

Five Things to Know for June 19, 2025

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Thank You for Supporting WA State Envirothon at WADE! ~ Jodi Prout, Envirothon Chair

Thank you to everyone who participated in the "Are You Smarter Than an Envirothon Student?" trivia fundraiser at WADE! With support from district staff, SCC, WACD, and supervisors, we raised **\$2,375** to support WA State Envirothon programming and help cover travel costs for the winning team.

Roosevelt High School from Seattle, representing King Conservation District, will head to

Calgary this July to represent Washington at the North American NCF-Envirothon competition.

We appreciate your enthusiasm and generosity. This event wouldn't have been a success without you!

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Five Things To Know

1. Legislative Engagement Survey

WACD, in partnership with the SCC, is gathering input from conservation districts on hosting legislative tours.

Whether your district regularly hosts these types of tours or has not yet done so, your feedback is important. Please take a few moments to complete this brief survey and help us better understand the needs, interests, and opportunities for supporting districts in organizing legislative tours.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DT2GR56

Please submit your responses by **July 3rd**. We do have limited staff and resources, so be sure to fill out the survey soon if you would like assistance! If you have questions or comments please reach out to us at <u>oly@wacd.org</u>.

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2. WACD Dues Letter and Survey

WACD dues letters have been sent out, and they have a <u>brand new look</u>. The letter highlights the past fiscal year's accomplishments and looks forward to the work ahead of districts and the Association.

In addition to standard dues, WACD has also added an optional supplemental dues investment for specific initiatives. There is a lot of work to do, and we do not want to raise dues to meet our communities needs. The optional dues category allows CDs who can afford to, and want to help with the additional lift the opportunity to do so. Great idea? Terrible idea? Please let us know your thoughts <u>oly@wacd.org</u>.

Lastly, we want to hear from you. WACD wants to make sure we are investing our resources in the areas most important to our members. Please take a moment to participate in this very short <u>survey</u>.

3. 2025 Annual Conference Information

Please save the date for the 2025 WACD Annual Conference - December 1 - 3, at the Northern Quest Casino in Airway Heights. For a teaser of what this year might look like, there is a <u>preliminary conference schedule</u> now available. WACD hopes to have a full conference schedule and registration available by September 1st.

Each year, WACD tries to identify emerging natural resource issues to keep our membership informed and find ways to bring the conservation districts together to unify your collective power. Feedback is always welcome. If you have potential conference ideas: exciting speakers, interesting programming, or thoughts as to the form and structure, please reach out to Ryan Baye at <u>ryan@wacd.org</u>.

4. NCPP Survey on Conservation Planning and Training Needs

To increase our knowledge on expanding our capacity for implementing conservation across the United States, the **National Conservation Planning Partnership** (NCPP) has compiled a brief questionnaire on conservation planning certification and training needs. Completing the information called for in this survey should take 10-20 minutes depending on how many employees are in your response.

For most conservation districts, we are distributing this request directly. We are also sending this same request to state/territory associations for them to share with their district contact lists. This will ensure that each district gets an opportunity to respond. We apologize in advance to those Districts who receive duplicate messages.

The link to the survey is: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NCPPconsplanning

We will aggregate the information and summarize the findings. We will not distribute information about individual employees or individual districts or other organizational responses.

Questions related to this survey can be directed to Rich Duesterhaus, <u>rich-</u> <u>duesterhaus@nacdnet.org</u>. We would appreciate your response by COB **June 23, 2025**.

5. CTD Online Learning Platform Demo

The CTD will be hosting a demo of their Online Learning Platform on **Monday, June 23rd at 10 AM.** You can join that presentation <u>HERE</u>.

The CTD is looking for beta testers! Be among the first to explore our new training platform! Join our beta testing program and share your input on what works—and what could be better. Click <u>HERE</u> to sign up to be a beta tester. Testing will begin in July.

6. Bonus Item: PMC Priority Plant Orders are DUE!

WACD's **Plant Materials Center** is here to serve you! Don't forget to send in your plant orders **before July 1st**. On July 1st, all orders for this next year are entered into the PMC's computer database. CD orders are entered first giving CDs priority over other entities. This is one small way we can ensure we meet the needs of CDs first!

Your **Plant Materials Center** specializes in big beefy bare root plants for your conservation projects. Check out our plant availability at <u>https://wacdpmc.org/</u>. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Jacquie at <u>pmcsales@gmx.com</u> or 360.757.1094.

Upcoming Events

2025

- July 10th: NRCS State Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
- July 16 17: <u>SCC Meeting</u>
- July 24 30: NACD Summer Meeting
- September 7 10: NACD Southwest & Pacific Region Meeting
- September 12: WACD Funding Opportunities Newsletter is Published

Inside WACD

It has been a whirlwind the last two weeks between WADE, the joint SCC/WACD Leadership Forum, the WACD in-person Board meeting in Bow followed by a full day of Strategic Planning. WACD staff and board members want to thank all of the SCC staff, WADE board members and tract leads, CDs staff and supervisors, partners and Team PMC for making two weeks of important conversations possible. Below are photos from our time together these past two weeks.

WADE ~ June 9th - 11th



SCC/WACD Leadership Forum ~ June 12th



WACD Board Meeting & Strategic Planning ~ June 16th & 17th



We'd like to hear from you

As always, we'd like to receive your ideas and questions. Please contact us at <u>oly@wacd.org</u>. Emails sent to that address reach the entire Executive Office team!

Always yours for conservation,

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Latest Posts on the Hub

- <u>Celebrating our Outgoing 2025 Supervisors</u>
- Welcome to 13 new conservation district supervisors
- Longtime Spokane Conservation District leader ushers in year-round farmers market
- <u>Palouse Conservation District Encourages Community to Explore Local Wildlife with</u> <u>Upcoming Spring Events</u>
- Legislative Update May Update on 2025 Session
- <u>Heather Wendt Appointed as WACD Deputy Director</u>



2024 Annual Conference Sponsors!

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More information is available on the WACD Hub!

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