



THE BELLINGHAM HERALD

POSTED: Friday, Dec. 24, 2010

Entrepreneurship class offered for sustainable small farmers in Whatcom County

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Washington State University, Whatcom County Extension and the Sustainable Connections Food & Farming Program are partnering to offer an agricultural entrepreneurship class for sustainable small farmers in Whatcom County.

The class, which starts in February, is for new farmers trying to understand how a farm business can be profitable. It's also for experienced farmers wanting to start a new enterprise or expand their current profitability.

In this six-class series, participants will learn how to write a business plan, develop an innovative marketing concept and strategy, and evaluate production costs and economic returns to their business for different crops or livestock.

Guest speakers include local business, legal and financial experts; small-business counselors and successful local farmers. These contacts help new and established farmers assess what it takes to launch a new agricultural business and maintain its financial health, as well as establish a support network.

Upon completing the course, students will have developed a business plan they can use to finance their new enterprise or use as a roadmap for their farm business.

The class meets every other Tuesday, from 6 to 9 p.m., starting Feb. 1 at the WSU Whatcom County Extension office, 1000 N. Forest Street in Bellingham. It also has two Saturday workshops.

The cost is \$200 per farm family and includes two books. Scholarships are available.

To register, go to whatcom.wsu.edu/CultivatingSuccess.

For more information, contact Colleen Burrows at cburrows@wsu.edu or 360-676-6736.

Read more: <http://www.bellinghamherald.com/2010/12/24/1784015/entrepreneurship-class-offered.html#ixzz19zqal1D0>