



Palouse News

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

This exciting Palouse partnership will help landowners and producers establish voluntary incentive-based conservation practices that enhance producer operations, and improve soil and water quality and wildlife habitat. The Partnership will provide a total of \$11 million in funds over the next five years for technical assistance and on-the-ground projects including more than 250 acres of riparian buffer installation, 45,000 acres of conservation tillage, and 520 acres of agricultural conservation easement through multiple funding sources in partnership with NRCS programs like EQIP, CSP, and ACEP. Unique components of the Partnership include: 1) conservation planners from multiple partners will work together to combine their diverse experience in soil health, water quality, and habitat to provide enhanced technical assistance and conservation planning to help producers and landowners meet their conservation goals, 2) through the Partnership, planners will have access to multiple funding sources that can be combined to offer producers and landowners competitive conservation practice payments and incentives, 3) qualifying producers will have the opportunity to apply for funding to implement conservation practices necessary to be certified through the Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association's Farmed SMART Certification, a value-added marketing opportunity for farming operations that meet a set of conservation standards.

This is a new way of providing regional conservation planning to help landowners find the best conservation solutions and combination of funding sources to meet their individual conservation goals, while providing enhanced financial incentives to support the implementation of conservation practices and projects. NRCS Chief Jason Weller says, "RCPP puts our partners in the driver's seat. Projects are led locally, and demonstrate the value of strong public-private partnerships that deliver solutions to natural resource challenges."

Eligible applicants will work with RCPP staff over the winter to develop conservation plans that can be used to apply to federal and partner-assisted financial assistance programs, with funds available in fall of 2016 for first applicants. Multiple funding sources are available. To apply for assistance or learn more contact Laura Heinse at (509)332-4101x105.



Share Your Thoughts

Please use this card to share your thoughts with us regarding the services and programs that Palouse Conservation District should focus on next year.

What can YOUR Conservation District do for you? _____

What programs or services would you like to see Palouse CD continue to offer or develop? _____

If you will be joining us for The Palouse Conservation District Annual Listening Session on Tuesday, February 9, 2016 feel free to return this card with the following information:

I will be attending, and there will be _____ number of people in my party

Topics I would like to hear about at the Listening Session include:

Annual Surplus Plant Sale



Mark your calendar! The Palouse Conservation District's Annual Surplus Plant Sale is just around the corner. The event will take place on **Friday April 1st from 9:00am - 4:30pm and Saturday April 2nd from 9:00am – 1:00pm** at our office which is located at 1300 NE Henley Ct in Pullman.

Overstocked conservation trees and shrubs will be available for purchase at a great price on the day of the surplus plant sale. Palouse Conservation District staff will be available on site to answer any questions that you may have. Whatever the size of the planting project you have in mind, the Palouse Conservation District is available to help develop a plan which will include the proper plants, materials and labor to help make it more successful.

The surplus tree sale will include a limited number of plants—so come early!

Reminder: If you ordered plants during our pre-sale, your plants will be available for pick up during the Annual Surplus Plant Sale.

cut along the dotted line



Palouse Conservation District 2016 TREE SALE
ORDER NOW! PRE ORDER DEADLINE is January 1st 2016
PICK UP TREES APRIL 1st 9:00am to 4:30pm & 2nd 9:00am to 1:00 pm
*****PLEASE READ ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS ON THE BACK OF THIS ORDER FORM*****

You can also find order forms and species descriptions online at <http://www.palousecd.org/>

NAME _____ DATE _____
ADDRESS _____ HOME PHONE _____
E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ CELL PHONE _____
Would you like to receive our quarterly newsletter? ☐ NO ☐ YES (☐ mail or ☐ electronic copy)

SPECIES	QUANTITY	\$ AMOUNT
10 TREES IN A BUNDLE @ \$15.00 A BUNDLE		
AUSTRIAN PINE		
COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE		
DOUGLAS FIR		
GRAND FIR		
PONDEROSA PINE		
		Total=
10 TREES IN A BUNDLE @ \$16.00 A BUNDLE		
WESTERN HEMLOCK		
WESTERN LARCH (Tamarack)		
WESTERN WHITE PINE		
WESTERN RED CEDAR		
		Total=
10 TREES IN A BUNDLE @ \$19.00 A BUNDLE		
OREGON GRAPE, Tall		
QUAKING ASPEN		
MOCK ORANGE (Syringa)		
WATER BIRCH		
CASCARA		
		Total =
10 SHRUBS IN A BUNDLE @ 17.00 A BUNDLE		
BLACK HAWTHORN		
BLUE ELDERBERRY		
RED OSIER DOGWOOD		
SERVICEBERRY		
SNOWBERRY		
NOOTKA ROSE		
WOODS ROSE		
PACIFIC NINEBARK		
GOLDEN CURRANT		
CHOCHECHERRY		
		Total =
BUNDLES OF 10--72" CUTTINGS@ \$20.00 A BUNDLE		
COYOTE WILLOW		
COTTONWOOD		
DRUMMOND WILLOW		
MACKENZIE WILLOW		
PACIFIC WILLOW		
PEACHLEAF WILLOW		
RED OSIER DOGWOOD		
		Total =
PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAKE		SUB-TOTAL
CHECKS PAYABLE TO:		Add 7.8% Sales Tax
Palouse CD		BALANCE DUE
1300 NE Henley Ct #6		
Pullman, WA 99163		

pamf@palousecd.org
OR CALL PCD OFFICE (509) 332-4101

Palouse Conservation District 2016 TREE SALE

ORDER NOW! PRE ORDER DEADLINE is January 1st 2016

PICK UP TREES APRIL 1st 9:00am to 4:30pm & 2nd 9:00am to 1:00 pm

Ordering Instructions

1. Include your personal information. PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS (if you have one). If you do not have an email address, please include your phone # so we can contact you if needed.
2. All plants are bareroot seedlings unless otherwise noted.
3. You can also find order forms and species descriptions online at <http://www.palousecd.org>
4. Orders must be received by January 1, 2016. There is a limited number of plants so orders will be filled as they are received.
5. Order confirmation, payment confirmation, and pickup reminders will be sent out via email. If you don't have email, you will receive a hard copy confirmation in the mail.
6. Plants will be available for pick up only on:

Friday, April 1, 2016 from 9:00am until 4:30pm
Saturday, April 2, 2016 from 9:00am until 1:00pm

Plants must be picked up at the Palouse Conservation District Office located at:
1300 NE Henley Ct
Pullman, WA 99163

7. **Attention!** Any order not picked up at the District office will be donated to conservation projects. These live plants must be planted immediately.

****PLEASE NOTE****

Our office can only accept checks and/or exact cash
for ALL transactions

Thank you! We hope that you enjoy your trees and shrubs!



Meet our New Staff

Visit our webpage to learn more!

Laura Heinse

Conservation Partnership
Manager



Bradley Johnson

WRIA 345 Watershed Planning and
Implementation Manager



Ratrick Rahily

Agricultural Resources
Coordinator



Jake Clements

Palouse Watershed Conservation
Planner



Randy Stevens

CREP Coordinator



Bryana Cope

AmeriCorps Member



Thank you to our Volunteers!

During the last two months, the Palouse Conservation District has hosted numerous volunteer events utilizing 140 volunteers from various clubs and organizations within the community. Volunteer involvement has reached over 500 total hours donated. Fraternities and sororities from both Washington State University and the University of Idaho have participated in events, along with the WSU Wildlife Society, the Environmental Science Club, and the Nigerian Students & Scholars Organization.

During these events, volunteers participated in both watershed and habitat restoration projects. For the most part, these events involve a great deal of planting. Volunteers have planted trees and shrubs native to Eastern Washington in order to create habitat for wildlife within the area. Events also include site maintenance; this involves spreading mulch on trails, cutting and prepping willow stakes to be planted, additional watering and adding or removing tree tubes.

Alpowa Post Assisted Log Structures

Over the last two years the Palouse CD, in concert with the Asotin County Public Utility District, landowners on Alpowa Creek, and a partnership with the Pomeroy Conservation District implemented a project resulting in 202 Post Assisted Log Structures for ESA Listed steelhead being installed. This project was funded by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board with the expectation that the project would result in the increase of pool quality and quantity in addition to the increase of wood for complex habitat and floodplain connection. These habitat benefits are realized both by steelhead and aquatic species and local landowners.

To date, the 202 structures resulted in 150 pools deeper than one foot and the addition of 457 pieces of wood which were donated by the US Forest Service Pomeroy Ranger District. From the adjacent photos you can see that Alpowa is a small, spring-fed stream that maintains a mean flow of 9 to 11 cubic feet per second. Over the last seven years the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has documented more than 1,134 natural origin steelhead utilizing this system.

The pre-project photo below was taken on July 24th and the post-project completion photo was taken on September 10, 2015. The only change to occur to this stretch of the stream other than time in these two photos are the installation of instream post assisted log structures. There was no significant rainfall or increase in base flows during this timeframe for this section of stream.



July 24th, 2015 Pre-Project Flight before PALS installation with mostly shallow, fast water habitat (riffles).



September 10th, 2015 Post-Project Flight after Post Assisted Log Structures installation and structures are slowing water habitat and PALS may have increased ground water storage by holding water behind structures. The floodplain area has better hyporeic connection and has greened up substantially in the month after project implementation.

Steelhead Habitat Restoration in the Palouse

Palouse Conservation District has just received a \$190,000 grant to replace a culvert for steelhead passage in a Snake River Tributary. The culvert has been a barrier to steelhead for more than 50 years. Primary funding has come from Washington Recreation and Conservation, Salmon Recovery Funding Board in Partnership with Whitman County Public Works. The culvert will be replaced with a bridge on a County Road in the summer of 2016. This project will open up miles of critical habitat for steelhead in an effort to aid in restoring the population.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Expansion in Whitman County

The Palouse CD is excited to announce that available acres under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) have increased significantly in Whitman County. CREP is a type of CRP that encourages landowners/operators to grow buffers for fish habitat along streams, in turn improving water quality and reducing soil loss. Benefits to the landowner include an annual rental rate up to 200% of regular CRP rates for 10 or 15 years, a \$100/acre sign-up bonus, and a project maintenance payment for the first 5 years. In CREP, landowners are reimbursed for up to 100 percent of the costs to install approved riparian enhancement practices. Approved practices include riparian forest buffers (with trees and shrubs), riparian hedgerows (with shrubs and grasses), grass filter strip, and wetland restoration and buffers. CREP is a voluntary program that can enroll crop ground and pasture lands. In Washington CREP is focused on improving salmon and steelhead habitat.

Although the Palouse River does not support salmon above Palouse Falls, its waters contribute significantly to salmon well-being below. Riparian buffer practices decrease sediment and pollutant loads to the water and shade the water during critical months during the summer helping to keep it cooler. The buffers stabilize streambanks and provide wildlife habitat and cover. For livestock owners CREP funding will cover the cost of off-site water facilities, stream crossings, and exclusion fencing along streams

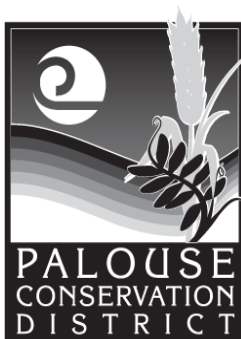
During the life of the CREP contract District employees will provide technical assistance to ensure project success from the initial planning phases, through the installation and establishment of plants and buffers, and through the maintenance period. For more information or to find out if you are eligible please contact Randy Stevens at the District office 509-332-4101 x104 or RandyS@PalouseCD.org.



Burning Issues: Refund Deadline

**Burn permit refund requests must be received by
December 31st**

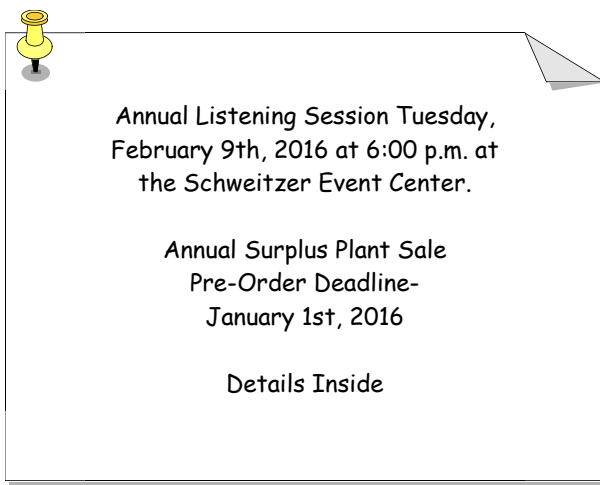
Please contact Pam at (509) 332-4101x101 or pamf@palouscd.org



Palouse News
Palouse Conservation District
1300 NE Henley Ct.
Pullman, WA 99163

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PULLMAN, WA
PERMIT NO. 95

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Be sure to visit our new webpage!

Though our webpage has undergone many changes,
our address remains the same! Take a peek at

www.palousecd.org

If you would like to switch to our e-newsletter, please
add your email address to our contact list by visiting
our webpage, calling the district, or sending an email
to palousecd@palousecd.org!

Cost-Share Available!

*Palouse Conservation District has cost-share
available for projects that improve soil health,
reduce erosion, improve grazing lands, establish
or enhance native vegetation, restore riparian
areas, improve wildlife habitat...*

***Protect valuable natural resources and
improve your land and/or operation***

Projects must meet NRCS standards and specs

**Call today to start a cost-share
application (509)332-4101**

The Board of Supervisors meets monthly on the
2nd Tuesday of each month (call or check our website for
meeting time/location)

Board of Supervisors

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Dave Stout (2010)

District Staff

Jennifer Boie, Director
Laura Heinse, Conservation Partnership Manager
Bradley Johnson, WRIA 35 Watershed Planning and
Implementation Manager
Pam Furchtenicht, Administrative Coordinator
Patrick Rahily, Agricultural Resources Coordinator
Randy Stevens, CREP Coordinator
Drew Schuldt, Natural Resource Coordinator
Jake Clements, Palouse Watershed Conservation Planner
Hannah Liss, Outreach and Natural Resource Specialist
Bryana Cope, AmeriCorps Member