



Washington Association of Conservation Districts

5 Things to Know for July 21, 2022

We write this attending the Commission meeting

It has been a long, long time since we were able to participate in an in-person State Conservation Commission meeting. Today's Commission meeting is being held in Ellensburg. President Mumford is here to represent WACD on the Commission and your Olympia WACD staff are attending. Despite the ongoing issues involved in dealing with COVID, it is grand to see and work with our community members in real life.

Dear Thomas,

1 – WACD Dues and You

Thank you to the 14 conservation districts that have — as of today — paid their WACD paid annual dues.

As the fiscal year turned on July 1st, WACD sent the annual dues invoice to all 45 conservation districts. Included with the dues invoice is a letter from Executive Director Tom Salzer that discusses WACD's accomplishments and opportunities over the past 12 months. We hope that this helps provide more awareness of the successes we've enjoyed and the difficult moments that help WACD to better serve members. Find the **2022 WACD dues cover letter** at:

<https://hub.wadistricts.org/wacd/documents/#dues>

2 – NACD Summer and Pacific Region meetings

This week, NACD held the 2022 Summer Conservation Forum and Tours in conjunction with the Southeast Region Meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico. If you subscribe to NACD publications, you have seen information about activities being enjoyed by NACD Summer Meeting attendees.

The 2022 Pacific and Southwest joint meeting will be held in Royal Lahaina Resort in Maui, Hawaii, September 7-10, 2022. [Learn more here](#). The 2021 Pacific and Southwest joint meeting was held in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, Aug. 30-31, 2021.

3 – Plant Materials Center update

Sales are up at the beginning of the new fiscal year. The PMC website is getting some helpful improvements. Seed collection season is underway. Root culturing has commenced. Five

photos are included in the report! [Click here](#) for the latest PMC update.

4 – July Farm Bill Hearing in Washington

The US House Agriculture Committee is holding a listening session as part of their review of the current Farm Bill in King County on Friday, July 22nd. The [press release](#) lists 10 AM as the start time at Remlinger Farms in Carnation, hosted by Washington's own Congresswoman Kim Schrier. The hearing will also be streamed online.

5 – Area Director vacancy in Southeast Area

We lost Annie Byerly as a Southeast Area Director but it wasn't because something bad happened. Indeed, the cause came about because of something good: Annie now works for the Walla Walla County Conservation District. Her experience as a board supervisor and area director will undoubtedly help inform her work as a district employee. While we lament losing her as an area director, we are very happy that she is still in our conservation district community, contributing to her conservation district's ongoing success.

Summer schedule for the Five Things

Reminder: we are publishing on a "summer schedule" with issues of the Five Things newsletter sent on the first and third Thursday in May, June, July, and August.

Recent Posts on the Hub

- [Plant Materials Center update: July 21, 2022](#)
- [Maintenance Worker \(Temporary Appointment\) Announcement](#)
- [Conservation Investments Coordinator](#)
- [NACD Applauds Release of DOI Programs Covered Under Justice40 Initiative | NACD](#)
- [Desk Guide to Accelerating Implementation of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy](#)
- [Plant Materials Center update: June 30, 2022](#)
- [Job: Northwest Area Engineer](#)
- [WACD Board Adopts Work Plan and Budget](#)
- [2023 NACD Officer Elections](#)
- [Marion SWCD \(Oregon\) Seeks Financial Administrator](#)

See the full list of Recent Posts at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/posts/>. Many news articles that mention Washington State conservation districts are [shared on Flipboard](#). In the [WACD Reading List](#) we capture many articles of interest to segments of our community.

From your Executive Director

AgForestry

I am very pleased to share with WACD members and partners that WACD's Director of Legislative and Member Services, Ryan Baye has been accepted in the next cohort of the AgForestry leadership program. I am a big fan of AgForestry and fully support Ryan's participation. We all know how great Ryan is. I can only imagine how his capabilities will expand through AgForestry.

Now is the time to begin working on resolutions for fall

WACD staff is talking with the six districts scheduled to host the 2022 Area Association meetings. Area meetings are the once-a-year gatherings of the six area associations to hear and debate resolutions, elect their representatives to the WACD Board of Directors, and sit down with WACD, WSCC, and NRSC leadership.

Now is the time to begin district discussions on any local resolutions you may want to see considered at the WACD Annual Business meeting. Starting now gives you plenty of time to help your ideas mature so that a polished product that can be well debated and widely supported is presented to other conservation districts. Adopted resolutions direct WACD's priorities and activities.

On dues and mistakes

In the July 7th edition of the Five Things newsletter, I wrote about our [2022 WACD dues cover letter](#). The amount of feedback or response to the letter has been exactly zero. This is a surprise because in the letter, I expressed the recognition that our WACD board members and staff are, like all of us, imperfect. We make mistakes. Often, we recognize them but sometimes our members help us to see and understand those errors. I do appreciate hearing where we have been mistaken because it helps us improve.

If you have an opinion, we'd like to hear it. While we often hear when someone is unhappy, it's just as important to hear when something is going right. Do reach out and tell us what is on your mind. It's important. We hear you, and we are here for you.

Yours in 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.

We appreciate our great sponsors

Many thanks to our generous sponsors for helping us support Washington State's conservation districts: <https://hub.wadistricts.org/annual/2021meetings/conference/#sponsors>



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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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