August, 2010

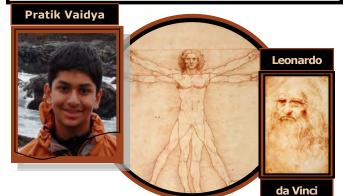
# **PRKC Post**

Issue 7
GREEN TECHNOLOGY



# **GREEN TECHNOLOGY:**

GUEST AUTHOR: PRATIK VAIDYA
8TH GRADE, BEAVER LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL





Kids + Computers +
Rural Conservation =
Green Technology

My name is **Pratik Vaidya**. **I'm an 8th grader at Beaver Lake Middle School**. In 4th grade, I started becoming interested in technology. I started playing around on computers, taking pictures of nature (sunsets, animals, mountains etc.), editing these pictures and creating movies out of them. Also, I started hiking and backpacking where I learnt to value and appreciate the countryside even more. Over the years, I also started building websites to put up these pictures and write blogs on nature.

When I first visited the **Baxter Barn** in Fall City, I was amazed by what was done to improve and preserve nature, all the way from stream restoration to using rain water for everyday use.

For the last year, I have been Continued on Page 3

# Inside this issue:

Page 1: Pratik, Calendar and Classifieds

Pages 2-3: GIS and Map of SiA Participants

Pages 4-5: Knotweed Updates Page 4: Technology used by SiA

Page 5: River Trash Page 6: Forest Field Day

Page 6: Internet Resources for you

# Save the Date!

- August 28, Upper Preston: Knotweed Removal Workshop. This training is required to check out the injection gun and get free herbicide. Contact knotweed@prkc.org for more info.
- Sept 18, Oakville, WA: Small Scale
  Yarding Course offered by NW Certified
  Forestry. Email <u>kirk@nnrg.org</u> for more
  info.
- Sept 20-21, Carnation: Game of Logging.
  Learn advanced tree felling techniques.
  Course offered by NW Certified Forestry.
  Email kirk@nnrg.org for more info.

#### **CLASSIFIEDS**

- ⇒ Forest Owners: Register now for the 2010 Coached Forest Stewardship Class, held Tuesday evenings in the Preston/Issaquah area from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. beginning September 21. Lectures and field trip include topics such as forest ecology, noxious weed control, growing healthy trees and how to improve wildlife habitat.
- Need \$\$\$\$? SIA Grant Requests (free money for conservation projects) available up to \$5,000 per project, first come, first served! Email info@prkc.org.
- ⇒ Love Natural Arts & Crafts? Would you like to take a class, or teach a class? Contact Fall City Arts and Sharlet Driggs with your questions & ideas for future planning: <a href="mailto:sharletrd@aol.com">sharletrd@aol.com</a>

### PRKC Post, Page 2, Issue 7, August 2010

# Kids + Computers + Rural Conservation = Green Technology, continued

**Guest Author: Pratik Vaidva** 





helping **Cory Huskinson** create a website for his farm, **Baxter** Barn. By building this website, I have figured out how to add many more

web design related features to websites (ex. **The Coloring Book**).

Baxterbarn.org helps Cory Huskinson and the farm to spread the word about rural conservation. Through the website, visitors can find information about how they can attend events, take tours, and bring their class on a field trip! The website helps to publicize the efforts of the farm for rural

preservation and spreads awareness of the planet's issues. Hundreds of people are reached through

baxterbarn.org. Hence, by using technology to spread the word about rural conservation, I am helping to make a small difference in preserving our planet for our generation and for future generations.

If we don't start helping nature now, it will be too late! Thanks.

Thank you so much for your help with PRKC and the SiA grant and baxterbarn.org. The website is amazing. I'm proud that we worked together on it..."

Cory Huskinson, Owner, Baxter Barn



Pratik Vaidya http://mysite.prahan.com/ http://prahan.com



# GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS: GIS

How do we keep track of all the people, projects and natural resources that we work with all over the countryside? We organize this "stuff" with a GIS or Geographic Information System. In its simplest form, a GIS is just digital map software that can store and analyze geographic information.

Think of GIS like your old dog-eared hiking map -- trails drawn by hand; notes scribbled in margins connected to arrows pointing to special features on the map. That map is like a simple GIS. GIS can keep track of things like wetlands, streams, soil data, types of vegetation, habitat values, land parcels and much more. All these features can be viewed accurately on a computer (with GIS software) or on a GIS-generated map.

The real cool thing about **GIS** is that ALL this information can be compared or analyzed spatially. For example, we wanted to gauge the early effectiveness of Raging/Patterson SIA projects, so we made a quick analysis of where our SIA partners and landowners are located in relation to major streams. We found that about 85% of our partners and landowners own lands that are within 200 feet of major streams.

That means we're headed in the right direction with SiA projects!

The possibilities with GIS are endless!

**TECHNOLOGY** 

**REX THOMPSON** 

Raging River and Patterson Creek Stewardship in Action: SiA



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