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Washington Association of Conservation Districts

Five Things to Know for February 5, 2026

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



Washington Grown's Season 13 Episode 6 will feature WACD's Plant Materials Center. The episode will air Saturday, February 7th. Click [here](#) to learn how you can watch it live. We will

also post a recorded link on our [Facebook Page](#) next week.

In This Issue

Five Things to Know

1. WACD Legislative Priorities
2. Engaging with Legislators Training ~ Recording Now Available
3. Plants, Plants, Plants!
4. February 19th State Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
5. NRCS Practice Standards ~ For Your Review and Comment

Upcoming Events

Inside WACD

Latest Posts on the Hub

Thank you to Sponsors

Five Things To Know

1. WACD Legislative Priorities

Every year, WACD puts together a one-pager for districts to use with broad talking points about bills and funding priorities that they can share with legislators. This year is no different. District's can access the one-pager [here](#).

For those districts who want more background information and specifics for when you testify or talk with legislators please use this [internal document](#). WACD will have copies available at the Legislative Breakfast at the Doubletree in downtown Olympia on February 10th.

Important Note: Some offices are paperless. We strongly encourage you to email handouts to legislators in advance of your meetings.

In addition to WACD's one-pager here are some additional handouts you can use to help educate legislators:

- [CDs 101 East-side](#)
 - [CDs 101 West-side](#)
 - [CTA One-Pager](#)
 - SCC's [Factsheet](#) on the roles of DNR and CDs in Forest Health & Community Wildfire Resiliency work
 - SCC's Supplemental Budget Request [One-Pager](#)
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2. Engaging with Legislators Training ~ Recording Now Available

On February 3rd WACD will hosted a virtual briefing and training on **how to effectively engage and communicate with legislators**. The training covered:

1. How to raise your priorities with legislators
2. How to clearly communicate the purpose and value of conservation districts
3. How to do it all in just 15 minutes

A **recording** of that training can be accessed [here](#).

3. Plants, Plants, Plants!

WACD's Plant Materials Center still has a plethora of big beefy beautiful bare-root plants [available](#) for purchase! When you purchase plants from the WACD Plant Materials Center, you're doing more than sourcing high-quality, conservation-grade native plants—you're investing directly in the work of WACD for every conservation district in Washington.

Our native plants support restoration and enhancement projects across the region, and every plant sold helps fund the operation of WACD and the services we provide to conservation districts statewide.

If you do not need plants please consider **forwarding this newsletter** to partners who may.

Choose native. Support conservation. Buy from WACD.

4. February 19th State Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

The next **NRCS State Technical Advisory Committee** (STAC) meeting will be held:

Date: February 19, 2026

Time: 9:30 am - 12:10 pm

You can find the agenda and connection information [here](#).

This month's STAC meeting will cover EQIP Fund Pools for Fiscal Year 2027, an update on RCPP, Local Working Groups, Wetland Compliance updates, Emergency Watershed Program updates and more.

If you want to receive direct emails about upcoming meetings or have questions, please reach out to [Nick Vira](#), NRCS State Partnership Liaison.

5. NRCS Practice Standards ~ For Your Review and Comment

NRCS is conducting internal reviews for **4 Conservation Practices** and is inviting partner comments on the draft documents. This is a review of a draft document prior to posting practices on the Federal Register. The intent is to help streamline changes and gather potential comments. All comments received may not be incorporated into the practice standard. The Federal Register is still the official response for the public. Partners are encouraged to review all Conservation Practice Standards on the Federal Register as they are posted.

NRCS WA welcomes any partner comments on these 4 draft practices. All comments are to be sent to [Lynelle Knehans](#), State Conservation Engineer and [Bobby Evans](#), State Resource Conservationist by **February 20, 2026**.

Practices For Review and Comment:

- 226 CEMA Waste Facility Site Suitability and Feasibility Assessment
- 412 CPS Grassed Waterway
- 527 CPS Sinkhole Treatment
- 610 CPS Saline and Sodic Soil Management

You can access the draft standards [here](#).

Upcoming Events

2026

- February 9: SCC Meeting on Preparing for the Next Biennial Budget
- February 10: WACD Legislative Day
- February 15 - 19: [NACD Annual Meeting](#)
- February 19: [State Technical Advisory Committee Meeting](#)
- February 23: [WACD Board of Directors Meeting](#)

Inside WACD

HB 2499 - Next Steps

The House State Government Committee voted on Tuesday, February 3rd to pass HB 2499 through to the next step in the legislative process. Because there were several versions of the bill, and amendments were adopted by the committee, we wanted to tell you what is in the current version of the bill:

- It would lengthen the term of supervisor elections to four years.
- It would give CDs the ability to opt-in to Title 29A elections (August primary and November ballot).
- It would remove the landowner/farm operator requirement for all CD supervisor positions.
- It would require both elected and appointed CD supervisors to complete the F1 (personal financial affairs statement).

What happens next; the bill has been assigned to the House Appropriations Committee.

We are encouraging all districts and all supervisors to **be ready to testify** on HB 2499 when it is scheduled for a public hearing. At this point in the process, showing up in numbers is the best way to indicate to the committee the level of concern CDs have with this bill. *WACD will have talking points available soon.*

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,



Latest Posts on the Hub

- [Lewis CD Resource Technician Position](#)
- [King CD Field Crew Lead](#)
- [King CD Field Crew Member](#)
- [\\$489,000 state grant backs Thurston County's salmon recovery planning in south Puget Sound](#)
- [Week 3 Legislative Update](#)
- [Whitman CD Conservation Project Planner - Riparian Focus](#)

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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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