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# Washington Association of Conservation Districts

## 5 Things to Know for April 29, 2021

### 1. [General Legislative Review: Sine Die Edition](#)

At 6:10 pm on Sunday, April 25, the 67th Washington State Legislature came to an unceremonious close, much as it began. Prior to the start of the session, majority Democrats instructed their members to introduce no more than six bills and advised that bills would be more likely to be advanced if they had a clear path in the other chamber and fit into the following categories:

1. Address COVID-19 challenges;
2. Improve racial equity;
3. Advance economic recovery;
4. Address climate change; and
5. Increase revenue.

The narrowed policy focus paid off, with majority Democrats passing priority measures on police reform, cap and trade, capital gains, a low carbon fuel standard, and funding the working families tax credit. The Governor has 20 days to take action on bills, concluding any action by May 15th. Click or tap on the title above for more. Also see: [Final Adopted Legislation](#).

The latest details on the FY 2021-2023 Operating Budget are presented in the [FY21-23 Operating Budget Breakdown](#).

Ryan Baye also provides additional post-session perspective and information in his latest post: [Legislative Flavor for April 29](#).

### 2. [NACD TA grant deadline is June 1](#)

There is a little less than a month left for potential grantees to apply for [NACD](#) Technical Assistance Grants; applications are due by **June 1**.

### 3. [Jobs, jobs, jobs!](#)

There is a multitude of jobs open right now all over the Pacific Northwest. Conservation district supervisors and employees alike may be interested in the needs described by other conservation districts. There is an interesting [Farm Bill Coordinator](#) position being advertised by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and WACD has a great opportunity for a [Sales Manager](#) at the Plant Materials Center!

### 4. [Committees](#)

The [Joint Committee on Elections](#) (JCE) met this week to grapple with various election options and to discuss new ideas. As you can imagine, seeking to arrive at recommendations is a complex undertaking. Committee members are working well together!

We have one change on the [Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion](#) (CDEI) to share this week. NRCS State Conservationist Roylene Comes at Night tasked [Peter Bautista](#) (NRCS Assistant State Conservationist for Strategy and Management) to advise the CDEI. Welcome, Peter!

## 5. [The end is near...for shipping from the PMC!](#)

Plants have been in the cooler for quite a while and viability is waning. This is a last call for plants, and don't forget that [prices are reduced!](#) The Sales Manager position remains open so send qualified candidates our way. Spring plant has started, punctuated by weeds popping up seemingly overnight. Get more details from the [Plant Materials Center update: April 29, 2021](#).

Dear weblinx,

### Executive Corner

After last week's serious article on employing a "welcome wagon" approach for the many new people who will be joining our community, perhaps something lighter and more esoteric is called for. This week's column is about the application of blockchain in conservation district work is much more esoteric. If that sounds a bit cryptic -- but still interesting -- join me on the deep end of the pool as I [dive into the blockchain!](#)

### Summer and annual meetings

NACD plans for their [2021 summer meeting](#) to be an in-person event in Chicago at the end of July. The combined [Pacific and Southwest Region meeting](#) is also planned as an in-person event in Wyoming at the end of August.

For the WACD annual meeting after Thanksgiving, WACD leadership has been hoping to have a clearer indication about holding it as an in-person meeting vs. a remote/virtual event. Our recently informal survey of some folks revealed there is still a range of desires among our members.

We've seen COVID-19 infection rates climb in a few counties and the news about more virulent forms of COVID-19 are very concerning. We have talked to the folks at the Hotel Murano in Tacoma about our contract and they are being very flexible.

Because of these factors, WACD will hold off on making a decision about how to present the WACD annual meeting until June or perhaps even July.

Always yours for conservation,

Tom Salzer, Executive Director  
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### Partners are important!

Find our list of partners at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/wacd/partners-sponsors/partners/>.

- [Friends of NACD](#) - Your contributions provide funding for technical assistance grants to conservation districts.
- [Washington Conservation Society](#) - WCS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization so your contributions are tax-deductible. If you make purchases through Amazon Smile, a portion of your purchases goes to WCS in support of their programs and initiatives.

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