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WELCOME TO LEWIS COUNTY



Lewis County was created on December 19, 1845, before Washington became a state, and is named for Meriweather Lewis of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Since that time the size of our county has changed many times to the current size, which is 126 miles wide (east to west) and 30 miles long (north to south). Chehalis is the county seat. The current courthouse was built in 1927 on the corner of Main Street and Chehalis Avenue, Chehalis, WA. The Lewis County Museum is also located in Chehalis at the old railroad depot on Chehalis Avenue.

Centralia and Chehalis are the largest of our cities and have many celebrations and ceremonies throughout the year. The Southwest Washington Fairgrounds are between these two cities and the Fair is held each year during the month of August. There are interim events going on all year at the fairgrounds, which include everything from dog shows to home shows and many social events as well. Small town festivals start with the Vader May Day Celebration and go through Labor Day with the Packwood Flea Market.

Recreation is abundant in Lewis County with boating, fishing and camping available at Mayfield and Riffe Lakes; picnic and day areas at several parks throughout the county from Centralia to Vader and Pe Ell to Packwood. From the shores of Mineral Lake there is a beautiful view of Mt. Rainier and for viewing Mt. St. Helens you can enjoy the Hopkins Hill viewpoint, or drive up to Windy Ridge. Horse riding enthusiasts can enjoy the great trails at the Goat Rocks, Packwood Lake and Walupt Lake areas. If you are into hang-gliding, Dog Mountain is the place to be and don't miss the Morton Jubilee for national logging competitions.

Lewis County has something for everyone and we know you will enjoy your visit and travels in our area. Our most valuable resource is the warm and friendly people of Lewis County who will join us in welcoming you to our area.

GEOGRAPHY & CLIMATE

Lewis County is situated halfway between Seattle, Washington, and Portland, Oregon, on Interstate 5 and covers approximately 2,452 square miles. Greater Lewis County can be accessed by Highways 6 and 12 and includes many scenic locations and tourist attractions including Mt. St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, Mount Rainer National Park, the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount Adams, the Tatoosh Wilderness, the Goat Rocks Wilderness, Riffe Lake, Mayfield Lake, and White Pass.

Skiing is close by at 5,000 feet above sea level and ocean beaches are just an hour's drive west. Mount St. Helens volcanic activity has drawn a high level of interest to Southwest Washington and become Lewis County's favorite landmark. The forested habitat and mountain ecosystem have made a remarkable comeback since the eruption of 1980. The natural geography of the mountain makes for exciting exploring and hiking. Lewis County's natural, varied landscape ranging from rolling hills to rugged terrain, to lakes, rivers and streams make for a beautiful landscape for river kayaking, whitewater rafting, fishing, hang gliding, mountain biking, horseback riding and offroad driving. Winter recreation is especially popular in Lewis County with hundreds of miles of trails for skiing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing or sledding. Whichever outdoor pastime you enjoy most, Lewis County is sure to give you plenty of options that will provide opportunities to take in the incredible views of the area's nature and geography.

Lewis County has a generally moderate climate with warm, dry summers and mild winters. The average high temperature is 62 degrees F, and the average low temperature is 41 degrees F. The area receives 45 inches of precipitation annually.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LEWIS COUNTY-2011

January	
Jan 29 - 30	President's Scholarship Performance Concert featuring the fabulous KINGSMEN
Jan 14 - 15	2011 Chehalis Bridal Show
Jan 22	Northwest Wind Symphony "Liturgies" Concert
February	
Feb 12	Wes Knodel Gun and Knife Show at the SWWF Fairgrounds
March	
Mar 5	St. Joseph Auction and Banquet at the SWWF Fairgrounds
Mar 7	Free concert: Pacific NW Chamber Orchestra
Mar 18 - 20	Home & Garden Show at the SWWF Fairgrounds
April	
Apr 2	Annual Spring Community Garage Sale at the SWWF Fairgrounds
Apr 9	Northwest Wind Symphony "Our Neighbors to the South" Concert
April 23	Easter Train- Chehalis Centralia Railroad & Museum
Apr 30	McMenamins Olympic Club's 15th Annual Brewfest
May	
May 6	Lewis County Spring Youth Fair at the SWWF Fairgrounds
May 8	Mother's Day Express - Mt. Rainer Scenic Railroad
May 13	Lewis County Rotary Foundation Auction at the SWWF Fairgrounds
June	
Jun 19	Father's Day BBQ Train- Mt. Rainer Scenic Railroad
Jun 25	Billet Proof Car Show at the SWWF Fairgrounds
July	
Jul 4	Summerfest-Demolition Derby and Fireworks Show at the SWWF Fairgrounds
Jul 16	Antique Quilt Show
Jul 16-17	Napavine Funtime Festival
Jul 17	Claquato Pie Social
Jul 29 - Aug 6	Planes Trains & Automobiles
August	
Aug 16-21	Southwest Washington Fair
Aug 26-28	Garlic Fest at the SWWF Fairgrounds
September	
Sep 10	Alpaca Affaire Northwest at the SWWF Fairgrounds
Sep 24	Harvest Swap meet at the SWWF Fairgrounds
October	
Oct 1	Fall Community Garage Sale at the SWWF Fairgrounds
November	
Nov 12	Crazy About the Holidays at the SWWF Fairgrounds
Nov 25-30	Polar Express Train - Saturdays & Sundays Chehalis Centralia Railroad & Museum
December	
Dec 1-18	Polar Express Train Saturdays and Sundays Chehalis Centralia Railroad & Museum

For information on Events visit the following websites: www.steamtrainride.com www.mrsr.com www.southwestwashingtonfair.net www.seesouthwestwa.com www.chamberway.com

LEWIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEES AND APPOINTMENTS – 2011

RON AVERILL- DISTRICT I COMMITTEE NAME Nisqually River Council Alcohol & Drug Abuse Advisory Board of Health EDC (Economic Development Council) - general membership Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Executive Steering Committee (ESC) Meth Task Force Fire Commissioners Meeting Lake Mayfield Youth Camp Electeds' Brown Bag Lunch Timberland RSN Solid Waste Disposal District #1 Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority Lewis County Seniors High Utilizers Task Force Planned Growth Committee Mental Health Coalition Mayors Meeting Canvassing Board Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District Law Library Cowlitz River Basin Flood Control Zone District SWWRTPO Nisqually River Basin Flood Control Open Space Rating Board Lewis/Mason/Thurston Community Action Council Pacific Mountain Workforce Consortium CLEDD (Jennifer Keene) (Lee, alternate) L C Transportation Strateay Council Council of Governments (COG) **BILL SCHULTE - DISTRICT II** COMMITTEE NAME Lewis County Health Benefits Committee Board of Health Solid Waste Executive Committee EDC (Economic Development Council) - general membership SWCCA (SW WA Clean Air Agency) Executive Steering Committee (ESC) DUI/Traffic Safety Commission Fire Commissioners Meeting LC Law & Justice Electeds' Brown Bag Lunch **Developmental Disability Board** Solid Waste Disposal District #1 .09 Distressed Counties Committee Lewis County Seniors FEMA Working Group Planned Growth Committee Centralia College Foundation Board Mayors Meeting Chehalis Renaissance Team One Voice Chehalis Basin Partnership Chehalis-Centralia Airport Board Twin Transit LEOFF Disability Board WA Co Insurance Fund Trustee (WCIF)/(POOL) LEE GROSE - DISTRICT III COMMITTEE NAME Capital Facilities Meeting EDC Board of Directors (every other month) Board of Health EDC (Economic Development Council) - general membership **Timber Counties** Executive Steering Committee (ESC) Secure Rural Schools Coalition Title II/III- Resources Advisory Committee (RAC) Fire Commissioners Meeting Electeds' Brown Bag Lunch Packwood Airport/South Lewis Co Airport Solid Waste Disposal District #1 Habitat Advisory Group (HAG) Personnel Advocacy Committee Lewis County Seniors Planned Growth Committee Legislative Steering Committee (WSAC) Landfill Closure Group Mayors Meeting EDC Board of Directors-Executive Comm. WRIA 25/26 **Community Partners** Solid Waste Ex Action Council WA Co Risk Pool Board of Directors (WCRP) Packwood Waste Water PEP

ELECTED OFFICIALS LEWIS COUNTY

		Term <u>Expires</u>
Commissioner Ron Averill, District 1	(R)	2012
Commissioner Bill Schulte, District 2	(R)	2012
Commissioner F. Lee Grose, District 3	(R)	2014
Superior Court Judge Nelson E. Hunt, Dept. 1	(NP)	2013
Superior Court Judge Jim Lawler, Dept. 2	(NP)	2013
Superior Court Judge Richard Brosey, Dept. 3	(NP)	2013
Note: Terms for Superior Court Judges begin and end t	he second Monday in Jai	nuary.
District Court Judge Michael P. Roewe, Dept.	1 (NP)	2014
District Court Judge R.W. Buzzard, Dept. 2	(NP)	2014
Assessor – Dianne Dorey	(R)	2014
Auditor – Gary Zandell	(R)	2014
Clerk – Kathy Brack	(R)	2014
Coroner – Warren McLeod	(R)	2014
Prosecuting Attorney – Jonathan Meyer	(R)	2014
Sheriff – Steve Mansfield	(R)	2014
Treasurer – Rose Bowman	(R)	2014

(D) = Democrat (R) = Republican (NP) = Non Partisan

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Term <u>Expires</u>

Washington State

20th Legislative District:

State Senator - Dan Swecker	(R)	2012
State Representative #1 - Richard DeBolt	(R)	2012
State Representative #2 - Gary C. Alexander	(R)	2012

Congressional

<u>3rd Congressional District:</u>

U.S. Senator	- Maria Cantwell	(D)
U.S. Senator	- Patty Murray	(D)
U.S. Represer	ntative - Jaime Herrera Beutler	(R)

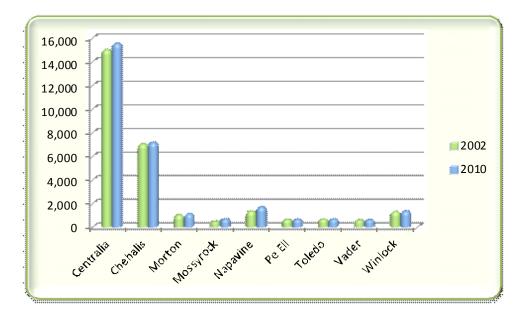
(D) = Democrat (R) = Republican

DEMOGRAPHICS

Municipality	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Lewis	70,200	70,400	70,700	71,600	72,900	74,100	74,700	75,200	75,600
Unincorporated	41,920	42,145	42,415	43,213	44,117	45,073	45,365	45,555	45,910
Incorporated	28,280	28,255	28,285	28,387	28,783	29,027	29,335	29,645	29,690
Centralia	15,040	15,110	15,200	15,340	15,430	15,520	15,540	15,570	15,570
Chehalis	7,055	7,010	6,980	6,990	7,025	7,045	7,215	7,185	7,185
Morton	1,050	1,025	1,015	1,025	1,127	1,140	1,140	1,140	1,150
Mossyrock	490	485	480	480	485	485	485	695	695
Napavine	1,360	1,330	1,330	1,328	1,400	1,492	1,610	1,690	1,715
Pe Ell	660	660	660	599	666	670	670	670	670
Toledo	685	685	685	685	685	685	690	695	695
Vader	605	610	595	600	615	620	625	630	640
Winlock	1,335	1,340	1,340	1,340	1,350	1,370	1,360	1,370	1,370

Population of Cities, Towns, and County Lewis County, April 1, 2002-April 1, 2010

Source: Office of Financial Management



AVERAGE ANNUAL COUNTY LABOR FORCE

Year	Labor Force	Employment	Unemp.	Unemp. %
2004	31,270	28,660	2,610	8.3%
2005	31,020,	28,780	2,250	7.2%
2006	31,790	29,240	2,560	8%
2007	31,930	29,260	2,670	8.3%
2008	32,710	29,150	3,560	10.9%
2009	31,960	27,720	4,240	13.3%
2010	31,100	26,970	4,140	13.3%

www.workforceexplorer.com

EMPLOYEES AND WAGES BY INDUSTRY

Industry	Employment	Avg Salary
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	1,270	\$28,139
Mining	180	\$51,915
Construction	955	\$37,055
Manufacturing	2,974	\$41,852
Wholesale trade	478	\$39,483
Retail trade	3,368	\$24,016
Transportation and warehousing	1,081	\$34,931
Information	213	\$37,834
Finance and insurance	405	\$36,093
Real estate and rental and leasing	278	\$16,101
Professional and technical services	411	\$35,918
Administrative and waste services	706	\$23,410
Educational services	91	\$23,184
Health care and social assistance	2,788	\$38,406
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	353	\$10,751
Accommodation and food services	1,924	\$14,498
Other services, except public administration	1,020	\$16,892
Government	4,875	\$40,135
Not Elsewhere Classified	375	\$91,509

fortress.wa.gov/esd

Washington State Employment Security Department

BUILDING PERMITS AND CONSTRUCTION VALUES

	Commercial B	uilding	Residential B	Building	
Year	Permits	Value	Permits	Value	
2007	10	17,321,669	421	51,397,948	
2008	30	6,658,883	275	31,081,313	
2009	12	2,154,995	187	19,157,955	
2010	9	4,941,616	153	15,945,765	

