

South Sound Estuary Association

SSEA is an educational non-profit dedicated to increasing knowledge and awareness of the south Puget Sound's special ecosystem—the intertwining of its hydrology, biology, geology and human history—through several programs:



Beach Naturalists

We put trained volunteers on four public-park beaches in Thurston County during summertime minus tides to help beachcombers better understand the ecosystem they're visiting.



Discovery Speaker Series

We provide a free speaker series during the winter months, where experts in various marine-science subjects discuss their specialties at the LOTT auditorium in downtown Olympia.



Pier Peer

Our nighttime underwater viewing of marine life at the Boston Harbor Marina. Many sea creatures are attracted to spotlights at night, like moths to a flame, providing a peek into their realm.



South Sound Naturalists

In partnership with the Hands-On Children's Museum, we provide trained naturalists at the HOCM facility to help kids learn about the mysteries of their nearby marine environment.



South Sound Estuarium

The first step in our goal of a permanent aquarium and marine science center on the Olympia waterfront. Opened at 608 Washington St. NE in July, 2013, the Estuarium features aquatic tanks and numerous displays and exhibits.

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