



CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
OF WASHINGTON STATE

your window to healthy lands

Making common-sense conservation more common.

WHY WE MATTER

Common-sense conservation means **meeting people where they are** — local problem-solving, for local people, on local landscapes.

Washington farmers produce over 300 different commodities.



Some parts of our state get 120 inches of rain a year, while others receive less than 10 inches and are at high risk for wildfires.



Our landscapes range from shorelines to river valleys to mountains to sagebrush plateaus.



Common sense tells us a one-size-fits-all conservation policy won't work in Washington.

WHO WE ARE

Conservation districts are **local hubs of non-regulatory natural resource services and expertise** for our communities.



Our teams of conservation experts work neighbor to neighbor, connecting people to common-sense land management solutions that help farms and rural communities thrive.

ONE NETWORK, 45 STRONG

No other entity matches the reach of our conservation delivery system.

Our **45-strong conservation district network** reaches every corner of the state, reinvesting taxpayer dollars in common-sense services tailored to each community's needs.

Localized services, statewide accountability

STRUCTURE & GOVERNANCE

Conservation districts are a unique governmental subdivision of the state. They were established by statute (RCW 89.08) in 1939 to ensure relevant conservation services and associated public benefits are available to all areas of Washington.

State and local accountability is embedded in conservation district structure and governance to fulfill this duty.



FUNDING

Base state funding for conservation district operations and projects is administered by the **Washington State Conservation Commission**.

However, a more sustainable level of state funding is needed. Each conservation district spends significant time seeking additional public and private funds, but it's not enough to meet rising demand for essential services.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Conservation districts comply with **strict performance measures and formal state audits**.

The State Conservation Commission employs a list of 15 statutory requirements that each conservation district must meet to receive funds from the agency. The Washington State Auditor's Office regularly audits conservation districts to ensure proper fiscal controls and use of public funds.



YOUR PARTNER IN CONSERVATION

Scan the QR code (scc.wa.gov/conservation-district-map) to find the local conservation district serving your constituents.