

Fidalgo Bay Day 2019

Sponsored by:

Skagit County Marine Resources Committee

With support of the
Samish Indian Nation



This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection under Assistance Agreement [CE-01]31901]. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

Fidalgo Bay Day Overview

Fidalgo Bay Day is the Skagit County Marine Resources Committee's (Skagit MRC) signature public outreach event that has taken place annually for the last 16 years. This event has primarily been hosted at the Samish Indian Nation's Fidalgo Bay Resort clubhouse. The main focus of the event is to spread awareness of the marine environment and fostering environmental stewardship. People visiting the event learn a great many things about the ecosystem functions of the plants and animals that live in Fidalgo Bay and the greater Salish Sea. Presenters and visitors great relationships as a community while sharing their love and knowledge of the marine environment. They also get to enjoy some great seafood while doing so.

Much of the work performed by the Skagit MRC isn't very visible, but has a huge impact on the health of marine ecosystems. This event gives the public more of an inside look at the important work done by the Skagit MRC, such as marine nearshore monitoring, shoreline restoration projects, supporting the Salish Sea Stewards program, and educating shoreline land owners. Hundreds of visitors attend this event each year and more than 30 different organizations and businesses participate. Activities are varied from year to year and typically include: interactive displays from the many participating organizations, children's art and science activities, face painting, beach seining demonstration with a marine biologist, beach walks to look for forage fish eggs, microscopes, and free shellfish and chowder samples, popcorn, brownies, and a no-host traditional tribal salmon lunch.

For the seventh year in a row, the Skagit MRC collaborated with the Friends of Skagit Beaches who planned and coordinated the "Discovery Passport" activity. Each year, the passport cover is selected from one of the entries in the coloring contest from last year's event. This year, 25 kids participated in the coloring contest to win a spot on the cover of the 2020 Discovery Passport, our biggest participation yet! Over 150 people participated in the passport activity this year. The passport participants explored the discovery stations and interacted with the different organizations hosting the displays to answer the passport questions and get a stamp for prizes. Many indicated they learned something new.

2019 Event Summary

Fidalgo Bay Day was held Saturday, August 24th at the Fidalgo Bay RV Resort in Anacortes from 11:00AM to 3:00PM. We had over 400 visitors with decent weather and beautiful scenery. Fifty volunteers and 30 organizations and businesses helped make this year's event a huge success! Parking was at the Resort clubhouse and an adjacent field.

Opening Ceremony: A warm and inspirational welcoming was led by MRC member Jay Lind and Samish tribal member Rosie Cayou-James. Rosie shared Samish culture and a traditional song with visitors for the opening ceremony.



Passport Stations: Individuals and groups obtained their passports and instructions at a nearby information booth and set out to learn more about Fidalgo Bay and its beauty and value from our various displays. By answering questions and getting the passport “stamped”, they could compete for prizes while learning about the different organizations and issues impacting the Salish Sea and what they can do to help.



Outdoor Interactive Displays: The Deception Park Foundation and State Park brought a gray whale skull. The head ranger hosted the WA Parks display this year for the first time and educated people about what park rangers do. The passport questions for this station taught kids and adults about baleen whales.



Outdoor Activities: Besides the passport stations, some also walked the beach searching for forage fish eggs or enjoyed just getting their feet wet. The great attraction was the traditional “beach seining” led by Jason Morgan and Dan Penttila with help from many volunteers. This year’s haul was exceptional with lots of fish for visitors to learn about. Some looked for birds on the bay and others just enjoyed the celebration!





Indoor Interactive Displays: Inside the clubhouse were more interactive educational activities from many different organizations. Many were also passport stations. These included Skagit MRC’s “Kelp Forest” activity, the scuba diver photo booth, and two games (i.e. forage fish bean bag toss game and the stormwater golf game) as well as the Fidalgo Bay Aquatic Reserve’s display focusing estuaries and many others. A full list of participating groups is included at the end of this report. The interactive displays offered educational activities that focused on water quality, marine birds, orcas and other whales, watershed functions, estuaries, salmon, forage fish, marine debris and plastics, etc.





A new addition to the indoor activities was Diver Laura's "Virtual Salish Sea and Beyond." This popular virtual reality experience allowed visitors a 360° view of the depths of the Salish Sea as well as footage from South Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia and more! Diver Laura said more than 200 visitors participated in the experience. She hopes to participate in Fidalgo Bay Day again next year.



Youth Craft Activities: There were several kid-friendly craft activities including: face painting, cap decorating, fish prints on fabric, and gift bag-making with marine critter stamps, stickers, and drawing supplies. Nine members of Mount Vernon High School's key club generously donated their time as volunteers working with kids at the craft table and face painting. When asked about their experience participating in Fidalgo Bay Day this year we got a couple of great replies:

“I had such a great time! Everyone was so sweet, the food was amazing. Thank you so much Pete. This has been one of my favorite volunteer experience! Definitely want to do this again next year. 😊” – Chelsea Segura

“It was a fun experience getting to know great community members and being a helping hand in such a wonderful event that helped guide us on our wonderful environment.” – Brian Code

When asked if there was anything that could be improved for next year they said they couldn't find a single thing and that everything was fun and good as it was.



Food – Chowder, Shellfish, Salmon, and more: We borrowed the popcorn machine from the Anacortes Boys and Girls Club and gave away over 200 bags of free popcorn. Adrift Restaurant offered free samples of some of the best clam chowder in the Northwest! And once again, Taylor Shellfish generously donated hundreds of dollars' worth of delicious oysters and mussels. Volunteers prepared special sauces, steamed mussels, and grilled oysters to perfection. Gere-A-Deli donated delicious brownies, always a crowd favorite.





Rosie Cayou-James and Bill Bailey and family offered a no host traditional Samish salmon luncheon of salmon grilled over an open fire, coleslaw salad, watermelon, and fresh fry bread.



Samish Tribal Support at the Fidalgo Bay Resort: The Samish Indian Nation again graciously hosted our event at their wonderful Fidalgo Bay Resort Clubhouse at no charge. The Clubhouse is located along the beautiful shores of Fidalgo Bay in the heart of the Samish Fidalgo Island ancestral homelands. It is a perfect venue for FBD. Many thanks go to the Samish Nation for their generosity - sharing their well-equipped building which is in an ideal location.

Zero Waste: This was a Zero Waste event with compostable utensils, plates, coffee cups, and chowder cups.

Evaluation: Due to unforeseen circumstances, the volunteer who was in charge of conducting formal interviews was unable to do so. Many people gave positive feedback about the event. Some of the participants from other organizations such as Whale Scouts, Whatcom Mammal Stranding and Whale museum said that they would like to participate again next year.

Volunteers: This year, more than 50 volunteers contributed over 200 hours of their valuable time to make sure the event was educational and fun for all. In addition, 30 organizations and businesses contributed their time, expertise, and we had 22 excellent displays. Thank you to each and every one of them!

On the day before the event, several volunteers helped set up display tables and signage, and prepared the sauces for the shellfish. On the day of the event, volunteers arrived at 9:00AM to help set up and several stayed until 4:00PM to clean up.

This event is truly a team effort! This year's FBD lead was Skagit MRC member Jay Lind, who could not have done it without the extensive help provided by other key helpers including:

Administration and Event Promotion: Tracy Alker, Pete Haase and Charlette Turman

Food: Gina Johnson and team

Shellfish: Paul Dinnel and team

Kids' Activities: Rachel Best and MVHS Key Club Students

Parking: Morty Cohen and team

Beach Seine: Jason Morgan and Dan Pentilla

Passport Stations: Dale Fournier, Betty Carteret, and Darla Gay Smith

Planning and Promotion: There are several FBD planning documents and notes available upon request. These include: Kids' Activities (including supplies needed,) Save the Date poster, half-sheet Promotional Postcards with location map, Event Timeline, and suggestions for following year.

Fidalgo Bay Day flyers were widely distributed at special events and places of business. The event was also widely posted online and on partner websites, newsletters, and email lists. Ads were placed in the Kids Insider, La Conner Weekly News, and the Skagit Valley Recreation and Activity Guide. Local reporters were contacted and articles were in local papers. The "Over the street" banner in Anacortes was no longer available and so ads were shown on Sebo's Hardware and Walgreens reader boards. The traditional, volunteer installed roadside sign was posted on "R" avenue coming into town.

Acknowledgements

In addition to Skagit MRC grant funding, several local business and organizations helped support Fidalgo Bay by contributing in-kind services, resources, or funding including:

- Samish Indian Nation provided free use of their facility and kitchen
- Friends of Skagit Beaches provided insurance coverage for the facility, sandwich board signs, and passport activity and prizes
- Complimentary seafood chowder was provided Adrift Restaurant.
- Complimentary shellfish was provided by Taylor Shellfish
- The Anacortes Boys and Girls Club loaned the popcorn machine
- Gere-A-Deli donated free brownies

- Dan Penttila provided free scientific expertise identifying and presenting information about fish and other marine life during beach seining and forage fish spawning walks
- Mount Vernon High School Key Club provided additional volunteers.
- Over 200 volunteer hours were expended



2019 Participating Businesses and Organizations

Adrift Restaurant

Anacortes Boys' & Girls Club

City of Anacortes

Cayou / Bailey Family

Deception Pass State Park

Diver Laura

Fidalgo Bay Aquatic Reserve Citizens' Stewardship Committee

Friends of Skagit Beaches

Gere-A-Deli

Guardians of the Salish Sea
Mount Vernon High School Key Club
New Pilgrim Ministry
Northwest Straits Commission
Northwest Straits Foundation (Jason Morgan - seining)
Orca Network
Pacific Mammal Research
Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
Port of Anacortes
Samish Indian Nation
Skagit Conservation District
Skagit County Health Department
Skagit County Marine Resources Committee
Skagit County Public Works
Skagit Land Trust
Salish Sea Biological
Salish Sea Stewards
Swinomish Tribe
Taylor Shellfish
Wa. Department of Ecology
Wa. Department of Natural Resources Aquatic Reserves Division
Wolf Hollow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center



Saturday Aug. 24 - Free

Sk... Resources

Algo Bay Res

Saturday Aug. 24 - Fri

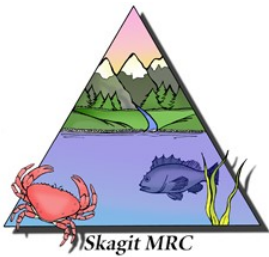
Skagit Marine Resources Committee



Discovery Passport sponsored by:



Thanks to these organizations who helped make it possible:



Fidalgo Bay Day

2019 Discovery Passport

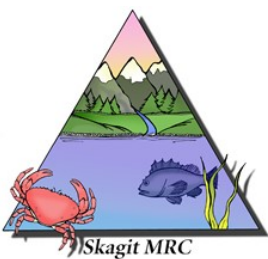


Artwork by Yujina Chae

Discovery Passport sponsored by:



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Fidalgo Bay Day

2019 Discovery Passport



Artwork by Yujina Chae

Today's Activities

Outside

- Visit passport stations
- Forage Fish Walk on the beach
- Beach Seining 12:00 PM at boat ramp

Inside the Clubhouse & On Patio

- Visit passport stations
- Interactive Educational Displays
- Marine arts activities

Food

- Free popcorn & seafood samples on patio
- Free chowder samples – in kitchen
- Traditional Samish salmon lunch - \$10; located on the right/ east side of Clubhouse.



If you had fun today and would like to get involved with the programs you learned about today, sign up to become a Salish Sea Steward!

To learn more:

www.skagitmrc.org

Or email:

salishseastewards@gmail.com

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Discovery Passport Instructions:

Visit passport stations inside and outside (identified with flags) and talk with the table hosts. Answer the questions as you go to receive a sticker from each station.

Collect at least eight stickers, show your passport at Station #1 by **2:45 pm** and pick up your prize!

Have fun!

Discovery Passport Instructions:

Visit passport stations inside and outside (identified with flags) and talk with the table hosts. Answer the questions as you go to receive a sticker from each station.

Collect at least eight stickers, show your passport at Station #1 by **2:45 pm** and pick up your prize!

Have fun!

Friends of Skagit Beaches invites you
for a fun day of learning!

October 19, 2019

NWSED building, 1601 R St.,
Anacortes, WA

Registration and more information at:

www.skagitbeaches.org



Friends of Skagit Beaches invites you
for a fun day of learning!

October 19, 2019

NWSED building, 1601 R St.,
Anacortes, WA

Registration and more information at:

www.skagitbeaches.org



Station: 17

Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

Child Question: How many species of Salmon call
the Skagit river home?

Adult Question: According to the Swinomish
Lunar calendar, what moon are we currently in,
and what does that mean for the
Swinomish People?



Station: 17

Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

Child Question: How many species of Salmon call
the Skagit river home?

Adult Question: According to the Swinomish
Lunar calendar, what moon are we currently in,
and what does that mean for the
Swinomish People?



Station: 16

Washington Department of Ecology

Child Question: If you spilled oil in the dirt, how would you clean it up?

Adult Question: Name one pollutant on Fidalgo Island that needs to be cleaned up and one possible way it ended up there?



Station: 16

Washington Department of Ecology

Child Question: If you spilled oil in the dirt, how would you clean it up?

Adult Question: Name one pollutant on Fidalgo Island that needs to be cleaned up and one possible way it ended up there?



Station 1 - Start here and come back for a prize!

Coloring Contest

Pick up a coloring contest sheet [here](#) at Station #1 and draw us a picture inspired by what you learn today!

The winning entry will appear on the cover of the 2020 Discovery Passport



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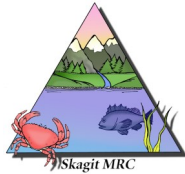


Station: 2

Plastic Waste Interpretive Station

Child Question: Name two ways you can help your parents reduce plastic waste.

Adult Question: What four plastic shapes can be recycled in Skagit County curbside pickup?

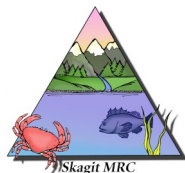


Station: 2

Plastic Waste Interpretive Station

Child Question: Name two ways you can help your parents reduce plastic waste.

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Station: 15

New Pilgrim's Ministry of Spiritual Ecology

Child Question: Which animals are dangerous to shorebirds and their eggs?

- A. Foxes
- B. Raptors
- C. Snakes
- D. All of these

Adult Question: "What is Ecology?"

- A. tasty noodle dish from Thailand
- B. A science dealing with the relations between a lifeform and its environment.
- C. An ancient sport



Station: 15

New Pilgrim's Ministry of Spiritual Ecology

Child Question: Which animals are dangerous to shorebirds and their eggs?

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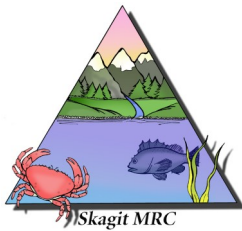
Station: 14

Skagit Marine Resource Committee

Child Question: Kelp is used in what product(s)?

- A. Ice Cream
- B. Pudding
- C. Lotion
- D. Toothpaste
- E. All of the Above

Adult Question: How does kelp benefit the nearshore environment?



Station: 3

Skagit County Public Health

Child question: Name 3 things that do (or do not) go into a toilet or septic system.

Adult question: How can you dispose of unwanted medication?



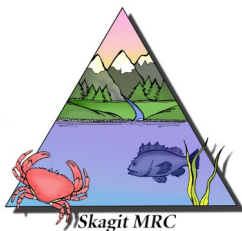
Station: 14

Skagit Marine Resource Committee

Child Question: Kelp is used in what product(s)?

- A. Ice Cream
- B. Pudding
- C. Lotion
- D. Toothpaste
- E. All of the Above

Adult Question: How does kelp benefit the near-shore environment?



Station: 3

Skagit County Public Health

Child Question: Name 3 things that do (or do not) go into a toilet or septic system.

Adult Question: How can you dispose of unwanted medication?



Station: 4

Deception Pass State Park

Child Question: Is Grayson the Gray whale a toothed whale or a baleen whale?

Adult Question: What is baleen made of?



Station: 13

Fidalgo Bay Aquatic Reserve Citizen Stewardship Committee

WA Department of Natural Resources

Child Question: Are purple shore crabs always purple?

Adult Question: What is the most reliable way to identify Invasive European Green Crab?



Station: 4

Deception Pass State Park

Child Question: Is Grayson the Gray whale a toothed whale or a baleen whale?

Adult Question: What is baleen made of?



Station: 13

Fidalgo Bay Aquatic Reserve Citizen Stewardship Committee

WA Department of Natural Resources

Child Question: Are purple shore crabs always purple?

Adult Question: What is the most reliable way to identify Invasive European Green Crab?



Station: 12

Orca Network

Child Question: There are two types of orcas in the Salish Sea – which one is endangered?

Adult Question: Why is one type of orca in the Salish Sea endangered while the other is thriving?



Station: 12

Orca Network

Child Question: There are two types of orcas in the Salish Sea – which one is endangered?

Adult Question: Why is one type of orca in the Salish Sea endangered while the other is thriving?



Station: 5

Padilla Bay National Estuarine Reserve

Child question: How does a barnacle eat?

Adult question: How many acres of eelgrass are in Padilla Bay, and why is that a good thing?



Station: 5

Padilla Bay National Estuarine Reserve

Child question: How does a barnacle eat?

Adult question: How many acres of eelgrass are in Padilla Bay, and why is that a good thing?



Station: 6

Pacific Mammal Research

Child Question: What is a cetacean?

Adult Question: How can you tell a dolphin from a porpoise at the surface?



Station: 6

Pacific Mammal Research

Child Question: What is a cetacean?

Adult Question: How can you tell a dolphin from a porpoise at the surface?



Station: 11

Skagit Land Trust

Child Question: What large bird does the Skagit Land Trust help at Fidalgo Bay?

Adult Question: How does Skagit Land Trust help Fidalgo Bay?



Station: 11

Skagit Land Trust

Child Question: What large bird does the Skagit Land Trust help at Fidalgo Bay?

Adult Question: How does Skagit Land Trust help Fidalgo Bay?



Station: 10

Wolf Hollow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

Child Question: Name 3 types of wild animals that we care for at Wolf Hollow.

Adult Question: What are the most common causes of injury or orphaning in animals that come to Wolf Hollow for care?



Station: 10

Wolf Hollow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

Child Question: Name 3 types of wild animals that we care for at Wolf Hollow.

Adult Question: What are the most common causes of injury or orphaning in animals that come to Wolf Hollow for care?



Station: 7

Salish Sea School/Guardians of the Sea

Child Question: What are two differences between an Atlantic Puffin and a Pacific Tufted Puffin?

Adult Question: How deep can a Tufted Puffin dive?



Station: 7

Salish Sea School/Guardians of the Sea

Child Question: What are two differences between an Atlantic Puffin and a Pacific Tufted Puffin?

Adult Question: How deep can a Tufted Puffin dive?



Station: 8

Skagit County Public Works

Child Question: What is the one and only thing that we want to go down the storm drain?

Adult Question: What is one thing you can do to reduce stormwater pollution at home?



Station: 8

Skagit County Public Works

Child Question: What is the one and only thing that we want to go down the storm drain?

Adult Question: What is one thing you can do to reduce stormwater pollution at home?



Station: 9

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

Child question: Do salmon live in fresh water. salt water, or both?

Adult question: What months are salmon in the rivers?



Station: 9

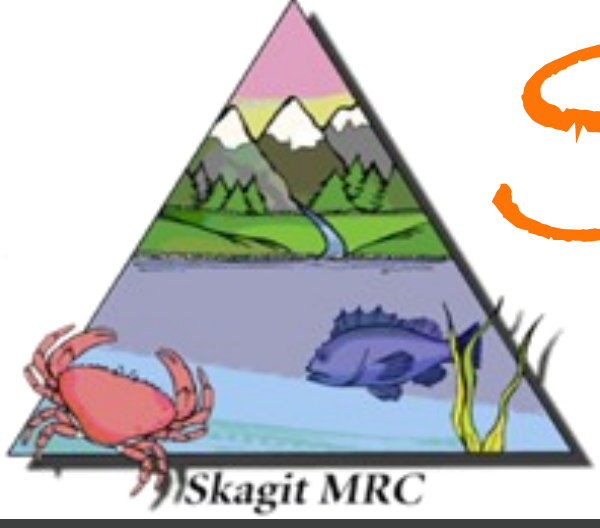
Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

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Fidalgo Bay Day



Skagit Marine Resources Committee's
20th Anniversary Celebration!

SATURDAY— August 24, 2019 11AM—3PM

Fidalgo Bay Resort 4701 Fidalgo Bay Road, Anacortes

A Free, Fun & Educational Experience for the Entire Family!

**Get Immersed in a
Virtual Reality Diving Experience**



"Virtual Salish See and Beyond"

**Lots of Indoor and Outdoor Activities for All Ages
Beach Seining for Living Sea Creatures
Discovery Passport Stations and Prizes
Kid Friendly Craft Tables
Educational Displays and Games
Tasty Complimentary Samples of Local Shellfish & Chowder
Samish No Host BBQ Salmon
.... And So Much More
www.skagitmrc.org**





Calendar

Indoor Activities

Outdoor Activities

Sports & Swim

Schools, Camps & Classes

Guides

You are here: [Calendar](#) > [All Events](#) > **Fidalgo Bay Day - Anacortes: FREE**

Today

By Month

Up Coming
this month

24

August

2019

Fidalgo Bay Day - Anacortes: FREE

Saturday, August 24, 2019, 11:00am - 03:00pm

Save To Calendar

The 2019 Fidalgo Bay Day provides a variety of fun interactive activities for kids of all ages. The activities vary from year to year, but typically include interactive educational displays, games, kid-friendly crafts, Samish canoe rides, complimentary seafood samples, Samish no-host salmon BBQ and so much more. Some of the popular children's activities include fish prints, marine creature stamps, and button making. The Shannon Point Marine Center's mobile marine sea creature touch tank and the beach seine demonstration are also two very popular hands-on activities for the entire family.

Skagit MRC partnered with the Friends of Skagit Beaches for the last three years to expand the Fidalgo Bay Day event to include Trail Teils discovery stations and passport activities and a chance to win prizes. This popular community event wouldn't be possible without the help of many volunteers and partners.

Skagit County Marine Resources Committee website: <http://www.skagitmrc.org/projects/education-outreach/fidalgo-bay-day/>

Location: Fidalgo Bay Resort, 4701 Fidalgo Bay Rd, Anacortes, WA 98221

:

Hits : 68

:

[Back](#)

[CLICK HERE](#) for Skagit County's FREE Summer Fun Guide with 150+ Free Family-Friendly Activities including fireworks, festivals & fairs, outdoor movies & concerts, farmers markets & more!

Check out the
Skagit Summer Camp Guide

Clear Lake Elementary
2018 School of Distinction
Award Winner

Now Enrolling Students
in the 2019-20
VISIONS Program

Please Inquire at:
InvolvedInVisions@gmail.com

MVC
Mount Vernon Christian School
Welcoming Students from
60+ Churches in Skagit County

Call Now
To Schedule A Campus Tour
360-422-9197

Preschool - High School
Athletics, Drama, Visual Arts, Music

**Kids In Nature
Families Outdoors**

FREE
Aug 17th

registration
required

SWAN
Sustainable Watershed Awareness Network

skagitmrc.org kfnetwork.org

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Skagit County, WA including: Mount Vernon, Burlington, Anacortes, Sedro-Woolley, La Conner and Concrete

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SKAGIT Kid insider™

The Local Scoop & Where To Play



- Calendar
- Indoor Activities
- Outdoor Activities
- Sports & Swim
- Schools, Camps & Classes
- Guides

You are here: [Calendar](#)



Family-friendly things to do with kids in Skagit County. Parents can use this easy site to spend less time *searching for fun* and more time **HAVING FUN** with their kids!

[Search Events](#)

◀ [Preceding Day](#) **Thursday, July 13, 2018** [Following Day](#) ▶

CLICK on the events below to open for more information. Planning to attend an event listed on the calendar? Please confirm the time, fees, etc. as they may change without notice to Skagit Kid Insider. Thank you!

[CLICK for Skagit County's FREE Summer Fun Guide with 160+ Free Family-Friendly Activities](#)

[CLICK for the 2018 Summer Camps in Skagit County Guide](#)

[Jen's Steals & Deals - Kids Eat Free + Local Groupon Activities & Travel Deals: Click for Link](#)

[Skagit County Spray Parks Guide](#)

[Skagit County Museum Passport](#)

06:00am [Letterbox Trail - Padilla Bay: FREE](#)

07:30am - 09:30am [FREE BREAKFAST - SKAGIT SUMMER MEAL PROGRAMS](#)

09:30am - 11:30am [Jungle Playland Tot Time - Mount Vernon](#)

10:00am - 05:00pm [Breazeale Interpretive Center - Padilla Bay: FREE](#)

10:00am - 05:00pm [Children's Museum - Burlington](#)

10:00am - 12:00pm [Muscle & Movement - Burlington: FREE](#)

10:00am - 11:55pm [Riverside Lanes Bowling Alley - Mount Vernon](#)

10:30am - 11:30am [Baby & Me Storytime - Central Skagit Library: FREE](#)

10:30am - 11:30am [Baby Storytime - Mount Vernon Library: FREE](#)

10:45am - 12:45pm [FREE LUNCH - SKAGIT SUMMER MEAL PROGRAMS](#)

10:45am - 09:30pm [YMCA Play Features Pool Daily Schedule - Mount Vernon](#)

11:00am - 01:00pm [Car Seat Safety Checks - Skagit Valley Hospital, Mount Vernon: FREE](#)

11:00am - 12:00pm [New Mom's Group - Skagit Valley Hospital, Mount Vernon: FREE](#)

11:00am - 12:00pm [Playdate @ Storvik Spray Park - Anacortes: FREE](#)

12:00pm - 05:00pm [Jungle Playland - Mount Vernon](#)

12:00pm - 10:00pm [San Juan Lanes Bowling Alley & Arcade - Anacortes](#)

01:00pm - 04:00pm [Skagit Skate "Top 40 Radio Hits" - Burlington](#)

02:00pm - 03:00pm [STEAM Activity - Anacortes Public Library: FREE](#)

05:00pm - 07:00pm [All Ages Hike Evening Animals - Anacortes FREE](#)

July 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



FIDALGO BAY DAY
SAT | 8/24 | 11am-3pm

A Day of FREE Family Fun
Celebrating Local Estuaries

[Click to learn more](#)



Kids In Nature Families Outdoors



Skagit Valley Academy of Dance
SUMMER DANCE





FILE PHOTO

Go to Fidalgo Bay Day, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 24 at Fidalgo Bay Resort, and learn about the creatures that call Fidalgo Bay home.

Learn about the inhabitants of our local waters at Fidalgo Bay Day

Take a look at the creatures that live within Fidalgo Bay, hear stories about the history of the area, make crafts and enjoy a barbecue lunch at the 16th annual Fidalgo Bay Day.

The event is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24, at Fidalgo Bay Resort, 4701 Fidalgo Bay Road, Anacortes.

Admission is free.

The event coincides with National Estuaries Day and features Friends of Skagit Beaches Trail Tales docent stations along the Tommy Thompson Trail, beach-seining demonstrations, a virtual-reality diving experience, kid-friendly craft tables, games, and local projects. Attendees can learn

about volunteer opportunities at educational exhibits.

Fidalgo Bay Day is an educational event of the county Marine Resources Committee, funded in part by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through Puget Sound Partnership.

Information: 360-416-1462.

https://www.goskagit.com/anacortes/arts_and_community/event-highlights-creatures-waters-of-fidalgo-bay/article_284d972e-c9a6-11e9-b250-bb2d081f5444.html

Event highlights creatures, waters of Fidalgo Bay

By Briana Alzola balzola@goanacortes.com 23 hrs ago



Briana Alzola / Anacortes American

Beatrice, 7, and Edith Oppelaar, 5, spent the day with their grandma Trish Rodriguez for Fidalgo Bay Day. They took the opportunity to see how various things on the ground may affect water quality during the event.

Touching a whale bone, creating a fish-shaped paper hat, sampling clam chowder and taking a virtual dip into the Salish Sea were just some of the activities for families at the annual Fidalgo Bay Day event Saturday, Aug. 24.

The event, hosted by the Skagit County Marine Resources Committee, welcomes hundreds of children and their families each year at the Fidalgo Bay Resort.

Jay Lind, one of the organizers, said more than 300 people attend each year, and he's hoping it will grow.

"The more people we get involved, the better we are going to be," he said.

Almost 20 different groups and organizations signed up to take part. Each informational booth contained a display, and many provided hands-on learning for young visitors.

At one booth, kids put on visors with "eelgrass" hanging from them to simulate the experience of a creature hiding under water. Young scientists peered through a microscope at samples, while others used stamps and paints to create marine-themed art.

At a booth hosted by the City of Anacortes and the Port of Anacortes, kids learned what it looked like when materials were washed by the rain into the water. It was a visual representation of the impact people can have on the ecosystem, said Sarah Tchang, the port's environmental specialist.

Powdered drinks, sprinkles and other household goods became stand-ins for materials that could end up on the ground, such as pesticides and dog waste. Then, "rain clouds," (represented by children holding spray bottles) coated the ground, sending the materials cascading into the ocean. Soon, the water was murky enough to blur the view of whales printed on the bottom of the ocean pool.

Reaching young people can make a difference because when they get excited about something, they share with their parents and help enact changes at home, said Tchang, who ran the booth with city stormwater project manager Diane Hennebert.

"We want to show them the importance of taking care of the environment and marine resources," Tchang said.

All around the fair, adults and kids visited with paper passports clutched in their hands. They went to different numbered stations and asked the people at that station one of two questions (one for adults and one for kids). Once they asked the question and received the answer, the passport holder received a sticker for that number.

Getting all the stickers meant a free prize.

The passport activity was hosted by the Friends of Skagit Beaches.

Each year, the group also holds a coloring contest, said Betty Carteret, board member. Kids of all ages design artistic representations of the Salish Sea and Fidalgo Bay. The pictures are sent to Friends of Skagit Beaches board members for voting. Then, one piece is chosen as the cover of the next year's Discovery Passport.

The passport idea began in 2014 as a way to increase engagement, something that is key to the goal of Fidalgo Bay Day and its focus on the health of local waters and wildlife.

"It draws people's awareness to a variety of issues," Carteret said of the event.