure required for volunteers who work with youth or disabled people. Your information will be kept confidential and in a locked cabinet at the WSU Extension office, except as required by the criminal background check.

New Watershed Masters are expected to contribute a minimum of 100 hours of volunteer service back to the community. In order to maintain their certified status, Watershed Masters must complete 25 hours of approved volunteer outreach and 10 hours of approved continuing education during each subsequent year.

Please examine the application materials carefully. **The training will be held in Bellingham every Tuesday and Thursday, from April 4 to May 25, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** Field trips will be held during the training, even in inclement weather, although accommodations can be made for disabilities. If you have any doubt about your ability to make the commitment to the training or service, please consider applying another time.

Applications may be faxed or e-mailed to the contact information at the end of the application, but an original, signed copy must be submitted before classes begin. After an initial review, **you will be invited for a morning or afternoon interview during the week of March 27.** We strongly suggest that you return your application well before the deadline because of the popularity of the program.

Do you have any questions? Or do you need any materials in an alternate format? Please call Cheryl Lovato Niles at (360) 676-6736 or via email at clniles@wsu.edu.

These materials are also available on our website at

<http://whatcom.wsu.edu/environ/water/bw.htm>

*Thanks again for your interest! We're looking forward to meeting you!!
(this page intentionally left blank for duplex copying)*

**WSU Whatcom Extension Watershed Master / Beach Watcher
Training and Volunteer Application (Spring 2006)
Part A**

I. General Information

Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ Zip _____

Daytime phone _____ Evening phone _____

E-mail _____ Fax _____

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY) _____ Former Name (if any) _____

How would you describe the area where you live? Urban Suburban Rural

How did you hear about the Whatcom Watershed Master / Beach Watcher Volunteer Program?

II. Volunteer Interest and Experience

1) What is your occupation (before retirement, if applicable)? _____

2) Previous work, education, or volunteer experience: (List most recent experience first).

<u>Employer/Organization/School</u>	<u>Position/Volunteer Role</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
-------------------------------------	--------------------------------	----------------

3) Tell us why you want to be an Extension Watershed Master / Beach Watcher:

4) Skills, Interests, Experience: Please check the items below that will add to your effectiveness as a WSU Extension Watershed Master Volunteer.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accounting/bookkeeping | <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic arts | <input type="checkbox"/> Web page design/maintenance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Audiovisual operations | <input type="checkbox"/> Grant writing/fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing, editing newsletters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry/woodworking | <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership/management | <input type="checkbox"/> Other skills (specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clerical/office skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography/videography | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Public relations, marketing | <input type="checkbox"/> Computers (specify software) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First aid | <input type="checkbox"/> Public speaking, teaching | _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Research, data collection | _____ |

5) Do you speak, read, or write a language other than English (including American Sign Language)? Please list them.

6) How will your previous experience (including volunteering) or education help you be an effective leader and educator, including working with youth or diverse adult audiences?

7) What do you think is the role of education in protecting natural resources in Whatcom County?

8) What are you most interested in learning during the volunteer training?

9) Watershed Masters / Beach Watchers have been most successful when they are current or former members of groups involved in education or projects. Please tell us what clubs, associations, neighborhoods, churches or other groups you're involved with that could benefit from your becoming an Extension Watershed Master Volunteer. Have you volunteered before for natural resource or related activities?

10) After having examined the **dates for the training (see cover document), are there any sessions you think you will be unable to attend? Please explain.**

11) Do you prefer to work directly with: youth adults both
If youth, what age do you prefer? Ages: 5-8 9-12 13-19 no preference

12) Do you have a health or medical condition that we need to accommodate for training? Please explain. This is for planning only, and is not a consideration in your application.

13) What commitments do you have that would affect your availability for volunteer service?

14) Do you have any objection to being photographed or videotaped in relation to the program, for educational or for program promotional purposes? Your answer will not be a consideration of your application, but is for planning purposes (this is not a factor in the application process).

- No objection, it's fine
 I would rather not be photographed.

I understand that if I am accepted as a participant and volunteer with the Extension Watershed Master / Beach Watcher program I will be expected to attend all training sessions. At the completion of training I agree to fulfill a minimum of 100 hours of volunteer service.

Applicant Signature _____ *Date* _____

Completed and signed applications are due by
4:00 PM, Wednesday March 29, 2006.

WSU Extension Whatcom County
Watershed Master / Beach Watcher Program
1000 N. Forest Street
Bellingham, WA 98225-5594
clniles@wsu.edu or fax: 360-738-2458

Faxed and email applications can be accepted prior to the deadline, but a signed original must also be submitted before classes begin on April 4, 2006.

Thank you!

(this page intentionally left blank for duplex copying)

**WSU Whatcom Extension Watershed Master / Beach Watcher
Training and Volunteer Application (Spring 2006)
Part B**

(To be completed by all *potential* volunteers)

Name: _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

(Former Name (s)) (Legal or Preferred Name (s))

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY) Social Security Number Driver's License Number

BACKGROUND DISCLOSURE

Answer YES or NO to each listed item. If the answer is YES to any item, explain in the area provided, indicating the charge or finding, the date, and the court (s) involved.

1. Convicted of any crime against children or other persons.
ANSWER _____ IF YES, EXPLAIN BELOW:

2. Convicted of crimes relating to financial exploitation if the victim was a vulnerable adult.
ANSWER _____ IF YES, EXPLAIN BELOW:

3. Convicted of crimes related to drugs as defined in RCW 43.43.830.
ANSWER _____ IF YES, EXPLAIN BELOW:

4. Found in any dependency action under RCW 13.34.040 to have sexually assaulted or exploited any minor or to have physically abused any minor.
ANSWER _____ IF YES, EXPLAIN BELOW:

5. Found by a court in a domestic relations proceeding under Title 26 RCW to have sexually abused or exploited any minor or to have physically abused any minor.
ANSWER _____ IF YES, EXPLAIN BELOW:

continued on next page

6. Found in any disciplinary board final decision to have sexually or physically abused or exploited any minor or developmentally disabled person or to have abused or financially exploited any vulnerable adult.

ANSWER _____ IF YES, EXPLAIN BELOW:

7. Found by a court in a protection proceeding under chapter 74.34 RCW, to have abused or financially exploited a vulnerable adult.

ANSWER _____ IF YES, EXPLAIN BELOW:

Please note: A criminal record will be considered as it relates to specifics of the volunteer position for which you are applying. A criminal record may prevent an individual from volunteering, depending on the nature of the offense.

PERSONAL REFERENCES

References: List non-family members who have knowledge of your character. Individuals should have worked with you on projects and activities and/or have direct experience with or knowledge of your qualifications. Please provide complete addresses and phone numbers.

Name: _____

Relationship Home Phone Work Phone Email

Address: _____

(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Name: _____

Relationship Home Phone Work Phone Email

Address: _____

(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Name: _____

Relationship Home Phone Work Phone Email

Address: _____

(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

I authorize the contact of listed references and understand a criminal background check will be completed prior to final consideration of my application to volunteer. I understand that misrepresentation or omission of required information is just cause for non-appointment as a volunteer with Washington State University Extension. I understand that I serve at the pleasure of the Washington State University Extension and agree to abide by the policies of Washington State University Extension and individual program areas and to fulfill the volunteer responsibilities to the best of my ability.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return the application at your earliest convenience and contact us if you have any questions or wish further information. Thank you! If anything in this application changes, let the local WSU Extension office know.

DEFINITIONS FOR APPLICANT BACKGROUND DISCLOSURE

APPENDIX A

Washington State Cooperative Extension takes seriously its obligation to provide a safe atmosphere for all persons involved in youth activities. As you know, child abuse is of increasing concern to everyone. The purpose of this disclosure form is to implement the Washington Child and Adult Abuse Information Act (Chapter 486, Laws of 1987). It is not our intent to discourage volunteers--after all, Cooperative Extension depends upon your support. We do wish, however, to do what we can to assure the well-being of youth participants.

The following RCW definitions are provided to accompany Part B of the WSU Extension Volunteer Application Form "Background Disclosure." *Item#* refers to the specific YES or NO question on the application. Complete index and listings of all RCWs can be found at the Washington State Legislature web site (<http://www.leg.wa.gov/RCW>).

Item #3: 43.43.830(5): "Crime against children or other persons" means a conviction of any of the following offenses: Aggravated murder; first or second degree murder; first or second degree kidnapping; first, second, or third degree assault; first, second, or third degree assault of a child; first, second, or third degree rape; first, second, or third degree rape of a child; first or second degree robbery; first degree arson; first degree burglary; first or second degree manslaughter; first or second degree extortion; indecent liberties; incest; vehicular homicide; first degree promoting prostitution; communication with a minor; unlawful imprisonment; simple assault; sexual exploitation of minors; first or second degree criminal mistreatment; endangerment with a controlled substance; child abuse or neglect as defined in RCW 26.44.020; first or second degree custodial interference; first or second degree custodial sexual misconduct; malicious harassment; first, second, or third degree child molestation; first or second degree sexual misconduct with a minor; patronizing a juvenile prostitute; child abandonment; promoting pornography; selling or distributing erotic material to a minor; custodial assault; violation of child abuse restraining order; child buying or selling; prostitution; felony indecent exposure; criminal abandonment; or any of these crimes as they may be renamed in the future.

Item #4: 13.34.040: Petition to court to deal with dependent child.

(1) Any person may file with the clerk of the superior court a petition showing that there is within the county, or residing within the county, a dependent child and requesting that the superior court deal with such child as provided in this chapter. There shall be no fee for filing such petitions.

(2) In counties having paid probation officers, these officers shall, to the extent possible, first determine if a petition is reasonably justifiable. Each petition shall be verified and contain a statement of facts constituting a dependency, and the names and

residence, if known to the petitioner, of the parents, guardian, or custodian of the alleged dependent child.

Item #5: 26(44.050): Abuse or neglect of child -- Duty of law enforcement agency or department of social and health services -- Taking child into custody without court order, when. Upon the receipt of a report concerning the possible occurrence of abuse or neglect, the law enforcement agency or the department of social and health services must investigate and provide the protective services section with a report in accordance with chapter 74.13 RCW, and where necessary to refer such report to the court. A law enforcement officer may take, or cause to be taken, a child into custody without a court order if there is probable cause to believe that the child is abused or neglected and that the child would be injured or could not be taken into custody if it were necessary to first obtain a court order pursuant to RCW 13.34.050. The law enforcement agency or the department of social and health services investigating such a report is hereby authorized to photograph such a child for the purpose of providing documentary evidence of the physical condition of the child.

Item #7: 74.34(200): Abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation, or neglect of a vulnerable adult -- Cause of action for damages -- Legislative intent.

(1) In addition to other remedies available under the law, a vulnerable adult who has been subjected to abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation, or neglect either while residing in a facility or in the case of a person residing at home who receives care from a home health, hospice, or home care agency, or an individual provider, shall have a cause of action for damages on account of his or her injuries, pain and suffering, and loss of property sustained thereby. This action shall be available where the defendant is or was a corporation, trust, unincorporated association, partnership, administrator, employee, agent, officer, partner, or director of a facility, or of a home health, hospice, or home care agency licensed or required to be licensed under chapter 70.127 RCW, as now or subsequently designated, or an individual provider.

(2) It is the intent of the legislature, however, that where there is a dispute about the care or treatment of a vulnerable adult, the parties should use the least formal means available to try to resolve the dispute. Where feasible, parties are encouraged but not mandated to employ direct discussion with the health care provider, use of the long-term care ombudsman or other intermediaries, and, when necessary, recourse through licensing or other regulatory authorities.

(3) In an action brought under this section, a prevailing plaintiff shall be awarded his or her actual damages, together with the costs of the suit, including a reasonable attorney's fee. The term "costs" includes, but is not limited to, the reasonable fees for a guardian, guardian ad litem, and experts, if any, that may be necessary to the litigation of a claim brought under this section.

April 2003