

DAILY RECORD

◆ COVERING KITTITAS COUNTY FROM THE CASCADES TO THE COLUMBIA ◆

ONLINE EDITION

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Land trust group to hold meetings

For the DAILY RECORD

Cascade Land Conservancy, a regional nonprofit land trust, will kick off its new conservation project, the Cascade Dialogues, with four public town hall meetings in the Cascade Range region, including a meeting for Kittitas County residents in Ellensburg on Thursday.

"This is a great opportunity for Kittitas County to think long-term about creating a sustainable economic future," said Jim Armstrong, vice president of the Economic Development Group of Kittitas County.

The Cascade Dialogues will take place in Kittitas, Pierce, King and Snohomish counties through discussions with citizens, community groups, business leaders and public officials.

At each town hall meeting, CommEn Space, the Cascade Dialogues spatial analysis partner, will provide scientific data and visuals to illustrate the region's past, present and possible future landscapes.

Later, panel discussions will be held in each county to reflect the information gathered at each town hall and to explore the economic, environmental and community values that should be considered in creating a 100-year conservation strategy best suited to the local area. A regional steering committee, comprised of local business and community leaders, will synthesize information gathered from each county and guide the creation of Cascade Land Conservancy's action plan, The Cascade Agenda.

The panel discussions will be hosted by local business and civic organizations. For more information about the Cascade Dialogues, please visit www.cascadedialogues.org or call (206) 292-5907.

Town Hall Meeting Schedule:

Pierce County: 6 p.m. May 3 at The Mountaineers in Tacoma.

Kittitas County: 6 p.m. May 6 at Kittitas County Fairgrounds in Ellensburg.

Snohomish County: 6 p.m. June 3 at Everett Station in Everett.

King County: 6:30 p.m. June 8 at Pickering Barn in Issaquah.

Panel Discussions Schedule:

Pierce County: noon May 19 in Tacoma.

Kittitas County: noon May 27 at Hal Holmes Community Center in Ellensburg.

Snohomish County: noon June 23 at The Manor in Everett.

King County: noon June 25 (Location to be announced)