

Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2011 Annual Meeting
Suncadia - Cle Elum, Washington
November 28-December 1, 2011

Sponsorship Information



Steptoe Butte

Photo courtesy of Kevin McNeal

CONSERVATION:
Connecting Communities

WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS 2011 ANNUAL MEETING

July 21, 2011

To coin a phrase, "Man, what a ride!" really exemplifies the progress of the WACD. As I sit here, after a day in the field, I think back to all the changes that this association has again endured and persevered through this year. As long as I have been farming, there has been some form of group-effort conservation. Even though it was unorganized, unmonitored, and lacked any funding to speak of, there was a group of dedicated people who knew that conservation was important.

As I stepped up to the challenge of writing my thoughts of where we were, where we are, and where I would like to see us go, I recognized that my personal experience with the WACD provides me a good



parallel to work from in organizing my thoughts. For me, farming isn't just a job; it is a way of life. Each day, I try to do things different, preferably better, for the opportunity to hang my hat on something as a sign of some level of success. Now, for me, I have that daily goal because it feeds my passion for my way of life. The parallel I see is that all those involved in conservation; whether it is a district officer or manger, a partnering agency, a supervisor, or a private land or business owner who seeks guidance; each and every day, these entities strive for truly a simple and common goal: to preserve our vital natural resources and endeavor to be better than we were yesterday and still maintain a profit margin. Because really, at the end of the day, those that will reap the benefits of our conservation efforts, are our children, grandchildren, and their children. Now, don't get me wrong! Good successful partnerships do pay off or otherwise, we wouldn't all be here. But as moral citizens sharing this great

planet, we owe each other, and the ground we work, the respect and each deserve to try and clean up the legacies that our forefathers created but probably didn't have a clue what they were leaving behind.

Today, we all benefit from common characteristics that make us good stewards of natural resources. Whether it is a good WSU grad who can battle it out with the best of them on the hill, or the conservative accounting practices that we farmers and ranchers exercise by being frugal with our money, we can show off all our skills by making people sit down, shut up, and listen because we are good at what we do and we do make a difference! By taking a passion and a moral obligation and turning them into a profitable, well organized, successful and effective association is something everyone should be proud of. We set goals and we achieve them. We handle and manage issues and provide protection on every level possible to secure longevity to all those who utilize or manage our natural resources. Those goals benefit everyone in Washington State whether they know it or not.

I invite you to challenge your position on where your stewardship is towards preserving our natural resources. They say it takes a village to raise one child. It takes everyone to preserve and protect our earth. I hope you'll join us in our journey.

Sincere wishes,

Chris Hannon

WACD President

Testimonial -

"I enjoyed visiting sites we planted over 10 years ago. To see the shade and habitat they are now providing gives me a great sense of pride and accomplishment."

**Kathleen Whalen, District Administrator,
Thurston Conservation District**



All photos courtesy of USDA NRCS

2011 Annual Washington Association of Conservation Districts Meeting CONSERVATION: Connecting Communities

Our Goals and Objectives:

Each year, as planning begins for the annual WACD meeting, the issues addressed and the training provided during the meeting changes to meet the year's needs, but the overall objective remains constant; to provide an efficient and effective platform for quality training on today's pertinent issues. The techniques and tips gained through various training opportunities are offered to supervisors, district staff and partners of WACD.

We strive to offer these training opportunities in a warm and inviting setting. Our desire, while attending the meeting, is for our guests to experience a comfortable venue with quality food; and for our guests to be surrounded by people of excellence in the industry for natural resource conservation.

As our industry of conservation continues to advance, we take this opportunity to slow day to day business practices down to establish necessary person to person networking, expand important working relationships and continue building relationships face to face - the old fashion way!

WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

2011 ANNUAL MEETING

Who is WACD?

The Washington Association of Conservation Districts is a non-profit organization representing Washington's 47 Conservation Districts, whose mission is to advance the purpose of Conservation Districts and their constituents by providing leadership, education, information and representation.

Specific goals of WACD are accomplished through legislative activities, capacity building and the work of numerous standing issue committees and task forces.

What is a Conservation District?

Conservation Districts are legal subdivisions of state government authorized by RCW 89.08 to develop and administer voluntary, non-regulatory programs for the wise use and conservation of natural resources in the state of Washington. Districts are governed by a board of locally elected and appointed supervisors who establish priorities and set policies in their communities.

Conservation Districts are Washington's only locally driven, conservation delivery system that identifies natural resource problems, provides site specific technical assistance and guides voluntary solutions.

Being located in communities across the state allows each individual district to provide community support to private land owners and farmers, local governments, nongovernmental organizations and commercial businesses. The primary objective of alliances between WACD and these entity types is to support, guide and protect utilization of natural resources.

Governance

WACD is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of five officers, 12 area directors and the President of the Washington Association of District Employees.

Executive Committee

The WACD Executive Committee consists of: President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, WACD National Director and the immediate Past President. These five elected officers are supervisors on conservation district boards from around the state.

Area Directors

Washington State's 47 conservation districts belong to regional organizations called area associations. Each area association elects two area directors who serve on the WACD Board of Directors. The detailed knowledge and understanding of conservation districts brought to the Board by these 12 area directors helps ensure WACD policies and actions remain on track throughout the year.

Area directors operate within the by-laws of WACD and according to policies set by the Association. Each area director is elected by members in their area to serve a two-year term. Each association meets at least annually.

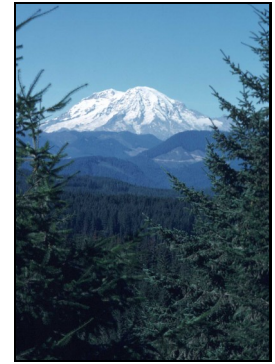
Management

The Executive Director carries out the day-to-day business of the Association. WACD is committed to maintaining effective working relationships with other state and national agencies and organizations who work with natural resource issues.

Testimonial -

"The first time we cleaned out a creek that had several vehicles/equipment dumped into it, I was amazed at how the creek turned from ugly to beautiful again. So sad, that for years, we have abused our land and water in this way."

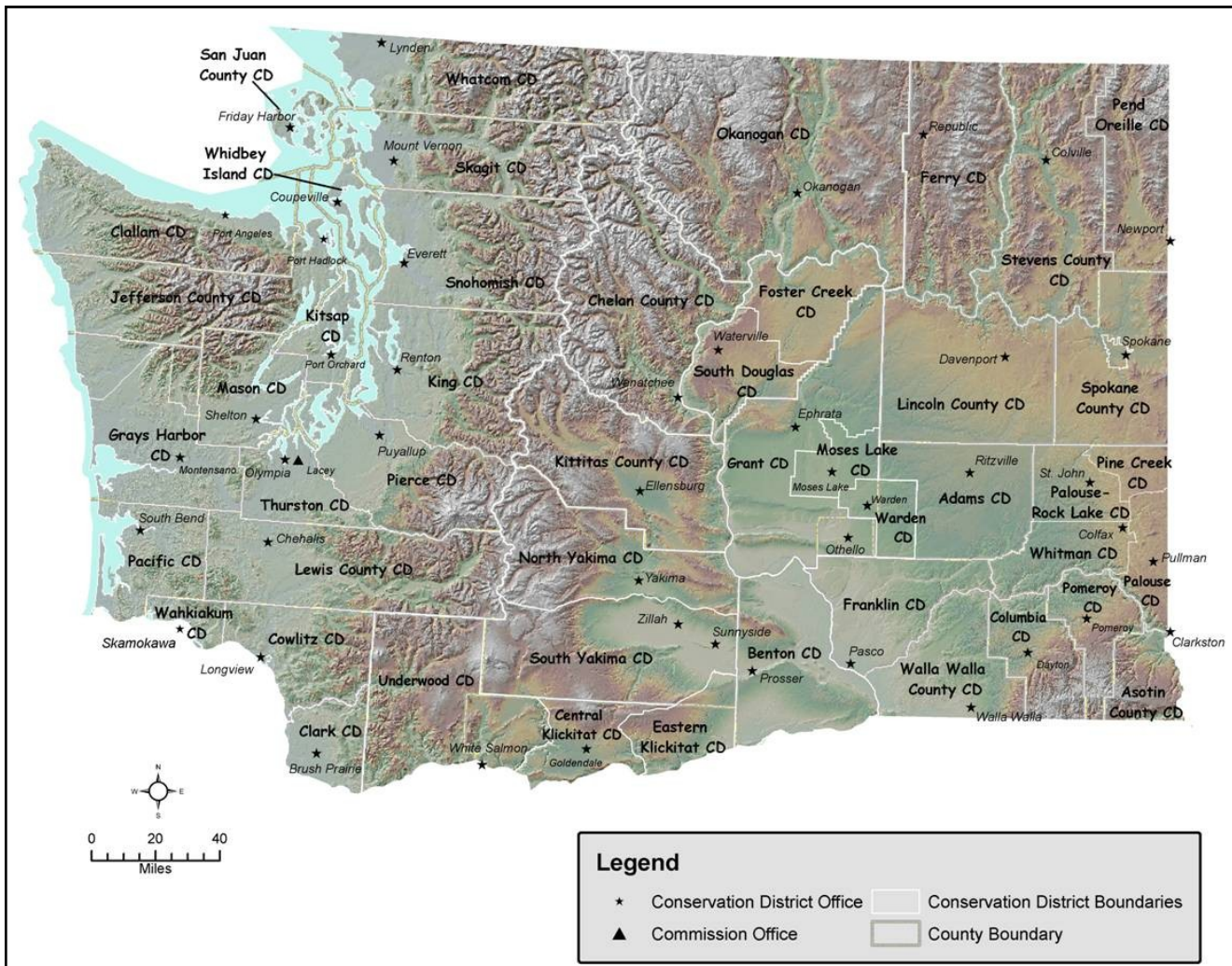
Sharon Buck, Staff, Lincoln County CD



All photos courtesy of USDA NRCS

"Becoming a conservation district supervisor has crystallized in my mind why conservation is so important - No planet. No civilization. One indisputable thing the people of the world share in common is the planet on which we live. In my lifetime, Earth is the ONLY planet we all will have the privilege of calling home. It is our collective obligation to each other to do our part to take care of our corner of home, for ourselves and for future generations."

Larry Davis, Supervisor, Whatcom Conservation District



WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS 2011 ANNUAL MEETING

Why should you support your conservation district?

From turning down your home thermostat in the evening, to carpooling, to recycling your empty plastic water bottle, people today take care of the earth's natural resources in daily aspects of their lives. If every person consciously made small efforts to recycle and conserve, the Earth's natural resources could be vastly more protected than they are today. Fortunately, while citizens go about their daily lives being consumers, there are dedicated and highly trained professionals and volunteers out in the field developing and implementing the latest in innovative technology to ensure the sustainability of the earth's natural resources today, tomorrow and for future generations.

The conservation district that is located in your area receives funding from federal, state, local and private entities to implement projects that specifically benefit your county. As many government and non-government entities have experienced, funding is limited and in constant danger of being cut year to year.

The WACD's annual meeting is a time to reflect back on the year's accomplishments, a time to conduct business and offer training to conservation district Board members and staff as well as district partners. This year launches another opportunity for your conservation district to reach out to the consumers and business leaders in your area to increase awareness and understanding of the importance of conservation. The WACD and your local conservation district invite you to learn more about how conservation impacts your daily lives and encourages you to educate yourself, get involved and support conservation of the natural resources in area!

CONSERVATION: Connecting Communities

Testimonial -

"It's difficult to see the impact our programs have on students simply because a measurement of impact over time is not possible in this format. However, year after year, I hear students and teachers tell me that our programs are the most hands-on, scientific and fun programs they have ever participated in. " One teacher said this after one of our presentations, "I live in a rural community. This workshop has helped to give me more information about our natural environment and the ways to teach it to our students!"

Kara Kaelber, Education & Outreach Specialist, Franklin Conservation District

CONSERVATION: CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

Be An Essential Piece

How does the Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) Support Conservation in Our State?

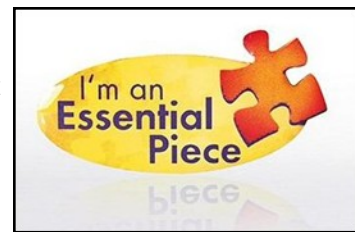
WACD supports Conservation Districts in their work with partner organizations and private industry to implement best management practices; to utilize innovative equipment and materials; and to develop expertise to address resource issues.

WACD provides effective support to partnering organizations, both transitioning and established private industry and private landowners to implement best management practices to assure proper utilization of our natural resources. WACD offers hands-on industry experience, political lobbying power and a collaboration of experts around the state to ensure our resources are protected.

Why should you support conservation in our state?

By supporting conservation, you are ensuring that the latest technology is utilized in the conservation of our natural resources, that the citizens of the state of Washington are informed and educated and that the great “on the ground” work that conservation districts implement at the local level continues.

Supporting conservation provides you an opportunity to take action and become a proactive member in your community in assuring the sustainability of Washington State’s resources. As the trend to be “green” evolves to a personal “ethical responsibility”, your support of your local conservation district will provide the necessary funding to maintain current levels of expertise in the field that provides knowledge and support to maintain today’s management of our state’s natural resources. After all, isn’t one of the reasons we all live here is to enjoy the beauty that surrounds us? It’s what our forefathers knew and why we’re so dedicated to preserving our resources for future generations.



WACD supports soil, water, animal, plant, air quality, energy, and human considerations in conservation. To learn more about how you can participate in this year’s conference and to further our efforts in connecting communities and providing educational opportunities, please see the sponsorship opportunities we have available on the following page.

CONSERVATION: CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

Be An Essential Piece - Sponsorship Opportunities

\$3,000 – CONSERVATION ALL-STAR will receive:

- 10 x 10 exhibitors table
- 2 nights stay at Suncadia
- Invitation to the Partnership Reception & Annual Meeting Coffee Breaks
- 1-sheet company overview in meeting packets
- Hyperlink to company website on WACD's web page at www.wadistricts.org
- Awards Banquet sponsor & company banner presence at banquet
- Awards Banquet tickets (2)
- Meeting packet sponsor
- Logo on "Wall of Fame" Banner

\$2,000 – CONSERVATION LEADER will receive:

- 10 x 10 exhibitors table
- 1 night stay at Suncadia
- Invitation to the Partnership Reception & Annual Meeting Coffee Breaks
- Awards Banquet sponsor & company banner presence at Awards Banquet
- Awards Banquet ticket (1)
- 1-sheet company overview in meeting packets
- Meeting packet sponsor
- Hyperlink to company website on WACD's web page at www.wadistricts.org
- Logo on "Wall of Fame" Banner

\$1,000 – CONSERVATION CHAMPION will receive:

- Meeting room sponsor
- Speaker sponsor
- Awards Luncheon sponsor & company banner presence at Awards Luncheon
- Invitation to the Partnership Reception & Annual Meeting Coffee Breaks
- 1-sheet company overview in meeting packets
- Awards Luncheon ticket (1)
- Company banner presence at Awards Luncheon
- Logo on "Wall of Fame" Banner

\$500 – DISTRICT SPONSOR will receive:

- Annual Meeting Coffee Break Sponsor
- Special Luncheon or Awards Luncheon ticket (choice of 1)
- 1-sheet company overview in meeting packets
- Logo on "Wall of Fame" Banner

\$100 – CONSERVATIONIST "WALL OF FAME" will receive:

- Logo on "Wall of Fame" Banner

Signature _____

Date _____

Printed Name & Title _____

Email address _____

Mail form and payment to: Lori McLaughlin @ WACD, 16564 Bradley Road, Bow, WA 98232.