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Washington Association of Conservation Districts

5 Things to Know for August 26, 2021

Dear weblinx,

1. Area Association meeting dates now available

Please "Save the Date" for this year's Area Association meetings. Also, look for more information to come from the respective host districts soon as they adapt their plans to new COVID restrictions.

- Wednesday, October 13th – SW Area Meeting hosted by Grays Harbor CD
- Thursday, October 14th – NW area Meeting hosted by Skagit CD
- Tuesday, October 19th – NC Area Meeting hosted by Okanogan CD
- Wednesday, October 20th – NE Area Meeting hosted by Ferry CD
- Tuesday, October 26th – SE Area Meeting hosted by Walla Walla County CD
- Wednesday, October 27th – SC Area Meeting hosted by South Yakima CD

We've published those dates on our [Hub calendar](#) and on [WACD's public website](#).

2. It's time to nominate people for WACD awards!

The nomination forms for WACD's yearly awards are now on our website (<https://wadistricts.org/wacd-awards>). If there is someone in our conservation community you feel deserves recognition for their extraordinary effort this year, please consider writing a nomination. They are due back to WACD by October 29th.

3. WACD annual conference plans

Over the last few months, WACD has carefully considered how to structure this year's Annual Conference. Last year was our first entirely virtual conference. We learned some lessons from that experience that will help us provide a better experience for you in 2021. While we were all looking forward to a traditional in-person conference this year, the spread of COVID variants and resulting restrictions have caused us to pull back from that approach. WACD has decided to proceed with a hybrid conference structure for 2021, with sessions being held virtually and the annual business meeting being held in person with a virtual option.

In the first few weeks of November will be virtual programming sessions with speakers, panels, and other presentations. After Thanksgiving, in the more traditional timeslot, will be an in-person business meeting (with a virtual participation option) on November 30 at the Hotel Murano in Tacoma.

To help cover costs, we will be asking you to help us look for conference sponsors. Look for

more information and a conference registration packet to come out by the end of September.

4. Jobs galore in our conservation community

It's true: there are several job announcements in our conservation community. Several conservation districts have published job openings. We expect that the Conservation Commission will be publishing an announcement for the Executive Director position soon. Find the job announcements shared with us at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/topics/jobs/>.

5. Plant Materials Center update

Plant sales continue to be surprisingly strong. Staff are busy processing inquiries and orders. Production activities are on schedule. Seed collection also continues and the PMC is still in need of high-quality conifer seed. Additional aerial photos of the PMC are featured in this week's PMC update at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/2021/08/pmc-update-20210826/>.



From your Executive Director

Reflection: What is on the threat board?

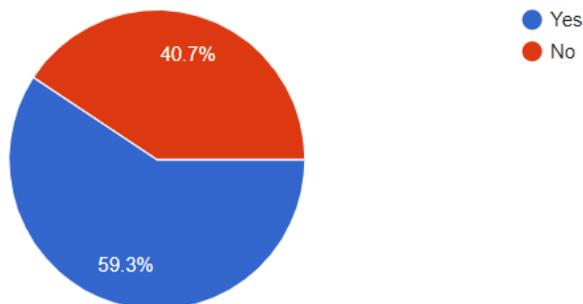
This week's somewhat rambling reflection takes you from the game of Risk to building relationships with legislators, with some twists and turns along the way. Your legislators will be engaged in Committee Days in November, so while you might not be thinking of the next session, they are. One risk I see is conservation districts not building relationships before the next session. Conversely, this presents a perfect opportunity right now to begin that important work! Read it at: <https://hub.wadistricts.org/2021/08/threat-board/>.

District Directory survey

A few weeks ago we asked for feedback on this question: **should WACD stop publishing personal contact information in the District Directory?** That survey closed with 27 responses. Nearly 60% of responses were YES.

Should WACD stop publishing personal contact information in the WACD District Directory? (We would make personal contact information available to authorized community members and through valid public records requests.)

27 responses



The majority view gives us plenty to think about. There are public policy implications if we stop publishing contact information for individuals. On the other side, there are concerns about personal privacy, especially in this age of threats like phishing and identity theft. WACD will discuss this at an upcoming meeting. Thank you to those who participated in the survey and to those who reached out with more explanation about their concerns.

Weekly thought

In keeping with my Executive Corner theme of threats and opportunities, here's an inspiring quotation that helps sum up that theme:

"You never let a serious crisis go to waste. And what I mean by that it's an opportunity to do things you think you could not do before." Source: [Rahm Emanuel](#)

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.

Recent Posts on the Hub

- [What is on the threat board?](#)
- [Plant Materials Center update: August 26, 2021](#)

- [Face Coverings and Vaccine Requirements: Where Things Stand as of August 23, 2021 | MRSC](#)
- [USDA to Invest \\$50 Million in New Cooperative Agreements for Racial Justice and Equity](#)
- [Pierce CD looks to fill executive director position](#)
- [Benton CD Hiring Heritage Garden Program Assistant](#)
- [Resource Conservationist Wanted](#)
- [Okanogan CD Announces Riparian-Water Quality Team Lead](#)
- [Habitat Improvement Projects Manager Opening](#)
- [How WACD Communicates](#)

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

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