



## SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS

# THE GARDEN HACKLE

Volume 23 Issue 5

May 2023

Page 1. President's message

Page 3. Fishing Mongolia by club member Toby Anderson.

Page 18. The club's bi-annual fundraising auction is on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

## LEADER S LINE

## President Lee Yeager



Greetings Everyone,

I hope this edition of the Garden Hackle finds each of you well, able, and excited about the return of spring weather fishing. We had a cooler than average start to 2023, but recent warmer days point to more normal conditions for this time of the year. So far, 2023 has been a good year for the South Sound Fly Fishers club. Our membership is up and attendance at the monthly meetings is as high as it was prior to the onset of Covid restrictions in March of 2020. If you have not attended a meeting this year in person, I encourage you to come out to the North Olympia Fire Station and join us. Bring a fly rod and join other members in impromptu casting tips and practice in the back area outside at the rear of the station before the meeting. Speaking of meetings; we are trying something new. We are going to start the meeting at 7: 00 PM with a short welcome and start the program at 7:15. We will

have the raffle and business portion of the meeting immediately following the presentation. Please share your feedback with me or any of the club officers about this format.

It is time for the bi-annual South Sound Fly Fishers club auction and potluck dinner. This auction is to raise funds to support and fund our conservation and education programs. The SSFF has long been a leader in promoting youth, education, and conservation programs in Puget Sound. Through the generous donations of members and friends we will continue to make SSFF a leader in promoting conservation and education through fly fishing. We will have both a silent auction and a live auction. A list of items available for each part is in this newsletter. Club members are asked to bring a dish or dessert to share at the potluck dinner. Coffee, tea, and water will be provided at the dinner; you may also bring a beverage of your choice if you desire. The auction will be held at the Black Lake Grange, 6011 Black Lake Blvd SW, Olympia. The auction is from 5:00 - 8:00 PM. We will be able to accept credit and debit cards, cash, and checks for payment of items in the auction. Make it a point to come and join us, bring family or guests and enjoy an evening with friends for a very worthy cause.

Our speaker for May will be Toby Anderson. If you don't know Toby; she is a long-time member of SSFF as well as a great teacher and fly fisher. Last year she made a trip to Mongolia and did some fishing while there. Toby will share her trip highlights and experiences. I am excited about hearing Toby's presentation. Come join us, you won't be disappointed.

Remember; fly fishing is the most fun you can have when not catching fish.

## Lee Yeager



Pier at Allyn © Howard Nanto

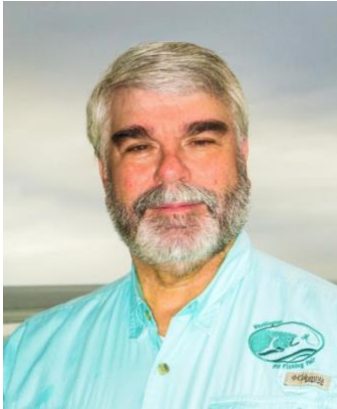


### May 16, 2023 Fly Fishing Mongolia

Our speaker for May will long-time club member Tobey Anderson. Tobey took a trip to Mongolia last year and fished a little. Tobey will talk about experiences and highlights of the trip. Come join us, you won't be disappointed.



Photo © U.S. Department of State



## 2023 Dues

If you haven't already done so, please pay your 2023 dues as soon as possible. Dues for 2023 are \$40.00 for returning members. There are two convenient ways to pay:

1. You can make your Dues payment by Check. Please mail the check to:

Sound Fly Fishers  
PO Box 2792  
Olympia, WA 98507

2. You can make your Dues payment using PayPal or a debit/credit card. Please use the link below:

SSFF Returning Member Dues

[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=BXHH6MJ3T5MAU](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=BXHH6MJ3T5MAU)

SSFF New Member Dues

[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=MZ7K35R8VKERJ](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=MZ7K35R8VKERJ)

## Munn Lake Fish Fund

The South Sound Fly Fishers have partnered with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to stock Munn Lake with quality sized fish (about 2.5 pounds to the fish) in the spring and in the fall. The fish are raised at the Lakewood Hatchery, and the club provides the funds for purchasing food for these fish.



If you would like to make a donation to help continue the Munn Lake project, please mail your check to: SSFF-Munn Lake Fund, PO Box 2792 Olympia, WA 98507.

A check will avoid credit card and PayPal Fees, but you are certainly welcome to use those methods. Regarding PayPal, there is a button on the top left of the Munn Lake web-page to make a donation via PayPal.

Thank you for supporting this project.



Munn Lake Sunset © Howard Nanto

## Membership

Phil Jaramillo, Chair



We were joined by eleven new members in March and April. Bios for everyone will be forthcoming, but I thought it would be great for everyone to put a name to the face.



Andy Salmeron



Ben Paull



Bert French





Dalton Gorham



Drew Amdahl



Greg Fewins



Mike Poe



Nate Wilson



Pam Turlove



Sheila Wilson



Tim Mettier

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## *Washington State Council FFI Government Affairs*

### *Mike Clancy, Chair*



## ***WSCFFI and The Academy***

Washington State Council Fly Fishers International (WSCFFI)

NorthWest Youth Conservation Fly Fishing Academy (NWYCFFA)

The Academy will be conducted for the first time at Panhandle 4H Camp on Panhandle Lake west of Shelton from June 18-24, 2023. Registration is open with all the information on the new website, [www.flyfish.academy](http://www.flyfish.academy). The website has all the necessary enrollment forms listed.

Three new Academy Directors - John Gravendyk, 425-615-0356, Bruce Merighi, 509-679-2274, Carol Anderson, 360-298-2999, and Matt Tuttle, Camp Director, will be conducting the academy this year. To learn about the Panhandle 4H Camp, go to their website [www.Panhandlecamp.com](http://www.Panhandlecamp.com). The facilities are incredible.

On the next page you'll find a letter from their directors.





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## 22nd Year for the NWYC&FF Academy by John Gravendyk

Panhandle Lake Camp near Shelton, WA is the sight for the year's academy. It starts on Sunday June 18 and ends Saturday June 24. Though the program cost per student is \$2,200, the tuition for a student is \$500 for the all inclusive (including room and board) week long program. The Academy has a full roster of students signed up at this point (16 boys and girls). There is a wait list currently of 3 or 4 kids for 2023.

We have a dozen presenters lined up and 15 or so volunteers who will help out in various roles. Molly Semenik (FFI Master Casting Instructor) will be providing casting instruction the students and will be with us the entire week. Olympia TU Chapter President J. Michelle Swope will also be leading a class on fly tying as she did in 2022. We are still looking for more volunteers. Interested parties can log onto [flyfish.academy](http://flyfish.academy) or [nwycffa.com](http://nwycffa.com), and click on "volunteer" at the top of the homepage. Fill out the form and we will be in contact.

Donations in any amount to help run the program are most appreciated. You may also earmark your contribution of \$500 toward providing tuition to a deserving young person (named or un-named) or a specific scholarship amount if less than full tuition. Please remit your contribution by check to:

NW Youth Conservation & Fly Fishing Academy  
% John Gravendyk  
818 291st Ave NE  
Carnation, WA 98014

The Academy can be a life changing experience for young people as they develop an enlightened understanding of stewardship, conservation and fly fishing. Please help us preserve this program!



### THE SOAPBOX

Today's conservation action items include visiting the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group website <https://www.pnwsalmoncenter.org>. They have multiple volunteer opportunities available year round including the Hood Canal Steelhead Project, chum salmon projects, and various work party projects.

Conservation Northwest still has volunteer openings to help with work along the Satsop River at the Highway 12 Bridge to improve wildlife crossing and the riparian corridor. Email [brian@conservationnw.org](mailto:brian@conservationnw.org) for more details and to register.

Today's science item comes from the Small Forest Landowner Office (SFLO) at the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) e-newsletter dated April 10, 2023. The article, "Our Amazing Little 'Kermit:' the Pacific Tree (or Chorus) frog" is written by Ken Bevis and Dr. Corey Straub on SFLO's website (<https://sflonews.wordpress.com>).

The pacific tree frog (*Pseudacris regilla*) is the most widespread frog in the northwest and can be quite loud. They measure 2-3 inches in length and almost 1 inch tall. They can live for 5 or more years. They are recognizable by the distinctive black eye stripe (present in all color variants). They vary in color from brown to gray to bright green. This is an example of color polymorphisms and helps limit predation. Some individuals can change body color (albeit slowly) to better blend in with their surroundings while others require more care about where they rest to blend in and avoid being eaten.



### Education / Community Outreach - by Randy Allen

#### Education

Our annual spring Intro to Fly Fishing class has concluded. We had a super enthusiastic bunch of positive students who became friends and new members! We look forward to enjoying time with you on lakes, streams, and the beaches near us.

We are currently in discussion with the City of Olympia for a casting class and also a class on fly tying. Look for casting to start late May or early June. Expect about seven weeks of casting. We will announce this in a future Hackle article. We are setting up the class dates while this is going to press, so stay tuned to your email.

Fly Tying, our formal class, will be held in the fall in one of the Olympia Center rooms. Look for this class to be offered October and continuing weekly through early December. And, the class includes additional “lab” evenings for the students to meet and practice tying their homework. Here you’ll receive additional personal attention to help with the techniques. Class dates are being scheduled with the city.

Here is our annual course program:

**Introduction to Fly Fishing**-Taught early spring, one night weekly.

What is fly fishing all about? Is this something I want to try?

Students learn fly fishing gear: rods, reels, lines and leaders, waders, boots, and floatation devices (boats). We discuss locating fish in rivers, lakes, and the salt water, as well as local fish species you’ll encounter. Our section on entomology teaches about the life cycles of various insects, and which artificial flies imitate them. Students learn three useful fly-fishing knots.

We include two Saturday mornings to introduce you to the basics of casting a fly rod.

Enrollment is through the City of Olympia Parks, Arts, and Recreation -

**Fly Casting** - taught spring-early summer, seven weeks, once per week. This class is for single-handed rod casting (not two-handed spey rods). Through this course you will cast a fly line for different situations including the wind. You’ll also learn to overcome the effect upon your line by moving river water.

**Introduction to Fly Tying** - taught in the fall, nine weeks. Students learn a new fly each week. Students also tie flies at home and bring their homework to the next class. The instructor-to-student ratio ensures students receive individual attention. We teach a variety of flies useful anywhere including nymphs, streamers, and dry flies. After completing the course students can apply their skills to other similar flies.

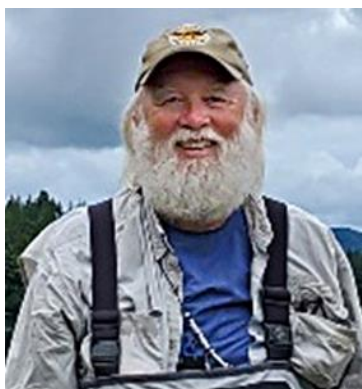
Please contact me with questions; my email is on the last page of the newsletter.

Tight lines!



Yakima River near Ellensburg © Howard Nanto





### May 25 & 27 - Summit Lake

We had outstanding fishing at Summit Lake last year for spunky recent rainbow plants. Most of us fished the area in front of and to the left of the launch. Does anyone know how to catch kokanee on a fly? Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife stocks over a quarter million kokanee fry in Summit Lake every year. There is a limited amount of shore access at the launch, so it is much better if you have a float tube or boat. Gas motors are allowed on this lake. Members with boats, please let folks know if you have space for another fly fisher. If you see other club members catching fish and you are not having much success, ask them what they are doing. They will most likely share some tips and probably a fly too!

Flies: wooly buggers, leeches, damsel flies, soft hackles

Lines: floating, intermediate, or full sink depending on style of fishing. Full sink might work best if trolling fairly fast in deeper water.

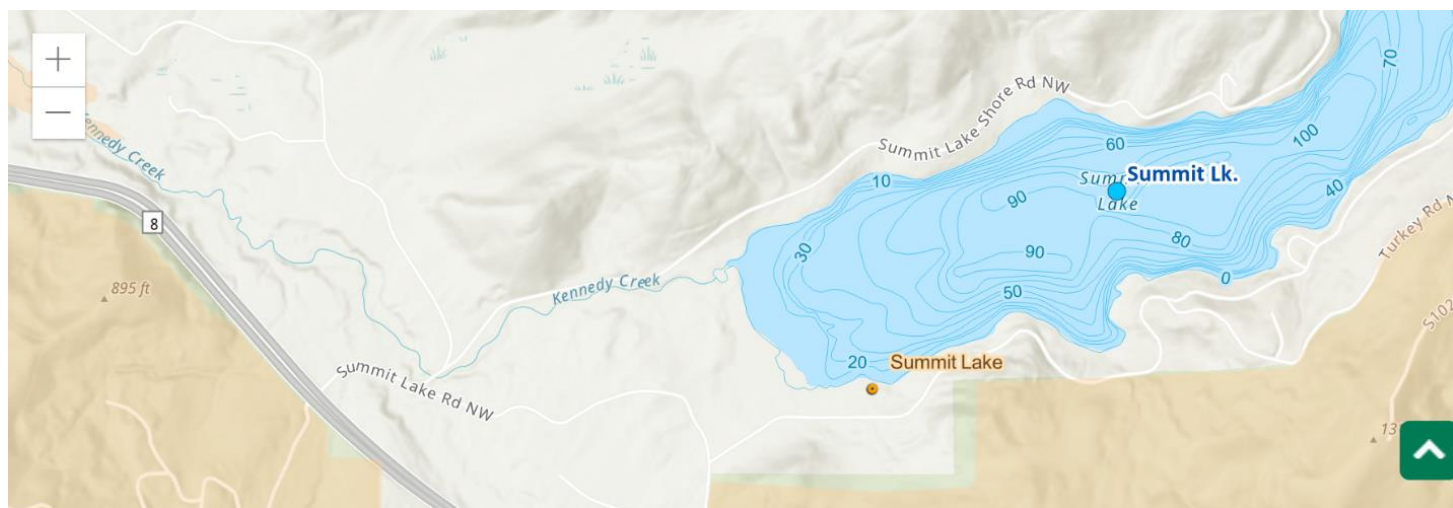
#### Recent Plants:

- April 11 - 500 jumbos (1 lb.)
- April 18 - 10,000 catchable (1/4 lb.)
- May ? - 20,000 catchable (1/4 lb.)
- May, October annually - Kokanee - 260,000 (fry)

For those members planning to attend this outing, there is going to be a meet-up at 8:00 am at Shipwreck Café on Mud Bay Rd.

Directions: Use Google Maps and get Directions.

Highway 8 West bound to Summit Lake Rd NW.



## SSFF 2023 OUTINGS

May 25 & 27	Summit Lake - Thurston Co. Rainbow trout.
Jun 22 & 24	Deep Lake - Thurston Co. Bluegill, bass, rainbow trout.
Jul 20 & 22	North Fork Skokomish River - Mason Co. Rainbow trout.
Aug 24 & 26	TBD beach for pink and coho salmon. Looking for suggestions for a beach where there is good access to fish and not too many folks tossing buzz bombs. Some candidates include Browns Point, Dash Point, and Point No Point.
Sep 21 & 23	Deschutes River - Thurston Co. Rainbow and cutthroat trout.
Oct 19 & 21	Nahwatzel Lake - Mason Co. Rainbow trout.
Nov 16 & 18	Twanoh State Park - Mason Co. Chum salmon.

Greetings Fly Fishers:

### **Here is a book on fishing for one of the most iconic fish in Puget Sound:**

#### **“FLY FISHING FOR SEARUN CUTTHROAT IN SOUTH PUGET SOUND”**

Mel Hurd, past President and a longtime member of SSFF, is the author of this incredible booklet. Mel originally wrote the booklet in 1993 and revised it in 2006. The 20 page booklet is one of the most informative references for the South Sound area with locations, tactics, etc. This booklet comes highly recommended by many members of our club who have had success by following Mel's tips.

It is a wonderful booklet, referencing everything you can think of regarding “FLY FISHING FOR SEARUN CUTTHROAT IN SOUTH PUGET SOUND.” It's very informative and an easy read. Fishing the salt is great in our area, and there are references to areas for easy access for fishing for searuns, plus recommendations on equipment and fishing techniques.

With Mel's permission SSFF is offering his booklet to interested members and non-members. We are asking for a minimum donation of \$10 which includes shipping via U.S. Mail (U.S. addresses only). All proceeds go into our Conservation donation fund. Some members have donated more than the minimum. For your extra donations we thank you!

Either send a check to Jim Maus Treasurer SSFF PO Box 2792, Olympia WA 98507 or use PayPal/credit card/debit card:

[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=GYWE6RQWY2CF4](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=GYWE6RQWY2CF4)

As soon as Jim receives your donation he will notify me with your address, and I will get the booklet to you.

**If you pay electronically, you will receive your booklet sooner than sending your check to the PO Box.**





The club is requesting donations from both club members and non-member donors for the club's fund raiser/auction to be held this May 20 and for our monthly meeting raffles. Donations can be new or used.

In addition, the donation of equipment is also welcome to be used in the club's outreach activities related to fly tying and fly casting.

If you have an item to donate please contact me using the *Contact* link on the club's web-site.



# **South Sound Fly Fishers**

## **Club Auction**

**May 20, 2023 5:00—8:00 PM**

**Black Lake Grange  
6011 Black Lake Blvd SW  
Olympia, WA**

**Proceeds go toward local Education and  
Conservation**

**Project Healing Waters  
Salmon and Steelhead  
Enhancement Groups**

**NW Youth Conservation  
Fly Fishing Academy  
Casting For A Cure**



**Conservation ♦ Education  
Outings ♦ Community Outreach**

**[www.southsoundflyfishers.org](http://www.southsoundflyfishers.org)**



Damsel Nymph © Jerry Criss (FFI Fly Tying Video Library)

## Damsel Nymph

### Materials List:

Hook: TMC 206 BL 14-16

Thread: Light olive

Tail: Light olive arctic fox tail hairs

Body: Medium to light olive arctic fox under fur

Body Veiling: Light olive arctic fox tail hairs

Eyes: Plastic or bead chain in olive or black

### Tying Steps

Step 1: Build a base layer of thread from the hook eye to about the middle of the hook shank.

Step 2: Tie in the eyes. Be sure to leave some space between the eyes and the hook eye. After tying in the eyes apply some fly cement to the wraps.

Step 3: Cut a piece of arctic fox fur and tease out the under fur, which can be saved as dubbing. Even out the tips before tying in. Tie in the hairs just behind the eyes (the hairs will extend past the eye and hook eye) and wrap down  $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$  of the shank.



Step 4: Cut another piece of arctic fox fur and tease out the under fur, which will now be used as dubbing for the body. Wrap the dubbing up to the eyes. Then go past the eyes and tie down the extended piece of the tail and cut off excess.

Step 5: Cut a piece of arctic fox fur (want to go from hook eye to base of tail) and tease out the under fur. Spread out the hairs like a fan and tie in front of the eyes (want the tips to be even with base of the tail) with two wraps. Then take two wraps behind the eyes. Pull the fur back over the eyes and tie down behind them. Trim as necessary to have it blend in with base of tail and shorten as necessary.

Step 6: Come back in front of the eyes and make a few wraps to finish the head and then whip finish.

Tying Instructions:

<https://youtu.be/6XqT2tDjxMk>

Club members are welcome to submit suggestions for a fly of the month. Please include a picture of the finished fly and tying instructions. Please send them to Bruce Baker (newsletter editor).



Long Pond © Howard Nanto

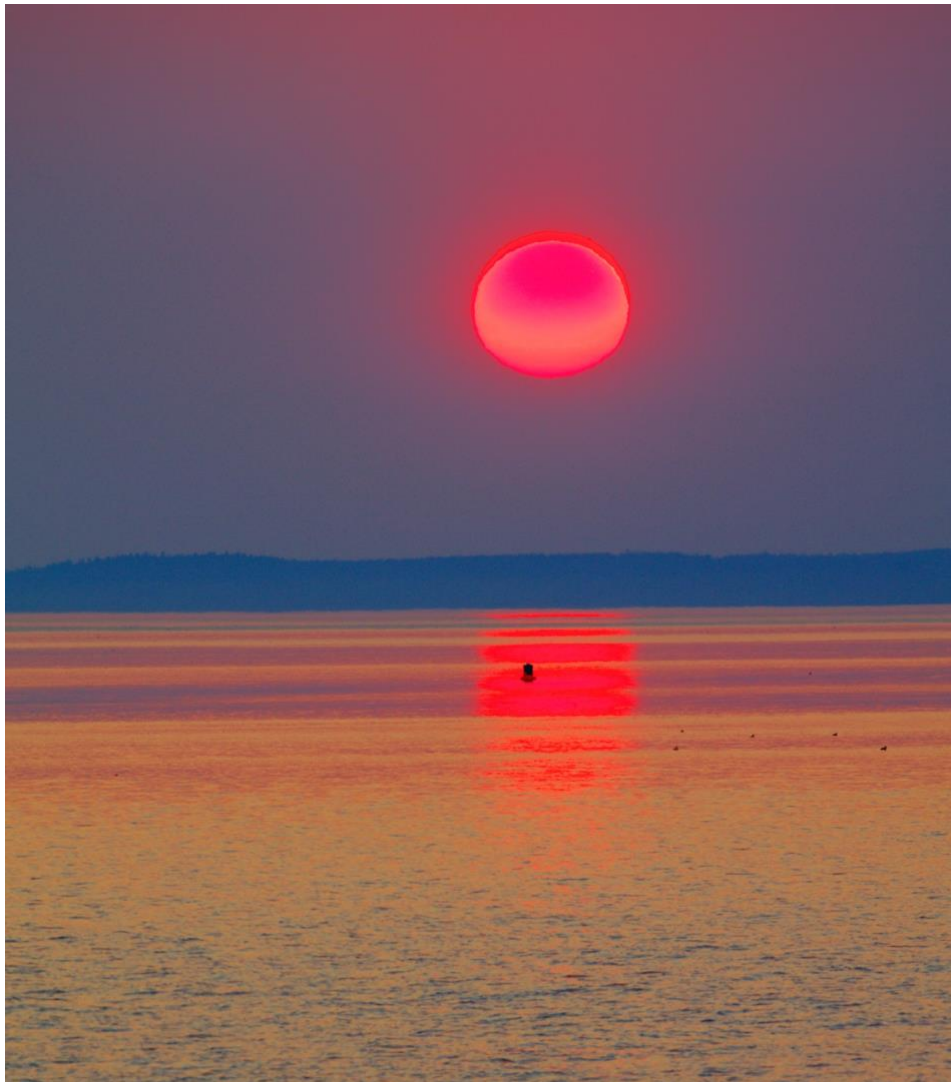


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## *Classifieds*

If you have an item or items that you would like to sell, please send a description, price, and contact information to Bruce Baker (newsletter editor).

The classifieds section is a courtesy to club members and all sales are the responsibility of the seller and the buyer. The South Sound Fly Fishers assumes no liability and will not settle disputes.



Port Angeles Sunrise © Howard Nanto



## **SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS – 2023 Officers, Directors, Chairs**

President: Lee Yeager

Vice President: Randy Allen

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Jim Maus

Director at Large: Vacant

Director at Large: Jared Wood

Past President: Randy Allen

Conservation: Harry Griffith

Education: Randy Allen

Fundraising: Kevin Angevine

Membership: Phil Jaramillo

Outings Chair: Doug Dunster

Programs: Lee Yeager

Webmaster/Facebook: Vic Andrade

Newsletter Editor: Bruce Baker

FFI/Gov't: Mike Clancy

Board of Directors Zoom meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month starting at 7:00 pm.

Club Meetings are conducted by Zoom and in-person at 7:00pm the third Tuesday of every month except August and December. Zoom is open at 6:30 if you want to visit and talk fly fishing. In-person meetings are held at the North Olympia Fire Department located at 5046 Boston Harbor Road NE, Olympia, WA. 98506. Doors will open at 6:30pm and the evening's program will start promptly at 7:15pm.

### Directions:

From the north - Use I-5 south exit 105B and stay right toward the port of Olympia. Follow the main road as it changes its name to East Bay Drive and then to Boston Harbor Road. About 4 miles north of the State Ave. signal is a Shell gas station; you'll find the Fire Department just past the Shell on the right side.

From the south - Use I-5 north exit 105 and stay right toward the port of Olympia. Go right (north) at the round-a-bout, then left at the Plum Street signal. Continue up Plum St. as it changes its name to East Bay Drive and then to Boston Harbor Road. About 4 miles north of the State Ave. signal is a Shell gas station; you'll find the Fire Department just past the Shell on the right side.

The meeting announcement and meeting Zoom code are sent to members and friends about a day ahead of the meeting by email. Website: [southsoundflyfishers.com](https://southsoundflyfishers.com).

USPS Mail Address: SSFF, PO BOX 2792, Olympia WA 98507

SSFF Garden Hackle Newsletter  
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