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Dear weblinx,

Here are 5 Things from WACD in brief:

1. [Draft minutes for the May work session of the WACD Board](#) are now available.
2. COVID restrictions are lifting. More at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/topics/hr/health/covid/>.
3. The WACD [Plant Materials Center set a new sales record!](#)
4. Don't forget to [roll out the welcome wagon](#) for our newest community members and [thank our outgoing folks](#).
5. WACD's Olympia office is closed until Wednesday, June 2.

Scroll down for more!



Washington Association of Conservation Districts

5 Things to Know for May 27, 2021

1. [WACD Board work session minutes available](#)

On Monday, May 17th, WACD's Board of Directors held a work session. (The Board is meeting monthly in calendar year 2021, alternating between work sessions and business meetings.) Draft minutes from that meeting are available on the Board Meetings page at <https://wadistricts.org/board-of-directors>.

2. [COVID restrictions are lifting!](#)

We have been regularly posting updates provided to us by our lobbyist, Brynn Brady. Catch up on COVID announcements at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/topics/hr/health/covid/>. Today, the Washington State Conservation Commission certified elections and finalized appointments, resulting in 16 new conservation district supervisors entering our conservation district community. Please join WACD in welcoming them!

3. [The Plant Materials Center set a new sales record!](#)

It's hard to believe that in a year marred by COVID restrictions, the WACD Plant Materials Center notched a new record in sales! Get the real dirt and catch up on preparations for next year at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/2021/05/pmc-update-20210527/>.

4. Please [welcome new folks](#) and [thank outgoing folks](#)

Please do take a moment to [welcome new supervisors](#) joining our conservation district community and to [express your appreciation to those who are leaving office](#).

5. WACD's Olympia office closed until Wednesday, June 2

WACD staff in the Olympia office will be on leave until Wednesday, June 2. We will be occasionally checking email but will not respond unless it is an emergency. From us to you, we hope you have a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day weekend!

Executive Corner

Love popped up in an important conversation this week and it triggered some memories and thoughts. Find that article at this link: [Love is a verb. So is conservation. So is equity.](#)

WADE annual conference is just around the corner

The 2021 conference of the [Washington Association of District Employees](#) will be June 14-16, 2021. Learn more at <https://www.wactd.org/training/training-events/wade-2021>.

WACD June Board of Directors meeting will be about budget

The June meeting of the WACD Board of Directors will be focused on WACD's budget for fiscal year 2021-2022 (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022). Meeting information will be posted to the Board Meetings page at <https://wadistricts.org/board-of-directors> when available.

Committee work continues

The Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (CDEI) met for the first time this week. Members spent their time getting to know each other more deeply and developing their working relationship with our consultants, Sarah Dryfoos and Dr. Cindy Caldwell.

The WACD Finance Committee work continues to move forward with the current focus being WACD's budget. We are also looking at some additional service providers. Once the budget is adopted, the Finance Committee will probably focus on WACD's investment strategy by crafting a proposed investment policy.

The Conservation Commission's and WACD's Joint Committee on Elections (JCE) also met this week. Featured was guest Sandra Hiatt who handles soil and water conservation district filings for the Oregon Department of Agriculture. Sandi gave an excellent overview of Oregon's system and responded to many detailed questions from Committee members. A big thank you to Sandi for investing her time and expertise to help the Committee!

NRI webinar next week

At the May 20th Commission Meeting, the Conservation Commission adopted the new NRI (Natural Resource Investments) programmatic guidelines and landowner agreement. This was the result of the work of an NRI Committee of CD and SCC staff, who met over the last few months to draft the updated programmatic guidelines and an associated landowner agreement template. The changes include a new funding mechanism for conservation work, District Implemented Projects (DIP). We encourage you to read the following documents, and register for the informative webinar, below. You can also find these documents on the [Grants, Contracts, and Finance](#) webpage, under the 'Program Guidelines' tab.

- [NRI Programmatic Guidelines](#)
- [Landowner Agreement Template](#)
- [NRI Decision Tree](#)

SCC staff will be providing an overview of the NRI Program updates on **June 2, 2021, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.** Please plan on attending to learn more about these changes! There will be time for Q&A. [Register for the NRI Grant Program Updates Overview Webinar](#)

Thank you from Tom and Ryan

Tom and Ryan extend their appreciation to the San Juan Islands, Skagit, Whatcom, and Whidbey Island conservation districts for welcoming us to their board meetings this week!

Always yours for conservation,

Tom Salzer, Executive Director
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Pass it on!

Please pass this newsletter on to others in our conservation community so they can subscribe and be as informed as you are!

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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.

Recent posts on the Hub

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