



Washington Association of Conservation Districts

Five Things to Know for September 18, 2025

<https://wadistricts.org> ☼ <https://wadistricts.us> ☼ <https://wacdpmc.org>



Shout out to our friends at the [Colorado Association of Conservation Districts](#) who hosted an amazing group of tours during NACD's Southwest and Pacific Region meetings last week. Featured above is a photo from [Fleischer Family Farm](#), an excellent example of an organic urban farm.

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Five Things To Know

1. WACD's Annual Conference & Business Meeting

It is the most wonderful time of the year, conference time! WACD's Annual Conference and Business meeting will be held **December 1st - 3rd** at Northern Quest Resort and Casino. The **draft schedule** is now live on the HUB [here](#). Registration and hotel information will be available shortly!

2. Area Meetings - Details are Coming Together on the HUB

Area meeting details and registration information is now available for almost all of the meetings on the HUB: <https://wadistricts.us/annual/2025meetings/2025-area-association-meetings/>

- **Wednesday, October 15** – Northwest Area meeting – hosted by King CD
- **Thursday, October 16** – Southwest Area meeting – hosted by Wahkiakum CD
- **Wednesday, October 22** – Northeast area meeting – hosted by Stevens CD
- **Thursday, October 23** – North Central Area Meeting – hosted by Foster Creek CD
- **Tuesday, October 28** – South Central Area Meeting – hosted by Eastern Klickitat CD
- **Wednesday, October 29** – Southeast Area meeting – hosted by Columbia CD

3. WACD's Strategic Plan Draft ~ Posted for Review

The WACD Board, staff, partners, and invited conservation district managers and executive directors met in Bow on June 17 to participate in a strategic planning session. At that meeting, participants identified overarching goals, which staff then refined into specific objectives, tasks, and timelines. Our aim is to produce a strategic plan that is clear, concise, actionable, and achievable.

We invite you to review WACD's proposed [Strategic Plan Draft](#) goals. You can also participate in a ranking exercise and provide written comments [here](#).

Questions can be submitted to WACD's Deputy Director [Heather Wendt](#).

4. Next Generation Leadership Institute ~ Now Accepting Applications

The National Conservation Foundation and the NGLI Operating Committee opened applications for the 2026 Next Generation Leadership Institute (NGLI) Cohort. This program is designed for District Officials who are ready to grow as leaders and make an even greater impact in conservation.

Why apply?

NGLI is more than a year-long leadership journey, it's an opportunity to:

- Build skills and confidence to lead locally, regionally, and nationally
- Join a network of passionate District Officials across the country
- Represent your region in a national leadership program.

Travel, learn, and grow—at no cost to you (all program travel is covered).

Over the past five years, NGLI has equipped dozens of District Officials to step into new roles of influence. Many of today's state, regional and national leaders in conservation started as NGLI participants.

-  [Learn more about NGLI](#)
-  [Meet past Cohort members](#)
-  [Apply here \(Sept. 1–Oct. 31\)](#)

Interviews will take place in November, and selected applicants will be notified the first week of December. Questions? Reach out to Keith Owen, keith-owen@nacdn.org.

5. NACD Technical Assistance Grants

The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD), in partnership with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), has issued the request for proposals (RFP) for [Technical Assistance \(TA\) Grants](#). With an anticipated \$27 million in funding, the grants will support technical positions in high-need areas, strengthening conservation delivery across the U.S. and territories!

Applications are due by **November 6, 2025**, at 11:59 p.m. ET and must be submitted through the NACD application portal. The application portal link will be available on the [website](#) and open for applications on **September 17, 2025**.

[Learn More Here](#)

6. Vets on the Farm Celebrates its 10-Year Anniversary

VETS *on the* FARM

10-Year Anniversary

AT THE SCALE HOUSE MARKET

4220 E. 8TH AVE. SPOKANE, VALLEY 99212

\$100 per person
\$75 Veteran admission



Limited Seating Available
Must RSVP by Sept. 12

Please join us for an evening of farm-to-table dining and music to celebrate Vets on the Farm.

20 SEPT. 2025 | **1600** HRS
4:00 P.M.

For more information visit: VetsontheFarm.org

Upcoming Events

2025

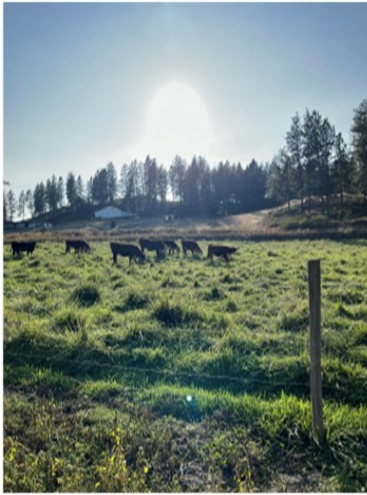
- September 17-18: [WSCC Meeting](#)
- October 15: [Northwest Area meeting](#)
- October 16: [Southwest Area meeting](#)
- October 20: [WACD Board Meeting](#)
- October 22: [Northeast area meeting](#)
- October 23: [North Central Area Meeting](#)
- October 28: [South Central Area Meeting](#)

- October 29: [Southeast Area meeting](#)

Inside WACD

Thank you Stevens County CD!

Thank you to Stevens County Conservation District supervisors and staff for a wonderful tour yesterday as part of the State Conservation Commissions September meeting. Participants got to tour [Vetter Farm](#), a demonstration farm and forest, that is a partnership between WSU Extension and the Stevens County CD. We were also treated to a tour of Supervisor Pauline Hagan's family cattle and hay ranch. Participants learned how the Voluntary Stewardship Program works in Steven County along with numerous other district programs including [Floodplains by Design](#). Everyone left with a much more expansive knowledge of the nutritional value of hay. Thank you to everyone who made the day a great success!



We'd like to hear from you

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

Always yours for conservation,



Latest Posts on the Hub

- [Sunset clause added to \\$5 fee - Conservation district to report funding metrics](#)
- [Crews remove Water Stargrass from the Yakima River to save Salmon and bring balance to the ecosystem](#)
- [WSDA's STAR Market and Incentives Specialist Position](#)
- [3 New DNR/NRCS Conservation Planner Positions \(Olympia, Omak and Colville\)](#)
- [Snohomish CD Community Conservation Crew Lead Position](#)
- [Pierce CD Marine Shorelines Senior Program Manager Position](#)

Recent Posts

Jobs

Reading List

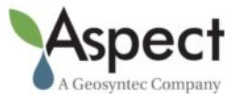
2024 Annual Conference Sponsors!

Sponsors

Thank you to the 2024 WACD Annual Meeting Sponsors



Washington Department of
Fish and Wildlife



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