



Washington Association of Conservation Districts

5 Things to Know for August 5, 2022

Updated District Directory Published

The August 2, 2022 edition of the District Directory is now available online at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/resources/contacts/>. This page is protected by a simple password to help block robots from harvesting your contact information. The password is eight characters long and is formed by the abbreviation (all in capital letters) for the Washington Association of Conservation Districts and the year that WACD was formed. This year, we celebrate the 80th anniversary of WACD's formation in 1942. If those clues don't help you figure out the password, just drop a note to Tom or Ryan at oly@wacd.org to get it!

Dear reader,

1 – October Area Meeting Schedule

This year's schedule of fall area association meetings is now set. WACD will be working with the six host districts to prepare for the yearly sit-down between state leadership and local districts as well as the necessary area business of electing representatives to the WACD Board of Directors and deliberating resolutions to send to the state meeting.

- Tuesday, October 11th – Coupeville – NW Area Meeting hosted by Whidbey Island CD
- Wednesday, October 12th – Chehalis – SW Area Meeting hosted by Lewis CD
- Wednesday, October 19th – Waterville – NC Area Meeting hosted by South Douglas CD
- Thursday, October 20th – Davenport – NE Area Meeting hosted by Lincoln County CD
- Tuesday, October 25th – Clarkston – SE Area Meeting hosted by Asotin County CD
- Wednesday, October 26th – White Salmon – SC Area Meeting hosted by Underwood CD

WACD will centralize information about these meetings on the 2022 Area Association Meetings page at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/annual/2022meetings/areas/>. Each host is preparing venue information and will be releasing registration information shortly.

2 – WACD Annual Conference: Save the Date

WACD anticipates signing a contract in the coming days for the 2022 WACD Annual Conference and Business Meeting on the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday after Thanksgiving with the Wenatchee Convention Center. This year, that means marking November 28, 29, and 30 as the

likely dates for WACD's 80th-anniversary annual conference. We should have a draft page on the 2022 WACD Annual Conference available soon at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/annual/2022meetings/conference/>.

Anyone interested in serving on the Planning Team to help organize conference programming and the other aspects of a statewide conference is asked to contact [Ryan Baye](#).

3 – NACD Regional Meeting Registration Now Open

This year's theme for the 2022 Pacific and Southwest Regional Meeting of "Imua - To Move Forward" reflects the common goal of conservation districts across the West and the hosting state of Hawaii's 75th anniversary of their first soil and water conservation district.

The registration for the NACD joint regional meeting is now available ([Learn more here](#).) It will be held in Royal Lahaina Resort in Maui, Hawaii, September 7-9, 2022. Those wishing to participate in-person are asked to register by August 19th to ensure a seat for the field tour of the Hawaiian island of Maui.

4 – NACD Summer Meeting Report

WACD National Director Doug Rushton attended the NACD Summer Meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico in late July on behalf of WACD. He wrote a summary on the operations and updates from the National Association of Conservation Districts, as part of the business meetings Doug attended as an NACD Board Member. [His two page report is now available](#).

5 – Plant Materials Center update

Sales remain strong. Jim Brown, Director of Nursery Operations, covers the June (end of year) financial results. Strong demand for conservation-grade native plants has increased staff workload across the board at the Plant Materials Center. Learn more from [this week's PMC Update](#) on the WACD HUB.

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

- [Regional Fisheries Coalition \(RFC\) seeks Strategic Coordinator](#)
- [WSDA Seeks Sr. Eastern WA Nutrient Management Inspector](#)
- [USDA Investing \\$197 Million in Partner-Driven, Locally led Conservation | NRCS](#)
- [National Conservation Planning Partnership \(NCP\) - HHB Awards](#)
- [A brief look at large wildfires in the United States this week | Wildfire Today](#)
- [Okanogan CD seeks Grants and Contract Director](#)

- [Primary Wrap-Up](#)
- [Plant Materials Center update: August 4, 2022](#)
- [Habitat Restoration Project Manager, Snohomish CD](#)
- [Local food system infrastructure grant applications open | KXRO News Radio](#)

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

It's that time of year when political signs sprout at intersections and in front yards. The primary vote was Tuesday, August 2nd and results are still filtering in. It is simply too early to predict what may happen in the general election in November, but there are some potential surprises in the primary election. Stay tuned as we will likely get a report on primary results from our lobbyist, Brynn Brady, once the election results are certified.

I know that many in our conservation community have strong political views. And I know that some view the distance between opposing sets of political beliefs to be a weakness in our statewide association. I view it differently because for me, the driver isn't what party you belong to. Instead, what matters is your commitment to voluntary, locally-led conservation. That is the brick that forms the strong foundation for our work, individually and collectively.

We succeed when conservation districts are seen as an honest dealer, who are trusted by the communities we serve. There are aspects of our work that resonant with everyone. When elected officials from both sides of the aisle stand up in support of the voluntary model and the district approach, that is a powerful symbol. That sort of special relationship, once lost, is nearly impossible to earn back.

In our conservation work, there is simply no room for partisan politics to be part of our everyday delivery of conservation services. Resources don't respect creed or political boundaries, and neither should we. Viewing every conservation topic with a particular political color is doing your local community and our larger conservation community a disservice. We need conservation champions on both sides of the aisle. Conservation district work is nonpartisan, and it is imperative that we keep it that way.

We simply cannot afford to be anything less than everyone's answer to voluntary conservation.

Yours in conservation,

Tom Salzer, Executive Director
tsalzer@wadistricts.org

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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