

Walla Walla County Conservation District

325 North 13th Avenue – Walla Walla, WA 99362
Phone: (509) 522-6340, Ext. 5

Winter 2017

Published regularly to provide information to land users

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Stewardship-
Program**

Save the Dates:

January 25, 2017
WWCCD Annual Meeting

March 1, 2017 “Era of
Mega Fires” presentation
at Maxey Hall, Whitman

April 13, 2017 Spring
Forest Health Workshop

The WWCCD Board of
Supervisors meet on the
2nd Monday of the
month at 5 pm (winter
months at 4 pm).

If you are interested in
being involved in the dis-
trict, contact us and join
us for a meeting.
509-522-6340 x 5

Annual Meeting and Election

We invite you to join us at our 2017 Annual Meeting & Election on Wednesday, January 25th, 2017 at the Walla Walla Regional Airport Community Room. This year’s annual meeting has been preceded by many exciting changes with the district. Come meet the new staff and learn about 2017 programs at the District.

- 7:45-8:00 Sign in: Coffee & Rolls
- 8:00-8:10 Welcome, Introductions
- 8:10-8:30 WWCCD Activities & Annual Report: Renee Hadley, Conservation District Manager
- 8:30-8:40 Update NRCS: Ed Teel, DC
- 8:40-8:50 Update FSA: Kelley Betts, CED
- 8:50-9:10 VSP Presentation – History and Direction
- 9:10-9:55 Bees “APIS Molecular Systematics Laboratory” – Entomology WSU Dr. Steve Sheppard – Professor & Department chair, Entomology. **Summary: Disappearance of honey bees in many parts of the country may be related to pesticide exposure.**
- 9:55-10:10 Break
- 10:10-11:05 Weed Resistance “Herbicide – Resistant Weeds: Are They Coming to a Field Near You?” By Drew Lyon, Professor Endowed Chair Small Grain Extension and Research, Weed Science **Summary: Herbicide resistance in weeds is a growing problem in eastern Washington, the PNW, the U.S.A., and globally. This presentation covers how herbicide resistance develops in weeds, describes the current status, and provides integrated management approaches to slow the development of herbicide resistant weeds.**
- 11:05-12:00 Cover Crops “Cover and Companion Cropping for the Inland Northwest” By Diana Roberts, Regional Extension Specialist, WSU Extension **Summary: Farmers from Lincoln and Spokane Counties worked with WSU researchers on a feasibility study for cover cropping. Their goals were to improve soil health, suppress weeds, break disease cycles, and encourage beneficial insects.**
- 12:00-1:00 Hosted lunch: Don’t forget to vote!



Voluntary Stewardship Program Update

The Walla Walla VSP work group is making progress on the County wide plan to protect critical areas on farms and ranches. VSP is a state wide opportunity to develop an

alternative to the strict regulations of the Critical Areas Ordinance on agricultural land. There are five critical areas in Walla Walla County: 1) Fish and Wildlife Habitat, 2) Wetlands, 3) Frequently Flooded, 4) Critical Aquifer Recharge & 5) Geologically Hazardous areas. VSP meetings are open to the public and are the first Tuesday of each month at 1 pm in the USDA conference room at the district office. For more information visit our website: www.wwccd.net

Burn Permits

If you need help with your burn permit, Jeff Klundt and Lisa Stearns are available Monday through Thursday or by appointment.

Completed your burn? All permit holders who have completed field burns need to report their burn, preferably using the Ecology website:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/Blue_card.html

The blue cards can be used of course, but the internet reporting allows ECY to instantly remove your acres from the list of those needing to be burned. This helps them make a more accurate burn call and helps your neighbors waiting for a metered burn day. This will become more important as Washington Department of Natural Resources intends to have more controlled burns in 2017 near the foothills.

Walla Walla County Conservation District

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Katy Walters, Program Support

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Alexi Storm, Nicole Armijo, &
Norma Colunga, Program Technicians

View the WWCCD website at www.wwccd.net

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Annual Meeting January 25!