



# WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

August 2009 Newsletter/Activities Update

AUGUST, 2009

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 3

## 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

Dean Longrie  
20611 NE 245th Ave  
Battle Ground, WA 98604  
(360) 687-5148  
e-mail: [deanpl@aol.com](mailto:deanpl@aol.com)

### Vice President

Chris Herron  
PO Box 207  
Connell, WA 99326  
(509) 234-5821  
e-mail: [herron@eltopia.com](mailto:herron@eltopia.com)

## WACD Meets with Washington Legislators

Conservation leaders from across the country gathered in Washington, D.C. this week to learn about legislative initiatives and regulatory programs impacting the country's land, air and water, and to visit with lawmakers about the changing face of conservation and to help shape the national debate on conservation policy.



The National Association of Conservation District's (NACD) 2009 Legislative Conference, held July 18-21, featured leading experts from several federal agencies, including Dave White, Chief of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). White, who was recently appointed Chief of NRCS, reiterated his agency's

commitment to working with state and regional conservation districts. "Locally-led programs are the best vehicle to deliver conservation," said White.

Conference attendees also heard from Anne Castle, Assistant Secretary for Water and Science with the U.S. Department of the Interior; Larry Elworth, Agriculture Advisor to the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Ned Farquhar, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management at the U.S. Department of the Interior; Bill Hohenstein, Chief of the USDA Global Change Program Office; Paul Ries, Director of Cooperative Forestry with U.S. Forest Service; Carole Jett, USDA Deputy Chief of Staff, and Ann Mills, Deputy Under Secretary of the USDA Natural Resources and Environment.

The conference also included a Resources Conservation Act (RCA) listening session, during which USDA leaders listened to NACD members discuss their program and funding needs and offer suggestions for meeting those needs. NACD President Steve Robinson moderated the

### **Secretary / Treasurer**

Monte Marti  
11605 33rd Court NE  
Lake Stevens, WA 98258  
(425) 334-8164  
e-mail: [mcmarti@verizon.net](mailto:mcmarti@verizon.net)

### **WACD National Director**

Paul Stoker  
890 S. Lucy Road  
Othello, WA 99344  
(509) 488-5826  
e-mail: [pstoker@smwireless.net](mailto:pstoker@smwireless.net)

### **Past President**

Fred Colvin  
16816 Old Hwy. 99 SE  
Tenino, WA 98589  
(360) 264-2890  
e-mail: [fkcolvin@gmail.com](mailto:fkcolvin@gmail.com)

### **WACD Staff**

#### **Executive Director**

John Larson,  
2918 Ferguson St. SW, Suite A  
Olympia, WA 98512  
Mobile: (360) 259-8616  
Office: (360) 754-3588 x125  
Fax: (360) 236-0941  
Email: [wacd-exec@wa.nacdnet.org](mailto:wacd-exec@wa.nacdnet.org)

#### **Administrative / Bookkeeper**

Lori McLaughlin  
WACD Plant Materials Center  
16564 Bradley Road  
Bow, WA 98232  
(360) 757-1094  
e-mail: [wacd@ncia.com](mailto:wacd@ncia.com)

#### **Administrative Assistant**

Laura Schell  
2918 Ferguson St. SW, Suite A  
Olympia, WA 98512  
Office: (360) 754-3588 x125  
Fax: (360) 236-0941  
Email: [wacd-admin@wa.nacdnet.org](mailto:wacd-admin@wa.nacdnet.org)

session, calling it "a golden opportunity for conservation in America." NACD members' comments ranged from technical assistance to watershed programs, forestry issues, climate change, topsoil erosion, woody biomass as an alternative fuel source, and the need for conservation education. District leaders carried those messages to Capitol Hill as well, meeting with their representatives in Congress to discuss conservation policy issues during Hill visits and at NACD's Congressional Reception.

### **NACD Names New CEO**

Bringing extensive association and financial management experience to his new position, Doug **Loudenslager** took office July 13<sup>th</sup>. Most recently Loudenslager served as Chief Operating Officer for the National FFA Organization and its Foundation in Indianapolis. During his tenure the FFA served as a catalyst for long range agricultural education programs, attaining significant growth and an all-time high membership.



Prior to his time at FAA Loudenslager had a successful 17-year career in sales, management and training for Edward Jones Investments. He holds a BA degree in Agriculture and a master's in Business Administration.

"We are very fortunate to have Doug joining us as CEO of the National Association of Conservation Districts," said NACD President Steve Robinson. "We are certain that he has the experience, vision and energy needed to lead NACD."

During his acceptance speech Loudenslager commented, "These are exciting times for conservation in this country. NACD has a long tradition of providing national leadership and a unified voice for natural resource conservation...The perspective of the men and women who serve as directors of the 3,000 local conservation districts must be heard in the development of future conservation policy. I am excited to have the opportunity to join the NACD team in making sure their story is understood by national policy makers."

### **NACD Seeks Communications Associate**

Love the political whirl of Washington DC? Love to write, create and manage websites? NACD is seeking a candidate who will maintain and improve their extensive website, write for newsletters, participate in

## Meetings & Activities

### O&D Meetings 2009

Sep 14 Ellensburg

Nov 30 Spokane

### WACD 2009 Annual Meeting

Dec 1-3 Mirabeau Hotel, Spokane

### WSCC Meetings

Sep 10 (new date) North Bonneville  
Hot Springs Resort

### OFP Meeting

Sep 2, all day, Omak

### Area Meetings

SW	Oct 14	Pacific CD
NW	Oct 15	Snohomish CD
SC	Oct 20	E Klickitat CD
NC	Oct 21	S Douglas CD
NE	Oct 28	Spokane CD
SE	Oct 29	Columbia CD

**SE** will meet at the Seneca Activity Center in Dayton

**NC** will meet at the NCW Fairgrounds in Waterville

Visit the **WACD website** for additional information:

[www.wadistricts.org/](http://www.wadistricts.org/)

conference planning and assist with member outreach and presentations. A full job description is available on NACD's [website](#).

## WACD Awards

Get those pens and forms handy to start the nomination process for WACD's conservation recognition awards!



**August 31<sup>st</sup>** is the submission deadline for the **Wayne Reid "Young Tiger" Award** and the **Special Service Award**. Supervisors and Associates serving for 6 years or less and making an extraordinary effort toward meeting district goals are eligible to receive the "Young Tiger Award". Anyone working on district projects or who has made an outstanding achievement and contribution in the field of conservation is eligible to receive the Special Service Award.

The submission deadline for **Wildlife Steward of the Year** and **Wildlife Farmer of the Year** has been **extended to September 11<sup>th</sup>**. Any conservation district cooperator who enhances wildlife habitat on their commercial or noncommercial farm and/or forest smaller than 50 acres is eligible to receive the Wildlife Steward of the Year Award. The Wildlife Farmer of the Year rewards this same achievement for a cooperator participating on a commercial farm or forest of 50 acres or more. Recognizing district cooperators for their contributions helps improve public perception about farming, enhances WDFW's efforts to work with landowners to improve habitat protection and increases conservation districts' visibility. WACD's award program is another way to build public awareness of districts' role in the environmental arena.



The **Eugene Schloz Memorial Award** is given to active supervisors or associates who have made a valuable contribution to their district or to the state conservation movement. Any person working within the arena of conservation to foster understanding, partnerships, and greater conservation through collaboration may be nominated for the **Vim Wright "Building Bridges" Award**. One conservation district whose efforts and staff make the



most significant contribution to conservation is awarded **District of the Year**. Submit your nominations for these three outstanding awards by **September 30<sup>th</sup>**.

WACD's Award Program guidelines and public relations materials are on our website: [www.wadistrict.org/](http://www.wadistrict.org/)  
We encourage you all to participate.

### **Keeping of Animals – Resolution Update**

At the 2008 annual meeting WACD passed resolution 08-13 regarding modification of WAC 246-204-130 (2) to meet natural resource protection in the handling of animal waste. John Larson, Executive Director, submitted WACD's petition to the State Board of Health on July 8, explaining the need for updating the Code, bringing it in conformity with USDA/NRCS Field Office Technical Guide practice standards. Larson commented the WAC modification would allow for clarity and make the expertise of the district technical staff available to the private landowner.