



eNews

October 2026

Do we *really* know plants?

Ferns have up to 720
chromosome pairs and
reproduce with sperm and
eggs.

- *The Light Eaters* by Zoë Schlanger



Want to get involved? Have ideas? [CONTACT Us](#)

Island Conversations

DOWN-TO-EARTH TALK ABOUT WHIDBEY'S FUTURE

Finding Our Way to Zero Waste

Thursday, November 5, 6 PM

Snacks & Social 5:45 PM

St. Hubert's Church

804 3rd St, Langley



Our **next Conversation** is about cultivating a **zero-waste mindset**. Rebecca Solnit has pointed to the **silence of objects** we purchase. The objects don't say anything about the **supply chain**, the **environmental effects**, and **human costs** required to make them. They also don't say anything about what is involved in removing them from our lives. We must be aware of the entire process to create a zero-waste mindset. **Derek Hoshiko** will talk about what is involved, and challenge us to recover 99% from the "waste" stream.

In our **previous Conversation**, a room full of people were dreaming a future into community consciousness. One such story went like this:

"Once upon a coming time...on Whidbey Island a disaster left the island without electricity. Consequently, those who couldn't cope left the island. Those remaining struggled to survive the limited resources. However, through innovative, positive thinking, leaders with the traditional ecological wisdom of the original peoples combined the creative skills of those who remained. They soon realized they needed to live in community and dialogue to solve the problems of energy, food storage, transportation, health care, etc. With enhanced collaboration, a new society and way of life began to coalesce...an emphasis on health and happiness replaces fear. There is enough for all with the community thriving and caring for one another. Village life is peaceful. Children are learning with young and old together. Like a tsunami of loving energy, it became an unstoppable force for good."

We will publish one each month. If you would like to help compile and share the individual stories, or organize another story telling event, please [contact us](#)!

Speak Out !!

- **Vote by Nov 3!** See the extensive voting info compiled by Whidbey Island LWV [here](#). WCA has sent candidates a Climate Questionnaire—read their responses [here](#).
- **Tell everyone** about efforts to get **Money Out of Politics** (MOP Wash). Passing this legislation in Washington will eliminate the big money due to the Citizen's United ruling. Read our [blog post](#) for details. **Write, email, phone or visit** your state legislators. Tell them you are outraged at the influence of money in politics and to endorse a bill to reign in corporate power.
- Attend **candidate forums** and legislator meetings to raise questions about the **climate** and **MOP Wash**.
 - Oct 19, 6:30 PM: [Clinton Community Hall](#)
 - Oct 22, 6 PM: [Whidbey Island League of Women Voters](#)
- The latest [Solid Waste Advisory Committee](#) plan is not aligned with the goal of eliminating waste—in fact, the plan locks the County into continuing to rely on tipping fees for revenue. As Derek Hoshiko summarizes, "Ideally the plan [would] enable resources and investments in community scale solutions and

innovation rather than large monolithic, capital intensive, and fossil fuel intensive systems." **Make your opinion heard** at the Oct 19, 10 AM, meeting.

News Reel

- **Wildes Road logging permit: On hold for now!** Thank you WEAN for negotiating a voluntary stay agreement with the logging company and landowners. No logging can take place until the Pollution Control Hearings Board rules on WEAN's appeal.
 - **Langley Gas Station:** The City of Langley received an application to remove the Yellow Cedar tree on site, but has not issued the permit. The WA State Environmental Policy Act prohibits piecemealing.
 - **South Whidbey School's** Climate Action Committee is thrilled to announce that the District just won a \$500,000 grant from the Dept. of Ecology for **charging stations for their EV school buses**. Each electric school bus saves the school district \$.30 per mile in operational costs and cuts 160 metric tons of carbon emissions over its lifetime, not to mention saving our kids from breathing fumes.
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Book Nook

All We can Save: Truth, Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis, edited by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and Katharine K. Wilkinson. A member writes: "What a powerful book! This anthology of essays and poetry, all by women writers, scientists, policy-makers, activists, and organizational leaders, is a spiritual and intellectual lift. In the face of so much bad news about the ongoing destruction of Earth and her water, air, land, creatures and plants, it inspires hope with new (to me) ways of thinking about problems, and ideas for solving them. I learned of practical solutions, which people are already implementing around the world, and that we don't hear about in the mainstream media. Threaded throughout are ways to bring about essential social and economic justice as we work toward climate change mitigation and repair."

WHIDBEY CLIMATE FUND

The Whidbey Climate Fund is **now open for applications** during the month of October (read more [here](#)). With increased participation from you, our donors, we are hoping to have over \$40,000 to award. We encourage local non-profits to develop a proposal! See last year's grantees [here](#).

Thank you for contributing!

LEARN More

Calendar

- Sat, Oct 17, 11:00 AM - Indivisible Whidbey: [No Kings Rally](#)
- Mon, Oct 19, 6:30 PM - Clinton Community Hall: [Candidate Forum](#)
- Thu, Oct 22, 6:00 PM - LWV: [Candidate Forum](#)
- Thu, Nov 5, 6:00 PM - Island Conversations: [Finding Our Way to Zero Waste](#)



ACT NOW!

WEAN protects Whidbey ecosystems and brings the community together for education and action. Check out their [ACT NOW](#) page, and [podcasts](#).



LISTEN to Youth!

USL uplifts youth voices around climate action, equity, educational reform, intersectionality, and social justice issues.



RECYCLE Your Food Scraps!

Whidbey Compost Collective is now open to individual memberships for food scraps drop-off! Don't send them 400 miles to the dump, return those nutrients to the soils right here. See [website](#) for additional services and commercial offerings.



REPURPOSE Your "Trash"!

If you can't reduce it and it's not recyclable, repurpose it with [rePurpose Whidbey](#). Check out their membership, accepted materials, and drop-off hours, and note their drop-off site has moved.



PREPARE Yourself!

South Whidbey Prepares helps neighborhoods organize themselves for when disaster strikes and EMS cannot respond. [CONTACT SWP](#) to get prepared.

Whidbey Climate ACTION

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