



## Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

Padilla Bay Reserve, part of NOAA's National Estuarine Research Reserve System, was designated in 1980 and is managed by the Washington State Department of Ecology. The Reserve owns and manages approximately 11,000 acres of the bay and nearly 200 upland acres.

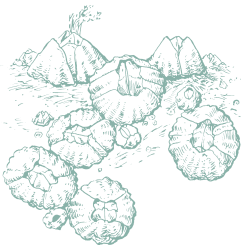
### Padilla Bay Habitats

Padilla Bay's eelgrass meadows are the largest in the state, offering feeding areas for migratory waterfowl, nursery areas for young fish and crabs, and habitat for a complex community of organisms. Low tide exposes a vast mud flat supporting millions of worms, shrimp, clams and other invertebrates.

### Breazeale Interpretive Center

The Breazeale Interpretive Center sits on sixty-four upland acres and overlooks the bay. It offers a place for people of all ages to learn more about estuaries, watersheds, and coastal areas.

- Interactive exhibits
- Saltwater aquaria
- Hands On Room
- Curriculum and reference library
- Meeting Rooms
- Theater
- Trails



## Registration Information

To arrange a program for your group, or to bring a group through the exhibits on your own, call the Interpretive Center office at (360) 428-1558.

Scheduling begins **September 1** for the following calendar year. Because popular spring dates fill quickly, please call early.

Programs are offered Tuesday-Saturday year-round, with additional Monday programs scheduled in the spring. The Interpretive Center is open to the public Wednesday-Sunday, 10:00AM-5:00PM.

### Cost

Most programs offered at the Padilla Bay Reserve are free. Please consider joining or donating to the non-profit Padilla Bay Foundation to help defray costs. Call the Reserve office for more information.



Padilla Bay Reserve  
Washington State  
Department of Ecology  
10441 Bay View-Edison Road  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273  
(360) 428-1558



Estuarine Reserve Division  
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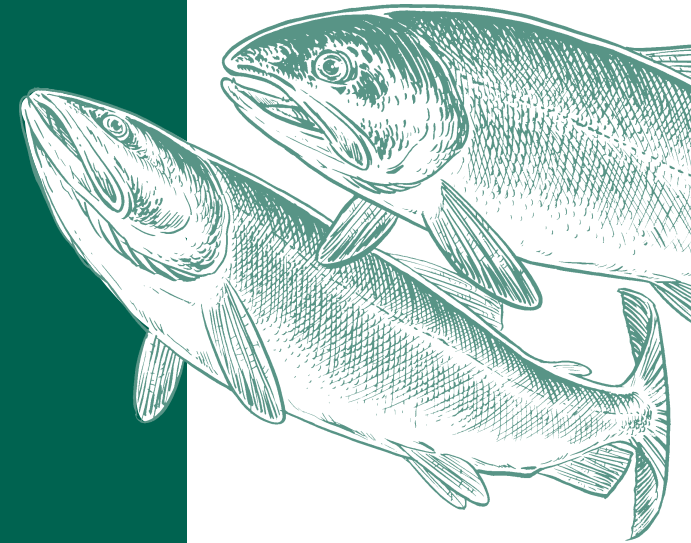
If you need this publication in a format for the visually impaired, please call Padilla Bay at 360-428-1558. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341.



# Padilla Bay

National Estuarine  
Research Reserve

## Education Programs



# Education at the Padilla Bay Reserve

## School Programs

Education programs at the Padilla Bay Reserve focus on estuaries, watersheds and how our decisions affect these important coastal ecosystems. Our goal is to offer a fun, interactive encounter with Padilla Bay to foster a greater appreciation of estuaries while meeting the educational needs of teachers.

### Preschool and Kindergarten

This 1 - 1½ hour program keeps young children involved with an interactive story, creative movement, a short film, and time in the hands-on exhibits.

### Grades 1 - 3

A 1½ hour program includes an introduction to estuary vocabulary and ideas through the interactive Estuary Soup skit and Padilla Bay Reserve's award winning Estuary film. Educators emphasize the concepts of productivity, food chains, and habitat, and encourage responsible stewardship at the beach.

### Grades 4 - 8

This 4 - 5 hour program incorporates many styles of learning and many aspects of estuary ecology. After an interactive introduction by the Estuary Soup Chef, students explore the beach and mud flats at Bay View State Park. Activities include microscopic viewing of plankton and estuary organisms, a tour of the exhibits and saltwater aquaria, an historical "chalk talk" on how people have used estuaries, and a discussion of things students can do to help estuaries.

### High School

Award-winning interdisciplinary programs are available, ranging from water quality monitoring and field ecology to nature writing. Please call to discuss your specific educational needs.

### University

The education staff is happy to work with you to develop a program that meets the needs and level of your group.

## International Brant Monitoring Program

Students, citizens, and wildlife managers from Alaska to Mexico are involved in monitoring the migration of a sea goose called the brant. Participants observe and count brant in the field and share their observations and data on the Internet. The curriculum, data, and observations are available at: [www.padillabay.gov/brant](http://www.padillabay.gov/brant).

## Teacher Workshops

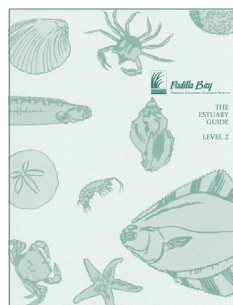
Padilla Bay Reserve periodically offers workshops specifically for educators on topics such as watershed education, nature poetry, Project Wet, and estuary ecology. Clock hour credits are offered for workshops over 3 hours. Call the reserve office to join the Teacher Email List or to request a workshop for your school or district.

## Curricula

Three different curricula offer ideal supplements for a trip to the Padilla Bay Reserve or for anyone studying estuaries, watersheds, and coastal issues.

Level 1 – Kindergarten through grade 3. Includes classroom lessons and activities, songs, tips on taking a field trip to the beach, and resources.

Level 2 – Grades 4 through 8. Includes classroom activities, interdisciplinary explorations with an estuary theme, watershed studies, field trip ideas, and other resources.



Level 3 – High school. Contains student text on geology, history, ecology, the arts, and human development of estuaries, as well as field trip suggestions, water quality monitoring, writing activities.

Download the curricula at [www.padillabay.gov](http://www.padillabay.gov), or pick up a free hard copy at the Reserve.

## Adult Workshops and Classes

Classes, presentations, and lectures are open to the public, often free of charge. Topics include natural history, current research in Padilla Bay, arts, climate change and coastal/watershed issues.

## Coastal Training Program

This program offers technical, science-based training to professionals who make decisions about the management of our coastal resources. The CTP web-site, [www.CoastalTraining-WA.com](http://www.CoastalTraining-WA.com), offers information and online registration.



## Family Programs

Regularly scheduled programs are described in the quarterly Padilla Bay Newsletter, and include monthly children's programs, fish feeding, films, hikes, and mud flat explorations. Call the office at (360) 428-1558 to be added to the mailing list or select "Newsletter" at [www.padillabay.gov](http://www.padillabay.gov).

## Web site

View the Estuary Guide curriculum and quarterly newsletter, register for programs, and find out more about research in Padilla Bay. Visit [www.padillabay.gov](http://www.padillabay.gov).