



The Washington State Horticultural Association

Now in its 108th year, the Washington State Horticultural Association (WSHA) has been working to advance Washington's tree fruit industry since 1904. The nation's largest association of tree fruit orchardists and shippers, the WSHA provides education and training to help growers meet the changing needs of the tree fruit industry. WSHA also works with the Office of the Governor, the Legislature, and state and federal agencies to develop public policy. Its goal is to enhance the tree fruit industry and the schools, communities, and families it supports.

With nearly 3,000 members, the association relies solely on voluntary dues to fund its broad range of programs, from education and political action to communication.

Education

The education efforts of the WSHA focus on informing orchardists and shippers about issues and emerging technologies affecting the tree fruit industry. WSHA sponsors the Annual Meeting each December that is the leading educational conference for Washington's tree fruit growers and shippers. The Annual Meeting draws over 1,500 industry people to hear about the latest trends and topics occurring in the tree fruit industry. The meeting location alternates between Wenatchee and Yakima each year.

notifies decision makers about industry happenings. The association newsletter, "*For WSHA Members Only*," is another way WSHA keeps industry members and legislators connected to industry news. The WSHA Website www.wahort.org and Capitol View during the legislative session with important information and updates on issues affecting the tree fruit industry. In addition, WSHA serves as a resource for news reporters on issues that impact the tree fruit industry.

Political Action

The WSHA represents the tree fruit industry in Olympia, working both legislative and regulatory issues. The Government Affairs Committee, which meets before the legislative session, sets the WSHA legislative agenda and outlines positions on critical issues such as water, salmon and unemployment insurance. WSHA also annually hosts *Tree Fruit Day* in Olympia, which helps to raise political awareness about Washington's tree fruit industry.

GRAS2P

GRAS2P is a Washington tree fruit industry grower-based effort for audit readiness, food safety operating procedures, establishment of standards for sustainable practices, traceability from market back to farm, and continued use of good agricultural practices in orchards. GRAS2P provides sound economic, environmental, and educational solutions to assure and sustain safe, quality Washington tree fruit productions.

Communication

WSHA works to educate the media and key decision makers, such as legislators about the tree fruit industry. We use multiple means to keep the industry informed, such as: Hort Headlines, a weekly e-mail update distributed by WSHA that

Turn Over for a Listing of Helpful Tree Fruit Industry Contacts



Following are other tree-fruit industry organizations that provide information and resources that support growers and/or shippers:

Washington State Horticultural Association

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Washington Growers Clearing House Association

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Yakima Valley Growers-Shippers Association

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Wenatchee Valley Traffic Association

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