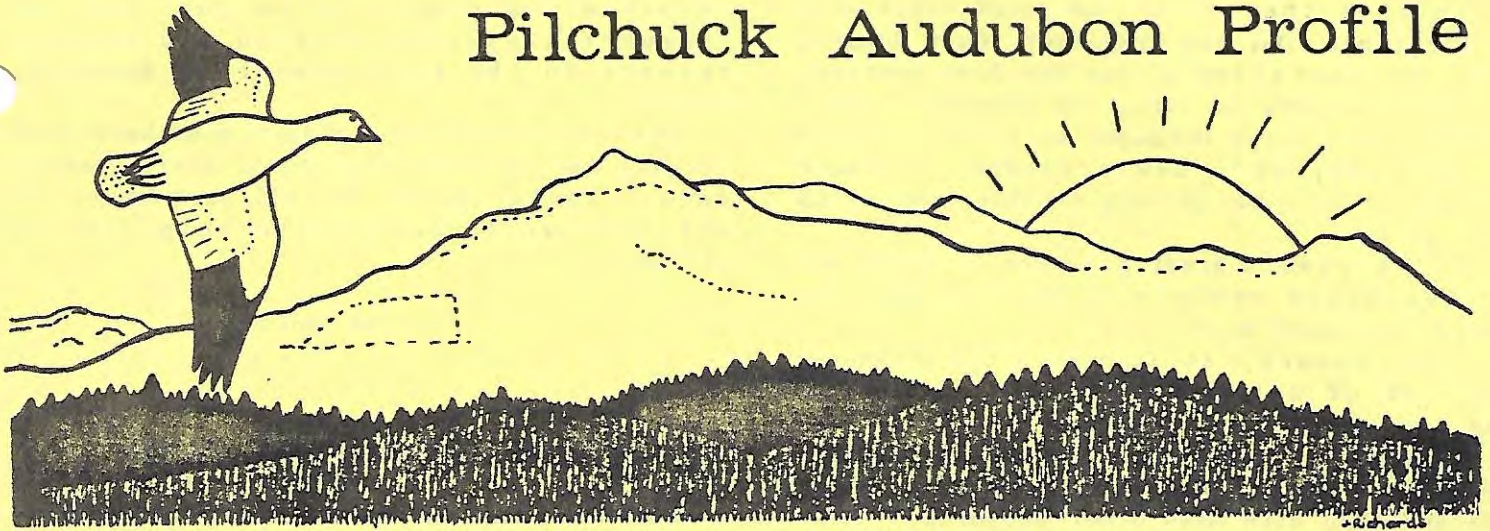


Pilchuck Audubon Profile



MAY 1983

VOLUME XI NUMBER 9

PILCHUCK AUDUBON ACTIVITIES

MAY 21st, SATURDAY

ANNUAL MEETING/FIELD TRIP/POTLUCK

Leaders: Jan and Sally van Niel, 778-7568. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the lower parking lot of Everett Community College. [Directions: Turn west from Hwy 99 (North Broadway) onto Tower St. (800 block opposite Jafco). Parking lot is one block on right.] Field trip to Deering Wildflower Acres and Snohomish Sewage Lagoon followed by a potluck supper at Jennings Park (7027 - 51st, Marysville) at 5:00 p.m. (Directions: Exit I-5 at exit #199, head east on 4th St. Turn left on 47th. Follow 47th as it curves to the right into Armar Road. Continue 5 blocks. Jennings Park in on right.) Bring whatever food you would like to share. Also, bring a place setting and cup. Installation of the new officers will take place at the annual meeting following the potluck supper. The program for the evening is provided by YOU the membership with a "show and tell" slide show.

MAY 27th to 30th, MEMORIAL WEEKEND

19th ANNUAL WENAS CAMPOUT

This is a family outing with something for everyone: field trips (all-day or half-day), early morning bird walks (5:30 a.m.), morning walks, afternoon walks, workshops, and evening campfire programs complete with songs and roasting marshmallows. Birds, wildflowers, mammals, trees, shrubs, butterflies, insects, and photography are featured in the activities. The campground is very large with plenty of room for everyone. It might be called primitive as there are few tables and some are used for the main Audubon tent. It is best to bring drinking water, though a good spring is available some distance up the canyon. Food and housing (trailers, tents, campers, etc.) must be brought. The days are beautiful but the nights can be cold (dipping below freezing last year).

TO REACH WENAS CASCADE PARK Drive over Snoqualmie Pass and exit at Ellensburg (exit #109). Turn north towards downtown Ellensburg. Turn left onto Daman Road just north of I-90 interchange. Continue on the Daman Road to the Umptanum Road (changes to a good gravel road). You will go up through the famous Shushuskin Canyon, and over Manastash and Umptanum ridges to, eventually, the junction with the Wenas Valley Road. (Watch for the beautiful Bluebirds as a Bluebird trail follows the road.) Turn Right onto the Wenas Valley Road. Signs will guide you to the campground from there. Hope to see many people from Pilchuck there as it is a fun weekend and a chance to meet other Auduboners from around the State.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

This is the last column yours truly will be writing. Our new President, Curt Howard, will be installed at our May 21st meeting. Congratulations to Curt, Tom Councell, Sally Lider, and Gerry McKnight on their election as the chapter's new officers. Pilchuck Audubon will be in very capable hands with this group.

It is also a great pleasure to thank all of the board members of the last year for their very hard work.

Curt Howard, as Vice President, took on the job of setting up our Talent Bank and has come a long way with it.

Joyce Kelley as secretary has kept excellent records of our often complex meetings and assisted with many other projects.

Gerry McKnight as Treasurer has set up an excellent bookkeeping system. Gerry's use of their home computer has been invaluable.

Marianne McKnight has made extensive use of the computer to turn out another year of excellent Pilchuck Profiles. She and her committee have been very patient with me when I have had trouble meeting the newsletter deadline.

Steve and Eileen Loerch have been of invaluable service. Steve has set up many new and interesting field trips. Meanwhile Eileen has gotten our education committee off to a resounding start with her great enthusiasm. The sad part there is that the Loerchs are leaving us to move to Boise, Idaho. This will certainly be our loss and Boise Audubon's gain.

Marge Wiltfong as our membership chair has worked against great odds in maintaining our membership records in spite of the problems National found itself in when they changed computer companies.

Our new Finance Committee ably led by Susie Schaefer has made great strides in helping us meet our financial obligations. Her background has helped us develop several fund raising ideas.



And last, but certainly not least, has been the efforts of Sally van Niel and her conservation committee to cope with the recent legislative session and the many threats to the environment in Snohomish County.

The successes of the last year have been largely due to these people and their committees. Again thanks for all your help. I'm sure you will continue to help the new officers.

Jan van Niel

FOREST LAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Washington Environmental Council, with help from the Washington Environmental Foundation, has published a Review of the Department of Natural Resources' Proposed Forest Land Management Program. This review discusses important legal problems raised in FLMP, proposes detailed and well-documented management alternatives for old growth and for the urban/transition lands, and includes 15 valuable technical papers whose usefulness will live long beyond the FLMP review process.

For your 150 page copy of WEC's Reveiw of the DNR Forest Land Management Program send \$6.00 to FLMP Review, Washington Environmental Foundation, 80 South Jackson #308, Seattle, WA 98104.

EXPLORE SAN JUAN ISLAND BEACHES

San Juan Island offers a diverse variety of beaches. Spend a day with a Seattle Aquarium biologist exploring beaches on San Juan Island and learn about the beach inhabitants. This day trip promises a full schedule filled with barnacles, seastars and marine mammals and the beautiful scenery of the San Juan Islands. Participants will explore both sandy and rocky beaches at low tide and note adaptations of animals to each habitat. All transportation from the Aquarium is provided. Participants may have free time in Friday Harbor to visit the Whale Museum at their own expense.

Reservations are required; maximum group size is 13. Cost \$17.00 per person, adults only. Dates: June 13th, and 26th, July 10th, and 25th, and August 7th. For more information call The Seattle Aquarium, 625-4358.

BIRD MIGRATION AT PORT SUSAN

By Sally van Niel

Dave and Kay Thoreson, Susie Schaefer, Jan, Sally and Lisa van Niel went exploring the Port Susan area on April 23rd and have come up with information that leads us to believe we have our own area that is very important to migrating shorebirds. There aren't as many birds as Bowerman Basin, but 100,000 shorebirds in one day is still an impressive sight to see - even when scattered among 5 viewing areas.

There were dozens of black bellied plovers in breeding plumage; loons; Caspian tern; Bonaparte's, herring, mew and glaucous-winged gulls; grebes; American Wigeon; green-winged teal; and greater and lesser yellow legs. There were thousands of snow geese, dunlin, long and short billed dowitchers, and western sandpipers.

We are going to document the number of birds and if any of you have additional information and statistics on the Port Susan area, please send the information to Sally van Niel, 4404 - 222nd St. SW, Mountlake Terrace, 98043. This information will also be given to the County Planning Department to be presented at hearings on the commercial clam dredging.



Mar. 15 Three pair of CEDAR WAXWING were reported at a residence in Everett. (Judy Atkins)

Mar. 16 Two RIVER OTTERS were seen playing in the lake at Leckvold Farms near Granite Falls. (Paula Wellnitz)

Mar. 16 A PILEATED WOODPECKER has been seen quite often at a residence 9 miles east of Granite Falls. (Susie Sherman)

Mar. 18 A NORTHERN FLICKER (YELLOW-SHAFTED) has been seen in northeast Snohomish. (Mrs. Stearman)

Mar. 19 A LINCOLN'S SPARROW was rescued from the road, near the Skagit Wildlife Recreation Area headquarters and sent on its way. (Terri Spencer, Steven Howard, Eileen Loerch)

Mar. 20 Two MOURNING DOVES were spotted on Armar Road between Marysville and Arlington. (Fred Bird)

Mar. 21 An adult BALD EAGLE was seen flying over Steamboat Slough. (Terri Spencer)

Mar. 24 One male EVENING GROSBEAK was seen at a residence near Silver Lake. (Marianne McKnight)

Mar. 31 A flock of 25 CEDAR WAXWINGS were seen near Everett Community College. (Marianne McKnight)

Apr. 3 Two BALD EAGELS are nesting on Whidbey Island in an old Osprey nest. (Estella Leopold)

Apr. 6 A BALD EAGLE was observed flying south near Lake Bosworth. (Paula Wellnitz)

Apr. 6 A RING-NECKED PHEASANT was spotted in a field in a residential area on 110th SE in Everett. (Gerald McKnight)

Apr. 7 An OSPREY was observed soaring over I-5 near Dagmars Landing. (Allen & Terri Spencer)

Apr. 8 A trip to the Ellensburg Conference produced two ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOATS above I-90 on the way over. Seen in and around Ellensburg were SAGE THRASHERS, LONG-BILLED CURLEWS, LOGGERHEAD SHRIKES, SAY'S PHOEBES, HORNED LARKS, and COMMON SNIPE involved in courtship (winnowing). (Terri Spencer, Eileen Loerch) MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRDS, a WESTERN BLUEBIRD, KESTRAL (feeding), and SHORT-EARED OWLS were also seen. (Marianne & Gerald McKnight)

Apr. 12 A flock of 200-250 WESTERN GREBES were seen floating alongside the Mercer Island Floating Bridge. (Steven Howard)

Apr. 14 A TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE was observed in the Maltby area. (Steven Howard)

In the last few months three BALD EAGLES (two in March) have been shot and killed along the Sauk River near Darrington. If you see people harassing eagles, please report them immediately to the State Patrol.

Send your sightings to:

Terri Spencer/Steve Howard
2431 SR 530
Arlington, WA 98223

Phone your sightings to:

Terri Spencer/Steve Howard	652-6481
Fred Bird (Arlington Times)	435-5757
Jan Richards	334-2781

WILDLIFE CARE CENTER OF EVERETT

By D.R. Yearout, D.V.M.

Hello, this is the Wildlife Care Center of Everett. You may have heard of us through other newsletters or word of mouth. We are a non-profit wildlife rehabilitation clinic operated solely on tax deductible donated funds, and of course, lots of hours of determined effort.

We care for sick, injured and orphaned wildlife which include all species of birds, mammals and reptiles native to the area.

Springtime and summer is the busiest time of the year as the instinct for multiplication, coupled with the interference of humans and domestic pets, leaves scores of orphaned or injured babies at our doorstep.

For instance, the good weather has helped the Gray Squirrels to get an early start. For lots of reasons we are now caring for four youngsters of various ages. They are cute, socialize and/or imprint on humans easily which makes it difficult to say goodbye come release time, on both sides, I might add.

Frantic nest building, establishing territories and food gathering cause a lot of passerine birds to forget about cars and cats with obvious, dramatic repercussions.

Cat wounds are particularly hard to deal with as most of the trouble is not on the surface and toxic infections, ruptured air sacs and crush injuries abound. Please watch your cats. This domestic fed pet, with the instinct to hunt for play rather than survival (in most cases) causes an awful lot of headaches on our part. I say this with reserve as our four guard cats keep tender track of indoor and outdoor patients with a wistful eye and a lick of their chops.

The end of April and May see the influx of baby Barn Owls who thought they could fly but couldn't, ending with leg fractures and a broken heart.

Orphaned Black Tail Deer come next, with or without injuries. I say orphan with hesitation as the majority of orphaned fawns are not alone at all. Mom watches, closely concealed in the bush, as concerned humans whisk the baby away; kidnapped (well meaning) forever. Leave the fawns alone and call us or the State Game Department. Most of the fawns are only napping and waiting for Mom to come back for the next meal. Baby deer imprint completely on humans and it is next to impossible to have successful release later on. Deer damage occurs to developed private property as they seek out

human contact, even to the point of approaching a hunter and bleating into the end of a loaded barrel.

Remember the small moving stone in the road that you see, may be a young or injured Screech Owl wanting to be removed to a safe spot. Watch for "rolling rock".

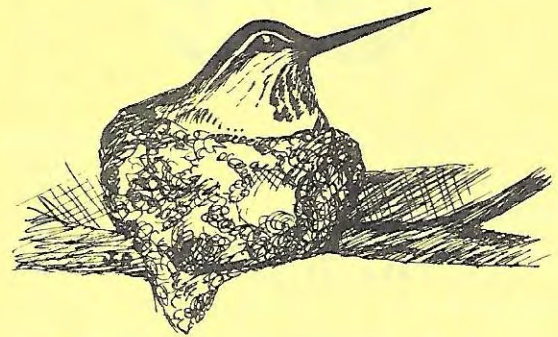
Hummingbirds create a whole army of special problems. How does one provide horizontal and vertical space for convalescing mini-helicopters who require more food energy (heat) per surface area (mass) ratio wise than does the Blue Whale.

Great Blue Herons, as elegant as they are, fall prey to such lowly fates as utility wires, fracturing both wings at top flight speed, or feeding at oily contaminated marshes. Their feathers sop up oil on the outside and poison their interiors with tainted fish.

*On and on the story goes,
with hawks and geese and wiley crows.
Turtles and coons, and ducks abound,
the phone rings again when a chipmunk is found.*

Aside from all of this, if you can return a baby to its nest, do so, even to the point of making a nest to put him in. The parents will usually return and be glad to finish their duty. Birds cannot smell human scents, or at least it doesn't bother them, and they do a much better job of flight training than we do.

Please pass the word. We will speak to you in person or thru the code-a-phone (leave a message) although unemotional it does tell us what you want to know. Thanks for now.



BIRDATHON PARTICIPANTS

For the participants in the Pilchuck Birdathon, please collect your pledges and turn in the money by May 15th. We would like to award the prizes at the May 21st annual meeting. Mail your checks to Birdathon, Pilchuck Audubon Society, P.O. Box 1618, Everett, WA 98206.

AUDUBON LEADERSHIP TRAINING SESSION

The second biannual Leadership Training session for all Audubon chapter officers and prospective officers will be held Saturday, June 4, 1983 at the Steel Lake Presbyterian Church, 1829 South 308th, Federal Way, WA.

This workshop's goal is to help chapter leaders become better equipped to run their chapters more efficiently.

Susan Carpenter of ACCORD Associates in Boulder, Colorado, will lead a discussion on "people management". Topics such as communication, goal setting, motivating volunteers, welcoming newcomers, and personal life management will be included. ACCORD is a professional organization assisting corporations, government agencies, and other entities in working together more efficiently to achieve their goals.

The workshop will begin at 9:30 a.m. sharp with a coffee social from 9:00 to 9:30. Come and join us for what sounds like a productive workshop.

DIRECTIONS: Go south on I-5 to SW 320th exit. Turn right at end of exit. Go to Hwy 99 intersection, turn right. Go to 308th, turn right (Oriental Gardens Nursery will be on right). Go 2 blocks. Church is on left.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

This year the nominating committee used a method many nonprofit organizations are finding successful to constructively fill the chapter's needs.

Before recruiting anyone, we looked at the situation our chapter faces and decided what skills would be most useful.

SITUATION: Our chapter is growing. Our membership is now around 350 and this means a lot of membership records and much financial work to "unwind" the complex system NAS uses. It also means planning for larger meetings, larger field trips, and more board decisions.

SKILLS WE COULD USE: People with experience in office management, administrative experience, and business experience could fit our needs.

With the help of Curt Howard's Talent Bank we found candidates to help us continue the reorganization begun under Jan van Niel. New people who could take on the challenge of our ever-growing chapter.

President: CURT HOWARD, our vice president last year, is a great outdoorsman,

a dedicated conservationist and a former business man. Now retired, Curt has chosen to devote time to PAS and it's reorganization.

Vice President: TOM COUNCELL is also an enthusiastic outdoor person and birder. Tom is a retired navy officer with lots of administrative experience. Fortunately, we called at a time when he was making decisions about which activity to take on. Our situation offered a challenge he was willing to meet head on!

Treasurer: GERRY MCKNIGHT (our tycoon with a home computer!) is a Boeing mathematician with a precision mind. The computer we could (with difficulty!) live without, but not Gerry's dedication and tenacity in getting our financial system smoothed up.

Secretary: SALLY LIDER, a full-time office worker, recognized the need for organizing our system to meet our growing demands. In addition Sally has a B.S. degree in Wildlife and we are looking forward to her viewpoints in our Board meetings.

And now that you have elected these promising people we hope you will support their efforts and help whenever possible.

The Nominating Committee:

Pauline Hanson

Sally van Niel

Marge Wiltfong

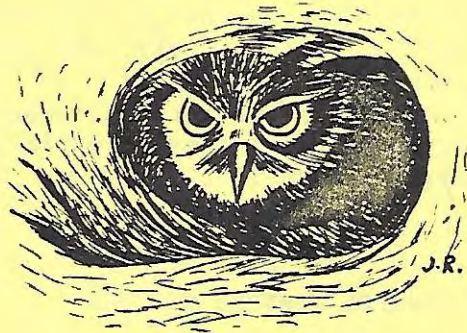
SUMMER LECTURE SERIES

The Burke Museum is presenting two classes taught by Dr. Dennis Paulson as their Summer Lecture Series.

Dragonflies will cover the general biology of dragonflies including the identification of Northwest species. The four lectures (Tuesdays, July 5th - 26th, 7-9 p.m.) will be illustrated with slides and specimens. An all day field trip is planned for July 16th or 17th. Cost is \$25 for lectures and field trip or \$12 for lectures only.

Birds of Washington is a twelve week series with slide-illustrated lectures and five field trips which stress field identification, habits and occurrence of all common birds of the state. Cost is \$95 for lectures and field trips or \$35 for lectures only. Lectures will be held on Thursdays, July 7th - Sept 29th, 7-9 p.m.

Admission is by registration only and space is limited. If you are interested, call the Burke Museum, Seattle, 543-5592.



SPOTLIGHT ON BIRDS - BURROWING OWL

By Jan Richards

In the days when teeming prairie dog towns covered large areas of the western plains, burrowing owls were abundant. They nested in the abandoned burrows of these ground-dwelling rodents. When rodent burrows are not available, these long-legged, diurnal owls can dig one of their own. They are still found in small numbers from southern Canada to Tierra del Fuego, Chile, with some isolated populations in Florida and the West Indies.

More locally, the burrowing owl reportedly inhabited some farms in western Washington. Farmers in Auburn used to complain about them and the owls disappeared as the area developed. They can still be seen somewhat frequently in eastern Washington where the drier climate and the abundance of insects and rodents seems to suit them very well.

They are often seen perched on fence posts or on the ground during the day,

bobbing up and down on their long legs. They are migratory only in the northern part of their range. The commonest call when alarmed is a chattering. At night a high mournful cry like a dove's can be heard.

The flight of the burrowing owl is low and undulating. Occasionally they can be seen hovering about 20 feet above ground at twilight probably hunting. They will modify their "adopted" burrows and when not disturbed, use the same burrow year after year. Nesting burrows may be invaded by cats or snakes, which eat eggs and young. Many are killed at night by traffic when they are swooping low over highways and also from rodent-poisoning campaigns. One banded wild bird lived 8 years, 8 months. A nestling taken captive in California was still alive at age 11 years.

Billy owl, ground owl, "howdy" owl, long-legged owl, prairie dog owl, and prairie owl are other names given to the burrowing owl.



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* Please enroll me as a member of Pilchuck Audubon Society and National Audubon Society. *
 * I will receive the Pilchuck Audubon PROFILE and AUDUBON magazine for one year. *
 * * * * *

* NAME _____ PHONE _____ For additional information *
 * ADDRESS _____ contact Marge Wiltfong at *
 * * * * * 353-1847. *
 * * * * *

* CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ Check type of membership *
 * * * * * desired. Make your check *
 * ___ INDIVIDUAL \$25.00 ___ SENIOR CITIZEN INDIVIDUAL \$17.00 payable to National Audubon *
 * ___ FAMILY \$32.00 ___ SENIOR CITIZEN FAMILY \$19.00 Society and mail to Pilchuck *
 * ___ SUSTAINING \$50.00 ___ STUDENT \$15.00 Audubon Society, PO Box 1618, *
 * ___ SUPPORTING \$100.00 ___ CONTRIBUTING \$250.00 Everett, WA 98206. *
 * ___ DONOR \$500.00 ___ LIFE \$1500.00 *
 * * * * *

* ___ "PROFILE" SUBSCRIPTION (Please make check payable to Pilchuck Audubon Society) \$5.00 *
 * * * * *

NEODATA: Credit Pilchuck Audubon Society - Y07 SRC-7

NOTES FROM A NUT (PLANT NUT, THAT IS)

By Curt Howard

These little Nut Notes are really intended to stir your blood, create excitement and exercise your own imagination. To help you pull the TV plug, and help the birds.

It is very easy to say let George do it. Everyone is a George. Spring is a good time for Georges. Let the passwords be plan and plant.

In the past few months I have sketched scenes using mainly trees and large bushes. There are lots of small stuff, although in my world I am more conscious of the large. My concept of the final (if ever) results of landscaping are at times at odds with others. One man from Venezuela wondered at the jungle-like mass of plants I was watering. In his country he said, "They try to get rid of the jungle, and here you are watering it." In defense of his attitude and mine, he did not see it as a mass of flowers and foliage, a haven for birds.

The "lush look" seems to be a natural for our area. I resent the "expert's" claim that there is only one acceptable way to landscape. You know the kind? Neat lawns, precisely trimmed hedges, immaculate grounds.

The final results of any plan must depend on your objective; e.g. low maintenance, birds, beauty, or clean air. These are not always compatible, and your definition of these words may have only a nodding acquaintance with mine or George's.

The real test is how do you like it. The urban dweller of course is forced into a situation that I have not faced. In my rural area I have less worry about cutting off the

view or sunlight from my neighbor. Even I draw the line on some things. On my own I wouldn't plant roses. Crazy, eh? They're beautiful, but too much work.

Plants and birds are natural companions. To bring them back together is exciting and truly rewarding. Good luck.

USEFUL NUMBERS TO KNOW

AUDUBON INFORMATION

Jan van Niel 778-7568
Eileen Loerch 659-6901

PAS BIRD SIGHTINGS

Terri Spencer/Steve Howard 652-6481
Fred Bird (Arlington Times) 435-5757
Jan Richards 334-2781

OTHER SIGHTINGS

Seattle Audubon Hotline 1-624-2854
Swan sightings 775-0137

HELP FOR INJURED WILDLIFE

Wildlife Care Center of Everett
Dr. Yearout, D.V.M. 353-3814
Kaye Bailey 337-6900
WSP (to report injured wildlife)

STOP POACHING HOTLINE 1-800-562-5626

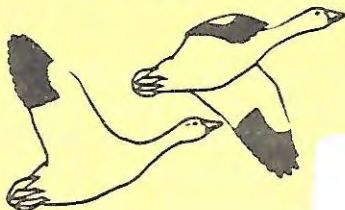
RECYCLING (what, where, when) 1-800-RECYCLE

STATE LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

Legislative hotline 1-800-562-6000
8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Mon. - Fri.
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday
Audubon/WEC hotline 1-800-831-0022

Pilchuck Audubon Society

P.O. Box 1618, Everett, Washington 98206



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Everett, WA

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