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Washington Association of Conservation Districts

5 Things to Know for December 9, 2021

Dear weblinx,

Now that the WACD annual conference and the WACD annual meeting are concluded, we turn our attention to three things:

1. Evaluating what went right and what went wrong with those two events, and using that information to improve our future conference and meeting planning and delivery.
2. Weaving the newest batch of resolutions into our policies, priorities, and plans.
3. Focusing energy on the upcoming legislative session.

If your conservation district proposed a resolution that was adopted, you can expect to hear from us soon. Even if your district did not bring a resolution forward, you may hear from us because there will be various committees, task forces, and workgroups to populate with representative members from across the State.

Now on to this week's **5 Things!**

1. 2021 resolutions report now available

We've reorganized the Resolutions page on the **WACD Hub** to make it easier to find resolutions from 2020 and 2021, plus provide easy-to-access downloads of summaries for each of those years. Visit <https://hub.wadistricts.org/wacd/resolutions/> to access this information.

WACD staff will begin working on updating our five-year resolution policy book to reflect resolutions that have expired and the new resolutions adopted this year.

2. Partners are busy and some have funding opportunities for you

The [Washington Association of District Employees](#) is hard at work, planning the next WADE annual conference.

The [Washington State Conservation Commission](#) is working on a variety of issues. Your best source for this information is your Commission Regional Manager. Perhaps one of the most interesting items is that the Commission is closing in on selecting their next Executive Director.

Washington State [Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) staff are focused on applications for Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding, local work groups, and more. At the state and national levels, a lot of energy is being invested in planning how to use additional funding that may be coming to NRCS in support of Conservation Technical Assistance.

The Washington [Department of Natural Resources](#) has announced the availability of 2022 Urban & Community Forestry Grants. Get details in the [Request For Proposals](#) and download

the [Application Form](#) to prepare your proposal.

The [National Association of Conservation Districts](#) has opened applications for [2022 Urban Agriculture Conservation grants](#). Find program information at NACD's [Urban and Community Conservation webpage](#), including the request for proposals, frequently asked questions, link to the application, and more. The application deadline is midnight, January 31, 2022. Save the date for an informational session on December 14, 2021 at 4:00 pm Eastern; register at <https://nacdnet.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/nacdnet/eventRegistration.jsp?event=1376&>

Reminder: the [annual meeting of the National Association of Conservation Districts](#) is February 12-16, 2022 in Orlando, Florida. Earlybird registration ends December 15, 2021 so save a few bucks and get your registration in now!

We are alerted by the [Office of Columbia River](#) of a funding opportunity through the **US Environmental Protection Agency**. The EPA has published [two requests for applications](#) for the Columbia River Basin Restoration Funding Assistance Program. The deadline is February 8, 2022.

The [Center for Technical Development](#) continues to deliver great [training opportunities](#). Also, the next Building Better Leadership and Management Learning Community session is scheduled for January 12, 2022. It is timely because the topic is: [Building a Better Future – Creating a better annual and long-range plan and actually making it happen!](#)

3. Complete the conference survey, maybe win a prize!

WACD asks for your participation in a post-conference survey to help us improve your experience next year. As an incentive, WACD will randomly select two survey submissions to receive a \$25 gift card. The survey is anonymous so participating in the gift card drawing is a voluntary opt-in. Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021WACDconference>.

Session recordings are available on the annual conference page under the Sessions tab: <https://hub.wadistricts.org/annual/2021meetings/conference/#sessions> ([contact us](#) for the Zoom recording password).

4. WACD holiday schedule

WACD will observe the Christmas holiday on Friday, December 24th. The New Year's Day holiday will be observed on Friday, December 31st. The Plant Materials Center will be closed on these days. WACD's Olympia office will be closed from December 20 through New Year's Day, reopening on January 3, 2022.

5. Plant Materials Center update

Sales remain strong. Year-to-date revenues are almost exactly what they were last year. The PMC has been in bare root harvest mode for the past week. Most harvested plants are stored in the onsite plant cooler which was a temporary unit constructed long ago. Equipment is being well maintained so that it remains operational. [Read more...](#)

6. Bonus! New Chair, Vice Chair leading Conservation Commission

Subscribers to updates by the Washington State Conservation Commission today received an introduction to Daryl Williams and Larry Cochran. On December 1, Daryl was elected Chair of the Commission and Larry was elected as Vice Chair. WACD looks forward to working with these leaders as we strive to improve conditions for conservation districts across the state.

Also, we extend a warm thank you to Dean Longrie and Harold Crose who gave so much time and energy to helping our conservation district family succeed during their service as Chair and

Vice Chair.

If you did not get the Commission's announcement, [click here to read it](#).

From your Executive Director...

Reflection

I've been rubbing elbows with people in leadership positions for a long time. That doesn't mean I'm good at it! It just means that I'm a little less nervous about it than I used to be.

Leaders are just like you and me. They put their pants on one leg at a time, just like normal people. One way they may differ from other people is, sometimes, in being more fearless. They accept their charge and work to carry it out, even when it becomes uncomfortable. Often, personal growth occurs as a result of grappling with issues that may not be comfortable.

That line of thinking is what spurred my brief reflection this week about a possible relationship between serving as a leader and the success experienced by a conservation district. It may be a chicken-and-egg kind of thing, but it might also be that serving in leadership changes how your local conservation district thinks and acts, leading to more future success.

If that thought tickles your interest, check out: [What comes first: district success or serving in leadership?](#)

Weekly thoughts

I found two great quotations for you this week on the theme of leadership:

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." – John Quincy Adams

"The single biggest way to impact an organization is to focus on leadership development. There is almost no limit to the potential of an organization that recruits good people, raises them up as leaders and continually develops them." – John Maxwell

This week, I'm appreciating all the great leaders that make our conservation delivery system so successful!

Tom Salzer, Executive Director

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Recent Posts on the Hub

- [Plant Materials Center update: December 9, 2021](#)
- [2021 resolutions now available in summary form](#)
- [Turning around a dysfunctional team](#)
- [What comes first: district success or serving in leadership?](#)
- [Small Forest Landowner Office Outreach Specialist](#)

- [Snohomish CD opening for full-time Project Manager](#)
- [Skagit CD seeks Conservation Specialist](#)
- [Plant Materials Center update: December 2, 2021](#)
- [Get to Know: Mary Collins, Southeast Area Director](#)
- [Joseph Charles Heller: In Memorium](#)

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/>.

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.

We appreciate our great sponsors

Many thanks to our generous sponsors for helping us support Washington State's conservation districts. We will be updating our sponsor list in December! Until then, find sponsors on the Conference page: <https://hub.wadistricts.org/annual/2021meetings/conference/#sponsors>



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