

# FORESTS & WOOD PRODUCTS TOUR ON ORCAS ISLAND

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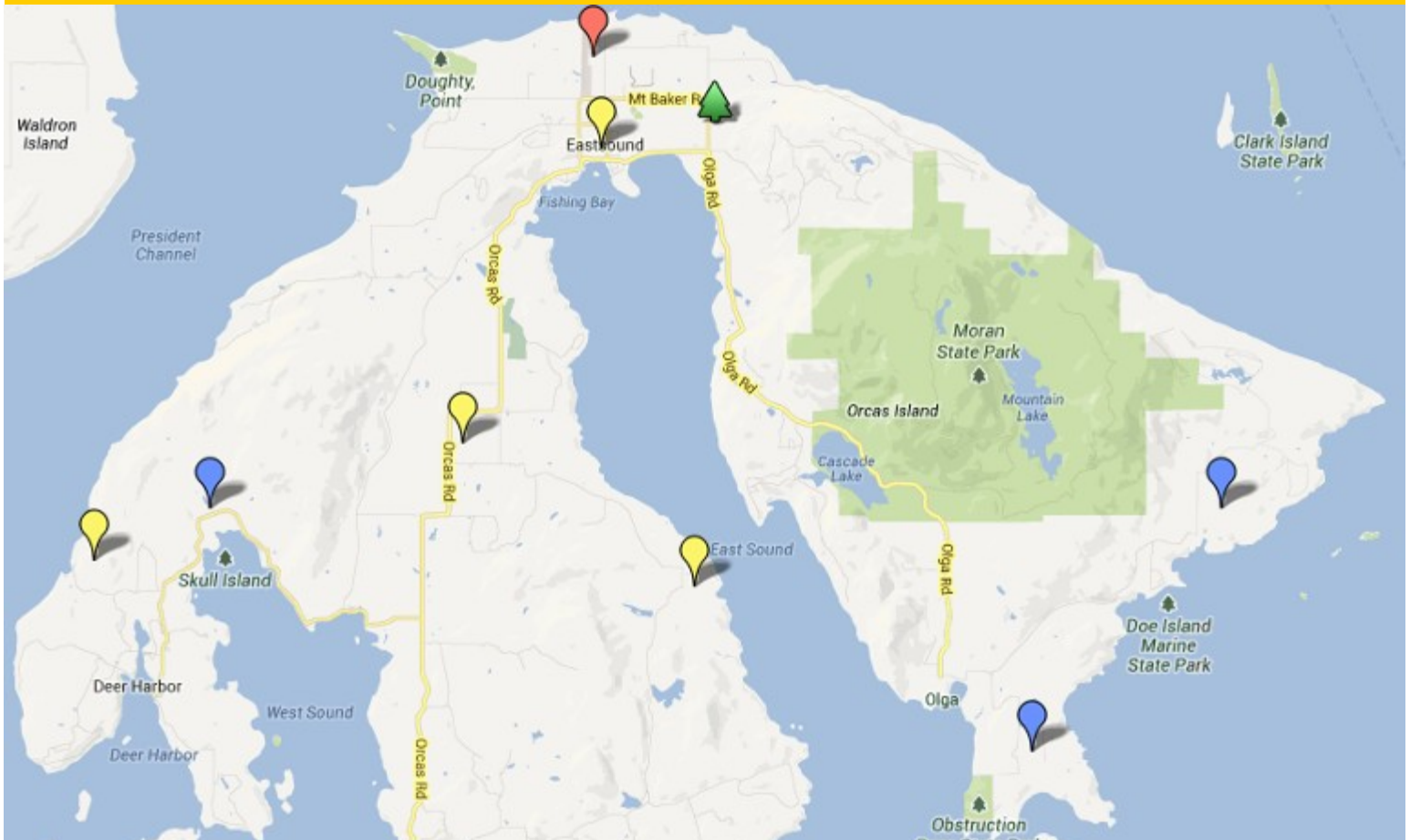
Get to know the forests and wood products businesses  
that call Orcas Island home.

**Northwest Certified Forestry** is a non-profit membership and services program developed by Northwest Natural Resource Group to assist small forest landowners with optimizing the economic and ecological potential of their forestlands. Visit [www.nnrg.org](http://www.nnrg.org) for more information.

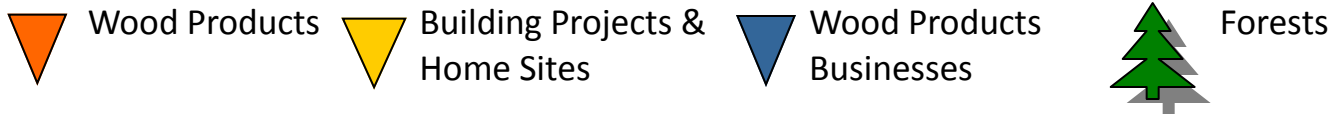


# FORESTS & WOOD PRODUCTS TOUR ORCAS ISLAND

## MAP OVERVIEW OF PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS



### LEGEND



This guide includes descriptions of the Orcas Island forests, wood manufacturers, building projects, and wood working projects whose proprietors and contractors are opening their doors on June 15th. Tours, demonstrations and onsite events will take place from 10 am to 4 pm. Day of contact information is provided in each description.

Read through and select the sites of most interest to you, or visit them all!

Map your tour using the addresses listed in this guide, or customize your route using the Orcas Island Forest and Wood Products Tour map: <http://goo.gl/maps/WRW8H>.

# WOOD PRODUCTS BUSINESSES

## BOND LUMBER MILL

238 Bond Mill Road  
Olga, WA 98279  
360-376-5868

Run for over 50 years by brothers, **Joe and Thurman Bond**, the historic **Bond Lumber Mill** has produced much of the "Island's wood products", from framing studs, rafters and joists, beams, siding, flooring, and paneling for homes to saw dust and planer shavings for the county fair livestock stalls. An older project built using their lumber is the [Doe Bay Fire Hall](#) and a more recent example is the newer siding on [Orcas Island Artworks](#). Joe

passed away about 11 years ago and Thurman still saws some lumber, now at age 90 with the help of **Andrew Stephens**. The mill site has gone through a few actual saw mills from a Frick, to a Forestall, to now a Mobile Dimension and the old Planer mill is a Newman run by an old 671 Detroit Diesel on flat belts.



*Bond Lumber Mill's Mobile Dimension circular saw can break down small and large logs.*

## OBSTRUCTION PASS FOREST PRODUCTS AND FOREST

1530 Obstruction Pass Road  
Olga, WA 98279  
360-376-5431

**Obstruction Pass Forest Products** is run by **Walt Corbin**. The shop uses a Mighty Mite band that can process a 24-foot log of about 30 inches in diameter. Milled wood, if used for interior use, is generally dried in a Northland wood kiln that is fired by a Central wood boiler. The mill is part of the [63-acre woodlands](#) which Walt has augmented with red cedar, walnut trees, Canadian maple, birch, black cherry and a smattering of soft maple, Sitka spruce, beech and an orchard with a variety of fruit trees.

## WEST SOUND LUMBER COMPANY

### JACK AND PETE HELSELL

120 Sawmill Road  
Eastsound, WA 98245  
360-376-7744

**West Sound Lumber Company** was established by **Jack and Jan Hessel** in 1975. Known to locals as "Jack's sawmill," the mill processed its first saw logs in 1976 from red cedar and Douglas fir grown on the family forest at the base of Turtleback Mountain. Orders for custom-milled rough-cut full-dimension beams, framing lumber and siding soon kept Jack and his sawyers busy. Today, WSL offers home builders the opportunity to use locally produced finished lumber from sustainably-harvested logs (or from customers' own logs) that can be used in a variety of applications including: exposed timbers, decking, flooring, trim, furniture and cabinetry; kiln drying is also available. Local projects featuring WSL wood products include the **Stage on the Green**.



*This log carriage runs logs through the circular saw in the top right of the picture. The equipment is capable of milling large diameter logs.*

# BUILDING PROJECTS & HOME SITES

## EASTSOUND VILLAGE PARK STAGE ON THE GREEN

Downtown Eastsound on North Beach Road

Central to Orcas Island music, arts and culture is the locally designed, sourced and crafted "Stage on the Green." Its making was a collaborative, largely volunteer ad hoc community effort. The Douglas fir timbers are Island-grown and milled. The four large hand peeled western red cedar trees sit on granite boulders, appearing as if they might have grown in place. The wrought iron handrails were crafted by a local forge. Cedar siding, both interior and exterior, were milled from local trees. A volunteer effort crafted the hand-adzed patina on the interior cedar paneling.

The structure itself, while grounded and welcoming, has sacred geometry at its core: layout points radiate out from a central axis point at the rear of the structure. The Stage has a demonstration "living roof" of various sedums over the rear portion, while solar photo voltaic panels line the main roof areas and back feed the local electric grid. The Stage won the 2008 People's Choice Honor Awards of the Washington State American Institute of Architects. Year built: 2006



© Tim Forbes

*A treasured icon, the Stage hosts music and arts events and the local Saturday farmers and artisans market.*

## ORCAS SOUND LLC

84 Iotte's Landing Road  
Eastsound, WA 98245  
360-317-8338 or 360-622-6084

This shop exemplifies project manager **Dirk Baughman's** vision for sustainable forest stewardship, local manufacturing and artistic execution. All lumber and timbers were milled on-site with a Wood-Mizer mobile band saw mill. **Kaj Enderlein** of **Heartworks Construction** will be on hand to display his Wood-Mizer saw.

Every effort was made to achieve a "locally grown-locally built" toxin-free structure. With exception of four glue-lam beams, the entire shop building is crafted from site-grown western red cedar, shore pine and Douglas fir. Sill plates are cedar. Shear wall construction is achieved by traditional diagonal ship lap. Exterior horizontal cedar siding is all "live edge". Interior paneling is entirely of local shore pine. The forest owners made creative use of the many smaller trees resulting from a prescribed "suppressed understory thinning" operation. There are no toxic treated lumber, no formaldehyde resin plywood, or any other commonly used "processed" lumber products. Year built: In construction. Structure: 36 x 60 ft one story shop building with heated office.



*Dolphin Bay Shop is a locally-grown and locally-built structure of Douglas fir, lodgepole pine and western red cedar.*

# BUILDING PROJECTS & HOME SITES

## ORCAS WOOD

274 Dancing Deer Drive  
Eastsound, WA 98245  
360-376-6345

**Orcas Wood** is a small-scale, home-based woodshop crafting floors, trim, doors, stairways, tables, cabinets and decorative wall pieces. Proprietor, **Jonathan Loop**, has a knack for finding wood on Orcas and transforming it into finished products. Loop is constructing his home with the design of Joe Herrin, AIA of

[Heliotrope Architects](#).

As Loop says, "The main purpose is to build the house and its interior, to continue a lifelong hobby and to extend it to my sons, both accomplished woodworkers and over time the grand kids as they show interest. As it turns out, 'if you build it, they will come' really applies here and we have had a lot of unexpected but fun times with a lot of people who have showed up in the last ten years."



© Jonathan Loop

*Bill Dean of Raccoon Hollow Wood Works, builds a bath vanity from local alder in the **Orcas Wood** shop. The wood was harvested from **Helsell Family Forest**, cut by **Kaj Enderlein**, kiln dried locally and processed into quality finished goods.*



© Jonathan Loop

*Designed by Joe Herrin, the Loop home incorporates natural, local, and found materials with Jonathan's craftsmanship.*

## SIRCELY TIMBER FRAME HOME

121 McNallie Lane (off of Orcas Road)  
Eastsound, WA 98245  
970-729-1432

The Sircely house is built of Orcas Island-grown Douglas fir, locally milled, designed, crafted and erected. **Erik Sircely** of **Insite Design** was both designer and builder of the house his parents call home. Sircely opted to use traditional mortise and tenon timber joinery and three bay, four bent Hammer Beam Truss construction. The Hammer Beam Trusses were pre-assembled on the ground and crane erected in one day. In traditional fashion, the frame was erected green and allowed to dry in place.

A unique feature of the home is the band saw finish for the timber frame structure. Most timbers were sawn free of heart center from large trees, thus minimizing checking and splitting. An oil finish enhances the natural fir color. Many of the trim woods were locally sourced. Learn more about the Sircely Home at the blog [Eye on Orcas](#). Year built: 2010.



© Mary Ann Sircely

*This timber frame home, designed and built by **Erik Sircely**, uses Douglas fir harvested from Orcas Island and traditional mortise and tenon joinery.*

# WOOD PRODUCTS

## JOE CISKOWSKI at ISLAND WOODCRAFT

190 Commercial Park Road  
Eastsound, WA 98245  
360-376-2146

Orcas Island cabinet maker, **Joe Ciskowski**, enjoyed woodworking but after 30 years of focusing only on the straight lines of cabinets he decided it was time to work with curves. For the past 10 years, in addition to his cabinet work, Ciskowski has been creating hand turned wooden bowls. Most of these bowls are made from reclaimed wood, found on Orcas Island. A business or homeowner will call him about a fallen tree and he will recover part of it for turning. Ciskowski often hears the history of the tree and finds a wooden bowl can be the perfect commemoration.



© Joe Ciskowski

*Bowls are made of local wood, including: Garry oak, cork elm, madrone, locust, big leaf maple, red alder, walnut and fruit wood. Bowls vary with tree availability.*

# FORESTS

## GRISWOLD FAMILY FOREST & RAIN SHADOW CONSULTING

Longwood Lane  
*Directions: From Eastsound, take Main Street heading east. This turns into Crescent Beach Drive. At a stop sign, take a left onto Terrill Beach Road, then right on Longwood Lane.*  
206-321-1592

This Orcas Island forest has undergone harvest treatments to reduce stocking density, promote long-term growth, and generate positive cash-flow back to the landowner.

[Rain Shadow Consulting](#) principal, **Carson Sprenger**, will be onsite to explain management objectives, tree selection process, treatment and harvest operations used to improve the health and resiliency of the Griswold family's forest and investment.



© Carson Sprenger - Rain Shadow Consulting

*In this stand, trees were thinned across diameters and felled by hand. Harvest slash was redistributed throughout the forest to return woody debris and nutrients to*

# FORESTRY & WOOD PRODUCTS BUSINESS CONTACT INFORMATION

## **Bond Lumber Mill**

**Therman Bond and Andrew Stephens**

238 Bond Mill Road, Olga  
360-376-5868

## **Heartworks Construction**

**Kaj Enderlein**

141 Cadden Lane, Eastsound  
360-317-8338  
kajdawg@rockisland.com

## **Insite Design**

**Erik Sircely**

970-729-1432  
esircely@gmail.com

## **Island Woodcraft**

**Joe Ciskowski**

190 Commercial Park Road, Eastsound  
360-376-2146

## **Obstruction Pass Forest Products**

**Walt Corbin**

1530 Obstruction Pass Road, Olga  
360-376-5431

## **Orcas Sound LLC**

**Dirk Baughman**

84 lotte's Landing Road, Eastsound  
360-622-6084  
dirk@orcas-sound.com

## **Orcas Wood**

**Jonathan Loop**

274 Dancing Deer Drive, Eastsound  
206-909-3950  
Skype: orcaswood  
orcaswood@me.com

## **Rain Shadow Consulting**

**Carson Sprenger**

365 North Beach Road, Ste. 104, Eastsound  
360-376-9100  
info@rainshadowconsulting.com

## **West Sound Lumber Company-Jack and Pete Helsell**

**Pete Helsell**

155 Lime Quarry Road, Eastsound (Mailing Address)  
360-376-7744



© Mary Ann Sircely

*The connected Orcas Island community: **Kaj Enderlein** with his Wood-Mizer saw, mills fir for the **Sircely** home at **West Sound Lumber**.*

## **Become part of the Forest and Wood Products Business Directly for San Juan County**

[Northwest Natural Resources Group](http://www.nnr.org) is compiling a directory of businesses that are part of the forestry and wood products industries in San Juan County. The goal is to strengthen markets for local timber by connecting small-scale forestry and wood products proprietors with customers seeking forest products, manufacturing, and forest management services.

The directory will include timber producers, loggers, forest management consultants, lumber mills, and those businesses who consume wood products such as builders, cabinet makers, retailers, and others who are directly or indirectly connected to the local wood products industry.

To provide your information, please go online to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VHVQSF7> and register your business. Contact Kirk Hanson at 360-319-9317 or [kirk@nnrg.org](mailto:kirk@nnrg.org) if you have questions.



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