



# WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

January 2010 Newsletter/Activities Update

JANUARY 2010

Volume 4, Number 1

## The Washington Association of Conservation Districts:

- Provides District supervisors, staff, and partners with timely information, education, and leadership
- Represents Districts at state, regional, and national level
- Serves as one of the links between Districts and their state and federal partners and other organizations
- Facilitates the resolution of natural resource-related problems
- Serves as a communication link between Districts

## Mission Statement:

*“WACD is a voluntary non-governmental association to advance the purposes of conservation districts and their constituents by providing leadership, information, and representation.”*

## WACD EXECUTIVE BOARD

### President

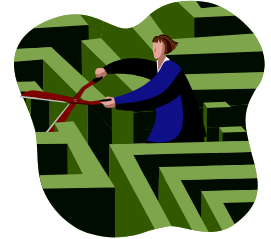
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## New Leadership for 2010

The Washington Association of Conservation Districts welcomes several new officers to its executive board in 2010. Chris Herron, a supervisor with the Franklin Conservation District and recently WACD vice president, was approved by membership as the new president. Chris is a fourth generation farmer in Franklin County and has been managing the family business for eighteen years. He is a long standing member of the Franklin County Association of Wheat Growers and a Lifetime Member of the Washington Association of Wheat Growers.



Dave Guenther was elected vice president of WACD. Dave currently is chair of Central Klickitat Conservation District. Wade Troutman, Foster Creek CD, has been named national director for the association, representing WACD at National Association of Conservation Districts meetings.

Dean Longrie, Clark CD, currently is WACD's past president on the executive board and Monte Marti remains in the position of Secretary / Treasurer. The Association wishes to thank Fred Colvin, Thurston CD, and Paul Stoker, Grant CD, for their many years of dedication and service to our organization – your participation and contributions will be missed!

## Dig In to Conservation



WACD's 2009 annual meeting was a huge success enjoyed by over 200 participants. It was held in the Spokane Valley at the Mirabeau Park Hotel. Keynote speaker, Brad Ross,

Interim CEO of the National Association of Conservation Districts, kicked off the event on the topic of the consistency of passionate leadership in the conservation movement in a changing world.

Session topics covered a wide range of issues sparked

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## MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES

### O&D Meetings 2010

Feb 12, Olympia  
May 17, Ellensburg  
Sep 13, Ellensburg  
Nov 29, Cle Elum

### WACD 2010 Annual Meeting

Nov 30 – Dec 2, Cle Elum

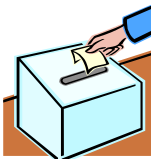
with lively discussion and debate. Some of the highlights included Ray Ledgerwood's presentation on "Funding the Fundamentals". This hands-on work session included topics about how existing funds will be allocated, what the allocation priorities will be and strategies for dealing with slimmer revenue sources.

"Carbon Credits – Boon or Boondoggle?" investigated the value of carbon credits, investing in ecosystem conservation, what the current market place holds and how carbon credits can lead to cash for districts.

Updates about Farm Land and Farm Planning included details about technical certification options for district planners as well as a report from Josh Giuntoli with the Office of Farmland Preservation.

Tom Salzer, WSCC, led an informative session about public disclosure and farm plans as well as election procedural changes. Ron Schultz, also with WSCC, explained the latest developments regarding the Governor's Natural Resources Reform and the Incentives Services Delivery proposals and the potential impacts these new policies will have on districts.

In the session "Rural Stewardship" tools for bridging the knowledge gap between land managers and citizens were explored. Photo-monitoring and use of oral history can be used to help citizens better understand land management practices and how to contribute to long range goals. Case studies of "Witnessing Change" and "Gathering Our Voice" programs used in central Washington were highlighted. This session was led by Craig Nelson-Spokane County CD and Nancy Warner and Ben Field, both with the Initiative for Rural Innovation & Stewardship.



During the two and a half days of the annual meeting supervisors met in committees to discuss and vote on resolutions passed at the area meetings last fall. In all 32 resolutions came out of the working committees and a final total of 27 were passed during WACD's business meeting. The 2009 Resolutions are posted on WACD's website: <http://www.wadistricts.org/>

## AWARDS

A number of Individuals were recognized for their service and contributions during WACD's awards luncheon and banquet.



## WSSC Meetings 2010

Jan 21

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE WINNERS!**

Conservation District of the Year, Whatcom CD  
President's Award, Jim Jesernig WACD Lobbyist  
Vim Wright "Building Bridges" Award, Mark Clark, WSSC  
Eugene Schloz Memorial Award, Jerry Hendrickson-Asotin CD  
Wayne Reid "Young Tiger" Award, Karen Krug-Whidbey Is CD  
Professional Service Award, Dennis Roe, WA State Univ. Ext.  
Special Service Award, Frank Corey, Whatcom CD  
Poster Contest Award, Nayomi Anyika, Edison Elementary  
Land Judging Contest, Garfield-Palouse High School  
Photo Contest "Before & After", Dean White, Lincoln Co CD  
Photo Contest "Best Photo", Andrew Phay, Whatcom CD  
WADE Employee of the Year, Garth Davis, Spokane Co CD  
WADE President's Award, Craig Nelson, Okanogan CD  
Wildlife Hab. Farmer of the Year, Oxbow Organic Farm, King  
Wildlife Hab. Steward of the Year, Mike & Heidi Peroni,  
Boistfort Valley Farm, Lewis Co CD  
Washington State Forestry Contest:  
Individual Winner, Tyler Allen, Chelan  
State Team, Mt. Baker High School  
Outstanding Elementary Teacher of the Year, Pam Conover,  
Waitsburg Middle School, Walla Walla Co CD  
Outstanding Secondary Teacher of the Year, Scott Olson,  
Tonasket Alternative High School, Okanogan CD

### **NRCS Awards**

Roylene Rides at the Door, Washington State  
Conservationist with Natural Resources  
Conservation Services, presented several awards at  
WACD's annual meeting. Peggy Entzel, Cascadia  
District Administrator was honored with the District  
Employee Partnership award. The District Partner of  
the Year was awarded to the Clark Conservation  
District.



### **Farming and the Environment Award**

Vim Wright was one of the founders of the nonprofit  
association, Farming and the Environment. The group  
was formed to bring farming and environmental  
communities together to exchange ideas and share  
knowledge gained from common experiences. The *Vim  
Wright Stewardship Farm of the Year Award* was  
created to honor Vim Wright's many achievements. An  
agricultural producer who is exemplar in the use of  
environmental practices and who achieves absolute  
sustainability on the land is chosen to receive this  
award. Wade Troutman, supervisor with the Foster  
Creek Conservation District, was honored with this  
award. Jim Armstrong, Spokane County CD, created a  
short, engaging film highlighting Wade and life on his  
farm.

