



South Sound Fly Fishers

# THE GARDEN HACKLE

Volume 24 Issue 10

October 2024

Page 1 Board of Directors vacancies needed7 to be filled	Page 1 Distribution of club funds to be determined and voted on	Page 7 This month’s fishing outing is a 3 day event at Blue Creek on Cowlitz River
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## Leader’s Line

Jared Wood, Club President



This time of year marks the season of preparation for the next calendar year of events with the South Sound Fly Fishers. We present a slate of officer candidates to club members during the October meeting and then vote on those candidates in November. We are still looking for members with a passion who are willing to serve as a Secretary, a Director at Large, and Chairs of Conservation and Outings. If you are interested, please contact any of the Board members to let them know using [Contact Us](#). You will also be getting a call from a member of our Nominations Committee looking for candidates. Service on our Board reminds me of how Winston Churchill stated, “Continuous effort - not strength or intelligence - is the key to unlocking our potential.” This club accomplishes so much throughout the year. We need your help.

We also start to prepare our calendar of speakers and programs along with the monthly outings. Please save Saturday, November 16 as a club Fly Tying gathering and 2025 event planning. The club will be providing lunch, most likely Tacos!

As I mentioned at our September club meeting we will also start the process of determining how to distribute funds and donations to various conservation groups and programs. Supporting conservation programs in Puget Sound has always been one of the primary objectives of the South Sound Fly Fishers. We need input from club members as to which groups you would like to see the club support with your financial donations. Last year we made donations to Fly Fishers International, Casting for Recovery, Project Healing Waters, Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group (SEG), The Osprey, and Western Rivers Conservancy. The donations made to these groups are in addition to the dedicated conservation funds that we support on an annual basis: Coastal Cutthroat Coalition, Alan Harger Fund ([NW Youth Conservation Fly Fishing Academy](#)), and the Munn Lake Stewardship Fund. The funds used by the club for conservation donations come from our bi-annual auction and from donations from individuals. If you have ideas for how to use club funds for conservation and education, please let us know.

Lastly, we recognized Jim Maus at our September club meeting for his years of service to our club in multiple volunteer capacities. Please join me in congratulating him on being nominated and receiving the Dale Sweeney Award, which is a recognition that happens only every few years as deserved.

### The Dale Sweeney Award

Named after Dale Sweeney, one of the South Sound Fly Fishers founding fathers, this award is given to members whose character and contributions to the sport and to the club reflect the highest standards of sportsmanship, integrity, and dedication. SSFF does not present this award regularly, but rather only in those cases where a member has either made exceptional contributions toward club endeavors, or where they have played key roles in club business over a long period of time.

*The Dale Sweeney Award was presented to Jim Maus for his exceptional contributions and influence to the South Sound Fly Fishers and our sport of fly angling. His actions reflected the highest standards of sportsmanship, integrity, and commitment. Jim's accomplishments have ensured the continued success of the SSFF's mission throughout the many years of his dedicated service.*

As always...“fly fishing is the most fun you can have when you are not catching fish.”  
Take care, be well, and tight lines!

Jared Wood  
SSFF President  
[president@southsoundflyfishers.org](mailto:president@southsoundflyfishers.org)



Tom



Our speaker this month will be Heather Hodson (she/her/hers), the visionary behind iFishiBelong, Fly Fish Instruct, and United Women on the Fly. Heather calls Spokane, Washington her home, nestled in the heart of west slope cutthroat country with her life partner. Frequently characterized as a "Jill of All Trades" and an everlasting fly-fishing student, Heather stands out for her contagious enthusiasm for knowledge-sharing, mentoring, philanthropy, and innovative thinking. Despite not adhering to the conventional image of a fly-fishing instructor, Heather and her Fly Fish Instruct team symbolize the industry's future.

## DIY Fishing the West -

Join Heather Hodson as she takes you on a DIY fly-fishing journey of four top locations in the western United States. Heather will discuss what's needed to be a successful angler in these locations, including fishing equipment, fishing techniques, hatch charts, baitfish migrations, flies, and leader examples. The roadmap includes travel, lodging/camping, best bites, favorite watering holes, supporting local fly shops, and must stop tourist traps.

The first stop is the Puget Sound in Washington State. Imagine yourself fishing with the Seattle Skyline for wild coastal cutthroat during the day and enjoying a 5-star meal in the evening. Next, we head to the sacred Paiute ancestral lands with the chance of catching a 20 lb trout on 5x tippet. The third stop is experiencing the emerald green water of the Green River, floating through the Flaming Gorge. Finally, we'll head to the famous Missouri River for headhunting, sipping trout, and swinging flies.

[Bio & more pics](#)



*Heather Hodson Bio-Alaska Rainbow Trout*



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## Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International (WSCFFI) & Government Affairs

Mike Clancy, Chair



The Council conducted the Fly fishing expo in Vancouver, WA. on Saturday, September 21. The classes were full, fly tying had a reasonable attendance, and the casting had the most attention. Steve Saville conducted the testing for the casting - bronze, silver, and gold. There were various stations: Walk-in-clinic, Casting Class #1, Casting class #2 and the Skills Development. All had good attendance. Tim Rajeff conducted a demonstration and talk on rods, lines and etc. He is an amazing caster. He could throw a line a good distance, bare-handed, without a rod. Tim is the founder of Rajeff Sports in Vancouver, Wa. The company's primary brand is Echo Fly Rods. Since retiring, Tim said he has decided to get back involved with the FFI. He gave a recent FFI online presentation on fly rod design and selecting the rod to match a caster's abilities. The Clark-Skamania Flyfishers did an incredible job in helping setting up the event.

The NW Youth Conservation Fly Fishing Academy experienced another successful event this last June for 18 young boys and girls ages 12-16. Four of the participants came from out of state. The Academy will be conducted again at Panhandle 4H Camp west of Shelton on June 21-28, 2025. Over the years I've had contact with previous attendees via the internet; I've received graduation announcements, wedding announcements, and believe it or not, baby announcements from the past kids. These youth/adults now are wonderful, successful, just great citizens. There are some changes with the staff. John Gravendyk had to resign for personal reasons, and Jim Goedhart has taken over John's duties. I highly recommend that everyone goes to the Academy website to learn what the Academy is about and their goals. The website is absolutely incredible. Co-director Bruce Merighi is the editor of the website. [NW Youth Conservation Fly Fishing Academy](#)

Randy Allen has kicked-off another fly fishing education program at the Senior Center in downtown Olympia. Thirteen students attended the program's first night class. The classes will run Monday evenings 6:00 8:30 pm, Oct 7 through December 16. Labs will be held every other Thursday evening starting Oct 17 for students that wish additional instruction. After instruction on fly tying tools, the class tied the Woolly Bugger. Randy's class is being assisted by many members of the SSSF, they are helping the students in their first fly of eight for the total class. Randy also edited a three ring binder for the students to keep for their future fly fishing experience. This is the reason Randy received the WSCFFI Education award this year, and our Club was awarded the education award last year

That's all folks.



At our September's meeting I was honored to receive the FFI Washington State Council Pat Herdt Education Award.

I am humbled and honored to have been selected. Somewhat reminiscent of "Field of Dreams" my motto has been "If we teach it, they will come." Many folks want to learn to fly fish, but they don't know where to find training. On-line videos and books do so much for so many, but, our personal touch is so important. When you finish the intro class in the springtime it's likely that Kevin Angevine will invite you out in his boat to provide his personal one-on-one coaching.

And so the SSFF began its program of 21 weeks of fly-fishing training each year: introducing folks to fly fishing, casting, and fly-tying. Numerous SSFF instructors show up at each class to share their skills.

Together our education teams have created top-notch training books and courseware materials we provide to our students. These are being requested to provide to other organizations in the FFI family. And we're happy to do so.

Although my name appears on the Herdt award plaque, it's not right to accept that award without crediting those who have participated in our training programs. Whether it was our own classes, or to help teach our local middle school classes, or introducing the community of Belfair to fly-tying, the following members need to be recognized. I see all of these names when I look at that plaque.

Don Alexander, Tobey Anderson, Vic Andrade, Kevin Angevine, David Brenna, Dave Brombach, Mike Clancy, Alex Courpas, Wayne Dixon, Max Doerge, Doug Dunster, Fran Eide, Steve Farquhar, Dave Field, Bert French, Al Harger, Mel Hurd, Phil Jaramillo, John Johns, John Johns, Justin Johnson, Justin Johnson, Bruce Lincoln, Jim Maus, Jim McAllister, Loren McAllister, Tim Mettier, Jeff Miller, Jay Paulson, Chuck Pfeil, Gene Rivers, Burt and Ginger Sarver, Jim Voss, Jared Wood, John Woods, and Lee Yeager. I hope I've not left anyone out.

FFI - thank you for recognizing me. SSFF team - thank you for making education one of your personal priorities to pass this sport forward to the next awaiting angler!

Let's go teach something!

By the time this newsletter is published we will have started our Intro to Fly Tying class for 15 eagerly awaiting students. This class began with a request from the City for some fly-fishing outreach to the community. Maybe a one-night fly-tying class? (They are not fly tyers.) So began the creation of our 8 week class.

Each class has maxed out at 15 students. We limit the student count to provide hands-on help; we want no more than two students per instructor. There are plenty of tricks and tips to teach, and this is the first time most students will tie a fly. We are there for them.

**Thank Kevin Angevine and Lee Yeager** for packing up the material packets each student will receive. It is a huge effort to hand select the quality and size of each material item. Also helping to instruct are **Mike Clancy, Steve Farquhar, Bert French, “Lefty” Phil Jarmillo, Bruce Lincoln, Tim Mettier, Jay Paulson, and Lee Yeager.** **THANK YOU** in advance!



*FlyTying Oct 7 2024*

We also received our annual request from the City to schedule next spring’s *Introduction to Fly Fishing*. We receive inquiries from our web-site from future students and folks looking to provide their spouse with a gift of this intro class. Here is our annual education program:

**Introduction to Fly Fishing** - Taught during February - March.

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 evening on entomology teaches about the life cycles of various insects, and which artificial flies imitate them. Students also 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). You will cast a fly line for different situations including the wind. You’ll also learn to “mend” your line to overcome the effect upon your line by moving river water.

**Introduction to Fly Tying** - Taught weekly in the fall. Students learn to tie eight flies. Students also tie flies at home and bring their homework to the next class. Students will receive plenty of individual attention. We teach a variety of flies useful anywhere including nymphs, streamers, and dry flies. After completion students can apply their skills to numerous other, similar flies.

Please contact Randy with questions. <https://southsoundflyfishers.org/contact/>

# Outings

Doug Dunster, Chair



**October 17-19 - Blue Creek on Cowlitz River** - coho, spring and fall chinook, summer run steelhead, sea-run cutthroat

**Chili Feed and Potluck: Friday evening** - Max will fix chili and other folks can bring side dishes. We will have a sign-up sheet at the Club Meeting..

This month's outing will be to Blue Creek on the Cowlitz River. This will be an overnighter for those that want to or you can just come up for the day.

Some members are planning to arrive Wednesday night and stay and fish Thursday Oct 17, Friday Oct 18 and Saturday Oct 19. There should be a variety of salmonids available including: coho, spring and fall chinook, summer run steelhead and sea-run cutthroat. Coho run typically peaks in October with good numbers already this year through end of September (10,486 > 2x 5-yr avg. to date). A good spring chinook run is petering out with a few fish still around and fall chinook run has started with numbers slightly less than 5-yr. average (ytd). A good run of summer-run steelhead is petering out and winter runs aren't showing yet. Some of the summer-run steelhead that arrive at the hatchery get recycled (i.e. trucked back down river to give fishermen another shot at them).

See link below for fish counts through Sept 28, 2024.

<https://www.mytpu.org/wp-content/uploads/9-28-2024-Weekly-Table.pdf>

**Flies:** Typical salmon and steelhead streamers, jigs and egg patterns.

**Rods & Lines:** 8 wt. shooting heads with sink tips salmon and steelhead. 4 or 5 wt. for cutthroat

There is an area that you can wade fish, or you can fish from a drift boat or a pontoon boat. Individual floatation tube and kayaks are not recommended.

**Contact for more information:** Max Doerge - (360) 790-6613

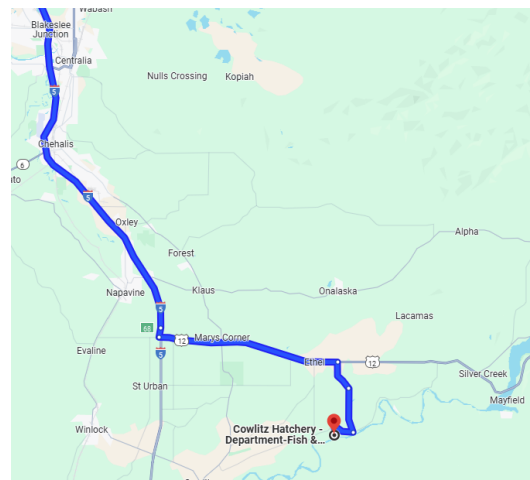
## Directions

Olympia - Blue Creek on Cowlitz River (Cowlitz Hatchery - Dept Fish & Wildlife)

Approximately 50 miles

- Take I5 South
- US-12 East (exit 68) towards Morton/Yakima
- Turn right onto Brim Rd
- Turn right onto Spencer Rd
- Turn left onto Osprey Ln
- Cowlitz Hatchery - Department-Fish & Wildlife

Look for the club's banner and sandwich boards at the site



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 sea-runs, 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.**



## South Sound Fly Fishers - 2024 Outings

March 21 & 23	Munn Lake	Thurston County	Rainbow, Cutthroat, Bass & Blue Gill
April 18 & 20	Spencer Lake	Mason County	Rainbow
May 17-19	Carlisle Lake and Cowlitz River	Onalaska	Rainbow & Cutthroat
June 20 & 22	Summit Lake	Thurston County	Rainbow, Kokanee & Bass
July 18 & 20	Skookumchuck River	Lewis County	Rainbow & Cutthroat
August 22 & 24	Kokanee Lake aka Lower Lake Cushman	Mason County	Rainbow
September 21	Fly Fishers International Casting Skills Development	Clark College, Vancouver, WA	
October 17 - 19	Cowlitz River	Lewis County	Coho, Cutthroat & Steelhead
November 23	Fly Tying - Boston Harbor Fire Station	Boston Harbor Fire Station	

Visit [Catchable trout plant reports - Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife](#) for information on the stocking dates, and numbers and sizes of fish that have been stocked to see where you might want to cast a fly.



*Loomis Chopaka Grade*



**Do you have item(s) that you don't use?  
Have you considered donating it/them to the club?**

*SSFF is registered as a not-for-profit corporation with the State of Washington and is an exempt organization under section 501 (c) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations to SSFF may be tax deductible to the full extent of IRS guidelines.*

While SSFF operates in 'Good Faith,' all sales are considered "As Is" condition. SSFF assumes no liability and the buyer purchases items at their own risk.

**There are 2 approaches that can be taken.**

**The first, and preferred method (Donation):**

Donate the item(s) to the club, and we will list it in our classifieds. All money from the sale of the item(s) will be added to the club's general fund.

**The second method (Private Sale) available for current paid members only:**

List your item(s) in our classified as a private sale. **No retail, business or commercial sales are permitted.** This will be a transaction between the seller and purchaser. The club will not act as an arbitrator or as an agent for either party. The SSFF club will accept NO liability in this transaction.

We suggest that a donation in the amount of 20% of the sale price be granted to the SSFF club. The SSFF is an IRS recognized non-profit.

The SSFF will list the item(s) in both our monthly newsletter and our website (<https://southsoundflyfishers.org/>) under Donations and Support - Classified.

The format will include:

- a short description (20 words maximum)
- price
- contact information (**list only the contact info that you are comfortable listing.**)
- no photos will be accepted for a private sale.

**Example:**

**XYZ fly rod & reel (5 wt) - \$100 - Contact John Doe ([johndoe@xmail.com](mailto:johndoe@xmail.com)) 555-333-4444**

To donate item(s) to your club, or to take advantage of your club's classifieds for a private sell, please contact the Fundraising Chair, Kevin Angevine via [southsoundflyfishers.org/contact/](https://southsoundflyfishers.org/contact/)



The following items are available for purchase from the SSFF club:

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**Cabela's Stowaway Fly Rod 7'6" 4 weight 5 piece rod  
w/ Pflueger Medalist Reel Model 1594RC  
\$135**



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**Okuma Sierra S 8-9  
w/ Cabela's new WF8F Floating Line  
\$60**



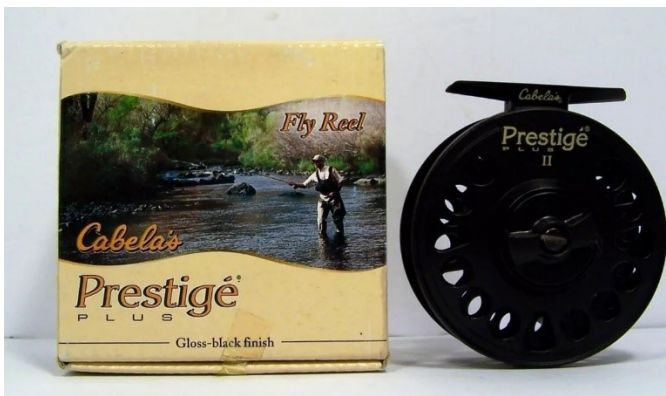
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Okuma SLV 4-5 reel  
w/ St Croix Rio Santo 2 piece 9' 5 weight rod  
\$200



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Cabela's Prestige Plus II Reel  
Brand New  
\$45





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Women Simms Boots  
Size 7 - never worn  
\$50



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Men's White River Boots  
Size 10 Reg - Worn Only twice  
\$45



# Fly of the Month

<https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/>  
[https://youtu.be/ZWm\\_NsdV6-4?t=933](https://youtu.be/ZWm_NsdV6-4?t=933) (video)

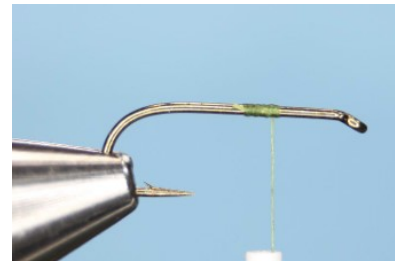
## Lafontaine Sparkle Caddis Pupa



Written by: Jerry Coviello  
Photographed By: Jerry Coviello  
Creator: Gary Lafontaine

Hook: Daiichi 1560 1X Strong 1XL  
Wet/Nymph Hook  
Thread: Color to match the body -  
Olive 6/0  
Underbody: Olive Sparkle Antron Dubbing  
Bubble: Olive Antron Yarn  
Legs: Partridge Body Feather  
Thorax: Brown Antron Sparkle Dubbing

1. Start the thread one third back from the eye of the hook. Leave the hook bare behind the eye of the hook.



2. Tie in two strands of the Olive Antron Yarn. One strand on the far side of the hook and the other on the near side of the hook.



3. Dub a body using the Olive Antron Sparkle Dubbing at least two thirds of the shank length.
4. Make open spirals of the thread to behind the eye of the hook.

5. Pull the two strands of Antron yarn on both sides of the hook and get ready to secure them behind the eye of the hook.

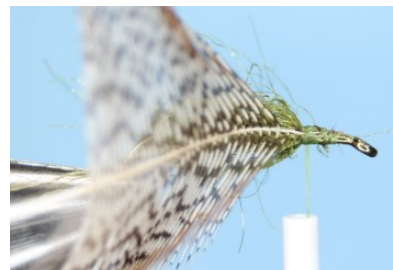


6. Secure with tight wraps the Antron Yarn behind the eye of the hook.

7. Pull the yarn towards the body of the fly. This is why the hook was left bare so the material would slide to form the bubble. Secure the Antron yarn into position with tight wraps then cut the excess yarn.



8. Tie in a Partridge feather by the tip.



9. Wrap the partridge feather twice and then secure the feather. Each wrap stroke the fibers rearward towards the bend of the hook



10. Dub a thorax with dark brown Antron Sparkle Dubbing. Whipfinish and done.





2024 SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS Officers, Directors, Chairs	
President	Jared Wood
Vice President	Max Doerge
Secretary	<b>Open Seat</b>
Treasurer	Lee Yeager
Director at Large	Tim Veneziano
Director at Large	<b>Open Seat</b>
Past President	Lee Yeager
Conservation	<b>Open Seat</b>
Education	Randy Allen
Fundraising	Kevin Angevine
Membership	Phil Jaramillo
Outings Chair	Doug Dunster
Programs	Lee Yeager
Webmaster/Facebook	Vic Andrade
Newsletter Editor	Dave Brombach
FFI/Gov't	Mike Clancy

If you are interested in filling an open seat, please contact the President or Vice President at [southsoundflyfishers.org/contact/](https://southsoundflyfishers.org/contact/)



<b>South Sound Fly Fishers - 2024 Meeting Dates</b>	
<b><u>Board Of Directors Meetings</u></b>	<b><u>Club Membership Meetings</u></b>
Jan 9 (in person)	Jan 16
Feb 6	Feb 20
Mar 5	Mar 19
Apr 2 (in person)	Apr 16
May 7	May 21
June 4 (in person)	June 18
July 2	July 16 - This month's meeting
Aug 6 (in person)	Aug 20 - Annual Picnic @ Scott Lake
Sept 3	Sep 17
Oct 1 (in person)	Oct 15
Nov 5 (in person)	Nov 19
Dec 3	No meeting this month

Board of Directors meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month starting at 7:00 PM with the noted exceptions as indicated above.

Club Meetings are conducted by Zoom and in-person at 7:00 PM the third Tuesday of every month except December. Zoom is open at 6:30 PM 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.

**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.org](https://southsoundflyfishers.org)  
 USPS Mail Address: SSFF, PO BOX 2792, Olympia WA 98507