If you haven’t yet, register to join us for Dinner in the Woods this Saturday, May 8! We can’t wait to celebrate the power of environmental education with you during this virtual event, which will feature live speakers, inspiring videos, and an auction full of amazing experiences!

Bidding for auction items is now live and will end during the live broadcast this Saturday. If you haven’t yet, click here to bid on a variety of fun, fabulous, and one-of-a-kind items and experiences, including a romantic getaway to Las Catalinas Costa Rica, winemaker dinner at Chateau Lill estate, Texas Hold 'Em with poker all-star Phil Gordon, Sunset Supper in the IslandWood Treehouse, and many more.

Alongside many other organizations, we advocated for several state funding and public policy initiatives during the most recent legislative session. We’re thrilled to announce that each of these initiatives have successfully passed! That means funding for the following critical initiatives:

- No Child Left Inside
- Office of the Superintendent for Public Education’s ClimeTime program, which has historically helped fund our teacher professional development opportunities
- Washington Outdoor School for All (WOSFA), in support of residential outdoor learning for students across the state
- WOSFA research into the impact of outdoor education experiences on learning outcomes and socio-emotional wellbeing

This funding will help ensure that more Washington children than ever have access to education that deepens their knowledge of and care for the natural world!

As part of our first-ever Community Week in the lead up to Dinner in the Woods, we’re offering many different opportunities to learn, engage, and connect — including a community stewardship project! Roll up your sleeves and join us for a morning of invasive plant pulling and trail maintenance this Thursday, May 6 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Not on the island? We encourage you to visit Green Seattle Partnership to find a project near you! Green Seattle Partnership is a collaboration of several partner organizations we greatly admire and support, including Forterra and Seattle Parks & Recreation.

Learn more and register to help out here →

Collaborate with IslandWood educators and fellow teachers during our upcoming Community Science professional development workshop to make climate science engaging and meaningful for your 6 - 12th grade students! Learn how to center local phenomena and investigations in a Next Generation Science Standards storyline to connect climate science learning to the interests and identities of your students. Teachers who participate can earn a $380 stipend and up to 4.5 STEM Clock Hours.

Learn more and register →

Thank you to Olympic Educational Service District and Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instructions ClimeTime initiative for supporting this workshop!

Whether you’re a longtime Northwesterner, new resident, or somewhere in between, there’s always more to learn and explore about the region you call home. Join our staff naturalist, Christina Doherty, to explore IslandWood’s forest and trails, and strengthen your naturalist skills along the way. Classes will be held on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 - 11:30 am.

Learn more and register →

As a member of the Outdoor School for All (OSFA) consortium, we wanted to share that OSFA is hosting a virtual Legislative Session and Campaign Update on Tuesday, May 11th from 5:00 to 6:00 pm to share campaign successes, the initiative’s long-term vision, and opportunities to engage. Meet OSFA leaders and supporters in Washington, and hear about the similar (and successful!) work of outdoor education advocates in Oregon.

Register here →

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