



Point Roberts Organic Earth
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PRESS RELEASE

Point Roberts Organic Earth Awarded a \$94K State Grant to Study Organic Reuse

Point Roberts Organic Earth (PRO Earth) is a local nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the current state of organic material loss from the Point and reducing greenhouse gases. Organic materials include yard and garden waste, woody waste, as well as kitchen waste. The group is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a \$94,000 Local and Community Projects appropriation from Washington State.

PRO Earth was established in late 2022 following a Point Roberts Garden Club discussion of what happens to garden refuse that is not home composted or chipped. Also discussed were the problems with green waste disposal due to the exceptionally busy post-COVID clean-up. A working group consisting of local residents with backgrounds in research, planning, engineering and writing convened and formed PRO Earth.

In 2023 the group secured a \$10,000 NextCycle grant to conduct an initial analysis of green waste in our community and examine ways to improve the current situation. Upon reviewing the results, State Senator Sharon Shewmake, with the assistance of State Representative Alicia Rule, sponsored a request for funds to complete a full feasibility study of implementing a local green waste site.

A Point Roberts green waste site would potentially include woody waste chipping, and both yard and kitchen waste composting. The mulch and compost products would be available to the public. A local green waste site would be convenient and would reduce trucking, burning, and landfill volume with its associated methane gas production. Tons of organic materials could be retained on the Point.

Over the course of 2024, PRO Earth will be leading wider discussions in our community to inform people about the scope of the problems, and explore how they can be remedied in a way that benefits our land, air quality and furthers a sustainable community. Watch for announcements of public meetings over the course of the summer.

PRO Earth website: www.proearth1.org

If you would like to volunteer, donate or have questions please send a note to:
PointRobertsOrganics@gmail.com