

The Sustainability in Prisons Project

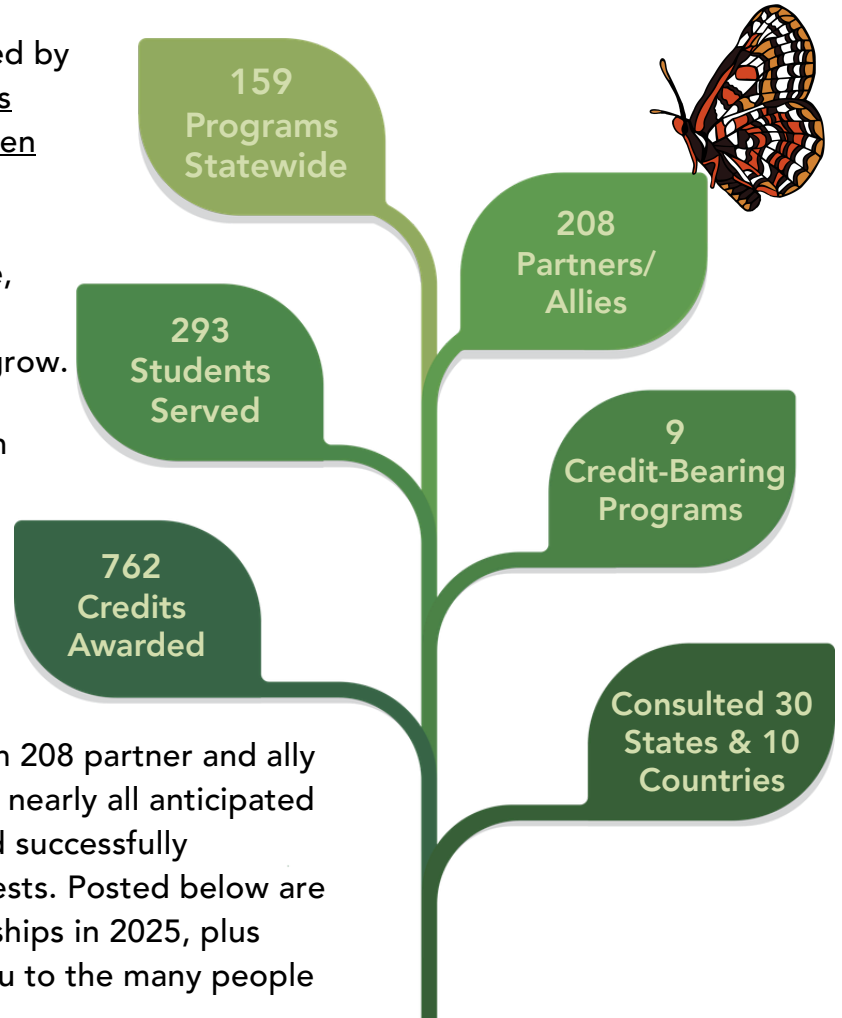
ANNUAL REPORT 2025



2025 Annual Report Executive Summary

We are pleased to share select highlights of work accomplished by the Sustainability in Prisons Project in 2025. SPP was co-founded by the Washington Department of Corrections (WA Corrections or DOC) and The Evergreen State College (Evergreen) in 2003. We are grateful for the on-going support of many partners. Our collaboration to bring nature, science, and environmental education into prisons continues to adapt, improve, and grow.

The SPP partnership is a diverse ecosystem with critical contributions from people living and working inside and outside prisons. We collaborate with academics, funders, corrections staff, educators, advisors, scientists, and conservation and community organizations. Together we offer 159 programs with contributions from 208 partner and ally organizations statewide. We accomplished nearly all anticipated highlights identified in our 2024 report and successfully responded to new opportunities and requests. Posted below are highlights on select programs and partnerships in 2025, plus goals for the 2026 calendar year. Thank you to the many people and organizations that support SPP!



“The truth of the matter is that nature, science, and environmental education remind us of the responsibility we have to one another.”

— Ben Asaeli

SPP Foundations Curricula Facilitator



2025 Highlights



762 college
credits awarded

SPP Education Portfolios

SPP offers nine credit-bearing courses with more in development. In 2025, 95 students received 762 credits through Evergreen with fees covered by SPP donations. Students can apply their SPP credits to EPEP's BA degree at SCCC, post-release at Evergreen's Tacoma or Olympia campuses, or with other colleges. Education reduces recidivism and positively changes lives. See the education section for more information.



75,000+ larvae
produced

Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Program Transition

SPP's Butterfly Conservation Program started at MCCCW in 2011. Due to state budget reductions, MCCCW closed in July 2025. Program partners across state, federal, and non-profit organizations supported the continuation of this impactful program and Washington Corrections Center for Women has agreed to serve as the new host location. The women in this conservation internship receive education and training eligible for up to 30 credits.



10 countries
consulted with since
2020

SPP International

SPP is an internationally recognized partnership! We have consulted with 30 states and 10 countries over the past five years. In 2025, Toyo University sponsored the SPP-Evergreen Co-Director on a work-exchange visit to Japan. She met with academics, environmental organizations, Ministry of Justice officials, and others, making over 35 new contacts. She presented on SPP and participated in meetings, tours, and other learning exchanges. The visit inspired program ideas and continued collaborations.



Sustaining Funding

Budget Proposals and Stewardship

In 2025, SPP-Evergreen increased our efforts to secure new funding. Like many education and environmental organizations, available support resources have shifted. Several funding proposals were successful, and others are in review during 2026. Despite these challenges, we continue to thrive. We are encouraged by the strong support of our partners and the incarcerated people we serve.



New Nature & Human
Health Resources

Nature & Health Toolkit Proposal

SPP-Evergreen developed a proposal for a new Nature and Health "toolkit." We are receiving excellent feedback from a variety of partners. The toolkit includes nature-based science education and practice resources to support health and wellbeing for people living and working in prisons. We are gathering input, pursuing funding, and piloting select new nature and health resources.



11 workshops
offered in 2025

Workshops

After successfully piloting a few single events, we officially relaunched our popular monthly workshop series at Stafford Creek Corrections Center in the Fall of 2025. The reenvisioned series emphasizes nature, art, science, and culture with workshops regularly including 75-125 participants. In addition to the monthly series, we held several single occurrence workshops at three other prisons.



35 turtles cared
for in 2025

Northwestern Pond Turtle Rehabilitation Program

With support from WA Department of Fish and Wildlife and SPP, the incarcerated technicians in this conservation internship program provide critical contributions to turtle recovery. In 2025, Technicians implemented a new treatment approach for turtles with shell disease. They were also interviewed and filmed for a segment in an international conservation film to be released late 2026.

Anticipated Highlights for 2026

Program/Project	Partners (all include incarcerated partners)	Planned Outcomes
Continue to build partnerships and develop new education and practice resources on nature & health topics.	WA Way, nature & health experts, & prisons statewide	Nature & health workshops, trainings, and other resources to support wellbeing for people living and working in prisons.
Work with partners to complete new Butterfly Conservation Program infrastructure and finalize program relocation.	DOC HQ, WCCW, WDFW & other conservation partners	New infrastructure & Butterfly Conservation Program reestablished at WCCW.
Sustain and expand operational funding for SPP credit-bearing courses, workshops, and conservation internship programs.	Funding partners & prisons statewide	Continue awarding college credit for SPP programs and expanding access to nature-based programs and educational opportunities.
Complete expansion of the Native Plant Conservation Nursery at WCC.	WCC & conservation partners	Continue conservation internship, education & training; complete expansion of program to produce native seeds for restoration sites.
Restart monthly Nature, Art, Science, & Culture Workshops at WCCW.	WCCW & guest presenters	Offer monthly interdisciplinary workshops on Nature, Art, Science, & Culture topics.
Offer new Peer Facilitator Training in prisons to support SPP Peer-Led education courses.	Multiple prisons	Expanded access to training and continued improvements to peer facilitation resources with input from incarcerated people.
Complete SPP website updates to improve functionality, efficiency, and outreach.	Web design contractor	Modernized website with improved maintenance functionality
Draft new Foundations in Environmental Studies Course.	Evergreen and other academic partners	Draft outline for a new environmental studies course. This subject is regularly requested by students and complements existing SPP curricula.
Publish new Garden to Kitchen Resource Guide.	Prisons statewide	Resource guide with models & ideas for increasing access to produce in prisons.

Scan to donate:



Please see Appendix 3 in the Annual Report for a list of common abbreviations used in this summary.

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PREFACE

SPP is a public service center at The Evergreen State College and co-founded by Washington Department of Corrections (DOC). We empower sustainable change by bringing nature, science, and environmental education into prisons. SPP is a statewide effort with programs in all 10 Washington state prisons. These programs encompass several focus areas: environmental education, ecological conservation, sustainable operations, restorative nature and sustainable living, and community contributions. SPP programs rely on partnerships with incarcerated people, corrections staff, state and federal agencies, and community and conservation organizations.



Questions regarding this report or SPP should be directed to:

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Background Information

1

[The Sustainability in Prisons Project](#) (SPP) is partnership co-founded by [The Evergreen State College](#) (Evergreen) and [Washington Department of Corrections](#) (WA Corrections). The primary objective of this report is to update all collaborators on SPP programs and activities occurring throughout the state from January – December 2025. Although SPP staff at Evergreen do not have direct involvement in every program, they are responsible for reporting on all science, sustainability, and nature initiatives in Washington state (WA) prisons, regardless of which partner(s) leads and operates the program. This report presents the most complete information available to the SPP-Evergreen team.



*Left: Turtle Technician, Brandon Tubig, prepares to release northwestern pond turtles. Photo by Emily Passarelli.
Right: SPP liaison, Jerrod Beaulieu, poses with a northwestern pond turtle before releasing back into its native pond.
Photo by CUS Richardson.*

Scientists, incarcerated people, students, prison staff, educators, environmental organizations, and community partners in all 10 of Washington state prisons work together to make positive contributions to people and the environment. In 2025, the number of Washington state prisons decreased from 11 to 10 facilities statewide with the warm closure of Mission Creek Corrections Center (MCCCW). Given the closure, most of the typical annual report information was not available for MCCCW. During this reporting period, we documented **159 programs and 208 partner organizations statewide**. Working lists of all SPP-WA programs ([Appendix 1](#)) and partners ([Appendix 2](#)) are included to recognize the impressive diversity and number of opportunities offered. [Appendix 3](#) lists common abbreviations used in this report.

Acknowledgements

We're honored to work alongside such a diverse group of dedicated partners. The programs reported throughout this annual report could not exist without the ongoing support of everyone involved. We would like to acknowledge and thank everyone who contributed to our shared vision.



*WDFW and SPP staff walk out to Scatter Creek in preparation of Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly release.
Photo by SPP Staff.*

At the center of SPP programs are incarcerated people, whose daily contributions, leadership and expertise drive our shared success. SPP programs aim to support positive benefits including education, academic credit, professional development, job training, and therapeutic values through contact with nature. Incarcerated and previously incarcerated people advise SPP and provide their input in program planning, development, and operation whenever possible. We're grateful for their collaboration in co-creating educational content, identifying priorities, and sharing their experiences to advance our shared mission. To hear more from current and former program participants, see links to media pieces in [Section 12, Dissemination](#).

This work could not happen without corrections staff, who are key to the SPP partnership. In many cases, they are the ones who initiate and operate sustainability programs with incarcerated people, often without support from other partners. For programs that include external partners, corrections staff provide crucial support for planning, security, communication, facility expertise, and program supervision. Often, correctional staff make these contributions in addition to their other primary duties.

SPP staff at The Evergreen State College include faculty, staff, graduate students, and college leadership. Together we develop and deliver credit-bearing education, lead environmental education and ecological conservation programs, cultivate and grow partnerships, pursue and sustain a diverse portfolio of funding for programs statewide, and oversee SPP communications.



DOC staff, Lara Kempton, gives WASBA Education Lead, Sandy Fanara, a hug during the WCCW Beekeeping Facility of the Year Award Ceremony. Photo by Emily Passarelli.

Many programs also include other state and federal agencies, community organizations, funding partners, and volunteers. These external collaborators typically provide education, workshops, training, certifications, program/topic expertise, funding, supplies, and materials. Through these partnerships, we build networks which focus on positive social and environmental outcomes.

SPP Mission & Vision

The Sustainability in Prisons Project is a partnership founded by [WA Corrections](#) and [The Evergreen State College](#). Our mission is to bring nature, science, and environmental education into prisons.

SPP Vision

In response to the dual crises of ecological degradation and mass incarceration, we aim to reduce recidivism while improving human well-being and ecosystem health. SPP brings together incarcerated people, scientists, corrections staff, students, and program partners to promote education, conserve biodiversity, practice sustainability, and help build healthy communities. Together, we reduce the environmental, economic, and human costs of prisons.

SPP Staff and Organization

The organization chart in Figure 1 includes staff as of December 2025. This chart is limited to core staff at WA Corrections and Evergreen (SPP-Evergreen), only hinting at the many corrections staff involved. In addition, there are many academic, conservation, and community organization staff contributing to program success.

Sustainability in Prisons Project Org Chart + DOC

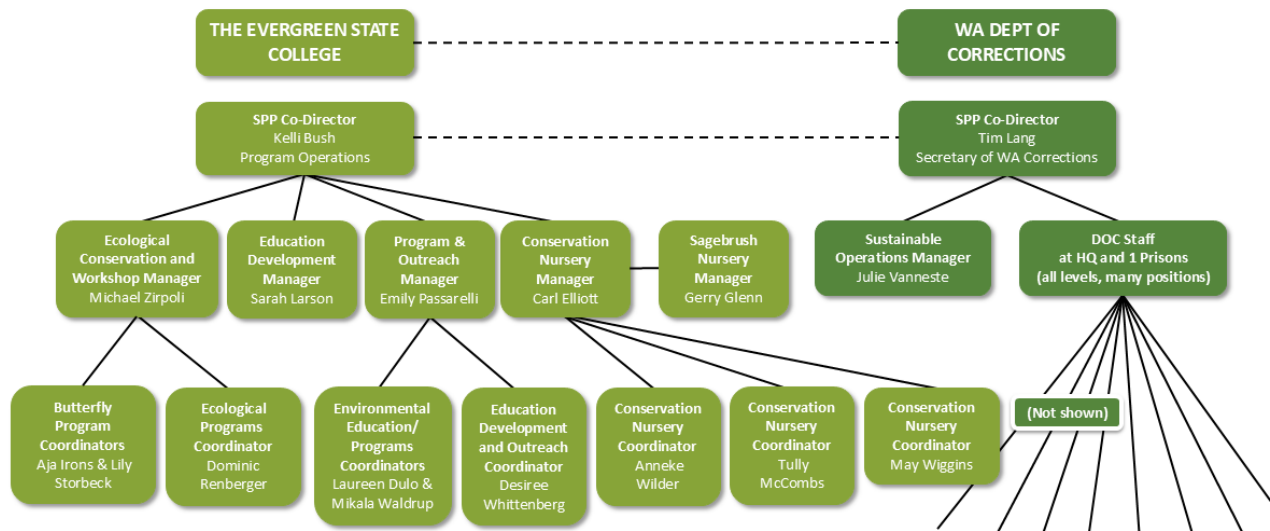


Figure 1. An organizational chart of SPP.

During this reporting period, Kelli Bush continued to direct the Evergreen side of the SPP partnership. Carl Elliott, Emily Passarelli, Sarah Larson, Michael Zirpoli, and Gerry Glenn continued their roles as SPP managers. Evergreen faculty member, MES Director, and former SPP Co-Director, Carri LeRoy continued to play a critical role in overseeing SPP education portfolios. Doreen Swetkis continued as the Dean of Prison Education and Graduate Studies programs. Numerous additional Evergreen personnel contributed to SPP including but not limited to Tina Pearson, Michelle Bartlett, Claire Kehn, Bentse Shrestha, Eirik Steinhoff, David McAvity, Trevor Speller, Noah Coburn, Ashley Williams, Katherine Sackmann, Amanda Mobbs, John McLain, John Carmichael, Dexter Gordon, KeWee Roselle, and Evergreen Liberation Education Network (ELEN) members.

In 2025, DOC Secretary Tim Lang stepped into the role of SPP's Co-Director for WA Corrections. SPP-Evergreen leadership met with Secretary Lang and other DOC leaders several times throughout 2025. Secretary Lang also named Deputy Secretary Scott Russell and Director of Prisons, Jeri Boe as leadership for the DOC side of SPP. Other SPP Leadership meetings attendees included Melissa Andrewjeski, Arminda Miller, Jo Wofford, Eric Jackson, Julie Vanneste, Chris Idso, James Key, Chuck Anderson, Danielle Armbruster, Kristen Morgan, and Sarah Sytsma.

Program Coordinator positions are staffed by Evergreen graduate students working 20 hours per week. Student staff are typically recruited from the [Evergreen Master of Environmental Studies](#) program, and work for two or three year terms. Each summer, several students complete their work with SPP and train new students to take over their positions. During the reporting period, 14 program coordinators worked for SPP: Mikala Waldrup, Mariana Cervantes, Nat Kelly, Xitlali Herrera, Sal Hernandez, Laureen Dulo, Anneke Wilder, Amanda Rueda, Dominic Renberger, Desiree Whittenberg, Tully McCombs, May Wiggins, Lily Storbeck, and Aja Irons.

SPP-Evergreen Advisors

SPP continues to regularly consult a range of individuals to advise and guide our work. In 2025, we consulted previously incarcerated people, SPP co-founders, Evergreen faculty, and leadership of multiple organizations. Guidance is valuable as we work to continually improve and adapt.



The SPP-Evergreen team as of October 2025. Photo by V Hoy.

SPP-Evergreen Staff Development: Training, Safety, and Security

Programs are operated in compliance with all partnering agencies as well as all state and federal regulations. We follow WA Corrections safety and security rules, SPP-Evergreen operations guidance, plant and animal care protocols, and state and federal rules for working with threatened and endangered species.

All SPP-Evergreen staff complete the required WA Corrections training. Safety and security topics are included on every SPP-Evergreen staff meeting agenda, held every two weeks. SPP-Evergreen staff uphold our commitment to adapt as safety and security needs change. Posted on the next page are training sessions SPP-Evergreen staff completed during this reporting period.

Table 1. SPP-Evergreen staff training for 2025.

Name of Training	Trainer	Description	Hrs/Staff Person
WA Corrections: Annual-in Service Trainings	WA Corrections, Online & Instructor-led; annual requirement for established employees	Behavior Observation Entries, Fire Prevention & Extinguisher Training, Infectious Disease Prevention, Introduction to Information Governance, IT Security Awareness, Outdoor Heat Illness Prevention, Resolution Program, Respiratory Protection Awareness, Transgender Cultural Fluency, Trauma-Informed Practices, Preventing Sexual Harassment and Sexual Abuse in Prisons (PREA), WA Way: Common Ground and Verbal De-escalation, Prison Safety, Suicide Prevention, & Emergency Management Systems	25
WA Corrections: New Employee Orientation Trainings	WA Corrections, Online & Instructor-led;	Ethics in State Government, IT Security Awareness, Sexual Harassment Prevention for All Employees, Disability Awareness, Confidentiality of Protected Health Information, Fire Prevention & Extinguisher Training,	30

	requirement for new employees	Infectious Disease Prevention, Introduction to Information Governance, Mandatory Reporting, Naloxone (NARCAN), Non-Discrimination Training – Pregnant and Nursing Mothers, Office of the Corrections Ombuds, Policy and General Information, PREA/PSASH, Initial Safety Orientation, FEMA ICS, WA Way: Common Ground and Verbal De-escalation, Prison Safety, First Aid, Suicide Prevention, & Emergency Management Systems	
SPP-Evergreen: Working in Prisons	Carl Elliot w/other SPP staff	Evergreen-led training on safety, security, & professionalism using common scenarios encountered while working in prisons.	8
SPP New Employee Orientation	Emily Passarelli w/other SPP-Evergreen staff	Welcome to SPP, Program Operation/Admin., Taking Care of Yourself at SPP, Communication, & Time Management	4
Evergreen Annual & Professional Development Trainings	Online & Evergreen staff	IT Security, Appropriate Use of IT Resources, Non-Discrimination Policies and Procedures, Public Records Act, Copyright, Ethics in Public Service, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), & Fiscal Note Training	5
Trauma Informed Somatic Practices and Yoga	Julia Zhao	An hour of grounding yoga and meditation for balancing nervous systems and calming down stress. Includes practicing mindful movement, breathing, and relaxation techniques that can reconnect to a calmer and more resourced state of being.	2
Compassionate Accountability and Consistency	Grady Mitchell and Cyril Walrond	Two-hour discussion training with former peer facilitators. The group discussed how to create a culture of compassionate accountability for all partners and the importance of consistency for incarcerated partners.	2
Government to Government Training	Gordon James	Improving cultural awareness, exploring a variety of legal issues impacting modern relationship building to increase understanding of tribal sovereignty, and examining approaches to working w/tribal governments.	8

“Working as a team, learning team building and leadership skills has been extremely helpful in rearing the butterflies, as communication and encouragement are both vital and empowering.”

— Kimberly Lagerwey, Butterfly Program Technician

Partnerships

2

Partnerships have long been a cornerstone of SPP’s approach to bringing science and sustainability education and training into prisons. Partnerships continued to grow and thrive in 2025. A working list of SPP partnerships, allies, and contributors is included as [Appendix 2](#). During this reporting period, more than 218 different organizations contributed or connected to SPP programs in Washington. Sometimes we collaborate with separate offices within larger agencies. In these cases, regional offices or divisions of larger organizations may be counted as individual collaborators, as those partnerships are within distinct areas of their respective organizations and they are supporting specific services or programs.

At the program level, SPP staff are often joined by one or more additional organizations or individuals who bring vital expertise, resources, and skills to the program. We aim to recognize each contributor for their role. Figure 2 offers an illustration.



Figure 2. SPP generalized program structure.

Partners play varying roles to fit the needs of different programs. SPP includes five general program types: environmental education, ecological conservation, sustainable operations, restorative nature & sustainable living, and community contributions. Many programs fit more than one program type. In general, WA Corrections and partner organizations provide primary leadership for sustainable operations and community contribution programs, while the SPP-Evergreen team leads environmental education and ecological conservation programs. Both founding partners support various restorative nature and sustainable living programs. Despite these leadership areas, input and expertise from all participants, including incarcerated people, is critical to program success—**the partnership is the program!**

SPP as a Partnership

SPP was co-founded by The Evergreen State College and the Washington Department of Corrections. Our work aligns with Evergreen’s mission and educational approach. SPP also aligns with DOC’s mission and significant initiatives such as Washington Way.



Officer Reyes and technicians show off electric cultivators they built at WSP SPL. Photo by Emily Passarelli.

SPP Alignment with Evergreen’s Five Foci

SPP delivers Evergreen education in prisons throughout Washington state. Our programs, courses, and conservation internships are aligned with Evergreen’s [Five Foci of Learning](#):

1. **Interdisciplinary Study:** Students learn to pull together ideas and concepts from many subject areas, which enables them to tackle real-world issues in all their complexity.
2. **Collaborative Learning:** Students develop knowledge and skills through shared learning, rather than learning in isolation and in competition with others.
3. **Learning Across Significant Differences:** Students learn to recognize, respect, and bridge differences—critical skills in an increasingly diverse world.
4. **Personal Engagement:** Students develop their capacities to judge, speak, and act based on their own reasoned beliefs.
5. **Linking Theory with Practical Applications:** Students understand abstract theories by applying them to projects and activities and by putting them into practice in real-world situations.

SPP engages incarcerated scholars, Olympia campus-based Evergreen students and faculty, corrections staff, state and federal agencies, and non-profit organizations in collaborative, interdisciplinary learning across differences. Our science and sustainability education programs are aligned with the social justice, diversity, environmental stewardship, and public service elements of Evergreen’s mission. With the support of robust partnerships and innovative educational models, we are able to offer college credit for select programs.

SPP's Alignment with WA Corrections' Mission & Vision

SPP aligns with WA Corrections' mission and vision:

Mission: To improve public safety by positively changing lives

Vision: Working together for safer communities

As described by WA Corrections, "The Department of Corrections is committed to operating a safe and humane corrections system and partnering with others to transform lives for a better Washington. A key value of WA Corrections is supporting people's success: understanding individuals, instilling hope, embracing change, and providing opportunities. Through the SPP partnership, WA Corrections brings science, nature, and environmental education into the state's correctional facilities. These programs create a safer and more humane correctional environment, provide opportunities for incarcerated individuals to achieve academic and vocational goals, and to contribute to their successful reentry to our communities."

Developing Partnerships

SPP continually invests in tending partnerships and identifying new collaborations to increase access to nature, science, and environmental education. We aim to learn from, grow with, celebrate, and share our experience with collaborators to better serve currently and previously incarcerated people. Working collectively, we can create positive change.

An increasing number of former SPP program participants are contributing to SPP or attending Evergreen post-release—sharing their expertise, brilliance, and skills directly with our campus learning communities. Any work with previously incarcerated people is compensated, acknowledging their time, skills, intelligence, and lived experiences.

Much of the work we do with partners and allies is highlighted in various sections throughout this report. A few notable collaborations we cultivated during this reporting period are briefly described below.

The Taylors Checkerspot Butterfly Program Moves to WCCW

In early 2025, it was announced that MCCCW would officially be closing due to ongoing statewide budget challenges and the reduced number of incarcerated women in our state. SPP, incarcerated Butterfly Technicians, and leaders at MCCCW, WCCW, SCCC, DOC HQ, WDFW, U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, and the federal Sentinel Landscapes team collaborated throughout 2025 to identify feasibility for program relocation. Together, we successfully developed a plan to move the Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly (TCB) Program from MCCCW to WCCW. Partners worked to secure funding for a new greenhouse, determined a new space for the program, supported the technicians through the transition from MCCCW to WCCW, and made a temporary plan to continue butterfly care while the new greenhouse is installed. The program will be permanently moved to WCCW by the fall of 2026. The significant efforts of many partners have been truly impressive, and their collective work reflects the amazing, positive outcomes this program has for people and ecosystems.

In July of 2025, MCCCW staff, DOC leadership, SPP staff, current and former TCB technicians, and the rest of the MCCCW incarcerated population gathered at the prison where the program started for a facility-wide Butterfly Festival. This time was used to celebrate the success of the 14-year history of the TCB program, as well as other programs at MCCCW. For more information, please see [Section 4, Conservation](#).



SPP Co-director, Kelli Bush, speaks about the Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly program at the MCCCW Butterfly Festival. Photo by DOC Staff.

Tribal Sons Group

Throughout 2025, SPP continued developing a partnership with the Tribal Sons, a group of Indigenous incarcerated people at WCC. As part of this partnership, SPP expanded the WCC conservation nursery to help support growing culturally significant plants. With the support of WCC's Plant Manager Jordan Kettel, the area was plowed, irrigation was installed, and a new hoop house was installed. SPP also supported tours of this area and the Tribal Sons Garden from local tribal leaders and members, Supreme Court Justices, and other dignitaries.



Patricia Green, Garden Program Manager for the Squaxin Island Tribe, and Evergreen Tribal Liaison Lyn Dennis tour the Tribal Sons medicine garden at WCC. Photo by Emily Passarelli.

In addition to the conservation nursery expansion, SPP also began co-creating a proposal for a new Foundations in Indigenous Studies course. This course will be structured similarly to other SPP courses

and blends academic, experiential, peer-led, and workshop education elements. This curriculum is being co-created with the Tribal Sons, Evergreen's Native Programs staff and faculty, and indigenous experts in the community. The proposal will be presented in 2026 and, if approved, we hope to pilot the new course in 2026.

Cultural Groups

In 2025, SPP-Evergreen was invited into several cultural events including SCCC's Asian Pacific Islander event and WCC's Native American Pow Wow. We have been honored to attend these events and for the opportunity to learn from group members. Together we are working to expand opportunities to co-create educational resources and workshops with cultural groups that focus on the intersection of nature and culture.



SPP Manager, Emily Passarelli, attended WCC's Pow Wow in 2025. Photo by DOC.

Evergreen Prison Education Project (EPEP)

In July 2022, Evergreen received legislative funding to expand access to education in prisons. This work builds on years of effort and experience including Evergreen faculty, SPP, Gateways for Incarcerated Youth, student-led groups, and Liberation Scholars (previously Reentry Scholars). Throughout 2025, we navigated changes to the Evergreen Liberation Education Network (ELEN) and advanced development of the [Evergreen Prison Education Project \(EPEP\)](#) BA degree program at SCCC. Two SPP-Evergreen staff are core members of the ELEN Network and EPEP degree program team. With support from the SPP team, Kelli Bush continued the role of Co-Director of the ELEN network with Evergreen faculty member, Dr. Eirik Steinhoff. SPP's Education Development Manager, Sarah Larson, provided critical support for the new bachelor's degree program. SPP-Evergreen supports ELEN and EPEP work with funding that is separate from our contracts to operate SPP programs. We are grateful to work with and learn from a team of talented and experienced colleagues supporting education and student success for incarcerated and legally liberated people.

Peer Facilitation Training

In 2023, SPP and incarcerated educators identified a need for additional resources to support the Peer Facilitators of the Foundations in Gardening and the Foundations in Composting courses. SPP partnered with incarcerated educators and facilitators at Stafford Creek, DOC staff, and peer facilitation experts

outside prison to build and pilot this new training in 2025. Collectively the training development team contributed decades of facilitation experience and finalized beneficial resources to support SPP peer-facilitated education programs statewide. For more information, please see [Section 4, Education](#).



SPP advisor, Cyril Walrond, introduces SPP's Peer Facilitation Pilot Training at SCCC. Photo by Emily Passarelli.

Workshops Return to Stafford Creek Corrections Center

In 2025, SPP restarted monthly workshops at Stafford Creek Corrections Center. With SCCC's strong support, we were able to offer six workshops. SPP plans to offer a workshop every month at SCCC in 2026 and to begin offering monthly workshops to WCCW as well. These popular educational events would not be possible without grant support and contributions from local community partner organizations like MaST Aquarium, Wolf Haven, and many more. For more information on the workshops, please see [Section 4, Education](#).

Nature and Health Toolkit Proposal

While the restorative effects of nature have been at the heart of SPP programs since the beginning, in 2025, SPP worked towards developing a proposal to expand availability of resources describing these effects for those living and working in prisons. We have been fortunate to receive guidance on our toolkit proposal from SPP Co-Founder, Dr. Nalini Nadkarni, and other reviewers. Building on several years of collaboration on related topics, we are also working with faculty and staff with the [University of Washington Center for Nature and Health](#) and staff with Department of Corrections [Washington Way program](#) to develop new education and training resources. For more information, please see [Section 6, Restorative Nature and Sustainable Living](#).

This section of the report addresses budget resources specifically available to the SPP team at [The Evergreen State College](#) (SPP-Evergreen). [Washington Department of Corrections](#) (WA Corrections) and other partners dedicate substantial resources, such as personnel time, funding, and materials to support SPP programs. Most of these critical contributions are not detailed here. The SPP team at Evergreen is funded by a diverse combination of grants, contracts, and donations. Since 2023, Evergreen has been contributing a small portion of operations funding to one of SPP's staff positions supporting a new BA degree program at Stafford Creek Corrections Center. The college also provides resources such as space and personnel to assist with payroll, accounting, purchasing, fundraising, and other services.

During this reporting period, SPP's operating budget was approximately \$850,000 and was supported by funds available from 14-17 sources. Funding included one contract per fiscal year with WA Corrections provided through an interagency agreement. SPP-Evergreen spent WA Corrections funds to support program operation and in accordance with all contract requirements. Other funding sources include state and federal contracts, grants, legislative funding, and foundation and private donations.



*SPP Coordinator, Xitlali Herrera, prepares to release butterfly larvae onto the prairie.
Photo by SPP Staff.*

In 2025, SPP-Evergreen received a generous award from the [Lorna Jordan Foundation](#). These unrestricted funds provided critical support for planning and relaunching of the new SPP Nature, Art, Science, and Culture Workshop program. While SPP has a long history of offering popular nature-based workshops, our regular monthly series was suspended during the COVID-19. With the support of this grant, SPP successfully restarted monthly workshops at Stafford Creek Corrections Center, planned for and gained approval to restart monthly workshops at Washington Corrections Center for Women in 2026, and offered single occurrence workshops at several other prisons. Lorna's legacy as a brilliant artist and Evergreen's culture of interdisciplinary education, inspired SPP to revise the workshop model

to include more emphasis on art and culture in our nature-based workshops. We are already receiving positive feedback on the new model. For more information on workshops see the [Education Section](#). The Lorna Jordan Foundation also provided critical support for the Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly program, increasing access to fresh produce in prisons, improving gardening and composting courses, supporting beekeeping programs, and prioritizing staff wellness. Among the multiple positive impacts afforded by this, SPP has been able to significantly increase opportunities for nature connection. Hundreds of studies prove that access to nature has significant positive impacts on physical and mental wellbeing. Thank you, Lorna Jordan Foundation, for supporting nature-based education in prisons.



SPP-Evergreen staff Emily Passarelli, Sarah Larson, Carl Elliott, Laureen Dulo, and Gerry Glen pose for a photo after a graduation event at WSP. Photo by SPP Staff.

We are pleased to report that SPP received a gift from an anonymous donor through the [Seattle Foundation](#). These funds were awarded for general use and served as crucial resources for science and sustainability education and training programs including SPP's credit-bearing courses and conservation internships. Seattle Foundation funds also support education development, gardening, composting, beekeeping, and program supplies. With Seattle Foundation grant support over several years, SPP has been able to deliver multiple positive outcomes including impactful credit-bearing education and training programs in prisons statewide. Education is transformative! Metanalysis demonstrates that education is one of the most impactful ways to reduce recidivism. We are grateful to the Seattle Foundation for their investment in SPP's transformative programs.

SPP-Evergreen also receives individual donations. We are moved by the generosity of our community. In 2025, these donations were used to purchase program supplies, compensate previously incarcerated advisors, trainers, and guest speakers, develop and print education resources, and for books for prison libraries and program areas. We appreciate and make positive use of every dollar from every contribution!

Available funding resources vary from month to month as sources become available or close throughout the year. SPP-Evergreen staff continuously pursue funding to develop new programs and partnerships

and to sustain on-going work. During the 2025 reporting period, SPP-Evergreen staff were responsible for stewarding funds from the sources described below in Table 2.

Table 2. SPP-Evergreen 2025 funding resources.

Funding Source	Program Area	Funding Period
Grants, Contracts, and Legislative Proviso		
DOC General Operating FY25	Program Operation (Bees, Gardening, Turtles, etc.), Training, Org Planning, etc.	07/01/24-06/30/25
DOC General Operating FY26	Program Operation (Bees, Gardening, Turtles, etc.), Training, Org Planning, etc.	07/01/25-06/30/26
SPP WDFW Butterfly FY25	Butterfly Conservation Education & Training	01/01/25-06/30/25
SPP WDFW Butterfly FY26	Butterfly Conservation Education & Training	07/01/25-06/30/26
SPP WDFW Turtle FY26	Northwestern Pond Turtle Recovery Education & Training	09/01/25-06/30/26
JBLM Task 004 FY25	Conservation Nursery Education & Training	10/01/23-03/31/25
SPP JBLM Task Order 001 FY26	Conservation Nursery Education & Training	04/01/25-04/31/26
SPP JBLM Rare Plants FY27	Conservation Nursery Education & Training	09/12/25-03/12/27
WCC Seed Nursery Expansion	Conservation Nursery Education & Training	03/19/25-03/30/27
SPP USFWS Sagebrush Steppe	Conservation Nursery Education & Training	10/01/24-12/31/27
SPP WDFW Sagebrush FY26	Conservation Nursery Education & Training	07/01/25-06/30/26
SPP USDA; ONF 24-27	Conservation Nursery Education & Training	05/01/24-02/28/27
State Appropriation ELEN Network & SPP	Education Development & Administering Credit for SPP Programs	07/01/24-06/30/25
State Appropriation ELEN Network & SPP	Education Development & Administering Credit for SPP Programs	07/01/25-06/30/26
Donations		
Individual Donors	Gardening, Beekeeping, Education Materials, Program Planning, Supplies, & Training, etc.	Ongoing
Lorna Jordan Foundation	Nature, Art, Science, & Culture Workshops, Butterfly Program Operation, Education Development, Gardening & Composting Education, Program Supplies, & Staff Wellness	Ongoing
Seattle Foundation	Education Development & Credit Fee, Curriculum Printing, Gardening & Composting Supplies, Peer-Led Education Resources, & SPP Advisor Support	Ongoing

The majority of SPP-Evergreen's budget is dedicated to funding education resources, program supplies, and the personnel that support development and delivery of education and training programs. A smaller portion is dedicated to program infrastructure projects, scientific equipment, and books for prison programs and libraries.

Education Programs

4

SPP aims to include education and training in all programs. Education and connections with nature continue to be the primary areas of focus for the Evergreen side of the partnership. Since 2022, SPP-Evergreen has provided college credit for select programs at no cost to students. The fees for awarding credit are supported through generous contributions from donors. To date, **273 students across nine SPP programs have been awarded 2,088 credits since the establishment of the SPP Prior Learning Experience model.** With the exceptions of workshops and beekeeping, which is a certificate program, all SPP-Evergreen led programs are credit bearing.



EPEP Assistant Director V Hoy and students discuss their artwork at a Taylor's checkerspot butterfly workshop. Photo by Emily Passarelli.

SPP's Prior Learning Experience Program – Portfolios

The SPP Prior Learning Experience (SPP PLE) program is an education model developed by SPP and Evergreen. The program is designed to allow students to earn college credit during incarceration by completing coursework that culminates in an education portfolio. SPP portfolios are standardized education programs that include a syllabus describing course work, a portfolio checklist, and a templated course evaluation. Portfolios are reviewed and evaluated by Evergreen faculty Dr. Carri LeRoy. Student learning includes both academic and experiential learning and a final reflective writing assignment. Upon completion of all requirements, SPP submits portfolios to Evergreen for processing. With generous support from donors, SPP pays the administrative fee to Evergreen to award academic credit. Students receive a templated narrative evaluation and document of completion which represents their achievements, course equivalencies, and college credits earned. SPP students can complete more than one portfolio and can earn up to 30 credits through SPP-PLE. In 2025, **95 students completed 113 portfolios, collectively earning a total of 762 credits.** Portfolio and credit details are included in Table 3.

“This program has given me back my hope, my desire to continue learning, and has filled me with gratitude.”

– Jennifer Teitzel, Butterfly Program Technician

Table 3. Number of students awarded college credit in 2025 through the SPP PLE Program.

Program	Portfolio Title	Course Equivalencies & Credit Value	Students Awarded Credit	Total Credits Awarded
Foundations Curricula	Foundations in Gardening	Introduction to Gardening and Ecological Horticulture – 4 credits	37	148
	Foundations in Composting	Introduction to Composting and Soil Science – 2 credits	36	72
Conservation Nursery	Salish Lowland Conservation Nursery Technician	Introductory Botany – 4 credits Introduction to Native Plant Ecology – 4 credits Ecological Horticulture Practicum – 10 credits	5	90
	Sagebrush-Steppe Conservation Nursery Technician	Introduction to Botany – 4 credits Wildlife Conservation on the Sagebrush-Steppe – 4 credits Ecological Horticulture Practicum – 10 credits	10	180
	Advanced Topics Conservation Nursery Program	Advanced Native Plant Practicum – 3 credits Special Topics in Native Plant Habitats of Washington State – 3 credits Introduction to Ecological Concepts – 3 credits	14	126
Northwestern Pond Turtle	Northwestern Pond Turtle Rehabilitation Specialist	Introduction to Wetland Ecology & Turtle Biology – 4 credits Introduction to Animal Husbandry with Laboratory – 6 credits	4	40
Taylor’s Checkerspot Butterfly	Butterfly Captive Rearing Specialist	Introduction to Butterfly Biology – 4 credits Introduction to Conservation Biology & Endangered Species Restoration – 4 credits Introduction to Animal Husbandry with Laboratory – 8 credits	4	64
	Butterfly Conservation Technician	Practice in Butterfly Husbandry – 3 credits Practice in Endangered Species Biology – 3 credits Introduction to Plant Horticulture – 4 credits Introduction to Ecological Concepts – 4 credits	3	42
		Total for 2025	95 Students*	762 Total Credits

*95 students completed 113 portfolios

Further Portfolio Development

SPP-Evergreen continues to build new education portfolios for our environmental education and ecological conservation programs. Evergreen faculty of record and MES director, Dr. Carri LeRoy, provides guidance on education development, credit recommendations, and portfolio components. In 2025, SPP, Evergreen Native Programs faculty, and tribal partners began working on a proposal for a

Foundations of Indigenous Studies course. If the proposal is accepted, portfolio materials will be developed and piloted in 2026 at WCC.

Portfolio development includes creation of education modules, seminar and workshop resources, curated readings, video, and audio materials, course syllabi, portfolio checklists, templated course evaluations, documents of completion, and in some cases an education work plan.



SPP Education Manager Sarah Larson looks at a plant with Devonte Crawford. Photo by Emily Passarelli.

Education Development

SPP continues to identify, improve, and develop educational materials including facilitation resources, protocols, workshops, and modules. In 2025, SPP developed supporting materials including a peer facilitation training, facilitator guides, and lesson plans to further support facilitators of the Foundations in Composting and Foundations in Gardening courses. See the next section for more information on the peer facilitation training and resources. The SPP Team and incarcerated composting experts from WCC also co-created a composting protocol describing effective methods for practicing vermiculture, bokashi, and food waste collection in a prison environment. This protocol is a free resource that is available on SPP's website. Table 4 describes educational content created by SPP in 2025.

Table 4. Education modules in development in 2025.

Main Program	Title
Freestanding Module	Nourish with Nature: The Impact of the Natural Environment on Well-Being
Freestanding Module & Conservation Nursery	Endangered Species & Restoration Ecology
Foundations of Peer Facilitation Training	Introduction to Peer Facilitation
	The Healthy Learning Environment
	Creating a Healthy Facilitation Team
	Understanding and Coping with Team Challenges

	Planning for Facilitation
	Peer Facilitation in the Classroom
Foundations in Gardening	Foundations in Gardening: Facilitator's Guide & Lesson Plans
Foundations in Composting	Foundations in Composting: Facilitator's Guide & Lesson Plans
Freestanding Protocols	Composting Protocols

Peer-Led Education

Peer-led education continues to be a popular model for delivering education to many students across Washington. In 2025, SPP offered the Foundations in Gardening and the Foundations in Composting peer-led education programs and co-developed new resources for peer facilitators.

Foundations in Gardening is a 4-credit course that provides academic fundamentals for small-scale food production, as well as the planning, critical thinking, and observation skills necessary to grow food and beneficial flowering plants. The course was developed and continues to improve through collaboration with incarcerated people, corrections staff, SPP, and community experts. Facilitators and students continue to request additional education and training to include a formalized hands-on portion for this gardening course. In 2025, SPP and SCCC facilitators developed a new Foundations in Gardening facilitator guide that supports peer facilitators by providing more details on lesson plans, activities, and other commonly asked questions.



A sagebrush conservation nursery and Foundations in Gardening student at WSP receives his SPP portfolios from SPP manager Gerry Glenn. Photo by SPP Staff.

Foundations in Composting is a 2-credit course that provides foundational knowledge of composting science, techniques, and applications. The course was developed in collaboration with incarcerated people, SPP, corrections staff, and community partners with composting expertise. The curriculum includes a culminating project where students develop a proposal for a composting project. In 2025, SPP

and facilitators at WCC developed a new Foundations in Composting facilitator guide that supports peer facilitators with lesson plans, activities, and other commonly asked questions.

In addition to co-creating facilitator guides for both Foundations in Gardening and Foundations in Composting, SPP also piloted the first Foundations of Peer Facilitation Training. This curriculum was co-created with a diverse group of facilitators from SCCC, former facilitators in the community, SCCC staff, and the SPP team. The training introduces and explores topics including tips for peer facilitation, cultural competency, team dynamics, potential facilitation challenges, and suggestions for supporting healthy learning communities. It culminates with an opportunity for facilitators to practice their skills by facilitating an SPP education module. Our 2-week pilot course included 12 SCCC facilitators from various backgrounds, 2 SPP staff, 1 DOC staff, and 2 community members with peer facilitation expertise. The pilot yielded productive feedback, and the training is planned to be offered more broadly in 2026.



Facilitators at SCCC provided critical feedback and expertise to improve the Peer Facilitation Training developed in 2025. Photo by Emily Passarelli.

Table 5. Key updates on peer-led curricula for 2025.

Program and Description	Key Highlights	Facilities	Students Participated
Foundations in Gardening	Development of hands-on practicum to be piloted in 2026.	CBCC, SCCC, WSP	49 students
Foundations in Composting	Curriculum offered at 3 facilities	SCCC, WCC, MCC-TWIN RIVERS	56 students
Foundations in Peer Facilitation Training	Piloted in 2025. Will be offered more broadly in 2026.	SCCC and WCC	12 facilitators

Beekeeping

During this reporting period, SPP supported nine active beekeeping programs in partnership with facility staff and the [Washington State Beekeepers Association](#) (WASBA). With partner support we regularly offer three levels of beekeeping certification courses in prisons; Beginner, Apprentice, and Journey level classes were offered to almost all prisons statewide. For many facilities, the 2025/2026 winter season had mixed results for bee survival. WCC, CRCC, and SCCC reported successfully overwintering their hives, while other facilities lost their hives even with additional support from WASBA volunteers. With increased support from WASBA through virtual quarterly check-ins and an increasing number of journey-level beekeepers in the programs, we hope to continue seeing improvement in hive survival.



Apprentice graduate beekeepers, Amalore Chinnappan, Luis Cosgaya-Alvarez, Justin Vailea, and Kadrian Davis pose with their certificates at SCCC. Photos by Emily Passarelli.

What do they do with the honey?

With the support of DOC's leadership and ethics team, SPP cleared the way for prisons to have the option to donate honey to WASBA. WCCW was the first facility to pilot this option and successfully donated honey in 2024. Building on this success, in 2025, both CRCC and SCCC donated honey for WASBA's annual conference and auction. CRCC donated twelve 8-ounce jars of honey, which sold for \$240, while Stafford Creek donated one gallon of honey that sold for \$130. Additionally, WCCW donated a quilt, which was sold for \$300. Proceeds from the honey and quilt support beekeeping programs in prisons. Other facilities report gifting honey to volunteers and visitors.

WASBA Facility of the Year Award

WASBA's "Facility of the Year" award was established in 2023 to recognize a prison for going above and beyond to support beekeeping programs. In 2025, Coyote Ridge Corrections Center won this prestigious

award. Partners will celebrate this achievement in 2026. Past winners include SCCC in 2023 and WCCW in 2024. More details for this reporting period are shared in the following table.



Highlights from 2025's year of beekeeping. Photos by Emily Passarelli.

Table 6. Key updates for beekeeping programs for 2025.

Facility	Key Highlights	Partners	WSDA Certified Hives	Certificates Earned in 2025
AHCC	Reintroduced the Beginner Level class and had over 40 graduates.	West Plains Beekeepers	3	41 Beginner, 6 staff members
CBCC	Restarted the beekeeping program and certified new Beginner Level beekeepers.	North Olympia Peninsula Beekeepers Association	2	12 Beginner
CCCC	Worked to identify a new beekeeping volunteer.	Olympia Beekeepers Association	3	23 Beginner
CRCC	Won WASBA's 2025 Facility of the Year Award.	Mid-Columbia Beekeepers Association	5	18 Beginner, 4 Apprentice
MCC-TRU	Planning to certify 9 Journey Level beekeepers in 2026.	Northwest District Beekeepers Association	5	8 Beginners and 1 staff
SCCC	Donated 3 captured swarms: 1 to WCCW and 2 to WCC. SCCC Beekeepers also presented on	West Sound Beekeepers Association	8	43 Beginner, 1 staff and 30 Apprentice

	beekeeping to incarcerated individuals in Norway.			
WCC	Beekeepers plan to start a WCC Beekeeping Club in 2026.	West Sound Beekeepers Association	5	12 Beginner and 7 Apprentice
WCCW	Certified 2 new Journey Level beekeepers.	West Sound Beekeepers Association	2	25 Beginner
WSP	Had 11 hives going into winter.	Mid-Columbia Beekeepers Association	2	0

SPP Nature, Art, Science, and Culture Workshop Program

In 2025, SPP relaunched the workshop series. SPP workshops originated as the Environmental Lecture Series in 2011 and ran until 2020, with over 300 presentations to over 4,000 individuals. This series of 90-minute monthly lectures ran at three WA state prisons. In 2025, SPP focused on reestablishing a regular monthly cadence of workshops at SCCC with topics including octopus intelligence and butterfly conservation and nature drawing. The SCCC workshops are regularly attended by SPP program participants, students in Evergreen's BA degree program and incarcerated people in the general population. With the help of a generous grant from the Lorna Jordan Foundation, SPP will provide at least one workshop for each facility, with regular monthly events at SCCC and WCCW. Our reimagined interdisciplinary Nature, Art, Science and Culture workshop series covers a variety of topics in environmental science while also exploring the connection with other topics. The return of workshops was very well received. Incarcerated people, corrections staff, and partners are steadily offering ideas for future workshops.



SPP coordinator Anneke Wilder, a workshop participant, and Rus Higley view and discuss an octopus at a WCCW workshop. Photo by Emily Passarelli.

In addition to the workshop series, some supplemental workshops based on staff or incarcerated individuals' feedback were offered. For example, in response to a Garden to Kitchen need, SCCC was offered a workshop on preparing produce for market. This workshop was open to anyone interested but prioritized gardeners. There were also several program specific workshops offered exclusively to participants in programs like composting and the conservation nursery. For example, in 2025, SPP offered several workshops to WCC on composting and conservation topics. Simultaneously, SPP offered several single workshops at WCCW in partnership with Freedom Education Project of Puget, Sound with the plan of establishing a monthly workshop series at the prison in 2026.



Moments from workshops offered in 2025. Photos by Emily Passarelli.

Table 7. Key updates on workshops offered in 2025.

Workshop Title	Presenter	Facility and Audience
Weaving Workshop	Kris Miller, Skokomish Nation	WCC, Tribal Sons Group
Preparing Produce for Market	Kristen McIvor, Harvest Pierce County	SCCC, general audience
Forest/Tree Canopy Ecology	Nalini Nadkarni, SPP	SCCC, general audience
Static Compost Piles	Craig Cogger, WSU	WCC, Foundations in Composting class
Composting Workforce	Rebecca Singer, King County Solid Waste Division	WCC, Foundations in Composting class
JBLM Restoration (Plugs + Seeds)	Gina Smith, Joint Base Lewis-McChord	WCC, Conservation Nursery Program
Establishing and Monitoring TCB Habitat	Samantha Bussan & Mollie Steele, Ecostudies Institute	WCC, Conservation Nursery Program
Octopus Intelligence	Rus Higley, Highline College Marine Science and Technology Center (MaST)	WCCW, FEPPS
Coastal Wolves	Faye Peebles, Wolf Haven International	SCCC, general audience
Taylor's Checkerspot Butterflies & Nature Drawing	Xitlali Herrera, Anneke Wilder, and Rebecca Jordan, SPP and Carapace Illustration	SCCC, general audience
Octopus Intelligence	Rus Higley, Highline College Marine Science and Technology Center (MaST)	SCCC, general audience

Evergreen Liberation Education Network (ELEN)

Several SPP-Evergreen staff continued to invest in the development of the Evergreen Liberation Education Network during 2025. SPP's work with ELEN was funded by Evergreen via a legislative appropriation. ELEN is a liberation education and reintegration network with the mission to expand access to an Evergreen education for currently incarcerated and legally liberated people. The network is dedicated to communication, coordination, and collaboration with both internal and external partners. ELEN organizations include Gateways for Incarcerated Youth, Liberation Scholars, SPP, and the Evergreen Prison Education Project, a prison-based bachelor's degree program that began offering courses at SCCC in 2024.

Community College Collaboration

SPP appreciates and acknowledges the educational offerings of community colleges and other education organizations. We have a long history of finding ways to collaborate to better serve students. Community college staff and faculty continue to go above and beyond to offer their students meaningful educational opportunities despite the many barriers. In 2025, SPP helped facilitate a tour of WCC's Sustainable Practices Lab (SPL) to show Centralia College Environmental Science students the composting, garden, and conservation nursery operations. The SPL technicians provided a presentation on ecological concepts before touring the SPL and showing the hands-on aspects of the program.



Highlights from the Centralia College tour of the SPL program areas. Photos by Emily Passarelli.

Ecological Conservation Programs

5

In 2025, SPP offered six separate conservation programs including [Conservation Nurseries](#) at four sites, [Northwestern Pond Turtle Rehabilitation](#), and the [Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly program](#). SPP's ecological conservation initiatives encompass a broad range of goals, activities, and topics. They also share four things in common:

1. Focus on conservation-related education and training coupled with experiential learning and work that helps preserve and protect species, ecosystems, and/or other natural resources.
2. Dependence on strong collaborations between incarcerated people, corrections staff, students, SPP staff, scientists, and community experts with everyone contributing their knowledge, time, and care.
3. Incarcerated participants are partners, students, and technicians. They share their knowledge and ideas to improve program operations, and receive education, training, and hands-on experience. Participants are eligible for academic credit at no expense to the student as they complete education portfolio requirements.
4. Conservation program success is dependent on each contributor, and we are continually evaluating and adjusting to ensure positive outcomes for everyone involved.



Moments from SPP's Conservation and Education Training programs. Photos by SPP Staff.

Conservation Education and Training

Participants in SPP's ecological conservation programs receive education and training as a key component of each program. Students completing education requirements are eligible to receive academic credit through The Evergreen State College. For more information on credit-bearing education and conservation program students completing portfolio requirements, please see [Section 4 Education](#).

"I love being able to wrap everything together. I didn't expect to learn about geology. My youngest son decided to major in geology. Now I can chat with him about the glaciers and connect with him."

– Michelle Nichols, Conservation Nursery Technician

Conservation Nursery Programs

SPP's Conservation Nurseries continued and expanded partnerships to deliver education and training at WCCW, SCCC, WCC, and WSP. SPP partners with U.S. Forest Service, Olympic National Forest (USFS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), WA State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), WA State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and non-profit conservation organizations to produce plants and seeds for restoration sites. The restoration projects can primarily be divided into three end uses: Taylor's checkerspot butterfly (TCB) habitat recovery, revegetation of trails and roadsides, and sagebrush-steppe habitat restoration (see Table 8).

SCCC conducted infrastructure maintenance and shifted cultivation to provide a more consistent supply of *Plantago lanceolata* (narrowleaf plantain), which serves as a vital food source for TCB larvae and habitat improvement. SCCC infrastructure improvements supported by WDFW opened this additional nursery site to produce quality *Castilleja hispida* plugs. The plugs can be used on recovery sites directly and planted at WCC for seed production. Additionally, increased nursery capacity allowed for a subsequent production of plants to restore trails and road closures on Olympic Peninsula public lands for the DNR and USFS – Olympic National Forest.



SCCC Conservation Nursery Technicians processing Plantago lanceolata seed. Photos by SPP Staff.

WCCW produced plants for the restoration of Taylor's checkerspot butterfly habitat on JBLM and surrounding Salish lowland prairies. The nursery site also functions as a small-scale seed laboratory supporting production for seeds to be grown on a larger scale at WCC. The 2025 WCCW conservation nursery crew members have been some of the most successful to date, allowing for lateral collaboration between both nursery and the new butterfly crews at WCCW. This collaboration will allow butterfly nectar and larval food plant resources to be produced on-site in reliable and consistent quantities at WCCW. SPP is looking forward to this new phase of collaboration.

The Conservation Nursery at WCC expanded its operations in 2025 by adding three new fields, totaling one acre, and two hoop houses to produce seed material for restoration on Salish lowland prairie sites. This expansion was made possible through the support of DOC staff and the hard work of incarcerated technicians. This expansion will allow the Conservation Nursery at WCC to increase the cultivation of important prairie species to support conservation and restoration goals for Joint Base Lewis-McChord, local tribes and land management agencies.



Conservation nursery programs thrived in 2025. Photos by SPP Staff.

In 2025, with the support of SPP staff, Conservation Nursery Technicians planted and harvested seeds from a variety of native prairie perennials at WCC. *Danthonia californica*, *Castilleja hispida*, *Silene scouleri*, and *Silene douglasii* seed were harvested from plants planted out in 2023-24. *Sidalcea virgata*, *Hieracium scouleri*, *Lupinus Lepidus*, and *Sisyrinchium idahoense* starts were planted out in 2025 with the intention to harvest seed in 2026. The technicians continued to improve *Castilleja hispida* protocols for seed production, a vital host plant for Taylor's checkerspot butterflies in the Salish lowlands.

The sagebrush-steppe nursery at WSP operates at the Sustainable Practices Lab (SPL). The SPL is an exemplary employment and training program with day-to-day supervision provided by DOC staff and

SPP manager Gerry Glenn. In addition to *Artemisia tridentata*, nursery production expanded in 2025 to deliver forbs and shrubs vital to the sagebrush-steppe ecosystem. This expansion was possible through the combined support of WDFW and USFWS. This increase in species allows for detailed and rigorous protocols to be published for the cultivation and field establishment of species important to the shrub-steppe habitat.

During this reporting period, 26 technicians received education and training to complete 29 Conservation Nursery education portfolios. Ten completed the Sagebrush-Steppe Conservation Nursery Technician portfolio worth 18 credits, 14 completed the Advanced Topics Conservation Nursery portfolio worth nine credits, and five completed the Salish Lowland Conservation Nursery Technician education portfolio worth 18 credits.

Table 8. Summary of key outcomes for SPP conservation nursery programs for 2025.

Conservation Nursery Programs					
Program	Facility	Key Ecological Results	# of Techs	Partners	Key Highlights
Salish Lowland Prairie	WCCW	Plant plugs produced: 39,021 Species grown: 24	15	Nursery Technicians, DOC, SPP-Evergreen, JBLM	Plants produced for Salish lowland prairie restoration.
Salish Lowland Prairie	SCCC	Plant plugs produced: 53,774 Species grown: 26	8	Nursery Technicians, DOC, SPP-Evergreen, JBLM USFS-Olympic	TCB larvae & nectar plant production, & Olympic peninsula forest habitat restoration.
Sagebrush -Steppe	WSP	Plant plugs produced: 46,452 Species grown: 8	21	Nursery Technicians, DOC, SPP-Evergreen, WDFW, USFWS – Sagebrush-Steppe	Delivered all <i>Artemisia tridentata</i> (big sagebrush) to WDFW.
Salish Lowland Prairie - Seed	WCC	Harvest of perennial species: <i>Danthonia californica</i> , <i>Castilleja hispida</i> , <i>Silene douglasii</i> , and <i>Silene scouleri</i>	4	Nursery Technicians, DOC, SPP-Evergreen, JBLM	Significantly expanded operations by adding 3 new fields and 2 hoop houses to begin growing starts and expand seed production.

Northwestern Pond Turtle Rehabilitation Program

The Northwestern Pond Turtle (NWPT) Rehabilitation program started in 2013 at Cedar Creek Corrections Center (CCCC). This program is part of a larger effort led by WDFW in partnership with other state and federal agencies, zoos, veterinary care facilities, and SPP. This effort is focused on monitoring and rehabilitating northwestern pond turtles (*Actinemys marmorata*) impacted by shell disease suspected to be caused by a keratin eating fungus known as *Emydomyces testavorans*. This shell disease results in lesions and pitting on the normally hard turtle shells, making them soft. If left untreated, shell disease is thought to pose serious health risks to the turtles. The northwestern pond turtle is a state-listed endangered species and one of only two native turtles in Washington State.

Turtles suffering from shell disease are captured in the wild by WDFW biologists and brought to veterinary partners for treatment. After treatment, they are transferred to CCCC where incarcerated technicians care for them while they heal and prepare for release back to the wild. Technicians caring for these turtles work diligently to ensure stable environmental conditions in the program area along with performing daily feeding and tank cleaning following protocols developed by partner agencies. Protocols have been refined over the years with the help of our partners, technicians, and SPP staff.

In addition to the hands-on turtle care, technicians receive education in wetland ecology, turtle biology, and animal husbandry. Technicians who complete the program education portfolio are eligible to earn 10 credits from The Evergreen State College.

In January of 2025, 22 turtles were transferred to CCCC following veterinarian treatments similar to previous years, including the surgical debridement, or removal of parts of the shell most impacted by shell disease. One turtle was transferred back to PAWS Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in March and euthanized due to a pre-existing neurological condition unrelated to shell disease. The remaining 21 turtles in care at CCCC were released in Spring 2025 after completing their rehabilitation. We are pleased to report that technicians were once again able to attend turtle release and a WDFW-hosted workshop at the Columbia River Gorge recovery site. To date, this program has cared for and released 143 northwestern pond turtles.



Moments from the Northwestern Pond Turtle Rehabilitation Program in 2025. Photos by SPP Staff.

While caring for these 22 adult turtles in the early part of the 2025 season, the NWPT program saw an unprecedented number of egg laying events. In total, seven egg laying events occurred between March and April, resulting in 17 eggs being laid at the prison. Those eggs were transferred to Woodland Park Zoo for incubation, where eight eggs successfully hatched. These hatchlings are now in the headstarting program at the Oregon Zoo.

For the first time, CCCC additionally housed and provided care for three quarantine turtles starting in May of 2025. These turtles are still in care at CCCC with one turtle planned for release in Spring 2026. The other two will most likely remain in captive care indefinitely due to being kept in captivity as pets for over 10 years prior to arriving at CCCC.

In another first for the program, SPP partnered with WDFW to pilot a less invasive treatment option for shell disease. Based on research from the University of Illinois Wildlife Epidemiology Lab, SPP and WDFW worked with technicians to begin administering anti-fungal treatment baths for a new cohort of 10 sub-adult northwestern pond turtles in September of 2025. These sub-adults all showed outward signs of shell disease and are periodically tested for *E. testavorens* to assess the effectiveness of the anti-fungal bath treatment and are planned to be released with another cohort of adult treatment turtles in the spring of 2026.

In 2025, the Northwestern Pond Turtle Rehabilitation program housed and cared for 34 turtles in total, over 11 months of the year, worked with 12 different technicians, and awarded four technicians credit through The Evergreen State College.

Table 9. Summary of key outcomes for SPP’s Northwestern Pond Turtle Rehabilitation program for 2025.

Northwestern Pond Turtle Rehabilitation Program – CCCC			
Key Ecological Results	# of Techs	Partners	Key Highlights
Turtles Received: 35	12	Turtle Technicians, DOC, SPP-Evergreen, WDFW, PAWS Wildlife Rehabilitation Center , Woodland Park Zoo , & Oregon Zoo	Awarded 4 technicians credit through The Evergreen State College; hosted turtle technicians at release site for turtle release.
Turtles Released: 21			

Taylor’s Checkerspot Butterfly Program

Since 2011, the Taylor’s Checkerspot Butterfly (TCB) Captive Rearing Program has reared over 75,000 butterfly larvae for release onto Salish lowland prairie sites. In 2025, we continued the captive breeding component of the butterfly program in response to significant population decline of this species in the wild. Program technicians continued to demonstrate exemplary teamwork and skill in caring for these federally endangered butterflies, producing a record number of larvae for release in 2025. With tremendous support and in partnership with WDFW, SPP technicians and staff reared, bred, and released over 10,000 larvae (detailed in Table 10).

The TCB program operated under extraordinary circumstances in 2025 due to the closure of Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women (MCCCW) in September of 2025. In October of 2025, SPP began the process of relocating the captive rearing program to Washington Corrections Center for Women (WCCW). Active rearing occurred at MCCCW before the larvae were transferred to WCCW for diapause and wake up life stages in 2026. After the new greenhouse is built in 2026, the entire TCB rearing and breeding program will be located at WCCW. WA DOC, WDFW and other partners have provided excellent support throughout the relocation process.

During 2025, four technicians completed the requirements of the Butterfly Captive Rearing Specialist education portfolio, offered January-June, each receiving 16 academic credits from The Evergreen State College. Two technicians completed the requirements of the Butterfly Conservation Technician education portfolio offered July-December and will be awarded 14 credits each in the summer of 2026. Four new butterfly technicians joined the team in 2025 and will begin their portfolios in 2026.

The TCB season and reporting period begins with the collection of wild female butterflies in April or May and ends when the offspring of those adults are released as larvae the following spring, typically in March. The data table below covers just one calendar year and is compiled using both final (July 2025) and interim (January 2026) reports which include information collected throughout the previous and current rearing seasons and is summarized in a format developed and approved by WDFW.



Moments from the Taylor's Checkerspot Captive Rearing Program in 2025. Photos by SPP Staff.

Table 10. Summary of key outcomes for the SPP Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly program for 2025. Created using WDFW 2024-2025 Final Report and WDFW 2025-2026 Interim Report.

Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Program – WCCW						
Key Ecological Results	Raven Greenhouse	Turtle Greenhouse	Totals	# of Techs	Partners	Key Highlights
# Larvae at Wake up (Feb 2025)	1,276	3,726	5,002	8	Butterfly Technicians, DOC, SPP-Evergreen WDFW, USFWS, Ronda Naseth (butterfly husbandry expert), JBLM	4 Butterfly Techs awarded 16 credits for the Specialist portfolio, 2 Butterfly Techs awarded 14 credits for the Technician portfolio, began the transfer of the butterfly program from MCCCW to WCCW (will be completed in 2026).
# Larvae Released post-diapause (March 2025)	1,017	3,402	4,419			
# Adult Butterflies Released (May 2025)	73	208	281			
# Wild Females Brought to Lab (May 2025)	9	11	20			
# Resulting Larvae from Wild Females Brought to Lab (May-June 2025)	1,696	2,337	4,033			
# Captive Females Bred (May 2025)	21	34	55			

# Resulting Larvae from Captive Females Bred (May-June 2025)	1,313	4,731	6,026			
# Larvae Released Pre-diapause (June 2025)	1,555	4,412	5,967			
# Larvae into Diapause (August 2025)	1,401	2,600	4,001			

“It’s funny, sometimes I think, ‘Oh, we’re saving these butterflies,’ but deep down, they’re kind of saving us.”

— Trista Egli, former Butterfly Program Technician

SPP aims to bring nature and sustainable living practices inside carceral environments for the numerous benefits it can provide people living in, working in, and visiting prisons. Beyond job training, skill development, and education, the positive impacts of nature connection can also include stress relief and enhanced physical, emotional, and mental well-being. Hundreds of studies demonstrate that incorporating nature into institutional and urban environments is good for people and the natural environment. In 2025, SPP made significant efforts to increase access to information surrounding the benefits of nature for both staff and incarcerated individuals. This section reports on restorative nature programs, like flower gardens, and the programs that offer education, training, and opportunities to practice sustainable living skills such as gardening and composting.

“Years in the garden space taught me many important aspects of life that I’m a contributor to and that seasons bring change.”

– Ben Asaeli, SPP Garden Facilitator



A collage of facility gardens, indoor house plants, and SCCC's koi fish pond. Photos by Emily Passarelli.

Nature & Health

SPP recognizes that prisons are stressful environments, especially for those living and working in them daily. While we already offer contact with nature in prisons, SPP is dedicated to spreading awareness of the benefits of nature contact and increasing opportunities for nature connection practices. In 2025, SPP worked with Washington Way and the DOC Training Department to include data and context on recognizing nature as a stress relief tool for staff. This information was incorporated into the 2025/2026 Washington Way Annual In-Service Training. SPP partnered with this group again to expand upon this information to be included in the updated 2026/2027 Washington Way Annual In-Service Training. More information about DOC's WA Way initiatives and programs can be found [below](#).

SPP also developed an extensive proposal and plan for a Nature & Health Toolkit. This toolkit aims to increase access to knowledge, identify and practice some nature contact strategies for people inside of prison, and to evaluate the effectiveness of resources once they are developed. This toolkit would include workshops, modules, audio and visual aids, and WA DOC staff trainings. SPP plans to present this proposal to potential funders in 2026.



Prison gardens have a variety of different goals. Photos by SPP staff.

Gardens in Prisons

Prisons across Washington have many different types of gardens that are supported by SPP, WA Corrections, and other organizations. Garden types vary depending on the facility's climate, partnerships, goals, and programs. Most gardens serve as multi-functional spaces. These outdoor spaces may include educational gardens to accompany SPP's Foundations in Gardening classes, produce gardens for use in the prisons through Garden to Kitchen programs or for donation to local food banks,

herb and medicinal gardens, culture gardens for cultural groups, flower gardens, pollinator friendly gardens, small orchards, rental plot gardens, and drought tolerant native plant gardens. SPP aims to bring educational content to all programs. One way we support education for gardens includes the Foundations in Gardening and Foundations in Composting courses. For more information on these courses, please see [Section 4 Education](#). To see more information on the amount of produce donated to community organizations, see Table 16 in the [Community Contributions section](#).

Garden to Kitchen

Through the Garden to Kitchen Project, SPP collaborates with incarcerated gardeners, community partners, and facility staff to identify and expand opportunities for gardening with the purpose of growing local produce. This not only increases access to fresh produce for incarcerated people but fills a food deficit for families in need within their communities. Table 11 describes the produce used within facilities in 2025.



Gardens, rental boxes, hoophouses, and produce from several facilities. Photos by SPP and DOC staff.

In 2025, SPP supported SCCC, MCC, and CBCC in their efforts to increase garden space and provide relevant education. MCC-TRU and MCC-MSD expressed interest in expanding their garden spaces. SPP supported these facilities by purchasing seeds and other gardening supplies as requested. MCC-TRU also started a Foundations in Composting class in late 2025 to complement their gardens. MCC-MSD expressed interest in both Foundations in Composting and Foundations in Gardening with plans to start in 2026. CBCC started a Foundations in Gardening class in 2025, expanded their garden area, and have plans to start a Foundations in Composting class in 2026.

Many facilities, like CCCC and WCCW, have made prison grown produce available to incarcerated people through the kitchen for many years. Prisons such as AHCC, CRCC, and WSP even share produce between facilities, while other facilities are considering options for increasing access to fresh produce. In 2025, an estimated **37,310 lbs. of produce was used in facility kitchens**. This estimation is low as it does not include the produce exchange between WSP, CRCC, and AHCC, and some facilities did not keep record. SCCC continued their Garden to Kitchen Project efforts, successfully using over 2,000 lbs. of produce in the kitchen, mostly in the form of fresh salads. SPP supported this program by purchasing soil and compost for the gardens, purchasing new blueberry bushes, and by hosting a workshop with Harvest Pierce County focused on preparing produce for the kitchen. For more information about workshops offered in 2025, please see the [Education Section](#).

Table 11. Produce grown at facilities for kitchen use in 2025 (see [Appendix 3](#) for abbreviations).

Facility	Highlights
AHCC	Grew & used over 2,600 lbs. of produce in the facility kitchen. Received and used additional produce from WSP.
CCCC	Grew and used 4,123 lbs. of produce in the facility kitchen and for family & heritage events.
CBCC	CBCC restarted their farmers' market in 2025. This program allows incarcerated individuals to purchase fresh produce that is grown offsite, similar to a farmers' market outside prison.
CRCC	MSC garden provides fresh vegetables to the kitchen for incarcerated people. Received and used additional produce from WSP.
MCC-TRU	Grew and used 3,572 lbs. of produce. MCC-TRU focused on growing produce the kitchen would most readily accept and use.
MCC-MSU	C and D Units donate produce grown in their gardens to the kitchen.
MCC-SRTU	Grew 207 lbs. of produce that were used in the facility kitchens.
SCCC	Grew and used 4,367.2 lbs. of produce that were used in mainline meals.
WCCW	Grew and used around 3,800 lbs. of produce. The facility kitchen used fresh produce and herbs to make salsa to be offered with meals. The kitchen also uses produce to make stir fries, salads, and oven baked mixed vegetables. As part of WA Way, J-unit now has garden beds for residents to grow and consume their own food.
WCC	Grew and used over 18,500 lbs. of produce that went to the
WSP	Around 9,000 lbs. of the 21,890 lbs. of produce from SPL's Green Zone were used on site. The Institutional Garden grew, used, and shared cabbage, zucchini, cucumbers, melons, and squash with CRCC and AHCC.



Produce grown at CCCC and SCCC. Photos by SPP staff.

Restorative Nature Programs

While all SPP programs are intended to offer positive contact with nature, the initiatives detailed below in Table 12 include enjoying nature and/or providing wildlife habitat as their *primary* functions. The following table aims to represent the status of various initiatives as reported by WA Corrections.

Table 12. Restorative nature and wildlife habitat efforts for 2025 (see [Appendix 3](#) for abbreviations).

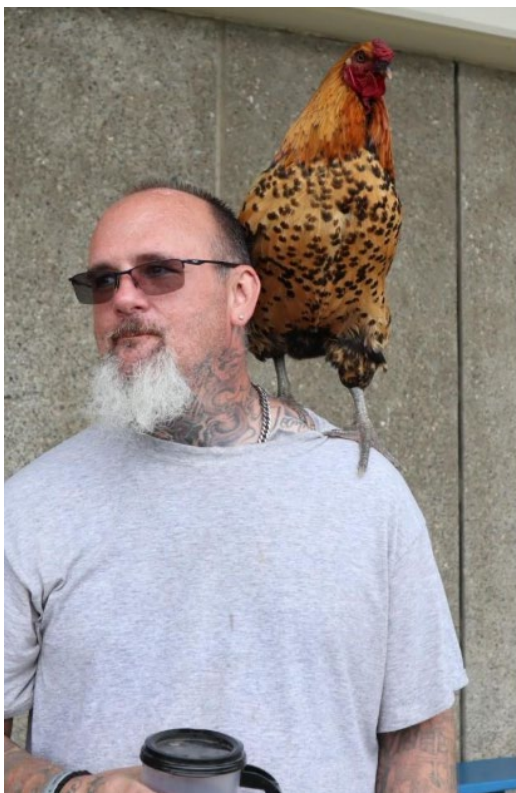
Facility	Programs	Status & Highlights
AHCC	Pollinator plantings	All courtyard gardens at the Main and MSU sites were transformed into vibrant flower gardens specifically intended to promote bee pollination. This initiative seeks to improve the local ecosystem by nurturing native pollinators in the Airway Heights region, which is essential for preserving biodiversity. The main greenhouse also produced over 7,000 plant starts which enhanced the gardens.
	Nature imagery	Nature imagery rooms are available for use in the SMU Unit.
CBCC	Flower gardens	Flower beds continue to be well-maintained and enhanced with bulbs and kale in planters. Gardens are now maintained by the Foundations in Gardening class.
CCCC	Pollinator-friendly flowers	Pollinator friendly and decorative plants were planted around the facility by the gardeners to brighten up walkways. Gardeners also added plants in staff areas and Therapeutic Community dayrooms.
CRCC	Heritage & flower gardens	Added native plants in front of all the medium security units.
	Land restoration	Land restoration area continues to thrive and look beautiful.
MCC-TRU	Gardens	Added garden beds for individuals with life sentences tend. The gardeners can choose their own flower seeds. MCC-TRU also plans to refresh their garden spaces in 2026.
MCC-SOU	Gardens	Unit gardens supplied fresh produce to the kitchen.
MCC-WSR	Flower gardens	New flower gardens were planted throughout the facility.
OCC	Water features	1 living unit has a fishpond; the other has a fountain and basin.
	Flower gardens	The gardeners grew flowers that were used throughout the facility in boxes & baskets.
SCCC	Pollinator plantings	SCCC continues to add pollinator friendly flowers and herbs throughout the facility.
	Lifer Garden	The Lifer Garden crew filled their gardens with flowers and produce.
	Pond	The area around the koi fish pond was enhanced. Planted culturally significant herbs and plants, as well as new blueberry plants.
WCC	Chickens	The chicken program remains strong and provides access to living creatures at the facility. One rooster is particularly friendly and roams the SPL area somewhat freely. He is cherished by both staff and incarcerated individuals.
	House plants	Over 1,000 house plants were distributed or donated.
	Flower gardens	Planted or distributed over 7,000 flowering plants across the facility.
WCCW	Flower gardens	Olympic College's Horticulture program planted a flower garden next to the bee hives and planted the grounds with approximately 5,000 annuals, perennials, and herbs to encourage pollinators.
WSP	Flower gardens	Flowers and vegetable plants are planted throughout the facility.

Composting

Most Washington state prisons have some form of large- or small-scale composting program or send their food waste to other facilities for composting. **In 2025, prisons converted a combined total of at least 1,740,497 lbs. of food waste and reported producing at least 540,972 lbs. of usable compost.** By diverting food waste from landfills and creating compost, these programs enrich their soil for gardening, provide education and training for incarcerated people, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and save the facility significant costs from tipping and dumping fees. Several prisons offer credit-eligible education and training through SPP's Foundations in Composting course. Composting is expected to gain even more traction in the next year as Washington organics management law will require facilities to divert food waste from landfills. Composting programs that operated in 2025 are described in Table 13.

To transform waste into valuable resources, facilities work with several composting methods, including:

1. **Bokashi Microbial Treatment:** Specialist bacteria can pickle/pre-process citrus, dairy, and meats that the worms cannot. WCC treats all food waste with bokashi to prevent food from molding and rotting. Bokashi treated food waste can be fed to worms or buried in gardens as a soil amendment.
2. **Vermicomposting with red wiggler worms:** Worms consume discarded grains, vegetables, and fruits. Their droppings, called castings, are highly prized as fertilizer and soil amendment.
3. **Chicken Composters:** Chickens can consume leftover food scraps. Chicken droppings are a great fertilizer.
4. **Traditional Thermophilic Composting:** Small piles balanced with nitrogen-rich materials (green) and carbon-rich materials (brown) are regularly turned to produce a finished compost.
5. **In-Vessel Systems:** Large industrial drums turn and aerate large amounts of food waste and other organic material into usable compost. These systems monitor and control temperature, moisture, and airflow.



WCC's composting program supports a variety of composting methods. Photos by Emily Passarelli.

SPP's Foundations in Composting course, first offered in 2023, continues to be offered at SCCC and WCC. New facilitators for WCC were trained last year and, along with the outgoing facilitators and SPP staff, co-created a facilitator manual and lesson plans to support new facilitators. Additionally, SPP offered composting workshops at WCC on composting related jobs and static composting piles. Two other facilities, CBCC and MCC-TRU, plan to begin offering the composting class in 2026. For more information on this course, supplemental workshops, and workshops, see [Section 4, Education Programs](#).

Composting continues to be a major highlight for the Sustainable Practices Lab (SPL) crew and staff at WCC. This team has been working with partners to develop a sustainable model for a robust composting education and training program. In 2025, they maintained their goal of composting 100% of facility food waste and took food waste from MCCCW until its closure in September 2025. In partnership with SPP, the team created how-to manuals on various methods of composting including bokashi and worms. These manuals were shared as a resource for other facilities in 2025 and can be found on SPP's website for free, [here](#). WCC also successfully obtained an industrial cardboard shredder and is now capturing carbon previously lost.

Table 13. Composting highlights for 2025 (see [Appendix 3](#) for abbreviations).

Facility	Composting Highlights
AHCC	Made improvements to infrastructure for the EnviroDrum. Composted 2,000 lbs. of food waste in the worm bin and produced 1,000 gallons of worm tea used in the gardens.
CBCC	Composted over 62,400 lbs. of food waste, diverted to OCC.
CCCC	Composted 194,073 lbs. of food waste, 112,171 lbs. of woodchips, and 17,042 lbs. of biosolids.
CRCC	Produced 1,600 lbs. of compost.
MCC-TRU	Received 2 worm bins built by WCC.
OCC	Produced 105,822 lbs. of compost from food waste from OCC, Kalaloch Lodge, and CBCC.
SCCC	Composted 229,345 lbs. of food waste; produced 13,273 lbs. of compost.
WCC	Composted over 614,956 lbs. of food waste from WCC and MCCCW. Food waste was treated with bokashi and then distributed through various composting systems including worm bins, chickens, and thermophilic composting.
WSP	Diverted 656,000 lbs. of food waste from the landfill.

The Washington Way

The [Washington Way](#) (WA Way) is a partnership between the [Washington State Department of Corrections](#) (DOC) and [Amend](#) at the University of California, San Francisco. It introduces a health-centered approach to transforming correctional culture within Washington's prison facilities and Reentry Centers. WA Way focuses on sustaining and expanding culture change efforts in partnership with frontline staff and residents to improve overall health and well-being of all.

Achieving sustainable, widespread cultural transformation requires multiple interventions. WA Way offers several staff-centered models, such as Resource/Activity Teams, Contact Officers, and Change Agents, to equip staff with tools, resources, and new pathways to drive meaningful change. These models often lead to ideas for projects that align with the SPP mission.

A key concept of WA Way is normalization. One thing that many people outside the prison environment take for granted is access to nature. From benches on a sidewalk, to flower and vegetable gardens, life inside a prison is very different from life outside prison walls. To help change this, WA Way is working to add more natural elements to the institutional setting and to transition prison life from a sterile, institutional environment to a place where true healing and behavioral change can occur. Researchers

have established the importance of not only being able to see various nature elements as key to healing and behavior change, but when a person is able to interact with nature, walk on grass, tend to plants that can more fully unlock the full benefits of nature contact within institutional settings.

A program impact report was published in early 2026 and posted on the [WA Way website](#). In 2025, the Department incorporated WA Way into strategic planning with a focus on nature spaces with plans to expand normalization environments, progression, and humanization efforts by June 30, 2027. In 2025, WA Way recorded **250 nature spaces within DOC**. Additionally, 259 proposals were submitted by both DOC frontline staff and residents. Of those proposals, 65 were approved and implemented. The table below illustrates some of the proposals aiming to increase nature engagement for staff and residents in prison settings.

Table 14. WA Way highlights for 2025 (see [Appendix 3](#) for abbreviations).

Facility	Highlights
CCCC	Expanded outdoor recreation spaces for staff-resident golf and pickle ball activities
	Revitalized horticulture and community gardening program
	Hanging flower baskets
CRCC	Green spaces were added throughout facility
	Raised flowers beds were added to shared outdoor spaces
MCC	Gardening and composting programs expanded
	Restrictive Housing Unit raised vegetable garden area
	Lifer's raised garden area
	In-cell plant program to bring living plants to cells
	Increased outdoor activities and access to nature
WCCW	Outdoor stone walkway and meditative garden
	Nature enhancements providing increased access to plants, flowers, and calming greenery
WSP	An outdoor area for family visitation was created with planters and children's area
	Greenery was brought back to the People's Park
	Hanging flower baskets were added along walkway to the Big Yard
	Outdoor mural
	Big Yard redesign in collaboration with WSU Landscape Architecture Department
	Miniature Golf
	Community Mural at local hospital

The MCC IMU Garden originated from a staff proposal aimed at creating a welcoming community-centered outdoor space. The proposal was supported by the MCC leadership team, who recognized the value in supporting healthy connections between staff and residents. Funding for this project was provided by WA Way, making the vision for the space a reality.

Classification Counselor Mike Butler from WSP teamed up with an incarcerated artist to create a vibrant mural for Providence St. Mary Medical Center in Walla Walla. The design incorporated input from hospital caregivers to bring beauty, calm, and a sense of healing to patients, families, and staff, including those in the ICU and family birth center. Completed over two weeks, the project demonstrated meaningful collaboration across institutional boundaries. The initiative highlights how staff-supported, community-based partnerships can support positive culture change inside the prison by creating opportunities for resident engagement, creativity, and connection to the broader community.

Article: [Healing through art - Your gift to our ICU](#)



Examples of WA Way focusing on normalization spaces. Photos by DOC Staff.

At CCCC, facility leadership launched the state’s first staff-led golf program grounded in the belief that “the rules of golf are the rules of life,” using the sport to teach discipline, patience, integrity, and personal responsibility to participants. Developed by former Superintendent Tim Thrasher, the initiative provides incarcerated individuals with structured opportunities to practice golf alongside staff with discussions about life skills and ethical conduct. Participants took part in a supervised community-based golf outing to The Home Course in DuPont, Washington, offering a unique opportunity to practice these skills in a real-world setting and strengthen positive ties outside the facility. The effort reflects proactive leadership and a positive culture shift toward rehabilitation, trust-building, and meaningful preparation for reentry.

Article: [Driving Change: How the Rules of Golf Are the Rules of Life | Washington State Department of Corrections; ‘I never thought I'd be golfing, let alone in prison’: Here, golf offers a second chance](#)

“I absolutely love how the apiary garden brings nature into our otherwise sterile environment. The apiary is a very calming and relaxing area that brings me so much peace within these walls.”

— Rory Brown, Beekeeping Instructor SCCC

Community Contributions Programs

7

Community contribution programs provide services and/or goods directly to local communities. These programs include training pets for adoption or as service animals, creating crafts and products derived from reclaimed materials (firewood, quilts, etc.) for donation, and providing ecological services like habitat restoration.

Typically, these programs are partnerships between prisons and community organizations. They support non-profit organizations and provide opportunities for incarcerated people to share their time and talent while making meaningful contributions to communities outside the fence. Many of these programs predate the formal SPP partnership and operate without support from SPP-Evergreen. SPP-Evergreen's role is often limited to acknowledging these partnerships by providing a comprehensive overview of statewide activities.



*Many programs in Washington prisons provide a variety of services and goods to the local communities.
Photos by SPP and DOC staff.*

Dog and Cat Programs

Nearly all of Washington's prisons have one or more partnerships with nonprofit organizations for pet programs. Program participants receive education and support from animal shelters and service animal organizations. They learn how to provide excellent care, training, grooming, boarding, and, in a few cases, service or therapy animal training. Incarcerated participants and staff note that pet programs benefit everyone involved, including those living and working in prisons and outside community members. Participants of these programs often describe working with dogs or cats as transformative. Table 15 summarizes the pet program highlights shared by DOC for 2025.



Service dogs and their handler at SCCC. Photo by Emily Passarelli.

Table 15. Dog and cat programs in 2025 (see [Appendix 3](#) for abbreviations). Please note: all dog and cat programs include incarcerated people and DOC staff working in collaboration with nonprofit partners.

Facility	Program	Program Partners	Highlights
AHCC	Pawsitive dog training	Diamonds in the Ruff, SpokAnimal, Spokane Humane Society	They have graduated 29 dogs since the program restarted in 2024. AHCC plans to have 3 sessions in 2026.
CBCC	Cat program	Welfare for Animals Guild (WAG!)	Cat programs continue to thrive. CBCC had 22 handlers and 18 cats in 2025. This program also has 3 cats who will live permanently at CBCC.
CCCC	Training dogs for veterans	Motley Zoo	In the process of completing a contract with Motley Zoo to train dogs that will be adopted out.
CRCC	Ridge Dogs	Adams County Pet Rescue, The Pitbull Pen	Housed 84 dogs in 2025.
CRCC	Service dogs for veterans	Brigadoon Service Dogs	4 dogs went through the program in 2025.
MCC-TRU	Dog training & adoption	Summit Assistance Dogs	Dogs live 24/7 with pairs of incarcerated individuals who care for and train them. 8 dogs were in training with 2 dedicated two-person handler teams, and 14 dedicated dog walkers. There are 4, 10-week classes scheduled for 2026.
MCC-SOU	Cat Program	Purrfect Pals	25 kittens and cats went through the program in 2025.
SCCC	Service dogs for veterans	Brigadoon Service Dogs	24 dogs were trained and 8 were placed with veterans.
SCCC	Freedom Tails	GH Paws	10 dogs went through the program in 2025.
WCCW	Prison Pet Partnership	Dogs for Better Lives, Northwest Boxer Rescue, Feisty Felines	10 incarcerated individuals earned their Kennel Certification. 15 pets were trained and successfully placed in new homes. Over 3,500 grooming and boarding services were provided for the community.

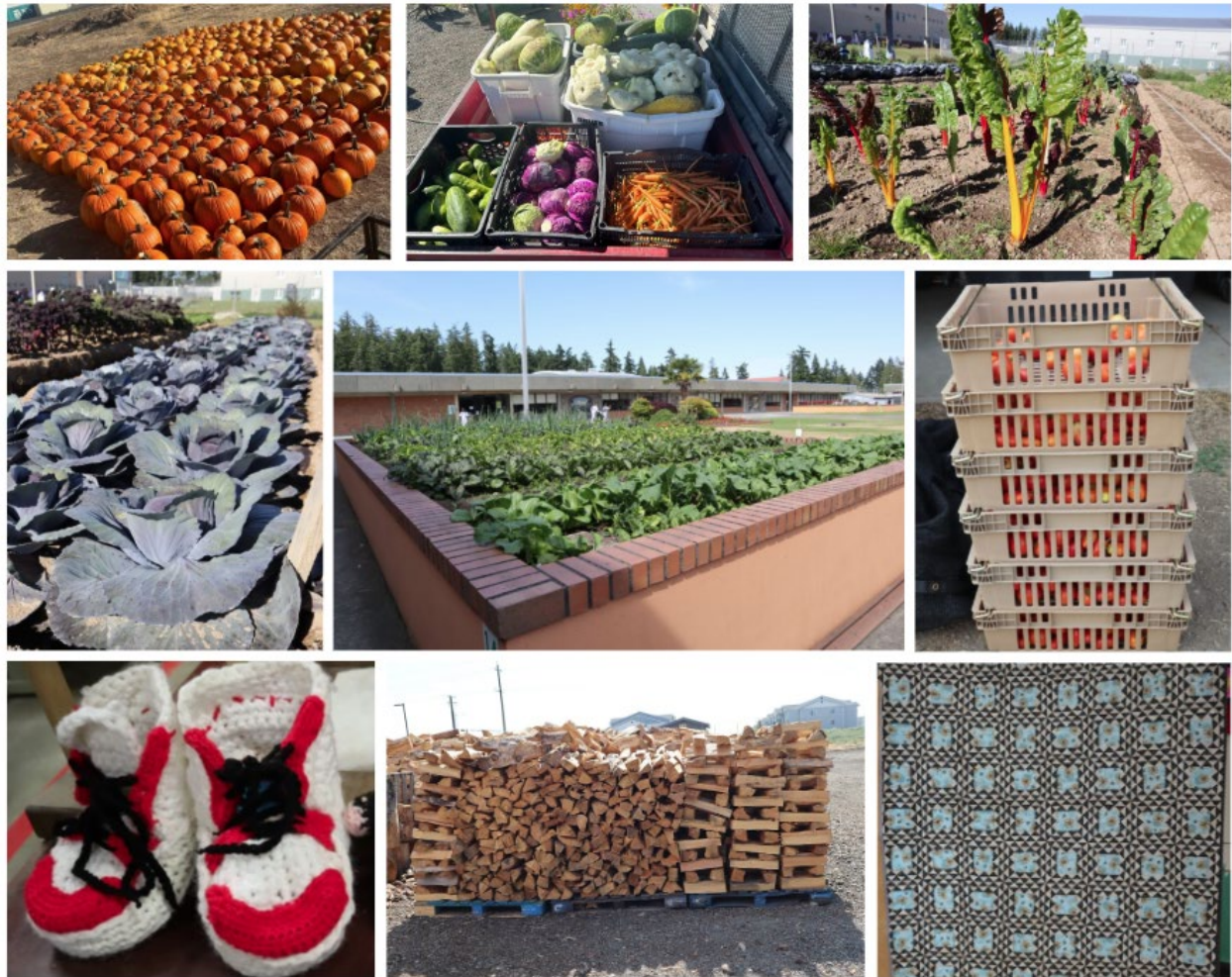


Almost every facility in Washington has a dog training program and some have cat handling programs. Photos from partners, DOC, and SPP staff.

Reclaim, Repurpose or Restore, and Donate Programs

DOC-led community contribution programs continue to morph over time. Washington prisons partner with local communities to reduce waste and create items out of discarded materials. Some programs donate art, crafts, and other handmade or restored creations to organizations to auction at their fundraising events, with proceeds supporting the non-profit. In other cases, the creations from these programs help to meet an organization's needs, such as donating quilts to a housing or domestic violence shelter, refurbished computers for schools, or growing produce for food banks.

In 2025, all Washington prisons combined grew approximately 381,215 lbs. of produce, of which approximately 343,531 lbs. was donated to food banks and 37,310 lbs. were used in facility kitchens. Several facilities reported that they used prison grown produce in the kitchen facilities, but did not record how many pounds were used. For more information on produce grown and donated see Table 16. For information on produce grown and used on site, please see [Section 6 Restorative Nature & Sustainable Living](#).



Prisons support their local communities by offering fresh produce, small projects, and resources like firewood to community members. Photo by DOC and SPP staff.

Table 16. Community contribution programs to reclaim, repurpose, restore, or donate for 2025 (see [Appendix 3](#) for abbreviations).

Facility	Programs	Program Partners	Highlights
AHCC	Computers 4 Kids	Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, WA Department of Enterprise Services	21,563 computers (PCs, laptops, and monitors) were refurbished. 2,049 computers were donated to local schools.
	Gardens, main and minimum	Master Gardeners, Ronald McDonald House, Shriners Children's Hospital	Main: More than 5,326 lbs. of produce was grown. Some produce was given to the Women's and Children's Pantry, located in downtown Spokane. Minimum: One greenhouse is now up and fully functional. MSU garden transformed into a lovely courtyard, providing essential habitat for bees and other pollinators.
	Pumpkin Program	Shriners Children's Hospital	Over 700 pumpkins collectively weighing 7,000 lbs., were donated to the Shriners Children's Hospital. Pumpkins were given away at a hospital event where children could pick a pumpkin and choose a free costume donated by Spirit Halloween.

CBCC	Vegetable gardens	Clallam Bay Food Bank	Grew 2,675 lbs. of produce, 153 lbs. were grown hydroponically. Approximately 2,300 lbs. were donated to the food bank who gives any extra produce to the local Senior Citizen Center.
CCCC	Vegetable Gardens	Tenino Food Bank, Rochester Food Bank	Grew and donated 1,875.5 lbs. of fresh produce.
	Construction	Centralia Community College	2 custom bus stops were donated to the Littlerock Elementary School and a round picnic table was donated to a fundraiser auction for the Seattle Children's Hospital.
CRCC	Gardens: Min. & Main	Harvest Now, food pantries	CRCC donated an estimated 9,000 lbs. of produce.
	Gardens	North Franklin Schools	CRCC grew about 400 pumpkins and donated them to the local elementary school. Planning to expand to all North Franklin Schools in 2026.
MCC-SOU	Teddy Bear Program		A new teddy bear program was started in 2025. Bears will be made from donated fabric and donated to local police and fire organizations for children in crisis.
OCC	Religious Firewood Program & Community Involvement Firewood	Olycap, Quillayute Valley Scholarship Auction, Lake Quinault Fire Dept., OCC DNR Crew	Religious Firewood program supplied about 113 cords of firewood to SCCC, CBCC, OCC, MCC, and WCCW to support their Religious Programs. Community Involvement Firewood program donated cords of wood to the following individuals and organizations: 80 cords to local senior citizens, 20 cords to the town of Clearwater, 20 cords to Quillayute Valley Scholarship Auction, 2 cords to Soroptimists Festival of Trees Auction, and 2 cords to Jefferson County Sheriff's Office.
	Vegetable gardens	Peninsula College, Sunshine and Rainbows Child Development Center, Quileute Tribe	Delivered 1,946 lbs. of produce to the Forks Food Bank. The facility also grew pumpkins for family friendly events.
SCCC	Gardens and greenhouses	Coastal Harvest Food Bank, Harvest Now	Harvested 24,765 lbs. of produce from the Lifer Garden, unit gardens, and outside work crew and donated the produce to Coastal Harvest. Also donated 25 holiday dried flower arrangements.
	Bicycle Repair	Lions Club	238 bikes were restored and delivered.
	SBU Looming Class	Connections	180 hats, 2 blankets, and 2 scarves were donated to Connections, a local child advocacy group.
	Toy Time	Connections, A Center for Healthy Families	431 toys were made and donated to Connections in 2025.

	Bears Program	Aberdeen Fire Station, Montesano High School, Aberdeen Police Dept., Ocean Shores Fire Dept., Westport Police Dept., Ocean Shores Knights of Columbus, Aberdeen Homeless Women's Shelter, Ocean Shores Methodist Church, Ocean Shores Lutheran Church	In 2025, 482 bears were made by incarcerated people and donated to several of the listed organizations.
	Shine from the Inside	SCCC Incarcerated Fundraising Group	This group raised a total of \$25,578.85 which was donated to the following groups: • \$8,363.94 to Amara to support families impacted by the child welfare system • \$2,722 to Family Promise of Grays Harbor • \$2,722 to After School All Stars, Puget Sound • \$3,646 Union Gospel Mission • \$3,646 to Local Friendship House • \$2,500 Washington State Fatherhood's Council • \$1,978 Giving Tree – 4 families
	Plants	Coastal Harvest	Donated four flats of live plants including aloe vera, scented geraniums, mint, and other herbs.
WCC	Plant starts	Thurston County Food Bank, Adopt-A-Pet Fundraising, Gethsemane Ministries	Donated over 5,000 seedlings to Thurston County Food Bank and Adopt-A-Pet Fundraising. Also, donated 24 flowering plants to Gethsemane Ministries.
	Houseplants	Hoodsport Canal Food Bank, Thurston County Food Bank, Spell-E-Bration (Sound Learning), Squamish Tribe, and cultural and other events throughout WCC	WCC shared over 1,000 house plants with a wide range of community-focused initiatives.
	Gardens and Greenhouses	Thurston County Food Bank, The Hoodsport Canal Food Bank, Matlock Community Church, Harvest Now, Gethsemane Ministries, Matlock Community Church, Kitchen for Homeless Catholic Community Services, Kokua Services, Women, Infant, & Children Nutrition Program	32,335 lbs. of vegetable produce was donated to local food banks.
WCCW	Sisters of Charity: quilts, fabric crafts, wildlife rescue	Fish Food Bank, Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, Quilts of the Heart, Swedish Hospital, WCCW Clothing Closet, Heart Strides, Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium, Coast Guard, and the WCCW Elder Wing	1,038 items (quilts, holiday stockings, animal beds, reusable grocery sacks) were donated to charities around Puget Sound and internationally.
WSP	Gardens and greenhouses: Institutional Sustainability Garden	Donated to Blue Mountain Action Council and Christian Aid Center	The gardens grew 243,822 lbs. of produce and donated the majority to BMAC (Blue Mountain Action Council), a local food bank, and the Christian Aid Center (local shelter, meal, and food pantry program).

WSP – SPL	Overview of numerous SPL programs	Receive materials donations from partners; donated to 550 charities since start of SPL in 2012	8,507 items donated to nonprofits and charities. SPL completed 11,632 state work orders. 324 individuals participated.
	SPL: Wood Shop & Wood Carving		Reclaimed approximately 25,000 lbs. of wood from pallets and used lumber for creative arts, crafts & sustainability projects. 270 wine barrels tuned into furniture.
	SPL: Art Program	Various non-profits partners	Participated in 6 public art shows with all the profits going to charities.
	SPL: Quilting		SPL continued to produce quilts for donation.
	SPL: Green Zone	Farm to School, Lettuce Grow, Master Gardening	Foundations in Gardening class donated 17,820 lbs. to local food banks.

Community Work Crews

Many incarcerated residents of minimum-security prisons (CCCC, MCCCW, and OCC) and units (Minimum Security Camp: “MSC”) at facilities like AHCC, WSP, and CRCC work on offsite crews to provide services on public lands and community organization sites. In total, it is estimated that 622 incarcerated individuals were employed by these crews during this reporting period. With so many programs statewide, SPP still has much to learn about if and how these programs fit the SPP model. Reported details are shown in Table 17.



The community crews at OCC were recognized by the local community for their contributions. Photos from DOC.

Table 17. Community work crew special projects for 2025 (see [Appendix 3](#) for abbreviations).

Facility	Programs	Program Partners	Highlights
AHCC	Forestry	DNR	The AHCC DNR program helps mitigate the immediate impacts of wildfires and fosters a sustainable approach to forest management while providing important silviculture and firefighting training. This ensures the ecological integrity and economic viability of timberlands for future generations and well as investing in incarcerated individual's re-entry and career paths.
	Community Crew	Sawyer Crews, SNAP	In collaboration with the SNAP program, the Sawyer Crews processed and delivered 319 cords of firewood to lower-income citizens in the Spokane County community. Like the DNR crews, they also do silviculture work. They worked 4,940 hours during the reporting period.
CCCC	Forestry	DNR	DNR crews were dispatched to many fire projects and local fires. Crews were also trained in re-forestation, land clearing, wood cutting, fire prevention, and forest firefighting.
	Community Crew	Multiple agencies	These crews provide incarcerated individuals work in the community assisting and fulfilling contracts with our community partners. This work included brush removal, tree trimming, grounds maintenance, rubbish removal, painting, routine maintenance of fences and structures, mowing of fields, and cleaning restrooms etc. The monthly average hours of incarcerated individuals' work time was 1,512 hours. The total for the year was 18,144 hours.
MCC-WSR	Community Crew: MSU	St. Vincent DePaul, WA State Parks	5 crews with 5-10 incarcerated individuals each. They serve 18 contracts with several cities in Snohomish County. They assisted with landscaping, litter cleanup, clearing areas, and other related projects.
OCC	Community Crew	City, state, federal, tribal, and local orgs	The crew completed weekly grounds work such as weed eating grass, cutting brush, and pressure washing sidewalks for a local nonprofit group. They maintained both access roads to the lookout above Sekiu, including removing downed trees, weed eating, and brushing both sides of the road. Supplied firewood for the Native American culture groups at CBCC and OCC. Partners include: City of Forks, Senior Center, Forks Food Bank, Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Sunshine & Rainbow Daycare, OlyCap, Olympic National Resource Center (ONRC), Forks Visitor Center, Sarge's Place, La Push Reservation, West End Youth League (WEYL), Quillayute Valley School District (QVSD), Town of Clearwater, Bogachiel Fish Hatchery, CBCC, Forks Community Hospital, City of Clallam Bay and Sekiu, Peninsula College
	Forestry	DNR	DNR's crews continue to assist with wildfire, forest health (pre-commercial thinning and planting), silviculture, roadside clean up, and culvert replacement. They assisted with several local wildfires in 2025 (14 deployments) as hand crews and project fires (5 deployments) where they supplied the fire kitchen for wildland firefighters throughout the state.

Sustainable Operations

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Statewide, Sustainable Operations programs are led by the WA Corrections Capital Planning and Development team and a dedicated Sustainable Operations Manager. This role was established to oversee and implement strategies that reduce the environmental, economic, and human impacts of correctional facilities.

WA Corrections, also referred to as the Department, focuses on initiatives minimizing greenhouse gas emissions, optimizing energy efficiency, reducing waste, and conserving potable water. Additionally, efforts are continuously evolving to integrate sustainable practices that enhance operational resilience and compliance with state environmental policies. The following Department-authored section provides updates on key sustainable operations initiatives undertaken in 2025.

Zero Emission Vehicles

In compliance with Executive Order 21-04, the Department of Corrections (DOC) continues to advance toward full electrification of its vehicle fleet, with ongoing efforts to increase the number of Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs) across both leased and owned vehicles. While DOC did not meet the statewide 40% EV target for 2025, the Department remains ahead of the statewide average and continues to make progress toward long-term fleet electrification goals.



WCC's BEVs parked at their charging station. Photo by Emily Passarelli.

Across all light-duty (LD) DOC vehicles, including both leased and owned fleets, DOC has achieved a BEV adoption rate of 22%, compared to the statewide average of 19%. When road-legal Low Speed Vehicles (LSVs) are included, DOC's BEV percentage increases to 29%. Including non-street-legal LSVs, the Department's overall electrification rate rises to 44%, demonstrating strong progress in fleet electrification across correctional operations.

For leased light-duty vehicles, DOC currently operates 870 passenger vehicles, of which 390 are exempt from Executive Order 21-04 requirements. Of the remaining 480 vehicles, DOC has a 2025 BEV target of 201 vehicles. DOC already operates 106 BEVs, resulting in a 22% electrification rate.

In the owned fleet, DOC operates 1,113 light-duty vehicles, including 525 exempt vehicles, with a 2025 BEV goal of 244 vehicles. DOC currently operates 169 BEVs in the owned LD fleet, resulting in a 29% electrification rate. Road-legal LSVs show the highest electrification rate at 58%. To further accelerate electrification, DOC purchased 20 pre-owned 2017 Chevrolet Bolt vehicles for distribution across DOC facilities. These vehicles are being deployed to support operational needs while increasing BEV availability across multiple geographic regions.

Beginning in 2025, Executive Order 21-04 expanded fleet electrification requirements to include Medium Duty (MD) vehicles. Current statewide targets include 75% electrification for Light Duty vehicles, 30% for Medium Duty vehicles, and 50% for Heavy Duty vehicles by 2030. Due to the statewide vehicle purchasing pause, the Department of Enterprise Services (DES) is limiting new vehicle purchases to emergency situations only. Despite this limitation, DOC is actively pursuing grant funding to procure 7 Heavy Duty electric vehicles to complement two electric garbage trucks currently under construction.

With limited vehicle procurement opportunities, DOC has shifted focus toward supporting infrastructure and workforce readiness. In 2025, the Department installed 20 new EV charging stations, including four DC Fast Chargers (DCFC). Additionally, 54 Level 2 charging stations are planned for installation during the 2025–2027 biennium, further expanding statewide charging capacity.

DOC continues to host EV Ride and Drive events to promote adoption and familiarize agency drivers with electric vehicles. Three Ride and Drive events were held in 2025 along the I-5 corridor, with approvals secured for events in Eastern Washington. Four total events are planned for 2026. These events are attended by an average of 7 partner agencies, with approximately 60 test drives per event day. Vendors, including vehicle dealerships and charging equipment manufacturers, participate alongside agency subject matter experts, and the events have received strong positive feedback from agency drivers.

To further support fleet electrification and driver training, DOC is developing online training materials, including EV training sessions delivered through Microsoft Teams. These resources will help prepare state drivers for EV operations and charging prior to vehicle assignment, supporting smoother fleet transitions.

The Department will continue to prioritize BEV procurement as purchasing restrictions are lifted, expand charging infrastructure, deliver training programs, and support interagency collaboration to meet Executive Order 21-04 targets and statewide sustainability objectives.

Clean Buildings Performance Standards

The Department of Corrections continues its work to meet the requirements of RCW 19.27A.210, also known as the Clean Buildings Performance Standard (CBPS). Benchmarking is now complete at the campus level for all covered facilities, and benchmarking of each individual covered building is currently underway. Energy data systems are being configured to ensure compatibility with state-required reporting platforms. Comprehensive audits for Tier 1 buildings are nearly complete, and statewide planning is actively progressing to complete all required Energy Management Plans (EMPs) and Operations & Maintenance (O&M) programs for Tier 2 buildings.

As of June 30, 2025, the Department submitted five district energy decarbonization plans, one for each of the qualifying campuses pursuing the alternative compliance pathway made available through House Bill 1390. This pathway supports long-range, campus-scale energy planning that aligns with the Clean Buildings mandate while addressing the unique operational needs of large institutional portfolios like

DOC's. Each plan outlines strategies for replacing fossil fuels with decarbonized systems and prioritizing energy conservation.

DOC is using audit findings to inform budget-phased preservation projects and to evaluate opportunities to integrate decarbonization goals into capital planning. This integrated, in-progress strategy seeks to maximize limited capital resources, modernize aging infrastructure, and build more durable and resilient systems that ensure the continued delivery of DOC's public safety mission. CBPS compliance is enabling the Department to align sustainability goals with operational resiliency and cost-efficiency, positioning DOC as a leader in sustainable operations and responsible stewardship of state assets.

Sustainable Jobs Programs

WA Corrections offers a variety of sustainability jobs to incarcerated people. These job programs include work related to sustainability, science, and interactions with non-human nature. Some of these job programs have minimal input from SPP-Evergreen partners. According to DOC's database, approximately 1,698 of the 13,966 (12%) incarcerated people in WA prisons held sustainability-related jobs during this reporting period. These include jobs like community crews, gardeners, SPP technicians, and maintenance workers, like electricians.



Gardeners at MCCCW take a break from weeding the facility gardens. Photo by DOC.

Research and Evaluation

9

Program evaluation and research involving incarcerated people requires extensive review and resources for research design and implementation. Incarcerated people are designated as a “vulnerable population” to reduce the risk of harm to them. As a result, any inquiries involving incarcerated people or related data require extensive review and proper approval processes. SPP-Evergreen and our partners have lacked sufficient resources to extensively research the impacts of our programs on incarcerated individuals. Despite limited capacity, SPP-Evergreen does its best to learn about outcomes and ways to improve. This section provides updates on research and projects involving external partners and SPP, as well as SPP’s support in graduate student theses.



MES graduate, Mariana Cervantes, discusses plants with Robert Ostaszewski. Photo by SPP staff.

Research with External Partners

Data Request

In 2026, SPP plans to submit a data request to DOC’s Research and Development Administration to gain more information about SPP participants who have been released. SPP will examine recidivism rates and compare them to a control group that did not participate in SPP programs. SPP will look at conservation and ecological program technicians, graduates and facilitators of peer-led programs, and Apprentice and Journey-level beekeepers.

Northwestern University

In 2025, SPP was approached by a lead investigator, Amit Prachand, and a student researcher, Madeline Giger, who were conducting research to better understand the experiences of non-incarcerated graduate and undergraduate students engaged in prison education programs. SPP staff participated in the interviews and hope to learn more about the experiences that students may have while working in these programs.

De Montfort University PhD Student Research

In 2025, SPP supported PhD student, Bola Akinrolabu, who is conducting a study on nature interventions and well-being in prisons. The research focuses on “the impact of green initiatives and designs on the general well-being of individuals with lived experiences of prison environments.” SPP supported Bola by identifying and connecting potential interviewees who had participated in SPP programs and who have since been released from incarceration.

Student Theses

Mikala Waldrup

Master of Environmental Studies student, Mikala Waldrup, conducted research that explored how prescribed fire impacts mature Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*) mortality and Oregon white oak seedling and sapling abundances on Joint Base Lewis-McChord, in western Washington. Through data collection and statistical analysis, Mikala found that mature Oregon white oaks are highly resistant to prescribed fire mortality even after long absences of fire. She also observed that prescribed fire presence and absence had no significant effect on seedling and sapling abundance. This thesis helps support the work of SPP’s conservation nursery that grows Oregon white oaks, the only native oak in Washington, for prairie and oak woodland habitat preservation.



Mikala Waldrup presented her research at the Cascadia Prairie-Oak Partnership Conference (CPOP) in April 2025. Photo by Mariana Cervantes.

Mariana Cervantes

Master of Environmental Studies student, Mariana Cervantes, conducted thesis research that explored how winter and summer prescribed burns influence plant functional group composition and target species response in the South Salish lowland prairies of Joint Base Lewis-McChord, in western Washington. Using a combination of multivariate ordination and univariate generalized linear mixed models, this research examined post-fire vegetation dynamics across two years of monitoring.

Mariana found that winter burns significantly reduced exotic perennial grasses and exotic annual forbs as compared to summer burns. Exotic perennial forbs declined across both seasons. Native perennial grasses remained relatively stable regardless of fire season. Exotic annual grasses, as well as native perennial and annual forbs, showed minimal or inconsistent seasonal responses. These findings underscore the importance of aligning fire seasonality with species phenology and restoration objectives. Mariana concluded that winter burns may offer strategic advantages for suppressing invasive grasses while minimizing harm to native perennials, though long-term outcomes remain uncertain. This thesis also supports the work of SPP's conservation nursery that grows all of the species investigated in this research for prairie habitat restoration.

SPP highly values networking and collaboration to improve programs and increase access to education and nature in carceral environments. In 2025, SPP received and responded to many consultation requests from both within the United States and internationally. We had significant contact and provided resources for organizations interested in starting or expanding SPP-type programs, including in Japan!

In 2025, SPP Co-Director, Kelli Bush, was hosted by [Toyo University](#) located in Tokyo, Japan for 10 days. While in Japan, Kelli presented on SPP to Toyo University students and faculty, at a Justice Symposium with academics, environmental leaders, journalists, and justice officials, and to the Director General and staff for [Japan's Ministry of Justice](#). With support from her gracious hosts she had the opportunity to visit a social firm reentry program on farm and to attend a botany workshop and other nature-based rehabilitation programs in a prison.

Summary of visits and presentations:

- Gave three presentations at Toyo University
- Toured and attended a demonstration at the Kitsuregawa Rehabilitation Program Center
- Ministry of Justice presentation and meeting with the Director General and staff
- Made over 35 new contacts with six universities, three non-profit environmental organizations, two media outlets, and over 10 new contacts with Japan's Ministry of Justice



Photos from SPP's trip to Japan. Photos by Tony Bush and Kelli Bush.

A few prisons in Japan have recently started SPP style programs including animal, gardening, beekeeping, and plant nursery program. The visit was a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with photojournalist and author, [Ms. Atsuko Otsuka](#). Atsuko has made multiple visits to SPP programs in Washington prisons over several years and she graciously introduced SPP to the professors at Toyo University. We are deeply grateful to Toyo University for the meaningful learning exchange and enduring connections.

SPP in Washington State

Staff at SPP-Evergreen maintained contact with Washington state prisons during the January – December 2025 reporting period. Almost all Washington prisons host one or more programs coordinated by SPP-Evergreen, including beekeeping, Foundations in Gardening and/or Composting, and ecological conservation programs. Posted below is a summary of SPP-Evergreen’s new and project-specific contacts within Washington state.

Table 18. SPP-Evergreen's significant new or renewed contacts in Washington State for 2025.

Title/profession, organization	Interest in SPP
Rachel White, former federal employee	Workshops and potential collaboration on content development.
Mary Belt	Potential donation of quilting supplies to WCCW.
Andrew Fluckiger	Interest in buying art from WSP art show.
Michelle Pannell	Offer to volunteer and connect SPP with potential workshop providers.
Miro Stuke, PhD Candidate, UW Plant Ecophysiology and Modeling Lab	Potential native plant production workshop.
Kimberely Bryan, Florist, Parsley & Rue	Providing workshops.
Crystal Clark, Community Member	Dog program information and support.
Aimee Richardson, Board Member & Staff, Creekside Conservancy & Thurston County CD	Potential collaboration for workshops, restoration, native plant production; possible connection for dog training for conservation.
Alicia Keefe, Program Manager, Center for Nature and Health	Considering Nature and Health themed workshops and/or symposium event.
Sade Gilliom, Manager Land, Stewardship, and Finance, GRuB	Interest in collaborating to support programs for youth at Harbor Heights using some portions of SPP Foundation in Gardening course; SPP interested in learning more from GRuB about social emotional support resources in connection with gardening education.
Rachel Sklar, UW Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences	Providing workshops and potential inclusion in climate and health in prisons summit.
Gerald Bradford, Re-entry Navigator, Renton Technical College	Supporting gardeners at CBCC.
Concrete Mama; Unincarcerated Productions	Podcast based at WA State Penitentiary.
Vanessa Johnson, ECEAP Food Program Coordinator, Shelton ECEAP Preschool	Inquiring about fresh produce that may be available for donation.
James Ray, Recreations Specialist, FDC Sea Tac	Interest in adding programming to FDC SeaTac.

SPP Nationally and Internationally

SPP is recognized by other countries and states for leadership in environmental education and nature programs in prisons. New interest and involvement in SPP-modeled programs fosters ongoing relationships and learning exchanges. While the “SPP Network” is less formal than in years past, the total number and significance of contacts continue to expand. Table 19 provides a summary of new national and international contacts for SPP in 2025. Figure 3 represents contact with other states interested in SPP programming.

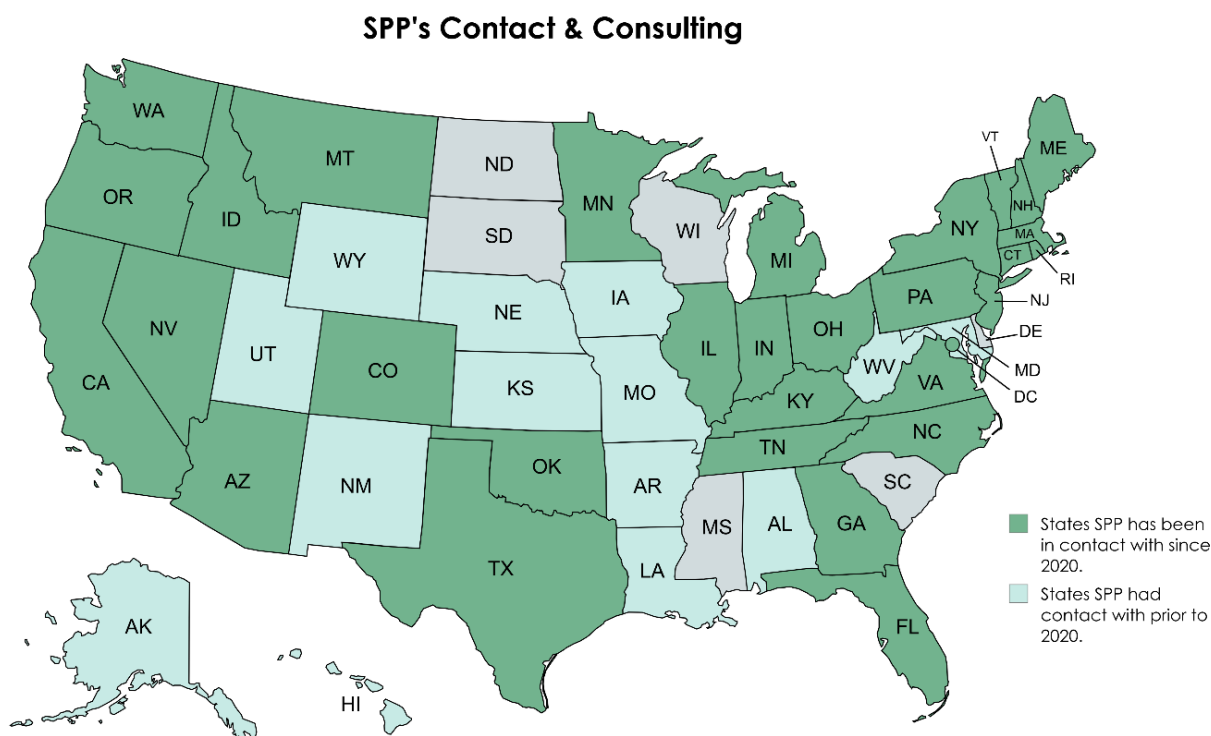


Figure 3. A visualization of SPP’s contact with other states.

Table 19. SPP-Evergreen's national and international contacts for 2025.

New and ongoing contacts: Title/profession, organization	Topics Discussed with SPP	State/ Country
Sarah Covalleski, Executive Assistant and FSL Administrator at FCI Elton	Interest in starting beekeeping.	OH
Natalia Duque-Wilckens, Assistant Professor at North Carolina State University	Developing a proposal for workshops in prisons on neuroimmunology and mental health.	NC
Cassidy Jennings and Robert Nauman, Sustainability Leads for OH State Prisons	Interest in connecting with federal prisons for beekeeping support.	OH
Olivia Tincani, Co-Founder of Grazing School of the West	Inquiring about vocational education in prisons, especially animal husbandry, ecology, and community care.	CA
John Campanelli, Ph.D Candidate	Interest in gardens, selling garden produce to support programs.	CT
Kevin Morris, Executive Director, Institute for Human-Animal Connection	Continued collaboration and research with SPP and connecting SPP with a former Denver University student.	CO
Kate Mudge, Co-Director Care Farming Network	Learning exchange to consider resource sharing and networking opportunities.	U.S.

Dr. Jennifer Neale, Instructor, American River College, Folsom State Prison	Interested in starting an SPP type of program in Folsom, CA.	CA
Toyo University and contacts w/other Japanese universities including Tokyo University, Fukushima University, Utsunomiya University, Tohoku Professional University of Agriculture and Forestry, Shukutoku University	Overview of SPP model including nature-based education and training programs involving plants and animals and partnerships with incarcerated people, corrections staff, conservation, community, and education organizations and others.	Japan
Japanese Environmental Organizations including Earth Watch Japan and Institute of Waterside Environmental Conservation	Attended SPP presentations and shared information during tours of programs in Japan.	Japan
The Yomiuri Shibun (media outlet)	Reported on SPP's visit to Japan.	Japan
Japan Ministry of Justice	Received an SPP overview presentation and time for Q & A.	Japan
Saitama Fukko Co. LTD Social Firm (social entrepreneurship),	Hosted tour of their social firm program during SPP's trip to Japan	Japan
Kitsuregawa Rehabilitation Program Center (prison in Japan)	Hosted SPP to tour their facility and visit their programs.	Japan

"The butterfly program has opened my eyes to how truly beautiful and intricate all of nature is."

— Margaret Taggart, Butterfly Program Technician

Presentations

In this reporting period, SPP staff presented at a variety of venues to highlight specific programs and represent SPP. A summary of our presentations is represented in Table 20; this table excludes presentations within established programs.



A group of students listen to a tour given by an SPL worker at WCC. Photo by Emily Passarelli.

Table 20. SPP-Evergreen Presentations, January – December 2025 (see [Appendix 3](#) for abbreviations).

Date	Presenter(s)	Title	Venue
01/07/25	Mikala Waldrup	Annual Western Pond Turtle Partner Meeting	Natural Resources Building, Olympia, WA
01/24/25	Kelli Bush & Emily Passarelli	Sustainability in Prisons Project Overview and Dog Programs	Virtual, Canine Companions and Evergreen
02/10/25	Kelli Bush	SPP & EPEP Overview for the SCCC Family Council Meeting	Virtually
02/25/25	Michael Zirpoli	Current phylogeny and taxonomy of morels and how to find them in WA	The Evergreen State College
04/14/25-04/17/25	Mikala Waldrup, Carl Elliot, Mariana Cervantes, Nat Kelly	Cascadia Prairie Oak Partnership Conference	Greater Tacoma Convention Center

05/26/25	Michael Zirpoli, Nat Kelly, Mikala Waldrup	SPP Overview and Open Positions	MES Admitted Students Day
05/29/25	Kelli Bush	SPP Overview and Conservation Programs	Thurston Conservation District
06/02/25	Kelli Bush	HAWS International SPP Overview: Education and Conservation Programs	Virtually w/students and faculty in Germany
06/25/25	Kelli Bush	SPP Overview Presentation Toyo U Social Work Students	Toyo University, Tokyo, Japan
06/27/25	Kelli Bush	SPP Overview for Justice and Social Programs Symposium	Toyo University, Tokyo, Japan
07/03/25	Kelli Bush	SPP Overview Presentation	Ministry of Justice, Director General, and other Justice Leadership, Tokyo, Japan
08/27/25	Mariana Cervantes	Influence of Fire Seasonality on Plant Species and Functional Group Abundance in South Salish Lowland Prairies	WCC
11/19/25	Mikala Waldrup	Prescribed Fire Effect to Oregon White Oaks (<i>Quercus garryana</i>) in Western Washington	JBLM Winter Science Talks at Earthworks
11/19/25	Mariana Cervantes	Influence of Fire Seasonality on Plant Species and Functional Group Abundance in South Salish Lowland Prairies	JBLM Winter Science Talks at Earthworks

SPP Tours

A summary of tours of SPP program areas is summarized in Table 21.



Nichole Alexander (SPP and Evergreen Alum) visits with a current butterfly technician at Mission Creek Correction Center for Women. Photo by DOC.

Table 21. SPP-Evergreen Tours, January – December 2025 (see [Appendix 3](#) for abbreviations).

Date	Visitors	Tour Area	Facility
04/25/25	Skokomish Tribe & Squaxin Island Tribe, Lyn Dennis, Kristina Ackley	Tribal Sons sweat lodge area, SPP composting and nursery program area	WCC
05/21/25	WA State Supreme Court Justices, Gabe Galanda, & Evergreen Tribal Liaison Lyn Dennis	Tribal Sons sweat lodge area, SPP composting and nursery program area	WCC
06/04/25	SPP: Mariana Cervantes, Nat Kelly, Sal Hernandez, Carl Elliot, Anneke Wilder, Mikala Waldrup, Sarah Larson; DOC: Gerald Holter, Jordan Kettel, Ed Baldwin, Todd Caspary, Khristi Rhodes, Sonja Alley, Kari Figueira, JBLM: Gina Smith (tour lead), Jim Lynch, Todd Zuchowski, Dennis Buckingham, Fayth Shuey	Salish Lowland Prairie tour on JBLM with SPP, DOC, and JBLM partners	Prairie at JBLM
07/15/25	Patricia Green, Squaxin Island Garden Program Manager and Evergreen Tribal Liaison Lyn Dennis	Tribal Sons sweat lodge area, SPP composting and nursery program area	WCC

Media Coverage

The table below includes all the media pieces that SPP-Evergreen staff tracked during 2025. In addition to the published media described below, SPP staff and participants were involved in filming a short portion for a documentary that will be released in late 2026.



Media events from 2025. Photos by DOC and SPP Staff.

Table 22. SPP Media, January – December 2025.

Date	Source	Author	Title
01/07/25	Correctional News	Kat Balster	Transforming Correctional Facilities with Biophilic Design
February 2025	Open Planet	Silverback Productions	Filmed for a short segment in a documentary to be released in 2026.
05/01/25	WASBA Monthly Newsletter	Anneke Wilder	Beekeeping Facility of the Year Winner 2024: Washington Correctional Center for Women
05/20/25	PBS Nature Going Wild Podcast	PBS Nature Going Wild	Going Wild podcast featuring Carolina Landa
April 2025	Open Planet	Silverback Productions	Filmed for a short segment in a documentary to be released in 2026.
06/04/25	KUOW-NPR	John Ryan	On a wing and a prairie: Puget Sound butterfly avoids extinction with human help
07/04/25	The Guardian	Andrew Buncombe	These women are raising endangered butterfly larvae from prison: 'They reconnect with their own brilliance'
07/17/25	The Thunderwood	Evelyn Rissel	Tentacled minds: Building connections between humans and octopus intelligence
07/20/25	Tokyo Shimbun	Ikuko Kihara	Contact with Nature, Plants, and Animals is Effective in Rehabilitating Prisoners. Will "Green Prisons" Spread to Japan?
08/20/25	DOC Communications	Rachel Friedrich	Saving the World, One Butterfly at a Time
08/06/25	International Examiner	Felix Sitthivong	On the Fence Line: Gardening in prison brings peace, and a reminder to toil for a better world
October 2025	Roadtrip Nation: Trailer	Produced by Romarilyn Ralston	The Inside Scholars

Outreach

SPP's main outlets for social media include Facebook (facebook.com/sustainabilityinprisons/) and Instagram (instagram.com/sustainabilityinprisons/).

The SPP Facebook page had 32,035 views in this reporting period, and the SPP Instagram page gained 30 new followers. During this reporting period, we made 57 posts on Facebook. Most posts were blogs about programming and the SPP staff. The most popular posts are summarized in the following table.

Table 23. Most popular Facebook posts, January – December 2025.

Subject	# Views	# Interactions	Date
The South Sound Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Working Group meeting met at The Evergreen State College.	8,734	66	12/15/25
"The experience was a full circle moment, as DOC often does not see what is beyond the fence and the positive impact that is made by initiatives with SPP." – Sonja Alley (DOC)	1,554	70	07/10/25
In connection with a Washington Way program called Cell-2-Cell, SPP Beekeepers talked bees with incarcerated people in Norway!	1,481	32	10/14/25
This fall, we piloted our new Peer Facilitation Training!	1,120	30	12/19/25

"[The turtles] have something to teach us in terms of moving slowly through our days and in our society."	1,029	69	06/12/25
The Washington Corrections Center has had a busy year for SPP programming!	905	46	12/12/25



Turtle Technician, Richard Bond, collects data during the 2025 turtle release in the Columbia River Gorge. Photo by Emily Passarelli.

"I've learned a plethora of information about ecology, different types of wetlands, and how us humans have positive and negative effects on both."

— Brian Powless, Turtle Program Technician

Appendix 1. SPP Programs

A1

SPP Programs in Washington State Prisons – 2025

We reported on **159** SPP programs in **10** Washington State prisons this year; see Table 24, below. Some additional programs were in development during the reporting period and are not indicated here. For links to programs, partner organizations, and highlights for each program, see <http://sustainabilityinprisons.org/spp-programs-in-wa/>.

Table 24. SPP Programs reported by all 10 WA prisons (see [Appendix 3](#) for abbreviations).

Airway Heights Corrections Center (AHCC)

Waste Sorting & Recycling
Worm Farm: Main
Computers 4 Kids
Pawsitive Dog Training
Firewood Donation
Nature Imagery
Large-scale Composting
Forestry

Community Work
Reclaimed Water System
Beekeeping
Gardens: Main
Gardens: Minimum
Flower Gardens & Pollination
Pumpkin Program

Clallam Bay Corrections Center (CBCC)

Beekeeping
Waste Sorting & Recycling
Cat Program
Water Catchment
Vegetable Gardens
Redemption

Flower Gardens, Boxes, Baskets
Planter Pot Contests
Food Drive
Dog Training and Adoption*
SPP Foundations in Gardening
Farmers Market

Cedar Creek Corrections Center (CCCC)

Waste Sorting & Recycling
Large-scale Composting
Training Dogs for Veterans
Horticulture
Construction
Wastewater Treatment
Forestry

Community Work
Aquaponics
Vegetable Gardens
Flower Gardens
Beekeeping
SPP Western Pond Turtle Rehabilitation
Totem Carving

Coyote Ridge Corrections Center (CRCC)

Land Restoration
Heritage Garden
Garden: Main
Waste Sorting & Recycling
Ridge Dogs
Service Dogs for Veterans
Composting: Minimum

Gardens: Minimum
Bee Garden
SPP Foundations in Gardening
Toys for Tots*
Teddy Bears from Reclaimed Materials*
Beekeeping

Monroe Correctional Complex (MCC)

WSRU-MSU

Community Crew: MSU
Vegetable Garden: MSU

Flower Gardens

SRTU

Gardens

Nature Imagery

Cat Program

TRU

Sewing Room

Dog Training and Adoption

SPP Foundations in Gardening

[Olympic Corrections Center \(OCC\)](#)

Waste Sorting & Recycling

Large-scale Composting

Wastewater Treatment

Water Catchment

OCC Dog Program

Solar Power

Water Features

[Stafford Creek Corrections Center \(SCCC\)](#)

Large-scale Composting

Waste Sorting & Recycling

Freedom Tails

Service Dogs for Veterans

Pollinator plantings

Flower Gardens, Boxes, Baskets

Toy Time

Shine From the Inside

Houseplants

Skill Builder Unit (SBU) Art Class

Gardens and Greenhouses

Lifer Garden

Violence Prevention

[Washington Corrections Center \(WCC\)](#)

Flower Gardens, Boxes, Baskets

Plant Starts

Construction

Houseplants

Nature Imagery

Large-scale Composting

Waste Sorting & Recycling

Training Dogs for Veterans

[Washington Corrections Center for Women \(WCCW\)](#)

Prairie Conservation Nursery

Horticulture

Gardens and Greenhouses

Beekeeping

Pollinator Plantings

Taylor Checkerspot Butterfly

[Washington State Penitentiary \(WSP\)](#)

Institutional Sustainability Garden

Waste sorting & recycling

Composting, main

Electrical upgrades

Gardens

Beekeeping

Firewood for Native American

Community Crew

Forestry

Gardens

Wood Product Shop

Flower Gardens, Boxes, Baskets

Flagging Class Certification

Community Art Show

SBU Looming Class

Electric Cars and Charge Stations

Bears Program

Garden to Kitchen

SPP Foundations in Gardening

SPP Foundations in Composting

Beekeeping

Prairie Conservation Nursery

SPL: Bicycle Repair

Water Catchment

Vermiculture/ Soldier Fly and Bokashi Composting

Chicken Program

Gardens and Greenhouses

SPP Foundations in Composting

Workshops

Prairie Conservation Nursery

Beekeeping

Prison Pet Partnership

Sisters of Charity

Waste Sorting & Recycling

Large-scale Composting*

Lighting Upgrades

Electric Vehicles

Podcast

Dog training

Water conservation

BAR Units

Kitten program*

MSU

Beekeeping

Sustainable Practices Lab (SPL)

SPL: Learning Center

SPL: Wood Shop & carving

SPL: Furniture Repair

SPL: Sign Shop

SPL: Aquaculture and Aquaponics

Crochet Program*

SPL: Worm Farm

SPL: Art Program

SPL: Creative Projects

SPL: Quilting

SPL: Green zone

Appendix 2. SPP Partners

A2

SPP Partners in Washington State Prisons – 2025

Complementing the efforts of founding partners, WA Corrections and Evergreen, program partners contributed to almost every SPP program. Most programs would not be possible without their input, enthusiasm, and resources. In this reporting period, we have **208** known (reported) partners. Considering that WSP’s Sustainable Practices Lab has donated program creations to more than 400 charitable organizations, we know the actual number is far greater!

Table 25. SPP Partners and Allies (Partnering with WA Corrections, Evergreen, or both), January 2025 – December 2025.

<u>Aberdeen Fire Station</u>	<u>Farm to School</u>
<u>Adams County Pet Rescue</u>	<u>Feisty Felines</u>
<u>Adopt a Pet Foundation</u>	<u>Fish Food Bank</u>
<u>After School All-Stars of Puget Sound</u>	<u>Friends of Puget Prairies</u>
<u>Amara Family Org</u>	<u>Forks Community Hospital</u>
<u>ARC of Tri-Cities</u>	<u>Forks Community Food Bank</u>
<u>Blue Mountain Action Council</u>	<u>Folks Elks Lodge</u>
<u>Blue Mountain Humane Society</u>	<u>Forks Visitor Center</u>
<u>Bogachiel Fish Hatchery</u>	<u>Franklin County Sheriff’s Office</u>
<u>Brigadoon Service Dogs</u>	<u>Gethsemane Ministries</u>
<u>Catholic Community Services,</u>	<u>Giving Tree</u>
<u>Center for Natural Lands Management</u>	<u>Harvest Now</u>
<u>Centralia College</u>	<u>Heart Strides Therapeutic Horsemanship</u>
<u>Christian Aid Center</u>	<u>Hoodport Canal Food Bank</u>
<u>City of Airway Heights</u>	<u>I-CON Systems Inc.</u>
<u>City of Clallam Bay</u>	<u>Institution for Betterment</u>
<u>City of Forks</u>	<u>Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM)</u>
<u>City of Sekiu</u>	<u>K&S Recycling</u>
<u>Coastal Harvest Food Bank</u>	<u>Kalaloch Lodge</u>
<u>Connections, A Center for Healthy Families</u>	<u>Kiwanis Hood Canal</u>
<u>Connell Elementary School</u>	<u>La Push Reservation</u>
<u>Construction Trades Apprenticeship Preparation (CTAP)</u>	<u>Lake Quinault Fire Department</u>
<u>Combined Fund</u>	<u>Lettuce Grow</u>
<u>Daybreak Stars</u>	<u>Lions Club</u>
<u>Department of Ecology (DOE)</u>	<u>Little Eorthe Farm</u>
<u>Department of Health (DOH)</u>	<u>Littlerock Elementary School</u>
<u>Department of Natural Resources (DNR)</u>	<u>Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI)</u>
<u>Department of Transportation (DOT)</u>	<u>Mary Bridge Children’s Hospital</u>
<u>Diamonds in the Ruff</u>	<u>Master Composters</u>
<u>Dogs for Better Lives</u>	<u>Master Gardeners</u>
<u>Family Promise of Grays Harbor</u>	<u>Matlock Community Center</u>
	<u>Mid-Columbia Beekeepers Association</u>

[Mother Earth Farm](#)
[Motley Zoo Animal Rescue](#)
[Nature Imagery in Prisons Project](#)
[New Connections](#)
[North Franklin School District](#)
[New Hope Food Bank](#)
[North Olympic Peninsula Beekeeping Association](#)
[Northwest Boxer Rescue](#)
[Northwest District Beekeepers Association](#)
[Ocean Shores Fire Dept.](#)
[Ocean Shores Knights of Columbus](#)
[Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction](#)
[OlyCAP](#)
[Olympia Beekeeping Association](#)
[Olympic Logging Conference](#)
[Olympic Natural Resource Center \(ONRC\)](#)
[Oregon Zoo](#)
[Pacific Rim Institute for Environmental](#)
[Stewardship,](#)
[PAWS of Grays Harbor](#)
[Peninsula College](#)
[Pierce County](#)
[Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium](#)
[PPL Electric](#)
[Purrfect Pals](#)
[Quilts from the Heart](#)
[Quinalt Tribal Reservation](#)
[Quillayute Valley Scholarship Fund](#)
[Quillayute Valley School District \(QVSD\)](#)
[Rochester Food Bank](#)
[Safe Harbor](#)
[Sarge's Place](#)
[Sawyers Crews](#)
[Seattle Cancer Alliance/Fred Hutchinson Cancer](#)
[Center](#)
[Seattle Tilth Alliance](#)
[Shriner's Children's Hospital \(donations\)](#)
[Skokomish Tribe Food Bank](#)
[Soroptimist International of the Olympic Rain](#)
[Forest](#)

[Spell-E-Bration with Sound Learning](#)
[Spokane Humane Society](#)
[Spokane Neighborhood Action Partners \(SNAP\)](#)
[SpokAnimal](#)
[Squaxin Tribe Food Bank](#)
[Summit Assistance Dogs](#)
[Sunshine & Rainbow Daycare](#)
[Swedish Medical Center](#)
[T-90 Food Bank](#)
[Tacoma Community College \(TCC\)](#)
[The Caring Place](#)
[The Pitbull Pen](#)
[Thurston County Food Bank](#)
[Thurston County Public Works](#)
[Tilth Alliance](#)
Town of Clearwater
[Treehouse Program for Foster Kids](#)
[Tri-Cities Toys for Tots](#)
[U.S. Coast Guard](#)
[U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#)
[Union Gospel Mission](#)
[University of Washington](#)
[WA Department of Enterprise Services](#)
[WAG](#)
[Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife \(WDFW\)](#)
[Washington State Beekeepers Association](#)
[Washington State Fatherhoods Council](#)
[Washington State Health Care Authority](#)
[Waste Management](#)
[WCCW Clothing Closet](#)
West End Youth League (WEYL)
[West Plains Beekeepers Association](#)
[Whidbey-Camano Land Trust](#)
[Wolf Haven International](#)
[Women and Children's Free Restaurant and](#)
[Community Kitchen](#)
[WIC](#)
[WSU Extension](#)
[YMCA Grays Harbor](#)

Appendix 3. Abbreviations

A3

Table 26. Common abbreviations found in current report.

Prison Facilities	
AHCC	Airway Heights Corrections Center, Airway Heights (near Spokane)
CBCC	Clallam Bay Corrections Center, Clallam Bay (northwest Olympic Peninsula)
CCCC	Cedar Creek Corrections Center, Littlerock
CRCC	Coyote Ridge Corrections Center, Connell (south, central Washington)
DOC	Department of Corrections
MCC	Monroe Correctional Complex, Monroe (northeast of Seattle)
MCC-SOU	Monroe Correctional Complex, Special Offender Unit
MCC-TRU	Monroe Correctional Complex, Twin Rivers Unit
MCC-WSR	Monroe Correctional Complex, Washington State Reformatory
MCCCW	Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women, Belfair (Kitsap Peninsula)
OCC	Olympic Corrections Center, Forks
SCCC	Stafford Creek Corrections Center, Aberdeen
SPL	Sustainable Practices Lab
WCC	Washington Corrections Center, Shelton
WCCW	Washington Corrections Center for Women, Gig Harbor
WSP	Washington State Penitentiary, Walla Walla
WSP-MSU	Washington State Penitentiary, Minimum Security Unit
WSP-BAR	Washington State Penitentiary, Baker Adams Rainier Unit
Agencies & Organizations	
ABKA	American Boarding Kennel Association
CI	Correctional Industries
CPD	Capital Planning & Development (WA Corrections)
CNLM	Center for Natural Lands Management
DNR	Department of Natural Resources
DoD	Department of Defense
Evergreen	The Evergreen State College, a public, four-year institution
ELEN	Evergreen Liberation Education Network
EPEP	Evergreen Prison Education Program
IAE	Institute for Applied Ecology
JBLM	Joint Base Lewis-McChord
OR Zoo	Oregon Zoo
PAWS	Progressive Animal Welfare Society
PPP	Prison Pet Partnership
RDA	Research & Data Analytics (WA Corrections)
SBU	Skills Building Unit
SPP	Sustainability in Prisons Project
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
WASBA	Washington State Beekeepers Association
WA Corrections	Washington State Department of Corrections
WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
WPZ	Woodland Park Zoo
WSDOT	Washington State Department of Transportation
WSIRB	Washington State Institutional Review Board
Definitions & General Abbreviations	
MAX	Maximum custody areas are also called IMUs (Intensive Management Unit) and segregation
MED	Medium custody includes close custody, which has less freedom, and general population.
MIN	Minimum custody areas are also called MSUs (Minimum Security Unit). WA has two prisons (CCCC and MCCCW) that are entirely MIN and house incarcerated individuals with six years or less remaining on their sentences.