

Snohomish County Executive  
**AARON REARDON**



*Priorities in Action*



Latest News & Upcoming Events

Friday, November 9, 2007

[www.snoco.org](http://www.snoco.org)

 **Veterans Day is Sunday, November 11**

Veterans Day, November 11, 2007, is a day of appreciation and honor for every individual who has courageously answered the call to service in our nation's Armed Forces.

Snohomish County is home to more than 65,000 veterans, one of the highest veteran populations of all counties in Washington State.

The patriotism of the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States demonstrates an unqualified sense of duty and love of country.

That sacrifice is a debt we can never truly repay.

As we enjoy a safe and happy holiday, I encourage each of my fellow Snohomish County residents to take a moment to recognize in your thoughts and prayers the commitment and the many sacrifices of our veteran neighbors and their families.

With Gratitude,

**In this issue:**

**Veterans Day is Sunday, November 11**

**FYI: Snohomish County offices to be closed in observance of Veterans Day**

**Key farm group recommendation plan moving forward**

**Register now: Snohomish County Focus on Farming Conference IV**

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**How are we doing?**

Did you know that you can track how well the County is meeting its performance goals?

The SnoStat system tracks how well the County is delivering services, the costs of those services, and the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.

Simply visit our [SnoStat website](http://www.snoco.org/SnoStat).

## Veterans Day events:

### **Sunday, November 11:**

- **Arlington:** Veterans Day parade starting at 11 a.m. Olympic Avenue to Legion Park

### **Monday, November 12:**

- **Marysville:** American Legion Post 178 is planning a free chil luncheon on Monday in honor of Veterans Day. The event is open to the public.

**12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
**American Legion Post Hall**  
**115 Cedar Ave.**

To read Executive Reardon's Veterans Day Proclamation, [click here](#).

### **Contact me:**

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Or, [send me an email](#).

And please be sure to [visit me on the web!](#)

Sincerely,



Aaron Reardon

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## **Key farm group recommendation plan moving forward**

The Snohomish County Agricultural Economic Development Action Team (SAEDAT) recommendation to establish a countywide Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) program is moving forward as part of the current process to amend the County's comprehensive plan.

The SAEDAT group, representing farm owners and farm interests, earlier this year recommended strategies for the recovery and expansion of Snohomish County's Agricultural Industry to County Executive Aaron Reardon. One of the key recommendations is to establish a countywide TDR program aimed at conserving farmland.

The county has prepared draft goals and policies that will apply to all 63,000 acres of commercial farmland in the county. If successful, development will be shifted away from farmland with compensation to the farm owner for the development right.

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The draft program overview has been presented by the Executive to the County Council, the County Agricultural Board and will be presented to the Snohomish County Tomorrow Steering Committee at their December 14 meeting. The Snohomish County Planning Commission will be briefed on the draft proposal on December 11. A public hearing on this and other proposed changes to the County's Comprehensive Plan will be held January 22. The planning commission will make its recommendation to the County Council in January and County Council would be expected to take action in spring of 2008. Adoption of the implementing code would be expected by the end of 2008.

Prepared by Mark Beardslee, Senior Planner, Snohomish County Long Range Planning

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 **Register now: Snohomish County Focus on Farming Conference IV**

"From Soils to Sales," the fourth annual Snohomish County Focus on Farming conference, gets underway at **8 a.m. Thursday, November 29, 2007**, at the Lynnwood Convention Center. The conference will feature nationally recognized agricultural leaders, a broad range of subject-specific breakout sessions and a trade show exhibition.

This year's focus, "From Soils to Sales," will give farmers more resources to meet the demands of a changing marketplace and shifting environmental conditions. Conference workshops will include the latest research, methodology and techniques for on-farm efficiency and will explore trends in local and organic farm to market; alternative grains; environmentally-friendly nursery technology and bio-energy.

As in previous years, participants will feast on a delicious gourmet lunch created by top regional chefs using farm-fresh local products. A tasting reception with Puget Sound wines and artisan cheese makers will end the day.

**Cost:** \$30 prior to November 15; \$40 after November 15 and at the door

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Cost includes two keynote addresses, workshops, lunch and a wine & cheese tasting

For information, contact Laura McLeod, Snohomish County, 425.388.6465 or visit [www.focusonfarming.org](http://www.focusonfarming.org).

*The Focus on Farming Conference is a project of Snohomish County's Office of Economic Development. Presenters and key sponsors include King County, Washington State University Snohomish County Extension, Northwest Agriculture Business Center, Flower World, Inc., and Northwest Farm Credit Services.*

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***Thank you very much for taking the time to read my electronic newsletter.***

***If you would like to send me your comments and feedback, or if you would like to unsubscribe, simply reply to this message.***

***You may also contact me directly by phone at 425.388.3460.***