



Washington Association of Conservation Districts

SPECIAL EDITION

Five Things to Know for October 30, 2025

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



Happy almost Halloween!

All of the gourd-tastic photos in this edition are courtesy of WACD Treasurer Mark Craven.

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1. WACD's Annual Conference ~ Hotel Registration Block Closes Tomorrow!

Hotel Registration

WACD is excited to be hosting our **2025 Annual Conference and Business Meeting** at the Northern Quest Resort and Casino this year from **Monday, December 1st to Wednesday, December 3rd**. We've secured a group rate at the state per diem amount of \$126 for conference attendees.

To secure the discounted rate, you will have to call the Northern Quest Casino Reservation Department at 1-877-871-6772 and reference either the "*Washington Association Conservation Conference*" group rate or mention the **Group Discount ID 30560**. You can only utilize the discount over the phone, it will not be possible to make hotel reservations with the group discount online. **Our group rate at the Northern Quest runs until tomorrow, October 31st.**

Conference Registration

Registration for the Annual Conference on Monday and Tuesday and for the Business Meeting on Wednesday, whether you're planning to participate online or in-person, can all be done on one form – [just click here](#).

WACD is offering a single price for conference registration and meals at \$550 per person. The cost to attend virtually will be \$150/per person. If your district sends 3 or more supervisors to attend in person, your entire district can attend virtually for only \$75.00.

As in years past, we are discounting registration for new supervisors and new district staff to encourage their attendance and meet the statewide community. The first 15 to register as first-time conference attendees pay 50% of the regular registration price. There will be a dedicated new supervisor and manager training session on Monday morning with a leadership consultant for new managers / executive directors and supervisors elected or appointed in 2023, 2024, or 2025. **Regular registration ends November 21st.**

For more information visit the Conference Page on the HUB [here](#).

2. WACD Awards Reminder ~ Submittals Due Tomorrow!

Each year, WACD seeks to recognize the best and brightest in our community. We are looking for nominations in eleven different categories, ranging from Associate Supervisors to local co-operators. Applications should take no more than a few minutes of your time. The 2025 nomination forms are now available on the [WACD Hub](#). Nominations should be submitted to [Lori McLaughlin](#).

WACD awards nominations are due tomorrow, **October 31st** (no tricks only treats!).

3. Area Meeting Resolutions

Area Association meetings are a wrap! Thank you to the CDs that hosted and supervisors, staff and partners that participated. In addition to having A LOT OF FUN, as you can see by the photos below in our editorial section, districts also moved to approve several resolutions. You

can find those resolution [here](#).

Resolutions will now be referred to one of two committees, the Natural Resources Committee or the Legislative, By-Laws and Policies Committee depending on the nature of the problem to be solved. These committees will make a recommendation, to Pass, Pass as Amended or Do Not Pass, to the Association's full membership at the Business Meeting on December 3rd. It will be up to the supervisors who participate at that meeting as to whether the final resolution will be approved and become part of WACD's book of business.

4. Support the Next Generation of Conservation Leaders

Call for Auction Items: Support the Next Generation of Conservation Leaders

The Washington State Envirothon Auction returns to the WACD Annual Meeting in Spokane on **Tuesday, December 2, 2025**. This year with special guest auctioneer Mark Peterson, KXLY Spokane weather anchor and dryland farmer.

Proceeds support Envirothon, a statewide hands-on environmental education program that helps high school students build conservation careers and represent Washington at the North American Envirothon Championship.

We're now gathering auction items, and your contributions make all the difference. Popular donations include guided tours, farm stays, workshops, drone flights, and hosted dinners, along with gift cards, themed baskets, event tickets, local art, outdoor gear, and trip packages.

Last year's auction raised \$9,506 to support student learning and statewide Envirothon programming. Let's make this year even bigger.

All donations are tax-deductible (EIN: 20-0161485).

[Submit your item](#) or learn more at waenvirothon.org/support-envirothon/auction.
For more information or to donate, contact lennae.starr@kingcd.org or 206-379-5258.

SEEKING AUCTION DONATIONS!

Currently accepting donations for the WACD Conference Auction on December 2nd to benefit WA State Envirothon



Suggested Donations:

Gift cards
Outdoor Gear
Event tickets
Resort trips
Gourmet goods
Local spirits
Services & Tours

For more information or to donate, please contact lennae.starr@kingcd.org or call 206-379-5258

5. State Wildlife Action Plan Review

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has released the **Draft State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP)** for review and comment. The plan compiles extensive input gathered over the past year from Tribes, conservation districts, agencies, organizations, and the public, and builds on materials shared earlier this spring.

Access the Draft Plan and Materials

The [Draft SWAP publication page](#) includes:

- The full Draft SWAP (PDF, ~280 pages)
- Supporting Excel spreadsheets (read-only, downloadable for sorting and filtering)
- Additional background and reference information

Comment Period Open Through November 16, 2025

Please review the draft plan and share feedback using the [WDFW SWAP Revision Survey 2025](#). Comments submitted by midnight on November 16 will inform updates before the plan is finalized for submission to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in December.

6. Clean Water Guidance Review

Ecology is developing **Clean Water Guidance** for Agriculture alongside the current Nonpoint Plan update. This guidance document is a technical resource for agricultural producers that recommends site-specific best management practices (BMPs) to protect water quality.

Provide feedback on the Clean Water Guidance

[All draft chapters](#) are now available for review.

Comments can be submitted until **11:59 p.m. on Nov. 21, 2025.**

[Submit comments online](#) or by mail to:

Ron Cummings

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Public Informational Webinar - Ecology will host a webinar on **Nov. 5, 2025**, from **10 a.m. – 12 p.m.** The webinar will cover Ecology's process and an overview of the practices covered. There will be time for questions after the presentation. Because this is not a formal hearing, Ecology will not be taking oral testimony. [Register on Zoom](#).



Upcoming Events

2025

- November 4: [WACD Natural Resource Committee Meeting](#)
- November 5: [WACD Leg., Bylaws and District Policies Committee Meeting](#)
- November 17: [WACD Board Meeting](#)
- November 20: [State Technical Advisory Committee Meeting](#)

- December 1 - 3: [WACD Conference and Business Meeting](#)
- December 4: [State Conservation Commission Meeting](#)

Inside WACD

Area Meetings Recap

It was wonderful to see so many of you at this year's Area Meetings! If you weren't able to attend, I strongly encourage you to join us in the future. These meetings are a valuable opportunity to connect and collaborate with the conservation districts closest to you.

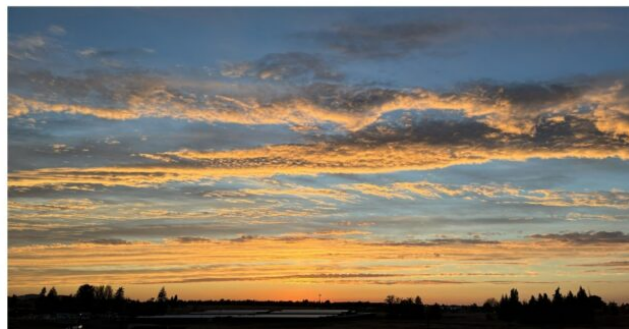
Area Meetings also provide a chance to engage directly with statewide leadership on the issues that matter most to your CD. And yes—we also had plenty of fun, celebrated the great work of our districts, and traveled from sunrise to sunset across our beautiful state.

A heartfelt thank you to all of the CDs that hosted, and congratulations to this year's recipients of the SCC's Area CD of the Year Awards:

Northwest Area - Mason CD
Southwest Area - Wahkiakum CD
Northeast Area - Lincoln Co. CD
North Central Area - Foster Creek CD
South Central Area - Kittitas County CD
Southeast Area - Rock Lake CD

Yours in conservation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Heather L. Wenett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



We'd like to hear from you

People make Washington's conservation delivery system work. Whether it is people you work with, people you serve, or the statewide community of conservation districts, success is built on working with people. Success is built on 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,


EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Latest Posts on the Hub

- [Volunteers improve salmon habitat in Stanwood for Orca Recovery Day](#)
- [Mason CD Field Crew Member](#)

- [Youth Conservation Corps wraps up a successful 2025 summer season](#)
- [Snohomish Conservation District will host the eighth annual Orca Recovery Day.](#)
- [Jefferson County CD Conservation Planner Position](#)
- [WACD Plant Materials Center email addresses have changed!](#)

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Jobs

Reading List

2024 Annual Conference Sponsors!

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Thank you to the 2024 WACD Annual Meeting Sponsors



Washington Department of
Fish and Wildlife



Pass it on!

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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