

Facts about Jobs



Mason County's economy is dependent on its natural resources. Today, much of the county is second and third cut forest land being managed sustainably by responsible forest land owners large and small.

Tomorrow, we can further develop our natural resources and use them to attract clean, sustainable industry. One current opportunity is "Solar Boy," a business that wants to bring 60 jobs to Mason County if ADAGE does not locate here. No one wants to locate in the shadow of a huge incinerator.

ADAGE promises jobs but the facts don't substantiate our hopes. The construction jobs will be temporary, and most of them will likely go to out-of-state workers who specialize in building massive high-tech plants. **After construction, ADAGE will employ 24 employees at the Plant.** There is no guarantee that any of these jobs will go to current residents of Mason County.

ADAGE also claims that another 100 jobs will be created in the community, primarily for forest workers to harvest woody biomass and truck it to the plant. Few if any of these workers will be employed by ADAGE itself. Pay is likely to be low and benefits non-existent. And **ADAGE forgot to mention: up to 90% of the forest jobs will NOT be in Mason County.**

ADAGE is talking about gathering biomass from an area with a radius of up to 75 miles from the plant. This may not sound that big, but draw it on a map and you'll see it encompasses virtually all of Western Washington and beyond. (See the map on our Fact Sheet - *50 Mile Radius*.)

The following table, taken from the WSU Biomass Study¹ being cited by ADAGE, reveals that **90% of the local woody biomass is located outside of Mason County.**

SW Washington Biomass (tons/year) by Counties:						
	Logging Residue	Forest Thinnings	Mill Residue	Land Clearing Debris	Forestry Totals	Percent of Total Per County
Mason	54,502	5,059	242,744	1,753	304,058	10%
Grays Harbor	199,066	14,873	728,232	1,161	943,332	32%
Cowlitz	86,967	5,775	733,471	1,990	828,203	28%
Lewis	173,795	13,297	441,353	1,622	630,067	21%
Pacific	104,627	10,490	66,203	462	181,782	6%
Wahkiakum	28,595	3,762	22,638	92	55,087	2%
	647,552	53,256	2,234,641	7,080	2,942,529	100%

¹ <http://pacificbiomass.org/WABiomassInventory.aspx>

The support jobs will be in the counties where the biomass is. 10% of 100 means as few as 10 support jobs. Local lumber companies already employ workers in the forest to manage debris. Those workers will continue to log and deal with debris. Will there be *any* new forest jobs here?

BUT Mason County will become "Incinerator Central" for Western Washington, importing emissions and health risks. ADAGE has the potential to devastate local tourism and shellfish industries and to compete with local businesses for wood and brush resources. It will hurt property values and keep clean businesses away. Does this sound like a good future for our families?

ADAGE is risky business. Let's develop long-term economic opportunities with less risk for Mason County and more promise to ensure long term prosperity we can pass from generation to generation.

