FORESTRY EDUCATION AND ASSISTANCE FOR WASHINGTON FOREST AND WOODLAND PROPERTY OWNERS



Introduction

Forestry education and assistance for forest and woodland property owners in Washington is available from a variety of sources, including public agencies, private consultants, and fellow landowners. Available resources include publications, videos, workshops, online classes, technical advice, and financial assistance. Whatever your situation, there is likely a resource, organization, or individual that can help you meet your goals for your property.

Quick Reference Guide— Where to Go For:

General Forestry Information

- WSU Extension Forestry staff (p. 6).
- DNR Forest Stewardship Program (p. 6).

Forestry Classes, Workshops, Publications, and Other Educational Resources

• WSU Extension (p. 2).

Site Visits

- DNR stewardship forester or wildlife biologist (p. 6).
- Some local conservation districts (see Appendix 1 for a directory, p. 14).
- USDA-NRCS Service Center or local field office (p.14).

Financial Assistance Programs

• DNR Small Forest Landowner Office (p. 5).

- DNR Forest Health Assistance Program (eastern Washington) (p. 8).
- USDA-NRCS Service Center or local field office (p. 14).
- Some local conservation districts (see Appendix 1 for a directory, p. 14).

Forest Health

- WSU Extension Forestry Program (p. 2).
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- WSU Extension Coached Planning Program (p. 3).
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Forest Practices Regulations/Permitting

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Forest Taxes

- Washington Department of Revenue (p. 10).
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• State or county noxious weed control board (p. 11).

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

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Timber Sales

• Consulting forester (p. 10).

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- DNR Stewardship Biologist (p. 6).
- WSU Extension Forestry staff (p. 6).
- Woodland Fish and Wildlife publications (p. 6).

Yard or Landscape Trees in Nonforestry Settings

- Certified consulting arborist (p. 10).
- Local WSU Extension office (ask for horticulture or Master Gardeners—see Appendix 1 for a directory, p. 14).

Washington State University (WSU) Extension

About WSU Extension

The land-grant system was first established by Congress through the Morrill Act, which Abraham Lincoln signed into law in 1862 to provide better higher education opportunities for working classes. The goal of the land-grant system was to make public universities more accessible to the public and to begin offering higher education on more applied subjects such as agricultural, engineering, and military science in addition to classical studies. The federal government granted federal land to each state that the states could then sell and use the funds to establish the landgrant universities. The land-grant system was expanded in 1890 to include historically black colleges and universities, and it was expanded in 1994 to include tribal colleges and universities. Washington has two land-grant institutions. Washington State University (WSU) in Pullman is the 1862 land-grant institution, and Northwest Indian College in Bellingham is the 1994 tribal land-grant institution.

Building on this mission of providing greater public accessibility to university resources, the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 established the nationwide Cooperative Extension Service as part of the land-grant system. WSU Extension is a three-way partnership between the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), Washington State University, and local county governments. WSU Extension has offices in every county in Washington as well as four Research and Extension Centers.

Each local office offers a different mix of local programs that may include agriculture, gardening, community and economic development, health and wellness, nutrition education, youth and families, forestry, and natural resource stewardship. Agriculture, Master Gardeners, Livestock Advisors, Beach Watchers, 4-H, and Forestry are examples of specific programs offered by WSU Extension around the state. The specific Extension programs offered in a county are determined by the county legislative authority (i.e., county council or county commissioners). Some counties in Washington elect to have an Extension Forestry program and some do not.

WSU Extension Forestry Program

The WSU Extension Forestry program (https://forestry.wsu. edu/) provides educational workshops, demonstrations, tours, online courses, educational videos, publications, newsletters, and individual consultation on a variety of forestry subjects, including silviculture, wildlife, invasive weeds, forest health, wildfire, climate change, tool and chainsaw safety, and smallscale forestry operations. Extension Forestry personnel are WSU faculty members and administrative professionals who are stationed at local county Extension offices and serve a region of the state. Visit the WSU Extension Forestry website (https://forestry.wsu.edu/) to learn about the Extension Forestry staff who serve your county.

An additional role of the Extension Forestry program is to facilitate connections between property owners and other resources. This includes connecting people with technical and financial support offered by our partner agencies such as the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR), local conservation districts, and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The program also connects people with private sector professionals. The WSU Extension Forestry website maintains up-to-date directories of consulting foresters, silvicultural contractors, and small-scale sawmill operators.

For additional information about WSU Extension resources in your county, please contact your local county Extension office. The WSU Extension website (<u>https://extension.wsu.edu/</u>) has information on all WSU County Extension offices and a vast library of Extension publications, which cover topics including forestry, home gardening, agriculture, and more. In addition to all of the resources available on the WSU Extension website, you can also plug into the national Extension network through the Extension Foundation (<u>http://www.extension.org/</u>), which has a vast array of resources for foresters, farmers, communities, and homeowners.

Forest Stewardship Coached Planning

Coached Planning is the flagship of the WSU Extension Forestry Program. Coached Planning courses are offered both in person at various locations around the state and online. These courses typically include one evening class per week for seven to nine weeks, plus a Saturday field trip (Figure 1). The classes are designed to help property owners develop customized management solutions to meet their individual ownership objectives. Participants will identify their property ownership goals and develop a comprehensive forest management plan.

A written management plan may qualify landowners for:

- Recognition as a Washington State Stewardship Forest with a metal sign to display (Figure 2).
- Financial assistance funding.
- Third-party certification of sustainable management practices by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) or the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) (see Forest Certification section below).
- A possible reduction in property-tax rates through currentuse programs like Designated Forestland, Timberland, or the Public Benefit Rating System (PBRS).

See WSU Extension publication <u>Your Forest Stewardship Plan</u> (FS060E) for additional information on the benefits of management plans.

See the <u>Washington State Integrated Forest Management Plan</u> <u>Guidelines and Template</u> for management plan requirements.

The Coached Planning courses are designed for those with a few wooded acres as well as those with larger forested tracts, whether managing for timber production or simply for enjoyment of wildlife and aesthetics. Resource managers from nonprofits, land trusts, or local parks departments are also encouraged to attend.

Forest Stewardship Coached Planning is a collaborative educational partnership offered by WSU Extension in cooperation with the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the U.S. Forest Service, along with other federal, state, and local natural resources agencies. For more information and a list of upcoming classes, please visit <u>https://forestry.wsu.edu/</u> or contact your local Extension Forestry staff (<u>https://forestry.wsu.edu/staff/</u>).

Forest Owners' Field Days

Each summer, WSU Extension, the DNR, and other agency partners host educational field days for owners of forested or wooded properties. These field days offer a hands-on, "out in the woods" educational experience for the whole family. Participants can attend outdoor seminars, forest walks, and demonstrations offered throughout the day on a variety of forestry topics, such as forest health, thinning, pruning, riparian management, wildlife habitat, special forest products, wildfire protection, growing edible mushrooms, chainsaw safety, and more (Figure 3). Sessions are offered every hour at different stations throughout the field day site, and participants get to choose which session they want to attend for each time slot. With advance notice, mobility assistance can usually be available.



Figure 1. WSU Extension Forestry professor Kevin Zobrist teaches a participant proper tree planting technique at a Coached Planning field trip. Photo: B. Whyte.

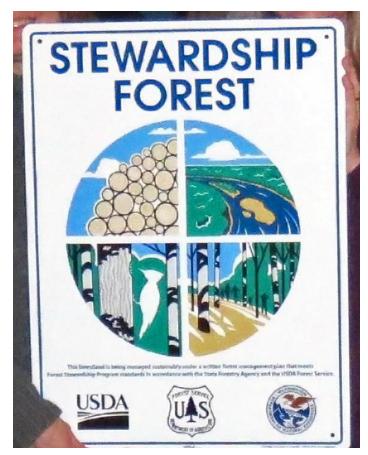


Figure 2. Stewardship Forest sign. Photo: K.W. Zobrist.

Like the Coached Planning courses, the field days provide educational opportunities for participants of all skill levels regardless of property size or ownership objectives. They offer an excellent introduction to forest stewardship, provide advanced learning opportunities for experienced landowners, or simply allow landowners a chance to "sharpen the saw" to refresh existing skills or be updated on the latest forestry research and developments. The field days also offer valuable opportunities for networking with forestry professionals and fellow property owners.

Typically, at least three Saturday field days are held each year in different locations around the state, with at least one in western Washington and one in eastern Washington. An online version featuring field videos with live interaction with instructors is sometimes offered as well. For information on upcoming field days, contact your local Extension office or visit <u>https://forestry.wsu.edu/</u>.



Figure 3. DNR Stewardship biologist Ken Bevis teaches about wildlife at the Forest Owners' Field Day. Photo: K.W. Zobrist.

Forest Owners' Winter School

Winter School is the classroom counterpart to the summer Forest Owners' Field Days, offering a chance to brush up on forestry knowledge during the off season. Similar to the field days, sessions are offered every hour in different classrooms at the Winter School venue, with participants choosing which session they want to attend for each time slot. A variety of topics are offered, including forest health, invasive weed management, wildlife, climate change, growing edible mushrooms, chainsaw maintenance, and more (Figure 4 and Figure 5). Panel discussions and landowner roundtables are often included as well. Winter School is another opportunity for valuable networking with forestry professionals and fellow property owners.

Winter School is usually offered at least twice per year between January and March, with at least one offered in western Washington and one in eastern Washington. A live webinarbased online version is sometimes offered as well. For information on upcoming Winter School programs, contact your local Extension office or visit <u>https://forestry.wsu.edu/</u>.



Figure 4. A participant learns about chainsaw maintenance at the Forest Owners' Winter School. Photo: B. Whyte.



Figure 5. WSU Extension Forestry professor Kevin Zobrist teaches participants how to grow edible mushrooms on logs at the Forest Owners' Winter School. Photo: B. Whyte.

Get Connected with WSU Extension Forestry

Newsletters

Stay on top of the latest news, information, upcoming events, and other available resources for forest landowners by subscribing to one or more of these free email newsletters:

Forest Stewardship Notes

This statewide educational newsletter provides news, feature articles, technical advice, and event announcements for forest landowners throughout Washington. The newsletter is published quarterly by WSU Extension Forestry and the Washington DNR Small Forest Landowner Office (SFLO). To view current and past issues, visit <u>https://foreststewardshipnotes.wordpress.com/</u>. On that page, click on "Get email alerts about new posts" to subscribe to the newsletter.

Northwest Forest Stewards Email List

This daily electronic mailing list provides news about forest landowner programs and events occurring around Washington State. This email announcement list is managed by WSU Extension Forestry and conveys information by all landowner assistance agencies and organizations. To subscribe, contact Andy Perleberg at andyp@wsu.edu.

Northeast Region Extension Forestry Email List

This electronic mailing list provides periodic information and events of specific interest to forest landowners in northeast Washington. To subscribe, visit <u>https://forestry.wsu.edu/northeast-email-subscription/</u>.

Puget Sound Extension Forestry E-Newsletter

Winner of a national gold award for Extension newsletters, this newsletter features news, information, events, and resources of interest to forest and woodland owners. This newsletter is primarily focused on the Puget Sound area. To subscribe or view past issues, visit https://forestry.wsu.edu/nps/newsletter/.

Southwest Washington Extension Forestry Email List

This electronic mailing list provides periodic information and events of specific interest to forest landowners in the southwest Washington area. To subscribe, visit <u>http://lists.cahnrs.wsu.edu/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi/list/swwalandowners/</u>.

Social Media

- WSU Eastern Washington Extension Forestry Facebook Page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/easternwashington.forestry</u>.
- WSU Extension Forestry Eastern Washington (@WSUExtForestEWA) Twitter Feed: <u>https://twitter.com/WSUExtForestEWA</u>.
- WSU Northeast Washington Extension Forestry Facebook Page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/wsuforestryNE</u>.
- WSU Puget Sound Extension Forestry Facebook Page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/wsuforestry</u>.
- WSU Puget Sound Extension Forestry (@WSUPugetForest) Twitter Feed: <u>https://twitter.com/WSUPugetForest</u>.
- WSU Southwest Washington Extension Forestry Facebook Page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/WSUForestrySW/</u>.

Forest Stewardship University

Forest Stewardship University is a suite of online classes available from WSU Extension on a variety of topics, including tree and plant identification, silviculture, forest health, managing noxious weeds, and understanding forest taxes and regulations. These online classes are available on demand at http://forestry.wsu.edu/.

Women Owning Woodlands Network (WOWnet)

Woman Owning Woodlands Network (WOWnet) is a network of women who learn, educate, and work together to build female literacy and involvement in forestry, land conservation, and natural resources. WOWnet is a nationwide program that is dynamic, fun, and informative, and WOWnet strives to bring topical, accessible, and current forestry information to women woodland owners and forest practitioners. WOWnet supports women in forest leadership, woodlands management, and forest stewardship. Through educational resources and personal stories, WOWnet strives to instill a sense of confidence and empowerment in women's abilities to meet the challenges of forest ownership. For more information on the National Women Owning Woodlands Network visit their website: <u>http://www.womenowningwoodlands.net/</u>.

WSU Extension facilitates the Western Washington Chapter of WOWnet. The chapter operates primarily through a group email discussion list where list members can ask questions, share stories, and arrange get-togethers. To join the list and to get information on upcoming events, please visit <u>http://forestry.wsu.</u> <u>edu/nps/wownet/</u>. The chapter also has a <u>Facebook page</u> and a <u>Facebook group</u>.

WSU Extension Forestry Publications

WSU Extension Forestry offers a regularly updated collection of research-based, peer-reviewed publications written specifically for property owners. These informational fact sheets and how-to manuals cover a variety of topics such as forest health, forest management, native trees, wildfire, wildlife, and more. Most of these publications are available as free PDF downloads. Select publications are available in print for a nominal fee.

To browse WSU Extension Forestry and other WSU natural resources publications, visit <u>https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/forestry-and-range</u>. You can also contact WSU Extension Publications at 509-335-2857, 800-723-1763, or <u>ext.pubs@wsu.edu</u>.

Woodland Fish and Wildlife Publications

WSU Extension is part of the Woodland Fish and Wildlife (WFW) Project, a cooperative effort between local, state, and federal agencies, universities, and woodland owner associations in the Pacific Northwest to provide information on improving wildlife habitat. The WFW publications are a series of short, practical, how-to publications written specifically for small woodland owners. The WFW series includes general wildlife habitat publications as well as publications on specific species of interest, including deer, bats, beavers, raptors, reptiles, and more. All WFW publications are available as free PDF downloads at https://woodlandfishandwildlife.com.

WSU Extension Forestry Videos

For a variety of how-to demonstrations, webinar recordings, and other educational videos, visit the <u>WSU Extension Forestry</u> <u>YouTube channel</u>.

WSU Extension Forestry Faculty and Staff and Areas Served

Visit <u>https://forestry.wsu.edu/staff/</u> to find the current list of WSU Extension Forestry faculty and staff that serve your area and their contact information. If you do not see your county listed in the faculty and staff list, this means no local program is presently established in your county. In this case, contact the county director at your county's WSU Extension office to learn about engaging Extension Forestry.

Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Forest Stewardship Program

The DNR offers free advisory site visits to property owners with five or more acres of forest as part of their Forest Stewardship Program, which is administered by DNR's Forest Health and Resiliency Division. For these site visits, a DNR stewardship forester can walk the property with the owner to assess the forest conditions, provide general management advice, and assist landowners in writing their own forest management plan at no cost. A stewardship wildlife biologist is also available to provide site visits for property owners who have a special interest in wildlife habitat. Property owners with fewer than five acres of forest can receive advice from the stewardship assistance forester or stewardship biologist via phone or email. To find the stewardship assistance forester or stewardship wildlife biologist serving your area, visit the DNR's Forest Health Assistance for Small Forest Landowners website at https://www.dnr.wa.gov/ cost-share.

Small Forest Landowner Office (SFLO)

Regulatory Assistance

The SFLO offers financial and regulatory assistance programs to property owners. A Regulation Assistance Forester is available to answer questions about forest practices regulations for timber harvesting, road construction, and other regulated forest practices. The Regulatory Assistance Forester can help property owners understand when a Forest Practices Application is required and how to apply for one.

For more information, contact the Regulation Assistance Forester at 360-902-1029 or visit <u>https://www.dnr.wa.gov/</u> <u>programs-and-services/forest-practices/small-forest-</u> <u>landowners/technical-assistance-landowners</u>.

Financial Assistance Programs

Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP)

This program provides funding for property owners to replace culverts or other stream crossings on forest roads that restrict fish from reaching upstream habitat. The program covers most or all of the cost of the stream crossing replacement. Limited funding is available, and projects are prioritized based on the amount of upstream habitat that would be opened up. Even if a property owner's project is not immediately funded, just having applied for the program and been put on the waiting list exempts the property owner from forest practices rules requiring correction of fish barriers.

For more information, contact the FFFPP Manager at 360-902-1404 or visit <u>https://www.dnr.wa.gov/node/570</u>.

Forestry Riparian Easement Program (FREP)

This program provides partial compensation to qualifying landowners for the lost financial value of qualifying timber that forest practices regulations require be left in riparian buffers or other critical areas. Enrolling in this program grants the state a 50-year easement on this timber. Funding is limited and is awarded on a first come, first served basis.

For more information, contact the FREP Manager at 360-902-1427 or visit <u>https://www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-</u> <u>services/forest-practices/small-forest-landowners/forestry-</u> riparian-easement-program.

Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program

The Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program buys permanent conservation easements from eligible property owners who have critical habitat for state-listed threatened or endangered species or river habitat in an unconfined channel migration zone. Funding is limited and allocated based on the characteristics of the habitat.

For more information, contact the Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program Specialist, at 360-902-1427 or visit <u>https://www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/forest-practices/small-forest-landowners/rivers-and-habitat-open-space</u>.

Newsletter

The SFLO provides an email newsletter, Small Forest Landowner News. For more information visit <u>https://sflonews.wordpress.com/</u>.

DNR Regional Offices

DNR General Contact

MS 47000 1111 WASHINGTON ST SE OLYMPIA, WA 98504 360-902-1000 http://www.dnr.wa.gov/

Northeast Region

225 S SILKE RD COLVILLE, WA 99114-0190 509-684-7474 northeast.region@dnr.wa.gov

Ferry, NE Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Spokane, and Stevens counties.

Northwest Region

919 N TOWNSHIP ST SEDRO WOOLLEY, WA 98284-9384 360-856-3500 northwest.region@dnr.wa.gov

Island, NE King, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties.

Olympic Region

411 TILLICUM LANE FORKS, WA 98331-9271 360-374-2800 olympic.region@dnr.wa.gov

Clallam, Jefferson, NW Grays Harbor, and NW Mason counties.

Pacific Cascade Region

601 BOND RD PO BOX 280 CASTLE ROCK, WA 98611-0280 360-577-2025 pacific-cascade.region@dnr.wa.gov

Clark, Cowlitz, SE Grays Harbor, Lewis, Pacific, Skamania, Thurston, and Wahkiakum counties.

South Puget Sound Region

950 FARMAN AVE N ENUMCLAW, WA 98022-9282 360-825-1631 southpuget.region@dnr.wa.gov

King, Kitsap, Mason, and Pierce counties.

Southeast Region

713 E BOWERS RD ELLENSBURG, WA 98926-9301 509-925-8510 southeast.region@dnr.wa.gov

Adams, Asotin, Benton, Chelan, Columbia, Douglas, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat, SE Lincoln, SE Skamania, Walla Walla, Whitman, and Yakima counties.

Forest Health

Forest Health Specialists

The DNR has forest entomologists (insect specialists) and pathologists (disease specialists) who monitor forest health problems around the state. These experts are frequent speakers at educational programs for forest landowners. For assistance with a forest health problem, first contact your local DNR Stewardship Forester or WSU Extension Forestry staff for diagnoses and recommendations or for a referral to forest health specialist if necessary.

DNR publishes annual Forest Health Highlights reports on current forest health issues around the state. For more information or to access these reports, visit <u>https://www.dnr.wa.gov/InsectsAndDisease</u>.

Forest Health Assistance for Small Forest Landowners (Eastern Washington)

This program provides cost-share and technical assistance to qualifying eastern Washington forest owners to implement treatments to reduce wildfire risk or improve forest health.

For forest landowners with property in Ferry, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Spokane, or Stevens counties, contact the DNR Northeast Region Office in Colville at 509-684-7474. For forest landowners with property in all other eastern Washington counties, contact the DNR Southeast Region Office in Ellensburg at 509-925-8510. For additional information, visit https://www.dnr.wa.gov/cost-share.

Wildfire Prevention

The DNR is responsible for wildfire protection on 12 million acres of private and state forestland. For tips and best practices information on protecting your home and forestland from wildfire, contact your local DNR Stewardship Forester, DNR Landowner Assistance Forester (eastern WA), or WSU Extension Forestry staff. Your local conservation district may also offer information and assistance on wildfire prevention.

To obtain a burn permit or to ask questions about forestryrelated burning, contact the DNR regional office that serves your area. To report a wildfire, call the DNR Wildfire Hotline at 800-565-6010. For more information on DNR's wildfire resources, visit https://www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/wildfireresources.

Urban and Community Forestry

The DNR Urban and Community Forestry Program provides information and technical and financial assistance to municipalities and other organizations regarding trees in urban environments, such as street trees and trees in municipal parks. The program offers a free email newsletter. For more information, contact Ben Thompson, Urban and Community Forestry Program Manager, at 360-485-8651, or visit https://www.dnr.wa.gov/urbanforestry.

DNR Webster Forest Nursery

The DNR Webster Forest Nursery, located south of Olympia, offers tree seedlings for sale to landowners. This nursery grows seedlings for a variety of zones and elevations throughout the state of Washington. Seedling orders are typically accepted at the beginning of September for planting the following spring. The nursery sells out quickly each year, so people interested in purchasing seedlings should place their orders immediately when the nursery begins accepting orders in September. For more information, contact the nursery at 360-902-1234, or visit https://www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/forest-resources/webster-forest-nursery.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Overview

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is a federal agency within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Formerly known as the Soil Conservation Service, NRCS works to conserve natural resources on private lands by providing technical and financial assistance to farmers, forest owners, and others. To learn more about NRCS programs in Washington, visit <u>https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/wa/home/</u>.

Financial Assistance Programs

NRCS administers a variety of funding programs. These programs provide a type of financial assistance in which the government enters into an agreement with a private landowner to pay a portion of the cost to complete a conservation project on private land. This allows landowners to implement projects that would otherwise be cost prohibitive. A variety of conservation activities could potentially be eligible for financial assistance, such as post-wildfire restoration, pre-wildfire fuels reduction treatments, and forest health improvements. Restoration or maintenance of fish and wildlife habitats or other ecological functions through the use of basic forest practices like precommercial thinning, pruning, tree planting, treating forest slash, and creating or protecting habitat structures may also be eligible.

Financial assistance programs are typically established by Congress as part of federal "Farm Bill" legislation. Historically these programs have been geared to agricultural producers, but there have been increasing opportunities for forest owners. The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a current example of a cost-share program that offers many opportunities for forest owners.

To find out about financial assistance opportunities, eligibility requirements, and application procedures and deadlines, contact your nearest NRCS office. Conservation districts can also provide information on funding programs since they work closely with the NRCS and are often located in the same building.

Soil Information

NRCS is the premier source for soil information, such as soil type, physical and chemical properties, drainage characteristics, land-use suitability, forest productivity, and much more. Historically this information was published by county in soil survey books. These books are no longer updated, since the information is now made available for free online through the NRCS Web Soil Survey at <u>https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm</u>.

For assistance in using the Web Soil Survey to get soil information, contact your local NRCS office, DNR Stewardship Forester, or WSU Extension Forestry staff. WSU Extension publication *Forest Soil Data for Your Forest Stewardship Plan* (EM064) provides a step-by-step guide for using the Web Soil Survey to get the most commonly needed forest-specific soil data. This publication is available for free to download at <u>https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/forest-soil-data-for-your-foreststewardship-plan-2</u>.

National Water and Climate Center

As part of NRCS's snow telemetry (SNOTEL) data collection, NRCS provides water supply forecasts and climate monitoring through interactive maps and charting tools.

Conservation Districts

Overview

Conservation districts are local, special purpose districts (other examples of special purpose districts include hospital, fire, and school districts). Conservation districts provide technical and financial assistance to encourage conservation on private land. Conservation districts sometimes have local funding opportunities in addition to the broader federal programs available through NRCS. There are 45 conservation districts in Washington. Most, but not all, conservation districts follow county boundaries. To find your local conservation district, see the directory at the end of this publication. You can also learn more about conservation districts in Washington by going online at <u>https://wadistricts.org/</u>.

Conservation District Foresters

Some conservation districts in Washington have staff foresters who are available to provide no-cost technical assistance to property owners, including those with fewer than five acres. These services include site visits and assistance in developing forest management plans.

Native Tree and Plant Sales

Conservation districts typically hold native tree and plant sales each year in late winter or early spring. These sales are excellent sources for tree seedlings and native plants that are appropriate for use in reforestation or restoration projects in local areas. Contact your local conservation district for information on upcoming sales and any preorder requirements. Your local conservation district can also help you select appropriate plant and tree species and stock types for your specific site and project needs.

The Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) has a Plant Materials Center in Bow, Washington (Skagit County), that is another good source for native tree and plant seedlings. For more information, contact the WACD Plant Materials Center at 360-757-1094 or <u>pmcsales@gmx.com</u>, or visit <u>https://wacdpmc.org/</u>.

Forest Tax Assistance

Current-Use Taxation

Washington, like many states, allows for what is called currentuse taxation (CUT), which means that land can be taxed at its value for forestry use rather than its market value, which may reflect its value for development. Forestland values are set by the Washington Department of Revenue (DOR) and adjusted each year using a formula established by state law. These values are variable and are based on the productivity and accessibility of the land. Under CUT, the assessed value of forestland is typically in the range of \$1–\$200 per acre depending on the quality and accessibility of the property. Switching from standard taxation to CUT can significantly reduce your property taxes on the forested portion of a property.

In Washington, there are two types of forestland classifications for CUT. The Designated Forest Land (DFL) classification is for timber tracts that are five or more forested acres. Open Space Timber (OST) is a similar classification that also requires at least five forested acres. If a residence is on the property, a minimum of one acre is subtracted from eligibility. In other words, a fiveacre parcel with a residence would not qualify because it would only have four eligible acres when the acre is subtracted for the residence.

The two classifications function similarly and offer the same tax reduction, but there are slight differences in the rules, the penalties for withdrawal, and how they are administered by the county. Before 2014, DFL required a minimum of 20 forested acres, making the minimum acreage requirements (20 vs. 5) a primary difference between the programs. A legislative change in 2014 reduced the DFL minimum to five acres, eliminating this difference. As part of this legislative change, counties are given the option of eliminating their OST program and switching all enrolled properties over to DFL. Some counties have made this change while others have not.

For both DFL and OST, state law requires that the primary use of the land be the growth of timber for commercial harvest. Property owners who do not wish to do logging on their property should not enroll in either of these programs. There are financial penalties for later removing land from these classifications (e.g., if the property owner decides to develop the property or decides not to use it for logging). An approved forest management plan is usually an enrollment requirement. A property enrolled in a CUT program can be sold and remain in the program if the buyer signs a continuance which states that they will continue to manage the property per the requirements of the program. If the buyer does not wish to sign a continuance, then the property must be removed from the program before the sale can be recorded, and the seller must pay the removal penalties. Property owners should consider the CUT options carefully and seek professional advice to determine if CUT is right for them.

State law allows counties the option of having a Public Benefit Rating System (PBRS) program, which is part of general open space. Unlike DFL and OST that require timber harvest, PBRS is conservation-based. Property owners are awarded points for voluntary conservation measures above the minimum required by law, and these points add up to tax savings. Similar to DFL and OST, a forest management plan is usually required to enroll, and there are financial penalties for removal. Some counties in Washington have chosen to offer PBRS, while others have not. Also, what qualifies for points differs by county. Some counties offer a wide range of things that are eligible for points while others have very restrictive criteria, such as allowing public access or providing habitat for a threatened or endangered species.

Designated forestland and open space timber are state programs based in state law. The application process and administration of the programs is done at the county level, though. The County Assessor's office handles DFL while the county legislative authority (i.e., county council or commissioners) handles OST and PBRS (if applicable), usually via the county's planning department. To find out what is available in your county, contact your County Assessor's office or county planning department.

Washington Department of Revenue

If you sell timber from your property, you may be liable for the Washington Forest Excise Tax (FET) or the Business and Occupation (B&O) tax, depending on how your sales transaction is handled. The DOR has professional foresters on staff to assist property owners with these state forest-tax issues. For more information, call the DOR Forest Tax Program at 360-534-1324, contact Chris Westwood, Department of Revenue Forester, at chrisw@dor.wa.gov, or visit https://dor.wa.gov/taxes-rates/other-taxes/forest-tax.

Federal Income Tax

Federal income tax may be owed on harvested timber revenues. How federal income taxes apply to timber income is complex, subject to tax law changes, and specific to each individual's situation. Consequently, you may wish to seek advice from your tax professional or the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Another available educational resource is the National Timber Tax website at <u>https://www.timbertax.org/</u>. This website is a comprehensive clearinghouse for federal and state tax information specifically for forest landowners.

Private Forestry Assistance

In many cases, you will need to hire a private consultant for assistance, especially when it comes to functions like timber harvesting on your property.

Arborists

A professional arborist can assist you with individual trees, such as trees in your yard, trees in an urban setting, and ornamental trees. Services provided by arborists include hazard tree assessment, individual tree health assessment, tree trimming, and tree removal. There are two different types of arborists. Commercial arborists perform the work such as tree trimming and removal. Consulting arborists provide independent advice and assessment. If you know the service you need, you can go directly to a commercial arborist. If you are not sure what services you need or what condition your trees are in, you may wish to start with a consulting arborist to avoid a conflict of interest (e.g., an arborist that would stand to gain financially by telling you to remove a tree).

Certified arborists are different than "tree services." Arborists who have been certified by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) have met professional standards of knowledge and continuing education. The Pacific Northwest Chapter of the ISA maintains a directory of certified arborists at https://online.flippingbook.com/view/871593/.

Consulting Foresters and Silvicultural Contractors

Hiring a professional consulting forester is strongly recommended when selling timber. A consulting forester serves as your advocate by negotiating the best price for your timber, facilitating the permit and preparation process, verifying property boundaries, protecting your liability, working with the logger, log trucker, and other contractors, and ensuring that the entire sales process goes smoothly and meets your objectives. Other services provided by consulting foresters include management plan preparation, forest inventory (timber cruising), and timber or forestland appraisal. Some consulting foresters have been certified through the Society of American Foresters. Certified Foresters have met professional standards of knowledge and continuing education.

Silvicultural contractors provide forestry services such as reforestation, vegetation control (herbicide application, hand release, etc.), pre-commercial thinning, and pruning. Some forestry firms offer both consulting forester and silvicultural contractor services.

WSU Extension Forestry maintains an online directory of consulting foresters and silvicultural contractors in Washington that provide services to small forest landowners. The directory is available at <u>https://forestry.wsu.edu/consultingdirectory/</u> and can be searched by county and service needed.

Loggers

Working with a skilled and knowledgeable logger is invaluable when cutting trees on your property, whether for wood production, habitat enhancement, or forest health improvement. You may wish to seek assistance from a consulting forester in hiring an experienced and reputable logging company that will best meet your needs.

Small-Scale Sawmills

Small-scale sawmills, which are usually portable, offer custom milling of small quantities of timber. For harvesting timber quantities that are smaller than what is economically feasible to send to a traditional mill, harvesting specialty species like walnut, or directly utilizing timber from your own property, a small-scale sawmill may be a good solution. WSU Extension Forestry maintains an online directory of small-scale sawmills in Washington that offer services to small forest landowners. The directory is available at https://forestry.wsu.edu/sawmill directory/ and can be searched by county and service needed.

Forestry Supply Companies

Forest property owners may need specialized equipment, supplies, and tools that are not available from a typical home improvement store. You may find forestry supplies at your local saw shop. There are also several online forestry supply companies that offer a large selection of specialized forestry products. This non-exhaustive list of private companies is for educational purposes with no implied endorsement by WSU. These companies include:

- Baileys: 800-322-4539 or https://www.baileysonline.com/
- CSP Forestry: 800-592-6940 or http://cspforestry.com/
- Forestry Suppliers: 800-647-5368 or https://www.forestry-suppliers.com/
- Madsen's Shop and Supply: 800-822-2808 or http://www.madsens1.com
- Pacforest Supply Company: 877-736-5995 or <u>http://pacforest.com/</u>
- Sheldon Hill Arborist and Forestry Supply: 888-632-8302 or <u>https://www.shforestrysupplies.com/</u>
- Terra Tech: 800-321-1037 or <u>https://terratech.net/</u>
- Woods Logging and Industrial Supply: 360-577-8030 or https://woodsindustrialsupply.com/

Invasive Weed Control

Invasive weeds can be a frustrating problem for property owners. Washington State has noxious weed laws that require property owners to control certain weeds. Most counties in Washington have a noxious weed control board and noxious weed control staff who can provide resources for identifying and controlling invasive forest weeds, including weed lists, publications, and disposal information. There is also a state noxious weed control board. Financial assistance programs through NRCS or local conservation districts may be available for financial assistance with weed control projects. A silvicultural contractor may be needed for large projects.

For more information, visit the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board website at <u>https://www.nwcb.wa.gov/</u> or do an internet search for "[county name] county noxious weed control board" to find your local noxious weed control program.

Other Sources of Assistance

Landowner Associations

Your fellow landowners can be an excellent source of knowledge and practical experience. Landowner associations provide an opportunity to connect with other landowners, share ideas, and explore similar interests. Below are several examples. This non-exhaustive list of private organizations is for educational purposes with no implied endorsement by WSU. Information on each organization was gathered from their websites.

Forest Stewards Guild

An advocacy organization for "ecologically, economically, and socially responsible forestry" that offers education and other programs.

Contact info: <u>membership@forestguild.org</u> <u>https://foreststewardsguild.org/pacific-northwest-region/</u>

Mt. Adams Resource Stewards

A nonprofit community forest program that owns and operates the Mt. Adams Community Forest and promotes natural resource stewardship, stewardship-based economic and community development, and climate adaptation in the Mt. Adams area.

Contact info:

PO BOX 152 GLENWOOD, WA 98619 509-364-4110 info@mtadamsstewards.org https://mtadamsstewards.org/

National Woodland Owner Association (NWOA)

Provides education and advocacy for small forest landowners at the national level. Membership includes a subscription to *National Woodlands* magazine. NWOA also offers liability insurance policies specifically for small forest landowners.

Contact info:

374 MAPLE AVE E STE 310 VIENNA, VA 22180-4751 703-255-2700 info@nationalwoodlands.com https://nationalwoodlands.com/

Vashon Forest Stewards

A nonprofit community forestry organization on Vashon Island that provides consulting, education, and other services and promotes island-grown wood products.

Contact info:

PO BOX 602 VASHON, WA 98070 206-463-9405 david@vashonforeststewards.org http://www.vashonforeststewards.org/

Washington Farm Forestry Association (WFFA)

WFFA provides networking with other landowners, education, and advocacy for small forest landowners at the state level.

Membership includes a subscription to Northwest Woodlands magazine.

Contact info:

PO BOX 1010 CHEHALIS, WA 98532-0130 360-888-7074 info@wafarmforestry.com https://www.wafarmforestry.com/

Northwest Natural Resources Group (NNRG)

NNRG offers education programs and consulting and certification services for small forest landowners. Membership includes discounts on events and services.

Contact info:

2701 1ST AVE STE 240 SEATTLE, WA 98121-1133 206-971-3709 https://www.nnrg.org/

Forest Certification

Certification programs are voluntary programs that provide third-party recognition of sustainable forest management. Certification programs have specific forest management standards that must be met. Wood harvested from certified properties may fetch a higher price at the mill. Eligibility requirements include a minimum number of forested acres, a written forest management plan, documentation that forest management meets the required standards, and regular on-site inspections by a representative of the certification program. Certified properties get to display certification signs (Figure 6).



Figure 6. American Tree Farm System (ATFS) and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification signs. Photo: K.W. Zobrist.

American Tree Farm System (ATFS)

ATFS certification is geared toward small forest landowners and is available at no cost. ATFS-certified properties are eligible for the Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year award. In Washington, ATFS certification is administered by the Washington Tree Farm Program. For more information, contact the Washington Tree Farm Program at 360-602-1603 or <u>info@watreefarm.org</u>, or visit <u>https://www.watreefarm.org/</u>.

Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

Property owners must pay fees to be FSC certified. In Washington, FSC certification is administered by the Northwest Natural Resources Group (NNRG) through a group certificate, because it is more cost-effective to certify multiple properties as a group and spread the certification fees among group members. For more information, contact NNRG at 206-971-3709 or visit https://www.nnrg.org/our-services/get-certified/.

Land Trusts

Land trusts are nonprofit organizations that hold conservation easements. Conservation easements permanently protect a property from development. Property owners who want to see their property maintained as forest in perpetuity can set up a conservation easement by donating the development rights to their local land trust. The easement becomes part of the property's title such that no future owner can develop the property. In some cases, a cash gift is required along with the donation of the development rights so that an endowment can be established to cover the land trust's costs of maintaining and enforcing the easement in perpetuity. For more information, contact your local land trust. A directory of the land trusts in Washington is available from the Washington Association of Land Trusts at <u>https://walandtrusts.org/about-us/our-land-trusts/</u>.

Appendix 1

County Directory of WSU Extension Offices, Conservation Districts, and Natural Resources Conservation Service Centers

Adams

WSU Adams County Extension

205 W MAIN RITZVILLE, WA 99169-1894 509-659-3209 https://extension.wsu.edu/lincoln-adams/

Adams Conservation District

118 E MAIN AVE RITZVILLE, WA 99169-1406 509-659-1553 http://adamscd.com/

USDA-NRCS Ritzville Service Center

506 WEBER AVE STE B RITZVILLE, WA 99169-2118 509-659-1761

Asotin

WSU Asotin County Extension

135 2ND ST RM B107 (physical) PO BOX 9 (mailing) ASOTIN, WA 99402-0009 509-243-2009 https://extension.wsu.edu/asotin/

Asotin County Conservation District

720 6TH ST STE B CLARKSTON, WA 99403-2012 509-552-8117 http://www.asotincd.net/

USDA-NRCS Clarkston Service Center

720 6TH ST STE B CLARKSTON, WA 99403-2012 509-552-8116

Benton

WSU Benton County Extension— Kennewick

7102 W OKANOGAN PL STE 102 KENNEWICK, WA 99336-1387 509-735-3551 https://extension.wsu.edu/benton-franklin/

WSU Benton County Extension—Prosser

620 MARKET ST PROSSER, WA 99350-1320 509-786-5609 https://extension.wsu.edu/benton-franklin/

Benton Conservation District

10121 W CLEARWATER AVE STE 101 KENNEWICK, WA 99336-3500 509-736-6000 http://www.bentoncd.org/

USDA-NRCS Prosser Service Center

415 WINE COUNTRY RD PROSSER, WA 99350-9555 509-786-1923

Chelan

WSU Chelan County Extension

400 WASHINGTON ST WENATCHEE, WA 98801-2670 509-667-6540 https://extension.wsu.edu/chelan-douglas/

Cascadia Conservation District

14 N MISSION ST WENATCHEE, WA 98801-2250 509-436-1601 http://www.cascadiacd.org/

USDA-NRCS Wenatchee Service Center

215 MELODY LN WENATCHEE, WA 98801-2990 509-664-1141

Clallam

WSU Clallam County Extension

223 E 4TH ST STE 15 PORT ANGELES, WA 98362-3015 360-417-2279 https://extension.wsu.edu/clallam/

Clallam Conservation District

228 W 1ST ST STE H PORT ANGELES, WA 98362-2640 360-775-3747 http://clallamcd.org/

USDA-NRCS Port Angeles Service Center

1601 E FRONT ST STE A PORT ANGELES, WA 98362-4646 360-452-8994

Clark

WSU Clark County Extension

1919 NE 78TH ST VANCOUVER, WA 98665-9752 564-397-5733 https://extension.wsu.edu/clark/

Clark Conservation District

813 W MAIN ST STE 106 BATTLE GROUND, WA 98604 360-859-4780 http://www.clarkcd.org/

USDA-NRCS Vancouver Service Center

500 W 12TH ST STE 135 VANCOUVER, WA 98660-2888 360-883-1987

Columbia

WSU Columbia County Extension

137 E MAIN ST DAYTON, WA 99328-1350 509-382-4741 https://extension.wsu.edu/columbia/

Columbia Conservation District

202 S 2ND ST DAYTON, WA 99328-1327 509-382-4273

USDA-NRCS Dayton Service Center

531 CAMERON ST DAYTON, WA 99328-1327 509-382-2421

Cowlitz

WSU Cowlitz County Extension

304 COWLITZ WAY KELSO, WA 98626 360-577-3014 https://extension.wsu.edu/cowlitz/

Cowlitz County Conservation District

2125 8TH AVE LONGVIEW, WA 98632-4053 360-425-1880 http://cowlitzed.wordpress.com/welcome/cowlitz-conservationdistrict/

USDA-NRCS Longview Service Center

2125 8TH AVE LONGVIEW, WA 98632-4053 360-425-1880

Douglas

WSU Douglas County Extension

203 S RAINIER ST (physical) PO BOX 550 (mailing) WATERVILLE, WA 98858-0550 509-745-8531 https://extension.wsu.edu/chelan-douglas/

Foster Creek Conservation District

203 S RAINIER ST (physical) PO BOX 398 (mailing) WATERVILLE, WA 98858-0398 509-888-6372 http://www.fostercreekcd.org/

South Douglas Conservation District

206 N CHELAN AVE (physical) PO BOX 246 (mailing) WATERVILLE, WA 98858-0246 509-745-9160 or 509-745-8121 http://www.southdouglascd.org

USDA-NRCS Waterville Service Center

103 N BAKER ST (physical) PO BOX 428 (mailing) WATERVILLE, WA 98858-0428 509-745-8561

Ferry

WSU Ferry County Extension

350 E DELAWARE AVE STOP 9 REPUBLIC, WA 99166-9747 509-775-5225 Ext. 1116 https://extension.wsu.edu/ferry/

Ferry Conservation District

84 E DELAWARE AVE (physical) PO BOX 1045 (mailing) REPUBLIC, WA 99166-1045 509-775-3473 Ext. 190

USDA-NRCS Republic Service Center

84 E DELAWARE AVE (physical) PO BOX 315 (mailing) REPUBLIC, WA 99166-0315 509-775-3473

Franklin

WSU Franklin County Extension

404 W CLARK ST PASCO, WA 99301-5629 509-545-3511 https://extension.wsu.edu/benton-franklin/

Franklin Conservation District

1724 E SUPERIOR ST PASCO, WA 99301-5392 509-416-0440 http://www.franklincd.org/

USDA-NRCS Pasco Service Center

1533 E SPOKANE ST STE B PASCO, WA 99301-4216 509-545-8546

Garfield

WSU Garfield County Extension

757 MAIN ST (physical) PO BOX 190 (mailing) POMEROY, WA 99347-0190 509-843-3701 https://extension.wsu.edu/garfield/

Pomeroy Conservation District

910 MAIN ST (physical) PO BOX 468 (mailing) POMEROY, WA 99347-0468 509-843-5008 http://www.pomeroycd.com

USDA-NRCS Pomeroy Service Center

804 W MAIN ST (physical) PO BOX 468 (mailing) POMEROY, WA 99347-0468 509-843-1997

Grant

WSU Grant County Extension

1525 E WHEELER RD MOSES LAKE, WA 98837-9753 509-754-2011 Ext. 4313 https://extension.wsu.edu/grant/

Grant County Conservation District

1107 S JUNIPER DR MOSES LAKE, WA 98837-2313 509-765-9618 http://columbiabasincds.org/

USDA-NRCS Ephrata Service Center

2145 BASIN ST SW STE B EPHRATA, WA 98823-9451 509-754-2463

Grays Harbor

WSU Grays Harbor County Extension

32 ELMA MCCLEARY RD (physical) PO BOX 3018 (mailing) ELMA, WA 98541-3018 https://extension.wsu.edu/graysharbor/

Grays Harbor Conservation District

330 PIONEER AVE W STE D MONTESANO, WA 98563-4412 360-249-8532 https://graysharborcd.wordpress.com/

USDA-NRCS Montesano Service Center

330 PIONEER AVE W MONTESANO, WA 98563-4412 360-249-5900

Island

WSU Extension Island County

406 N MAIN ST COUPEVILLE, WA 98239-3416 360-639-6060 https://extension.wsu.edu/island/

Whidbey Island Conservation District

1 NE 4TH ST (physical) PO BOX 490 (mailing) COUPEVILLE, WA 98239-0490 360-678-4708 or 888-678-4922 https://www.whidbeycd.org/

Note: Whidbey Island is served by the USDA-NRCS Mount Vernon Service Center (see Skagit County below), and Camano Island is served by the Snohomish Conservation District and the USDA-NRCS Lake Stevens Service Center (see Snohomish County below).

Jefferson

WSU Jefferson County Extension

KIVLEY CENTER 121 OAK BAY RD PORT HADLOCK, WA 98339-8718 360-379-5610 https://extension.wsu.edu/jefferson/

Jefferson County Conservation District

205 W PATISON ST PORT HADLOCK, WA 98339 360-385-4105 http://www.jeffersoncd.org/

Note: Jefferson County is served by the USDA-NRCS Port Angeles Service Center (see Clallam County above).

King

WSU King County Extension

560 NACHES AVE SW STE 130 RENTON, WA 98057-2219 425-738-0111 https://extension.wsu.edu/king/

King Conservation District

800 SW 39TH ST STE 150 RENTON, WA 98057-4928 425-282-1900 http://www.kingcd.org/

USDA-NRCS Renton Service Center

941 POWELL AVE SW STE 102 RENTON, WA 98057-2992 425-277-5580

Kitsap

WSU Kitsap County Extension

345 6TH ST STE 550 BREMERTON, WA 98337-1874 360-228-7300 https://extension.wsu.edu/kitsap/

Kitsap Conservation District

10332 CENTRAL VALLEY RD NE POULSBO, WA 98370-8143 360-204-5529 https://kitsapcd.org/

USDA-NRCS Bremerton Field Office

500 PACIFIC AVE STE 301 BREMERTON, WA 98337-1904 360-479-5472

Kittitas

WSU Kittitas County Extension

901 E 7TH AVE STE 2 ELLENSBURG, WA 98926-3350 509-962-7507 https://extension.wsu.edu/kittitas/

Kittitas County Conservation District

2211 W DOLARWAY RD STE 4 ELLENSBURG, WA 98926-8227 509-925-3352 https://www.kccd.net/

USDA-NRCS Ellensburg Service Center

2211 W DOLARWAY RD STE 6 ELLENSBURG, WA 98926-8227 509-925-8585

Klickitat

WSU Klickitat County Extension

228 W MAIN STOP 12 GOLDENDALE, WA 98620-9055 509-773-5817 https://extension.wsu.edu/klickitat/

Central and Eastern Klickitat Conservation Districts

1107 S COLUMBUS AVE GOLDENDALE, WA 98620-9296 509-773-5823 Ext. 5 <u>http://ckcd.org/</u> <u>http://ekcd.org/</u>

Note: West Klickitat is served by the Underwood Conservation District (see Skamania County below).

USDA-NRCS Goldendale Service Center

1107 S COLUMBUS AVE GOLDENDALE, WA 98620-9268 509-773-5822

Lewis

WSU Lewis County Extension

351 NW NORTH ST MS: AES01 CHEHALIS, WA 98532-1900 360-740-1212 https://extension.wsu.edu/lewis/

Lewis County Conservation District

2057 SW SALSBURY AVE CHEHALIS, WA 98532 360-996-4560 https://lewisconservation.wordpress.com/

USDA-NRCS Chehalis Service Center

1554 BISHOP RD CHEHALIS, WA 98532-8710 360-748-0083

Lincoln

WSU Extension Lincoln County

303 6TH ST (physical) PO BOX 399 (mailing) DAVENPORT, WA 99122-0399 509-725-4171 https://extension.wsu.edu/lincoln-adams/

Lincoln County Conservation District

1310 MORGAN ST (physical) PO BOX 46 (mailing) DAVENPORT, WA 99122-0046 509-725-4181 Ext. 3 http://www.lincolncd.com

USDA-NRCS Davenport Service Center

1310 MORGAN ST PO BOX 46 DAVENPORT, WA 99122-0046 509-725-4501

Mason

WSU Mason County Extension

303 N 4TH ST SHELTON, WA 98584-3417 360-427-9670 Ext. 680 https://extension.wsu.edu/mason/

Mason Conservation District

450 W BUSINESS PARK RD SHELTON, WA 98584-1284 360-427-9436 http://www.masoncd.org/

Note: Mason County is served by the USDA-NRCS Olympia Service Center and the USDA-NRCS Bremerton Field Office (see Thurston County below and Kitsap County above).

Okanogan

WSU Okanogan County Extension

1234 2ND AVE S OKANOGAN, WA 98840-9723 509-422-7245 https://extension.wsu.edu/okanogan/

Okanogan Conservation District

1251 2ND AVE S STE 102 OKANOGAN, WA 98840-9767 509-422-0855 http://www.okanogancd.org/

USDA-NRCS Okanogan Service Center

1251 2ND AVE S STE 101 OKANOGAN, WA 98840-9767 509-442-2750

Pacific

WSU Pacific County Extension

1216 W ROBERT BUSH DR (physical) PO BOX 88 (mailing) SOUTH BEND, WA 98586-0088 360-875-9331 https://extension.wsu.edu/pacific/

Pacific Conservation District

904 W ROBERT BUSH DR (physical) PO BOX 336 (mailing) SOUTH BEND, WA 98586-0336 360-875-6735 https://pacificcd.wordpress.com/

Note: Pacific County is served by the USDA-NRCS Olympia Service Center and the USDA-NRCS Chehalis Field Office (see Thurston County below and Lewis County above).

Pend Oreille

WSU Pend Oreille County Extension

227 GARDEN AVE (physical) PO BOX 5045 (mailing) NEWPORT, WA 99156-5045 509-447-2401 https://extension.wsu.edu/pendoreille/

Pend Oreille Conservation District

121 N WASHINGTON AVE RM 110 PO BOX 465 NEWPORT, WA 99156-0465 509-447-5370 http://www.pocd.org/

USDA-NRCS Newport Service Center

100 N WASHINGTON AVE RM 110 PO BOX 280 NEWPORT, WA 99156-9070 509-447-4217

Pierce

WSU Pierce County Extension

3602 PACIFIC AVE STE 200 TACOMA, WA 98418-7920 253-798-7180 https://extension.wsu.edu/pierce/

Pierce Conservation District

308 W STEWART AVE (physical) PO BOX 1057 (mailing) PUYALLUP, WA 98371-0256 253-845-9770 http://www.piercecd.org/

USDA-NRCS Puyallup Service Center

1011 E MAIN STE 106 PUYALLUP, WA 98372-6768 253-845-9272

San Juan

WSU San Juan County Extension

221 WEBER WAY STE LL FRIDAY HARBOR, WA 98250-9375 360-378-4414 https://extension.wsu.edu/sanjuan/

San Juan Islands Conservation District

530 GUARD ST (physical) PO BOX 1728 (mailing) FRIDAY HARBOR, WA 98250-1728 360-378-6621 Ext. 0 http://www.sanjuanislandscd.org/

Note: San Juan County is served by the USDA-NRCS Mount Vernon Service Center (see Skagit County below).

Skagit

WSU Skagit County Extension

11768 WESTAR LN STE A BURLINGTON, WA 98233-3672 360-428-4270 https://extension.wsu.edu/skagit/

Skagit Conservation District

2021 E COLLEGE WAY STE 203 MOUNT VERNON, WA 98273-2373 360-428-4313 http://www.skagitcd.org/

USDA-NRCS Mount Vernon Service Center

2021 E COLLEGE WAY STE 214 MOUNT VERNON, WA 98273-2373 360-428-7684

Skamania

WSU Skamania County Extension

710 SW ROCK CREEK DR (physical) PO BOX 369 (mailing) STEVENSON, WA 98648-0369 509-427-3932 https://extension.wsu.edu/skamania/

Underwood Conservation District

170 NW LINCOLN ST (physical) PO BOX 96 (mailing) WHITE SALMON, WA 98672-0096 509-493-1936 http://www.ucdwa.org/

Note: Skamania County is served by the USDA-NRCS Yakima Service Center and the USDA-NRCS Vancouver Service Center (see Yakima County below and Clark County above).

Snohomish

WSU Snohomish County Extension

6705 PUGET PARK DR SNOHOMISH, WA 98296-4214 425-338-2400 https://extension.wsu.edu/snohomish/

Snohomish Conservation District

528 91ST AVE NE STE A LAKE STEVENS, WA 98258-2538 425-335-5634 https://snohomishcd.org/ https://betterground.org/

USDA-NRCS Lake Stevens Service Center

528 91ST AVE NE STE B LAKE STEVENS, WA 98258-2538 425-595-3284

Spokane

WSU Spokane County Extension

222 N HAVANA ST SPOKANE, WA 99202-4799 509-477-2048 https://extension.wsu.edu/spokane/

Spokane County Conservation District

210 N HAVANA ST SPOKANE, WA 99202-4724 509-535-7274 http://sccd.org/

USDA-NRCS Spokane Service Center

8815 E MISSION AVE STE B SPOKANE VALLEY, WA 99212-2532 509-924-7350

Stevens

WSU Stevens County Extension

986 S MAIN ST STE D COLVILLE, WA 99114-2513 509-684-2588 https://extension.wsu.edu/stevens/

Stevens County Conservation District

232 WILLIAMS LAKE RD COLVILLE, WA 99114-9638 509-684-7579 https://stevenscountywa.gov/sccd

USDA-NRCS Colville Service Center

765 S MAIN ST COLVILLE, WA 99114-9638 509-685-0858

Thurston

WSU Thurston County Extension

3054 CARPENTER RD SE BENOSCHEK BUILDING OLYMPIA, WA 98503-3961 360-867-2151 https://extension.wsu.edu/thurston/

Thurston Conservation District

2918 FERGUSON ST SW STE A TUMWATER, WA 98512-6187 360-754-3588 http://www.thurstoncd.com/

USDA-NRCS Olympia Service Center

1835 BLACK LAKE BLVD SW STE E OLYMPIA, WA 98512-5607 360-704-7740

Wahkiakum

WSU Wahkiakum County Extension

25 RIVER STREET STE E (physical) PO BOX 278 (mailing) CATHLAMET, WA 98612-0278 360-795-3278 https://extension.wsu.edu/wahkiakum/

Wahkiakum Conservation District

957 STEAMBOAT SLOUGH RD SKAMOKAWA, WA 98612 (physical) PO BOX 67 (mailing) CATHLAMET, WA 98612-0067 360-795-8240 https://cowlitzcd.wordpress.com/welcome/wahkiakumconservation-district/

Note: Wahkiakum County is served by the USDA-NRCS Longview Service Center (see Cowlitz County above).

Walla Walla

WSU Walla Walla County Extension

328 W POPLAR ST WALLA WALLA, WA 99362-2830 509-524-2685 https://extension.wsu.edu/wallawalla/

Walla Walla County Conservation District

325 N 13TH AVE WALLA WALLA, WA 99362-1700 509-956-3777 http://www.wwccd.net/

USDA-NRCS Walla Walla Service Center

325 N 13TH AVE WALLA WALLA, WA 99362-1700 509-522-6347

Whatcom

WSU Whatcom County Extension

1000 N FOREST ST STE 201 BELLINGHAM, WA 98225-5594 360-778-5800 https://extension.wsu.edu/whatcom/

Whatcom Conservation District

6975 HANNEGAN RD LYNDEN, WA 98264-9019 360-354-2035 Ext. 3 http://www.whatcomcd.org/

USDA-NRCS Everson Service Center

914 CITADEL DR STE C EVERSON, WA 98247-9668 360-354-5658

Whitman

WSU Whitman County Extension

310 N MAIN ST RM 209 COLFAX, WA 99111-1894 509-397-6290 https://extension.wsu.edu/whitman/

Palouse Conservation District

1615 NE EASTGATE BLVD STE H PULLMAN, WA 99163-5348 509-332-4101 https://www.palousecd.org/

Palouse Rock Lake Conservation District

3 N PARK ST (physical) PO BOX 438 (mailing) SAINT JOHN, WA 99171-0438 509-648-3680 Ext. 100 http://www.prlcd.org/

Pine Creek Conservation District

401 S STATE RTE 27 OAKSDALE, WA 99158-5001 509-285-5122

Whitman Conservation District

601 N MAIN ST STE A COLFAX, WA 99111-2118 509-397-4636 Ext. 120 http://www.whitmancd.org/

USDA-NRCS Colfax Service Center

805 S VISTA POINT DR COLFAX, WA 99111-9565 509-397-4301

Yakima

WSU Yakima County Extension

2403 S 18TH ST STE 100 UNION GAP, WA 98903-1637 509-574-1600 https://extension.wsu.edu/yakima/

North Yakima Conservation District

1606 PERRY ST STE C YAKIMA, WA 98902-5769 509-454-5736 https://northyakimacd.wordpress.com/

South Yakima Conservation District

200 CHEYNE RD (physical) PO BOX 1766 (mailing) ZILLAH, WA 98953-1766 509-829-9025 http://www.sycd.us/

USDA-NRCS Yakima Service Center

1606 PERRY ST YAKIMA, WA 98902-5795 509-367-8585

USDA-NRCS Zillah Service Center

200 CHEYNE RD ZILLAH, WA 98953-9764 509-829-3003 Ext. 3



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