

AgForestry

LEADERSHIP

Cultivate, Communicate, Collaborate, Inspire, Serve



WHAT IS AGFORESTRY LEADERSHIP?

Recognized as the premier leadership development program in Washington State, the Washington Agriculture and Forestry Education Foundation, founded in 1977, began its first class in 1978 to develop leaders. The program offers hands-on learning experiences to achieve our Mission: To cultivate leaders in agriculture, forestry and natural resources who communicate, collaborate, inspire and serve. Over 18 months, 11 leadership seminars are presented throughout Washington on topics including: Communications, Group Dynamics & Public Speaking, Working with Media, Social Services, State Government, Forestry, Agriculture, the Columbia River System, Crime & Corrections, and Transportation. The Program also features 1-week in Washington DC learning about National Government and a 2-week seminar on International Trade, Culture and Government in a selected foreign country.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Few things touch our lives more in Washington State than our agriculture, forestry and natural resource industries. They provide successful livelihoods, quality of life for millions and collectively make the largest economic impact in the state.

Strong leadership is needed now more than ever in natural resources with evolving technology, challenges in the global economy, and regulatory changes in government.

OUR MISSION

We cultivate leaders in agriculture, forestry and natural resources who communicate, collaborate, inspire and serve.

AGFORESTRY GRADUATES ARE LEADERS WHO:

- ◆ Educate, work on and advocate for water, environmental, social, economic development, international trade, and policy issues with organizations and communities
- ◆ Communicate skillfully, collaborate on tough issues and seek common sense solutions
- ◆ Understand policy development
- ◆ Work effectively with legislators and members of Congress
- ◆ Are highly skilled critical thinkers who constitute a dynamic network that is working daily to keep Washington State's natural resource industries vibrant and growing
- ◆ Provide leadership from the grassroots up, serve local, state and federal government, and NGO's
- ◆ Take the lead as creative entrepreneurs, create new marketing and production systems, add economic value and develop new markets domestically and overseas
- ◆ Serve as a voice for our natural resources industries



THE BENEFITS OF AGFORESTRY

VISION

To positively impact and enrich lives and communities in Washington State and throughout the world with leading edge solutions for challenges faced by Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources

Resources

The AgForestry Leadership Program features more than 250 expert speakers annually on various topics relevant to agriculture, forestry and natural resources. It brings together a variety of top-quality leaders from every area of the natural resources community and reinforces that we are all connected through government policy, industry practices, and community relationships.

Network

The AgForestry network includes numerous industry partners and over 1,084 program participants. Many have and do serve in leadership positions throughout the state, nationally and internationally. The network facilitates relationship building with people you may not otherwise have contact with, such as environmental communities, regulators and legislators - locally, statewide, nationally and globally, and allows you to connect with and learn from others who may be in your specific area or industry.

Return on Investment

Employers and individuals who make the investment and support participation in the program can be assured that class members are learning and acquiring leadership skills that will be incorporated into their jobs and communities. The unique experiences provided through the program result in significant returns and outcomes personally and professionally.

Sustainability

Through the dedicated investment and volunteer efforts of many people, The Program is funded almost entirely by giving partners in the private sector, individuals, businesses, and private foundations. The value of the leadership development program is more than \$26,000. AgForestry contributors provide \$20,000+ towards the actual cost. The participant or their employer is responsible for \$3,000 per program year with payment options available. We are very proud that of every dollar contributed, more than 90 cents go directly to Program Services.

LEADERSHIP CLASS 40



Ag-Forestry taught me skills and provided learning opportunities that fundamentally changed my local and world view and my roles in those environments. I made lifelong friends and gained a network of professionals with shared experiences. Helen and I continue to support Ag-Forestry to help others receive the many benefits that the leadership program provides, for the good of natural resource management and our communities.

~ Norm Schaaf - Class 9

Washington Agriculture and Forestry Education Foundation

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The AgForestry Leadership Program is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization recognized by Washington State. Federal Tax ID number 91-1016445.