

WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

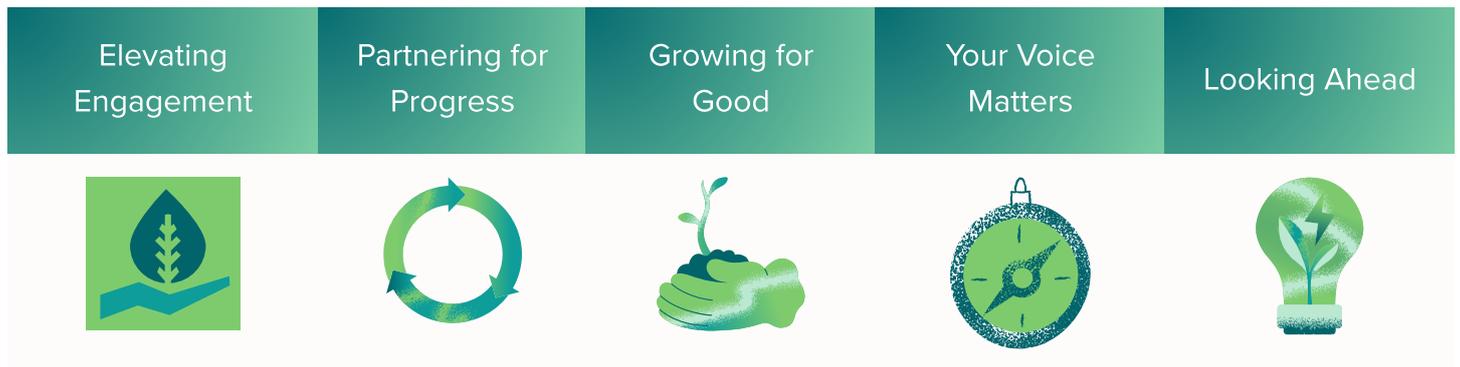


Working Together for Conservation

Dear Association Members,

Thank you for helping make this past year a remarkable one for WACD and Washington's conservation districts. Together, we've accomplished more than ever—delivering stronger services, deeper partnerships, and smarter advocacy.

Let's celebrate some of the highlights from this fiscal year.



Elevating Engagement

WACD expanded its legislative work through the creation of CD marketing materials designed to educate legislators on the purpose and role of CDs and the importance of Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) funding. WACD hosted a **Legislative Day** to facilitate the opportunity for CDs to educate and engage their legislators. WACD also participated in **NACD's Spring Fly-In** to help amplify Washington State's conservation needs in Washington DC. For the first time in many years WACD worked with districts to sponsor a bill, **SHB 1488**, to amend the Rates and Charges language to add more flexibility to CDs who utilize that funding mechanism.

While we expanded services and partnerships, we also stood our ground on issues that matter:

- We did **not** back down when voluntary conservation was threatened.
- We did **not** stop progressing on member-identified priorities.
- And we never stopped **listening to you**.

Legislative Day

NACD Spring Fly-In

SHB 1488 Signing



Partnering for Progress

We've deepened ties with the **State Conservation Commission, NRCS, WA Association of District Employees,** and the **Center for Technical Development.**

Our **annual conference** was enhanced through new sponsorships totalling just shy of \$20,000, and 2025 will be even better.

Committee work—led by members like you—continued to grow, ensuring your voice guided WACD's direction. The Shared Resources Workgroup highlighted a need for Human Resource (HR) Services for CDs. Their work brought together our partners at Enduris and Associated Industries to offer HR support to CDs at significant savings.

Growing for Good

Over **1.8 million native plants** were harvested for restoration and conservation projects across Washington and the greater Pacific Northwest. The Plant Materials Center developed a **User's Guide** for districts and hosted an **Open House and Nursery Tour** for 74 attendees from 13 different CD's.

Member service grew again, with the continuation of the **Legal Services Fund** and the launch this past year of the **Internet Technology (IT) Help Desk.**



Your Voice Matters

How can you help WACD better serve our conservation district community?

- 1. Attend the WACD Annual Conference & Business Meeting.** This is where strong relationships are built and member priorities are set. Your voice helps shape WACD's direction and impact.
- 2. Volunteer for a Committee.** When you lend your time and expertise to a WACD committee, you help tackle critical issues that benefit all conservation districts.
- 3. Submit a Resolution.** Have a conservation topic that matters to you? Write a resolution. It's one of the most powerful ways to bring your ideas and concerns to the forefront of our community.
- 4. Serve in Leadership.** Become an Area Director or Officer. These roles offer a meaningful way to lead change and influence how WACD delivers services to its members.
- 5. Patronize the WACD Plant Materials Center.** There are few other native plant nurseries in the country that operate for the benefit of members instead of shareholders. It is your native plant nursery so please use it.



Looking Ahead

WACD's Mission Continues

The work of WACD is far from over. The legislature has not fully addressed districts' funding needs for Engineering, and Forest Health and Wildfire Recovery. In June, WACD, in collaboration with our

partners at the State Conservation Commission, will engage Conservation Districts to begin formulating strategies for advocating for these crucial programs.

Additionally, WACD will initiate the development of a strategic plan to create a roadmap for our organization. WACD is committed to tackling the challenges of today and tomorrow, but we can only achieve this with your ongoing support.

Please remit your annual dues so WACD can continue to provide the services you need.

Thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Salzer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tom Salzer / Executive Director

Washington Association of Conservation Districts





Supplemental Dues Investment

WACD developed the supplemental dues option to provide districts the opportunity to invest in marketing and education and outreach campaigns to enhance WACD's statewide outreach. Investments in the categories below will help to educate the public and legislators about conservation districts and conservation district funding needs. Together we can educate our constituents in Washington State for the advancement of the 45.

Conservation Technical Assistance Campaign

Includes the creation of a custom postcard template that provides room for landowner testimonials, district specific metrics, that districts can print and send to legislators. Funds may also be used to support printing costs for CDs that need support. Suggested Statewide Investment Amount (\$500 - \$1,000).

\$ Investment Amount

Forest Health and Wildfire Recovery Campaign

Includes the creation of a custom postcard template that provides room for landowner testimonials, district specific metrics, that districts can print and send to legislators. Funds may also be used to support printing costs for CDs that need support. Suggested Statewide Investment Amount (\$500 - \$1,000).

\$ Investment Amount

Toolkit (Messaging, One-Pagers, Social Media Posts)

Includes the creation of a custom messaging, one-pagers, and social media posts around conservation district funding needs such as Conservation Technical Assistance and Forest Health and Wildfire Recovery. Suggested Statewide Investment Amount (\$1,000 - \$4,000).

\$ Investment Amount

Statewide BMP Tracking Tool

Includes surveying the need and interest among conservation districts on the development of a comprehensive statewide BMP tracking tool. A feasibility study to identify a tracking mechanism and cost estimate will be developed under this scope of work. Suggested Statewide Investment Amount (\$1,000 - \$4,000).

\$ Investment Amount

A detailed investment report will be provided to CDs by June 30, 2026.

District Name

\$Total Investment Amount