



A Journey of Discovery

Appendix E – Docent Training

The following documents are included in this appendix:

- **Docent Training Flyer – 2012**
- **Docent Application - 2012**



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Docent Training Overview

Trail Tales docent training is free and will provide volunteers with the pertinent background and skills they will need to provide knowledgeable interpretive programs. In return, docents are asked to volunteer 30 hours over the next 2 years conducting interpretive programs or providing other program support. The initial 3 days of training will cover local waterfront history, native tribal culture history, ecology, biology and environmental cleanup/restoration work. An additional training day will be devoted to teaching volunteers affective interpretive techniques. Finally, volunteers will have the opportunity to practice what they have learned during 1 or 2 Practice Days scheduled closer to the beginning of the interpretive season.

Friday April 13th

Program Introduction	Betty Carteret, Friends of Skagit Beaches
Interpretive Guide Introduction	Chuck Lennox, Cascade Interpretive Consulting
Fidalgo Bay Aquatic Reserve	Dennis Clark, Washington Department of Natural Resources
Shore Birds	Tim Manns
Ecology of Salish	Joe Gaydos, SeaDoc Society
Barnacles to Bears	Joe Gaydos, SeaDoc Society

Friday April 20th

History of the Anacortes Waterfront	Bret Lunsford, Anacortes Museum
Walking Tour of Anacortes Waterfront	Bret Lunsford, Anacortes Museum
Wetland Ecology	Paul Anderson, Washington Department of Ecology
Anacortes Baywide Cleanup Project	Sandra Caldwell, Washington Department of Ecology

Friday 27th

Fidalgo Island Watershed Ecology & Native Plants	Denise Crowe, Anacortes Parks and Recreation Department
Anacortes Forestlands Fieldtrip	Denise Crowe, Anacortes Parks and Recreation Department
Samish Tribal History & Culture; Beach restoration	Adam Lorio, Samish Indian Nation
Bird watching and identification field trip	Audubon Society Volunteers

Friday May 18th - Training with Chuck Lennox, Cascade Interpretive Consulting

Saturday(s) May 12th and/or 19th - Interpretive Practice Days



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2012 Docent Training Application

The 2012 Trail Tales Docent Program will offer four days of free interpretive training for volunteers. This includes three days of subject area training (see attached training outline) and a fourth full-day interpretive guide class to develop docent skills. Classes will be held from 9am – 4pm on Friday April 13, Friday April 20 and Friday April 27 at the Seafarers Memorial Park building in Anacortes. The interpretive guide class will be on Friday, May 18th. Pre-launch practice days will be scheduled on Saturday, May 12 and/or May 19 to provide an opportunity for volunteers to team up and hone their skills for the summer docent program.

The Trail Tales Docent program is open to residents of Skagit County and does not require any prior experience. Class size is limited, so get your application in early. Selected applicants will be scheduled for an informal discussion with the program coordinator to ensure they understand the goals of the program and expectations for their volunteer commitment. A background check will be conducted on all applicants prior to being accepted into the program. Applicants under the age of 18 must have the signature of a parent or guardian to participate. Applications must be received by 4:30 p.m., March 30, 2012 for priority consideration. For questions contact us at friends@skagitbeaches.org.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip: _____ Email: _____

Home phone #: _____ Cell phone #: _____

Emergency contact person & phone number:

Please fill in your responses to applicable questions. Mark "N/A" if you do not have a response to one or more questions, which will not disqualify your application.

How did you hear about the Trail Tale docent program and what interested you in getting involved?



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What do you hope to accomplish and gain from volunteer experience as a Trail Tales Docent?

Please describe any background and special experience you bring to the docent program, including experience with public outreach activities, environmental education, event planning or interpretive programs.

Please describe any pertinent degrees or certificates you have. _____

Briefly describe any relevant work experience. _____

Tell us about areas of special interest, recreational activities, or hobbies (bird-watching, gardening, native plants, teaching, history buff, computer work, research, event planning etc.) you enjoy pursuing.

Please tell us about any volunteer work or community service you have done, how long you were involved, and if you held any leadership roles.

School related: _____

Work-related: _____

Club/service group: _____

Social/Religious: _____

Other: _____



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Please **CHECK** \checkmark the activities which you *prefer* to participate in as a Trail Tales volunteer, and **UNDERLINE** those you would do *if needed*:

- Lead Trail walks
- Displays/information booths
- Publicity/recruitment for events
- Event planning and organization
- Web site support

- Administrative support
- Writing/photography/illustration
- Desktop publishing
- Other _____

List dates that you know you will **NOT** be available for training or volunteer service from April 2012 to October 2012 (e.g. job, vacations, or regular commitments):

Trail Tales Docent Volunteer Statement of Commitment

If accepted into the Trail Tales docent program, I agree to do the following:

1. Attend the 4-day Docent Training Course in April and May of 2012. ¹
2. Attain the necessary level of knowledge to carry out my commitments.
3. Complete 30 hours of volunteer service to the docent program over 2 years.
4. Lead a minimum of 2 walks or display booth tabling, or event organizing during the 2012 Trail Tales season between June 9th and October 30, 2012.
5. Contribute and report volunteer service via on-line portal or paper form.
6. Meet the standards of the City of Anacortes and Washington State University Skagit County Extension office in services performed as a Friends of Skagit Beaches Trail Tales Docent.

¹ Volunteers should notify the coordinator at the time of application if they will miss any April class (one only allowed) and offer a plan for self-study on the topic. Attendance May 18 is required for all volunteers.

Liability Waiver

I understand that neither Friends of Skagit Beaches, WSU Skagit County Extension, nor the City of Anacortes Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for my actions. I release and hold harmless The City of Anacortes, Friends of Skagit Beaches, WSU Skagit County Extension, and any of its officials, employees, volunteers, and agents and agree to waive any right of recovery that I may have to bring a claim or lawsuit for damages against them for any personal injury or death or other harmful consequences occurring from my voluntary participation in this activity, except for the sole negligence of the City of Anacortes, Friends of Skagit Beaches or WSU Skagit County Extension.

I agree to allow a background check to be conducted prior to my acceptance into the Trail Tales Docent Program.

Signature: _____

Date: _____



WSU Extension programs and policies are consistent with federal and state laws and regulations on nondiscrimination regarding race, color, gender, national origin, religion, age, disability, and sexual orientation. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office.

For priority consideration, turn in your application by March 30, 2012. Any received after that date will be reviewed on a space available basis.

**Drop your application at:
Anacortes Parks & Recreation Department
904 6th Street, Anacortes**

- or -

**Mail to:
Friends of Skagit Beaches
PO Box 481
Anacortes, WA 98221**