

Stream Team

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER • WINTER 2007



IMPORTANT:

Stream Team Mailing List Update Underway Don't Miss Out – Respond Today!

It's time to update our mailing list. Please help us continue to contact you by taking a minute to complete and mail the enclosed pre-paid insert. Failure to return the postcard, or to contact us via email, will result in your name being removed from the mailing list. Thank you for helping us save money and resources!

FIELD CLASS

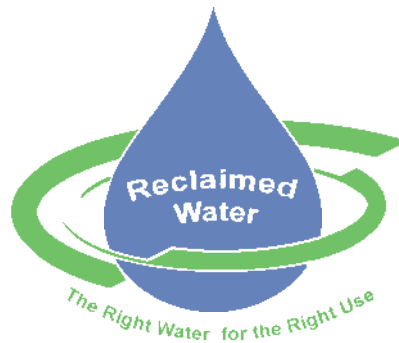
Purple Pipe Dreams: Reclaimed Water Benefits for People and Fish

Saturday, March 31 • 10am-2pm

Registration Required

Stream Team is offering an exciting new field class about the benefits of using Class A Reclaimed Water in Thurston County. Lisa Dennis-Perez, Community Relations Specialist for the LOTT Alliance, will be the featured guest speaker in the morning. Lisa will discuss LOTT's current and future reclaimed water projects as well as the role reclaimed water may play in meeting the water needs of our communities and the environment.

After the presentation, participants will board a shuttle and head to the Martin Way Reclaimed Water Plant to see how Class A water is produced. Our next stop will be the Hawks Prairie Reclaimed Water



Ponds. This beautiful 40 acre site features a variety of constructed wetlands and recharge basins fed by reclaimed water. Participants are asked to pack a lunch to enjoy at the Hawks Prairie site. The native wildflowers should be in bloom, so bring your camera and don't miss it!

For more information, or to sign up for this field class, call Tim @ 360-438-2687.

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Water & Wildlife
Part II: Design and
Plant Choices



OLYMPIA • LACEY • TUMWATER
THURSTON COUNTY



▲ A Stream Team Salmon Steward speaks with visitors at McLane Creek about the salmon life cycle.



▲ Lee Pilon, with the Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, shows off a Chinook salmon during the Salmon Steward training at Tumwater Falls.

A Salute to Salmon Stewards

Chinook salmon made a mid-August appearance at the 5th Avenue Bridge Dam. Their early arrival brought crowds of people to the bridge overlook. Experienced Salmon Stewards enthusiastically started greeting the public at the bridge in late August. In total, new and experienced Salmon Stewards volunteered over 125 hours at the bridge and talked to 2,140 people! As the fish migrate upriver to Tumwater Falls, so do the Salmon Stewards. By mid-September, Salmon Stewards were greeting the public at the hatchery and along the Deschutes River walking trail at Tumwater Falls Park. Salmon Stewards volunteered over 85 hours and talked to 611 people. In addition, six Salmon Stewards led 11 school classes through the

park and the hatchery and seven volunteered at Harvest Fest and talked to as many of the 4,000 attendees as possible. Later in November, seven Salmon Stewards visited McLane Creek and five talked to students about the wild chum there.

Many thanks to Larry Kessel, *Washington State General Administration*; Larry Phillips, *Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife*; Mary Evans and Lee Pilon, *Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife - Tumwater Facility*; Joe Redder, *Olympia-Tumwater Foundation*; Jamie Glasgow, *Washington Trout*; Sarah McCarthy, *NOAA Northwest Fisheries Science Center*; and Salmon Stewards Gary Sprague and Dennis Matsuda.

Thank you Salmon Stewards!

Veteran Salmon Stewards:

Linda Hurtado, Rich Kalman, Matt Menze, Shannon Claeson, Anne Fiala, Alan Peck, Gary Sprague, Kathy Evans, Don Eveleth, Ann Mataczynski, Donna Smith, Diane Skov, Tom Dowell, Lisa Cooley, Chris Cooley, Dennis Connolly, and Dennis Matsuda

New Salmon Stewards:

Danielle Lin, Adam Lin, Donna Snow, Judy Oliver, Kaytlyn O'Conner, Josh Oliver, Verl Rogers, Jack Olsen, Anna Streuli, Susan Camp, Jessica Moore, Barry Lawrence, Scott Mazzone, Sara Del Moral, Ron Magdaleno, and PhuongChi Nguyen.

Shellfish Need Clean Water Too

Did you know that an average pacific oyster pumps as much as 65 gallons of water through its body each day? Shellfish, such as oysters, clams, mussels and scallops, are filter feeders – which means they get their food by pumping huge amounts of water through their bodies daily and filtering out particles in the water for food.

But shellfish are not picky eaters. During the feeding process, potentially harmful particles such as bacteria, viruses, chemicals and biotoxins are filtered out as well. This can result in an accumulation of these contaminants in the tissue of the shellfish, which in turn make them potentially hazardous for people to eat.

The State Department of Health routinely monitors the water quality of shellfish growing areas to ensure that the shellfish sent to restaurants, stores, and our tables are safe to eat. But recent monitoring results in Henderson Inlet, at the mouth of Woodland Creek, have not been all that positive.

(continued on page 3)

February

February 15 • 6:30pm-9pm

STREAM TEAM WORKSHOP

**Naturescaping for
Water & Wildlife, Part II:
Design and Plant Choices**

(See article on page 8)

To register, call Erica @ 360-754-3588 x110



PLEASE NOTE: *Citizens requiring special accommodations should call the Event Coordinator at least one week prior to the event.*

March

March 10 • 10am-12pm

**Deschutes River
Revegetation Project**

Meet at Tumwater Golf Course Clubhouse
For info, call Debbie @ 360-754-4148

March 17 • 10am-1pm

Woodland Creek Planting Project

For directions to the planting site, call
Chris or Ann Marie @ 360-357-2491

March 31 • 10am-2pm

STREAM TEAM FIELD CLASS

**Purple Pipe Dreams: Reclaimed
Water Benefits for People and Fish**

(See article on page 1)

To register, call Tim @ 360-438-2687

Other Community Events

January 21

FIELD CLASS

**Winter Twig Identification
WSU Native Plant Salvage Project**

To register, call Erica @
360-754-3588 x110

February 24 • 12pm-4pm

Plant Sale Parking Lot Event

Behind Old Tumwater Fire Dept.
Corner of Israel & Capitol Blvd.
For info., call Thurston Conservation
District @ 360-754-3588

March 3

Native Plant Salvage Event

Hot lunch provided
For location and info, call Abigail @
360-754-3588 x109

Shellfish Need Clean Water Too

(continued from page 2)

During the past five years, increasing fecal coliform bacteria levels have caused the State Department of Health to close or restrict many of the tidelands in this area to shellfish harvesting.

A recent study has indicated that much of the fecal coliform detected in lower Woodland Creek and Henderson Inlet is due to failing septic systems. According to the Thurston County Public Health Department, there are still over 6,000 septic systems within the Henderson Watershed Protection Area alone! If you or someone you know is currently using an on-site septic system, here are some steps you can take to ensure that you are not contributing to poor water quality:

- **Have your septic system inspected** by a properly certified individual or company. The Thurston County Health Department maintains a list of certified septic care professionals.
- **Have your septic tank pumped at least every 3 to 5 years.**
- **Minimize indoor water use.** Excessive water use, especially during the rainy season when the ground is already saturated, can overload the drainfield and allow effluent to escape to surface and groundwater without adequate treatment. Let's all do our part to protect the waters that lead to the Puget Sound, after all, Shellfish Need Clean Water Too.

Date of Annual Volunteer Recognition Event Moved

For the past several years, the annual Volunteer Recognition Event has been held in January. The weather in January has often been miserable enough to keep people from attending, so Stream Team has decided to move the event to a warmer time of the year.

We will continue to recognize "Stream Team Volunteer(s) of the Year" and host a fun event to thank all of our wonderful volunteers. Watch the upcoming Stream Team newsletters and Stream Team emails for an exciting new Stream Team Volunteer Recognition Event in 2007!

Team News

LACEY

For several years, Lacey Stream Team volunteers have been working to stencil storm drains and install "No Dumping – Flows to Waterways" informational buttons to deter the dumping of hazardous materials into these sensitive areas. This fall was no exception. 52 volunteers worked over 120 hours to install over 600 buttons. Many thanks to Boy Scout Troop 222, led by Lynn Knox; Holy Family School of Lacey, led by Virginia Baker; and Pacific Peaks Girl Scout Troop 006, led by Christine Rice. These dedicated groups worked to ensure every storm drain in the targeted neighborhoods was marked.



Volunteers stenciled storm drains in Lacey neighborhoods to keep their waterways healthy.

The riparian planting of Woodland Creek Community Park has been the focus of many Stream Team volunteers over the last few years. On Nov. 1, Tom O'Brien, a Nisqually Middle School teacher, brought 10 volunteers from his school to take part in this effort. The group planted and installed tree protectors on 70 Douglas-fir, 10 cascara, 10 Pacific crab apple and 10 Garry oak. Their timing was perfect as the soaking fall rains began the very next day.



Volunteers from Nisqually Middle School planted and installed tree protectors at Woodland Creek.

OLYMPIA

On a rainy Saturday morning, Cub Scout Pack #2 was bright eyed and ready to take on their restoration project at Indian Creek Stormwater Facility. Anthony Harting, Matthew Belmont, Ben Riley, Logan Foster, Kacheni Gonzales, Eila Saxton, Robert Colvin, Dennis, John and Justin Comer, along with their families, spread wood chips donated by arborist Michael Moore. Some of the boys used this project toward earning their World Conservation badge. The group worked hard and quickly in the rain to completely cover the designated area in wood chips.



Wet Cub Scouts after a morning spreading wood chips at Indian Creek.

The lovely sound of a purple martin's call has left East Bay. This relaxing attraction lasts from April to August in East Bay, off East Bay Road and Marine Drive.

The purple martins inhabit 26 boxes on 12 pilings out in the East Bay. Bethany Diehl and Josh Oliver monitored the nest boxes this year and estimate that 25 houses were occupied by purple martins, and one nest box was inhabited by a competitor swallow.

Purple martins west of the Rockies have come to depend on humans for habitat and habitat maintenance. As the martins head for warmer temperatures, it's time to clean house. So, on a clear morning in October, Stream Team volunteers Dennis Connolly, Josh Oliver, Bethany Diehl and City of Olympia Harbor Patrol volunteers Jim Hanson and Erik Paul set out to clean out and reorganize the bird houses for next season. The houses were cleaned out, the roofs swept, the pilings were lettered and the houses

were numbered. They are ready to welcome the purple martins next spring!



Little birds need a lot of care! Josh Oliver holds the bag while cleaning the purple martin houses.

Over 750 people attended "The Tale of the Disappearing Forest" Haunted Hike in Priest Point Park on October 14. Hikers learned about groundwater and the need to conserve and protect our water resources. Families began their journey in the Land of Denial, where they saw four scenes showing behaviors that negatively impact water. From there, they entered the Land of Change to learn ways to conserve water and keep it clean. 40 people acted in the story and forty others helped with costumes, event support, set-up/break down, and traffic control. Garfield, McLane, and Hansen Elementary School 4th grade classes helped make decorations. See page 6 for a complete list of event volunteers and staff. Thanks to everyone who helped make this year's Haunted Hike a very successful one!



Tree Fairies Jeni Parreno, Jessica Lawrence and Evelyn Carlson beg humans to help save the forest during this year's Haunted Hike at Priest Point Park.

TUMWATER

Over 4,000 people enjoyed the Tumwater Falls Harvest Fest on October 1. Salmon Stewards worked the Stream Team booth, fish facility and trail to answer questions about the incoming Chinook salmon. Chris and Lisa Cooley, Dennis Matsuda, and Diane Skov worked the entire day. Linda Hurtado, Donna Snow, Deanna Chew, and Jack Olsen were also on hand to help out. Dennis Matsuda came early and stayed late to set up and take down the Stream Team booths.

Area high school students took turns dressing up as Sammy and Sylvia Salmon, assisting children with salmon-themed activities and staffing FIN, the 25-foot-long fiberglass salmon. Two volunteers from Trout Unlimited also lent a hand. Ron Holtcamp staffed an informational booth for the entire day, and Dennis Popple led walking tours along the Deschutes River in the park.



Hardworking volunteers braved the weather to plant shrubs and willows along the Deschutes River.

On November 4, it was pouring rain and the Deschutes River was flowing high and swift, but 39 volunteers braved the weather to help plant native flowering shrubs and willows along the river. The work began after a planting lesson by Stream Team volunteer Nikki Johnson. In no time at all, Boy Scout Troop 222, Cub Scout Packs 202 and 116, along with adult and high school volunteers had all the plants in the ground and had removed invasive Himalayan blackberry and other weeds from the planting site.

THURSTON COUNTY

This fall, Thurston County took a break from sponsoring tree planting projects so Ann Marie Finan, the Assistant Stream Team Coordinator for Thurston County, could nurture a little sprout of her own. Her son, Miles, was born on August 23.

Staff News

New Coordinators Welcomed

In early August, **Tim Wilson** was hired as the new Lacey Stream Team Coordinator, filling the position vacated by Lisa Dennis-Perez. Tim has already had the opportunity to work with several Stream Team volunteer groups.

Earning his B.S. in Environmental Studies from the Evergreen State College, Tim has worked for the last fifteen years as the Director of Pacific County's Vegetation Management Program, where he worked closely on riparian and estuarine restoration projects such as *Spartina alterniflora* control in Willapa Bay and control of the knotweed species in the watersheds of Pacific County.

Tim looks forward to contributing to the excellent stewardship practices that are synonymous with Stream Team.

Chris Maun recently assumed the position of Thurston County Stream Team Coordinator vacated by Susie Vanderburg. He comes to Stream Team after 15 years as Coordinator of the Nisqually River Education Project. As a water resources educator, Chris worked with teachers and students to protect and restore the Nisqually River and its many salmon-bearing tributary streams.

Chris is also an Evergreen graduate and has worked as an Interpretive Naturalist at Mt. Rainier National Park and Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument.

Chris looks forward to getting his feet wet in new stream systems and working with all of the dedicated Stream Team volunteers, after some of the dust settles from his recent move!



Farewell to Mary Evans

After 30 years of service, Tumwater Falls Hatchery Supervisor Mary Evans is retiring this January. Mary has been a wonderful supporter of the Salmon Steward program. Every fall, when the salmon return, she coordinates Salmon Steward trainings and classroom visits and provides the latest information on the Deschutes Fish Facility Chinook and the yearlings at Percival Cove. Mary also oversees Skookumchuck Hatchery operations and the South Sound and Percival Cove net pens.

Mary's cheerful smile and pleasant, helpful manner will be sorely missed. Watching her reach down into the holding pens and easily grab a 15 pound salmon by the tail is amazing. Every fish that travels through the hatchery is touched by someone before it is either sent upstream or surplus. Mary has handled and managed a lot of fish in her 30 year career. She was the first woman hired in a permanent full-time position with fish hatchery field operations for the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Her most notable experience was working on the endangered spring runs of Chinook from the Dungeness and White Rivers. She was involved in the program to establish a captive brood stock of Chinook to sustain egg production and supplement low returns in these two rivers.

In her retirement, she plans to travel with her husband. First stop: the Southwest for some sunshine! Stream Team wishes Mary all the best!

Stream Team 2006: You Made a Difference!

Stream Team staff and volunteers were busy doing a myriad of activities throughout the year. Volunteers spent over 956 hours planting over 430 trees and helped maintain previous revegetation sites. 65 volunteers helped take stream bug samples from 13 streams in Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater and north Thurston County. 138 volunteers spent over 204 hours marking/stenciling 1240 storm drains. 438 people attended a dozen workshops, field classes, or history talks including the *Tending the Tidelands* workshop, the *Geology Bus Tour* and the *Fix Your Lawn* workshop. 90 volunteers helped

with the immensely popular Haunted Hike at Priest Point Park. 34 volunteers helped with other community events such as the Tumwater Falls Harvest Festival and the Alternative Fuel Fair. 17 volunteers helped with the Olympia Downtown Clean-up. 37 people volunteered as Salmon Stewards at the 4th Ave. Bridge, Tumwater Falls and McLane Creek Nature Trail sites during Chinook and chum spawning season.

Thank you for all the time and energy you have put into our regional Stream Team program. We couldn't do it without you!

Thank You Stream Team Contributors

Harbor Patrol
Nisqually River Education Project
Capitol Land Trust
Puget Sound Anglers
South Sound GREEN
People for Puget Sound
Pacific Shellfish Institute
YMCA Earth Service Corps
Thurston Conservation District
Olympia-Tumwater Foundation
Puget Sound Restoration Fund
WA State Dept. of Transportation

Trout Unlimited, Olympia Chapter
WSU Native Plant Salvage Project
The Mountaineers, Olympia Chapter
City of Lacey Parks & Recreation Dept.
Thurston County Parks and Recreation
Washington State General Administration
City of Tumwater Parks & Recreation Dept.
City of Olympia Parks, Arts, and Recreation
City of Tumwater Planning & Facilities Dept.
Girl Scouts of America, Pacific Peaks Council
Boy Scouts of America, Pacific Harbors Council
Thurston County Environmental Health Program

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group
Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
City of Tumwater Old Town Center Youth Program
Capital Playhouse
Washington Trout
Taylor United
NOAA Fisheries – Northwest Fisheries Science Center
Timberline and Olympia High School students
Western Washington Alumni Association
YWCA – Girls Without Limits
Roosevelt Peace Scouts
Moore Trees and Company

Thank You Cast & Crew of “The Tale of the Disappearing Forest” Haunted Hike

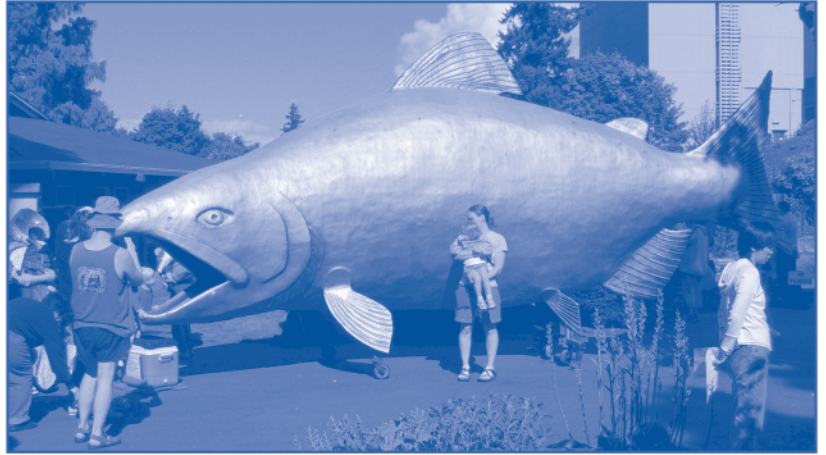
Forest Wizard: Kyle Pennington
Frog: Deborah Cornett
Grim Reaper: Jamie Martineau
Tree Fairy: Jeni Parreno
Tree Fairy: Jessica Lawrence
Tree Fairy: Evelyn Carlson
Vanna Shing: Lena Diehl
Ogre: Jordan Allard
Raccoon: Victoria Valles
Raccoon: Sadie Allard
Raven: Raven Connolly
Mr. Waterhog: Doug Christenson
Daughter: Lindsey Hall
Daughter: Julia Nicoll
Raccoon: Michiko Ferguson
Dandelion: Brenda Griffin
Grass Blade: Jasmine Yost
Mr. Lawn Man: Eric Christensen
Ivy Plant: Roberta Woods
Ivy Plant: Don Eveleth

Gardener: Brittney Brownell
Raccoon: Darla Hurd
Raccoon: Emily Mendez
Land of Excuses Wizard: Rich Hoey
Lady Bug: Mya Tosomeen
Skunk: Kia Tosomeen
Raccoon: Liam Connolly
Bear: Aidan Hoey
Bear: Kayla Christensen
Deer: Doug Doenges
River Otter: Tatyana Gibbs
Eagle: Victoria Valley
Mountain Lion: Erin Wilson
Fox: Anthony Nickel
Mouse: Monet Shaw
Robin Hood: Zach Brownell
King Arthur: Ryan Doenges
Fortune Teller: Heather Mendez
Mr. Corporate: Ryan McLaughlin
Tree Elf: Jade Diehl

Land of Change Wizard: Craig Tosomeen
A LOTT Drop: Lisa Dennis-Perez
Magical Water Drop: Tim Wilson
Gardener: Victoria DeCillo
The White Rabbit: Andy Haub
The King of Hearts: Riley Haub
Dr. Dachshund: Ann Butler
Dr. Lab: Mary Beth Brown
Forest Queen: Kelly Pennington
Forest King: Tanis Hartsell
Early Set-up Crew: Jack Horton, Chris Hempleman, Cassandra McElfish, Corrina McElfish, Dennis Connolly, Raven Connolly, Liam Connolly, Roberta Woods, Josh Oliver, Stacey Stamm, Gary Lucas, Don Eveleth, Jade Diehl, Anne Mills, Payden Reed, Riley Haub, Stephanie Leisle, Lyle Tribwell, Ann Marie Finan, Heather Reed, Andy Haub, Roy Iwai, Bethany Diehl, Cynthia Parks, Debbie Smith, Patricia Pyle, Danielle Harrington, and Tim Wilson

Costumes: John Chernoff and Capital Playhouse, Cynthia Park, Bethany Diehl, Darla Hurd, Judy Oliver, Megan Hubbard, Roberta Woods, Abigail Groskopf and Devon
Props: Capital Playhouse and Garfield, McLane, Hansen, and L.P. Brown Elementary School students
Make-Up: Andy Wasserstrom
Event Crew: Abigail Groskopf, Caren Gibbs, Ann Wax, Xavia Olsen, Lucy DeCosta, Laura Nickel, Brin Smith, Barbara McConkey, Jen Lee, Roy Iwai, Debbie Smith, Patricia Pyle, Danielle Harrington, the Trans'
Traffic Control: Explorers Sean Boespflug and David Lewis
Educational Activities: Drain Dare, Master Composters, Thurston County Weed Board, Thurston County Environmental Health

STREAM TEAM 2006: LOOKING BACK...



**Naturescaping for Water and Wildlife
Workshop Part II: Design & Plant Choices**

Thursday, February 15 • 6:30 to 9 p.m.
Heritage Court Building
Conference Rooms A&B, 2nd Floor



For years you have asked for more: more time, more information, more plant names...so here it is! This is the second part of the Naturescaping workshop is intended for those wanting a more in-depth look at designing and installing a "naturescape," including beautiful water-wise plant choices and combinations. Linda Andrews, of Linda Andrews Landscape & Design, will join Erica Guttman, Native Plant Salvage Project Coordinator, for this information-packed session. The workshop is co-sponsored by Stream Team, Thurston Conservation District, and Natural Resources Conservation Service. Now is the time to make plans for changing and/or installing your garden landscape. All are invited to attend even if you have not previously attended a Naturescaping class.

For more information or to register for the class, please contact Erica at 754-3588 ext. 110 or ericag@wsu.edu.

STREAM TEAM MISSION: To protect and enhance the water resources, associated habitats, and wildlife of North Thurston County through citizen education and action.

Stream Team is funded by Storm and Surface Water Utility revenues.

STREAM TEAM INQUIRIES:

In Lacey: City of Lacey Water Resources Program
P.O. Box 3400, Lacey, WA 98509-3400
Attn: Tim Wilson – Tel: 360-438-2687 / TDD: 1-800-833-6388

In Olympia: City of Olympia Water Resources Program
P.O. Box 1967, Olympia, WA 98507
Attn: Patricia Pyle – Tel: 360-570-5841 / TTY: 360-753-8270

In Tumwater: City of Tumwater Public Works
555 Israel Road SW, Tumwater, WA 98501
Attn: Debbie Smith – Tel: 360-754-4148 / TDD: 1-800-833-6388

In Thurston County: Thurston County Water & Waste Management
929 Lakeridge Dr. SW, Olympia, WA 98502
Attn: Chris Maun – Tel: 360-754-3355 x6377 / TDD: 360-754-2933

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS:

Tim Wilson, *Lacey Stream Team*
Patricia Pyle, *Olympia Stream Team*
Debbie Smith, *Tumwater Stream Team*
Chris Maun, Cynthia Park & Ann Marie Finan, *Thurston County Stream Team*

DESIGN & LAYOUT: Barbara McConkey, *Inform Design*



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**Stream Team Mailing
List Update Underway!**

Don't miss out – respond today.