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## 5 Things to Know for August 5, 2021



Dear weblinx,

### 1. We will recruit for Annual Conference Planning Team members

Since only a few people have volunteered to help WACD staff plan the next annual conference, we'll begin reaching out to individuals to increase the size of the planning team. But you don't have to stare at your phone and wonder when we'll call! Volunteer today by contacting Ryan Baye at [rbaye@wadistricts.org](mailto:rbaye@wadistricts.org). We need your help.

### 2. District Directory question: delete contact information?

Occasionally, WACD is asked to not publish a person's address or other contact information in the WACD District Directory. This raises an important point that seems more significant now than ever: **should we include personal contact information or not in the Directory?** WACD staff are considering scrubbing all personal contact information from the Directory and then making the Directory easily available to the general public. Simultaneously, we would keep a master spreadsheet with contact information for everyone listed in the Directory and provide access to the spreadsheet to community members with the Hub site password.

Before we go down this path, we'd like to know if you think we should remove personal contact information for individuals from the Directory or not. We invite you to respond through a simple YES/NO poll at <https://forms.gle/btYfZY18EVLmMn8f6> by August 11, 2021. If you have questions or comments, please contact Ryan or Tom at [oly@wacd.org](mailto:oly@wacd.org).

### 3. Election proposal Q&A next Wednesday at 11:00 am

The Joint Committee on Elections is tasked with providing recommendations for CD elections reform to the Conservation Commission in September 2021. After several meetings, JCE members reached consensus on a draft proposal for CD election reforms. The JCE sent an email to all CD supervisors and managers on July 19 inviting them to please:

1. [Review the JCE's draft proposal for CD election reform](#)

## 2. [Submit feedback and ideas using this form by COB on August 18, 2021](#)

Prior to the August 18 deadline, the Conservation Commission and Washington Association of Conservation Districts are hosting a webinar to give all CDs a chance to learn more about the draft proposal, ask questions, and hear your feedback.

**What:** Listening/Learning Session on Draft Proposal for CD Election Reforms

**Where/How:** On Zoom! [Register here.](#)

**When:** August 11, 2021 | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

**Who:** All interested CD supervisors and staff

**Why:** This webinar will help meet the following objectives:

- Give all CDs a clear understanding of the JCE's draft proposal for CD election reforms.
- Ensure that the JCE's final recommendation/proposal for CD elections takes into consideration and is informed by the feedback we hear from CDs across our state.

Questions about this webinar? Please contact [Stephanie Crouch](#).

## 4. **Building Better series debuts on Wednesday at 1:00 pm**

What is the difference between management and leadership? How do you know what hat to wear and when? Join the Building Better Leadership and Management Learning Community as we set the tone for this ongoing meeting series with a panel discussion of the many facets of management and leadership, get inspired by NACD Chief Executive Officer Jeremy Peters on what this looks like when it is working, and learn from each other through open discussion and sharing. Whether you are an experienced or new District manager, team coordinator, or budding leader, this series is for you! [Learn more on the Hub](#) or go to the source at the [Center for Technical Development](#).

## 5. **Area Association meetings are not far away!**

The hosting CDs for the 2021 Area Association meetings in October are set and now available to view at <https://wadistricts.org/our-area-associations>. While the host districts finalize dates for their area meeting, now is the time for local districts to be thinking about resolutions to propose. Resolutions direct the actions and priorities of your state association, on a wide range of topics spanning from changing WACD's dues structure to measuring the impact of straw removal on dryland farming production

## From your Executive Director

### **Executive Corner: [Atomic Habits is new to my library](#)**

In my library are several books about self-improvement, leadership, and management. The newest addition is an interesting book about becoming more productive by creating new habits. Who among us couldn't stand to be a little more productive, eh? And who finds it easy to change habits? Not me. Authored by James Clear who writes in a very direct style, *Atomic Habits* guides the reader on making tiny changes to achieve remarkable results. Read more at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/2021/08/new-book-atomic-habits/>.

### **Plants are thriving at the PMC**

WACD PMC Nursery Manager Jim Brown supplied some great photos today of plants thriving at the Plant Materials Center. View them in his PMC update available at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/2021/08/pmc-update-20210805/>.

### **Changes to the Hub**

**New post counter:** We've added a counter on individual posts. Why? Because: *"Human beings are social creatures, and we find comfort in connecting with other people. Humans are also very impressionable, often making judgments and decisions based on what others think and do. These behaviors are directly related to [social proof](#), where people act based on what they observe other people doing and enjoying. For online content, social proof can be anything from a celebrity endorsement to consumer reviews on a product page to recommendations from a family member."* Find the count below a post. Source: <https://blog.hubspot.com/website/wordpress-post-views>.

**Financial pages are revised:** We made the page address structure more logical for the individual pages about WACD's budget, dues, and financial reports. (Thank you to the Jefferson County Conservation District for the helpful feedback!) The parent page for finances is <https://hub.wadistricts.org/wacd/finances/> or hit these direct links:

- <https://hub.wadistricts.org/wacd/finances/budget/>
- <https://hub.wadistricts.org/wacd/finances/dues/>
- <https://hub.wadistricts.org/wacd/finances/financial-reports/>

**Always yours for conservation,**

Tom Salzer, Executive Director  
[exec@wadistricts.org](mailto:exec@wadistricts.org)  
(360) 999-5151 X101

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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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## Recent posts on the Hub

- [Plant Materials Center update: August 5, 2021](#)
- [Delta infections among vaccinated likely contagious; Lambda variant shows vaccine resistance in lab | Reuters](#)
- [Worst wildfire season in Washington history predicted for this year, official says | KATU](#)
- [NACD Update on Infrastructure Package](#)
- [New Book: Atomic Habits](#)
- [NACD Celebrates 75th Anniversary – Southeast AgNET](#)
- [Video shows salmon injured by unlivable water temperatures after heatwave | The Guardian](#)
- [A drought like no other, NOAA scientist says | Water | capitalpress.com](#)

- [CDC shares 'pivotal discovery' on Covid-19 breakthrough infections that led to new mask guidance | CNN](#)
- [Delta spreads 'like wildfire' as doctors study whether it makes patients sicker | Reuters](#)

See the full list of Recent Posts at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/posts/>. Also see the articles WACD staff are reading at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/resources/wacd-reading-list/>.

## We appreciate our great sponsors

Many thanks to our generous sponsors for helping us support Washington State's conservation districts. Links: <https://hub.wadistricts.org/wacd/partners-sponsors/sponsors/>



## 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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 1219 11th Ave SE, Olympia, WA 98501  
 (360) 999-5151