



NORTHWEST GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A regional association of professionals, students & others interested in geology
Please browse www.nwgs.org for more about us

November 2012 Newsletter

Volume 26, Number 7

November 13 Program Speaker

Speakers: Bill Laprade, Shannon and Wilson

Title: Landsliding in the Puget Lowland

Abstract:

Landsliding in the Puget Lowland owes its ubiquity to a geologic history rich in glacial sediments and a focused interval of rainfall each year. Additionally, the footprint of humans in the past 100 years has been significant in concentrated areas. Nearly all slope instability has multiple contributing factors, and the Puget Lowland is no exception. In the field, geologists not only look for the indicators of recent and long-past instability, but also attempt to determine the causes of each event, whether for forensic or mitigation purposes.

The Seattle Landslide Study, completed in 2000, documents 1,428 landslides in the city, categorizes them, and offers mitigation strategies for remediation. The programs implemented by the study appear to have reduced the frequency of landslides in Seattle, and the USGS research spawned by the data provided the public and the geologic community with many benefits.

It has long been assumed that population densification has had only detrimental effects on the frequency of landslides; however, when done properly, development can have benefits with regard to mass wasting. There appear to be life stages in a city with regard to landslides; from youth to maturity.

PROGRAM DINNER RESERVATIONS: NWGS members: **\$40**; Non-members: **\$45**; Full-time students : **\$20**. \$45 for LATE REGISTRATION. Make your reservation and payment on-line at www.nwgs.org (or mail your payment to *Northwest Geological Society, 4616 25th Ave NE #397, Seattle, WA. 98105* (must be received by Thursday prior to meeting)). Contact [Dan Smith](mailto:Dan.Smith@nwgs.org) at 206-937-5313 or nwgeo@yahoo.com.

If attending the speaker program only, a \$5 voluntary donation to help defray the meeting room cost is requested.
Location: Pacific Dining Hall at the [Talaris Conference Center](#), 4000 NE 41st St., Seattle, WA. Ph 206-268-7000. **Directions:** See [on-line directions with map](#), or: from I-5 northbound or southbound in Seattle, take Exit 168B (NE 45th St.). Drive east on NE 45th St. past UW down the hill and past University Village. Turn south (right) onto Mary Gates Memorial Drive at the 5-way intersection. MGM Drive will curve east (left) and become NE 41st St. Continue several blocks to the [Talaris Conference Center](#) entrance on the north (left) side. We meet in the Pacific Dining room on the left.

5:30pm: No-host social hour
6:30pm: Buffet dinner
7:30pm: Speaker program
All are welcome to attend –
reservations are required
if coming for dinner.

► [Reservations here](#) 

Upcoming Speakers and Field Trips

December 11: TBA

January 8: TBA

February 12: TBA

March 12: TBA

April 9: TBA

Spring, 2013 Field Trip: Eric Cheney, UW ESS, Fidalgo Island (field trip associated with the 25th Anniversary Symposium).

Fall, 2013 Field Trip: TBA

Please see the [NWGS website](#) for detailed announcements.

Contact webmaster [Julie Masura](#) if you have any announcements to post on the website.

Announcements

- The 25-year Anniversary Symposium is scheduled for **May 3-5, 2013** at the **University of Washington**. More information will be coming out soon. Please mark your calendar!
- Please submit your suggestions for speakers or field trips to President Elect [Kathy Troost](mailto:troostgeology@comcast.net) (troostgeology@comcast.net)
- NWGS Historian [Donn Charnley](mailto:donncharnley@frontier.com) requests any pre-1980s NWGS information. Contact him at donncharnley@frontier.com or 206.546.3868.
- **Next Board meeting:** December 11, 4:30 P.M., Talaris Conference Center.

YOU would like to be involved!

Photo Spotlight



East facing view of Alki Landslide after remediation with $\frac{1}{4}$ mile long interceptor drain and horizontal drains. Photo submitted by W.T. Laprade.

About NWGS

NWGS, a regional association of professionals, students & other persons interested in **geology**, provides a forum for the presentation and discussion of a wide range of geologic topics, emphasizing those of the Pacific Northwest of fundamental scientific interest.

YOU would like to be involved!

Program meetings: 2nd Tuesdays, October through May in the Pacific Dining Hall at the [Talaris Conference Center](#) in Seattle (see 1st page). Anyone may attend the speaker program, but a reservation is necessary for those wanting dinner (see 1st page). **Field trips (members only):** one in late spring/early summer and one in late summer/early fall, usually of 1-3 days in length. **Membership** is open to anybody with a professional or amateur interest in geology. **Annual dues:** Professional: \$30; Student: \$5. **To join or pay annual dues:** send a check payable to NWGS to Secretary [Dan Smith](#), 10203 40th Ave SW, Seattle, WA. 98146. Please include your name, address, home phone, email, and employer/affiliation (if any). Professional dues may now also be paid at www.nwgs.org.

YOU would like to be involved!

Recommended Readings

Laprade, W.T., and Lee, J.J., 2012, Seattle Landslide Study: 12 Years Later, in Landslide and Engineered Slopes; Protecting Society through Improved Understanding, Eberhardt, E., Froese, C., Turner, A.K., and Lerouel, S., editors, p. 251-255.

Laprade, W.T., and Tubbs, D.W., 2008, Landslide Mapping in Seattle, in Landslides and Engineering Geology of the Seattle, Washington, Area, edited by R.L. Baum, J.W. Godt and L.M. Highland, The Geological Society of America, Reviews in Engineering Geology, vol. 20, p. 37-54. DOI 10.1130/2008.4020(02).

Please send your reading recommendations to Newsletter Editor [Tom Bush](#).

To report a change of email or postal address or request to be removed from mailings, notify Secretary [Dan Smith](#) at 206.937.5313. Questions or comments? Contact President [Julie Masura](#).

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