

BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Considers Opting-in to Voluntary Stewardship Program
Open House November 21

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Contacts: Jeff Spencer, Yakima County Public Services Planning Division Assistant Director
(509)574-2300
Lisa Freund, Yakima County Public Services Administrative Supervisor
(509) 574-2300

YAKIMA, WA – The Board of County Commissioners wants to hear from the citizens of Yakima County about whether to participate in the Voluntary Stewardship Program, an outcome of the Ruckelshaus Process and House Bill 1886. An Open House to receive comments will take place Monday, November 21 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Yakima Convention Center, 10 N. 8th Street, Yakima.

The Voluntary Stewardship Program is an alternative to updating the Critical Areas Ordinance as it applies to agricultural operations. There are several elements to the program that include obtaining adequate funding, establishing a group to administer the program locally, and working with the needs of the farming community while protecting critical areas where agricultural activities take place.

Written Suggestions Due November 28

Any person may provide written comments on issues related to the program. Public Comment will be accepted from November 14th - 28th. Comments may be submitted through one of the following ways:

Email: planning_info@co.yakima.wa.us

Mail:

Public Services - Planning Division, VSP Comment Form
Yakima County Courthouse Fourth Floor
128 North Second Street
Yakima, WA 98901

Drop off:

Open House on November 21st at the Convention Center between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., or Yakima County Public Services, Fourth Floor Courthouse at the front counter.

All written comments received by 4:00 p.m., Monday, November 28, 2011 will be considered.

To download a comment form or for more information, please visit the Voluntary Stewardship Program website at <http://www.yakimacounty.us/planning/VoluntaryStewardshipProgram/Default.htm>.

###