



## 5-Year Plan (2010 to 2015) Pierce Conservation District

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**Organization of the Pierce Conservation District:** A political subdivision of the State of Washington – authorities, powers and structure contained in RCW 89.08.

- *The Pierce Conservation District was formed in 1949, and serves most of Pierce County, Washington*
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**Function of the Pierce Conservation District:** *To make available technical, financial and educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land manager with conservation of soil, water and related natural resources*

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**Mission of the Pierce Conservation District:** *The mission of the Pierce Conservation District is to protect the natural resources and sustainable agriculture of Pierce County, by empowering local individuals and communities*

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**Natural Resource Priorities:** *The Pierce Conservation District works to enhance and protect the following natural resources:*

- *Soil*
  - *Water*
  - *Biodiversity*
  - *Salmon and Shellfish*
  - *Native Plants*
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**Critical Geographic Areas:** *The four main watersheds of Pierce County are our Critical Geographic Areas*

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**Strategic Priority:** *Assist property owners with the protection of water quality, improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, and natural resource conservation while sustaining our vital agricultural community*

- *Livestock Program: Assist livestock owners and their communities in preventing environmental degradation resulting from poor land management techniques*
- *Shellfish Program: Utilize effective partnerships to help protect local shellfish beds from negative impacts resulting from pollution*
- *Farm/Ag Infrastructure: Retain high-quality soils through provision of technical assistance and market based incentives*

- *Natural Resource Conservation: Protect and restore native and critical area ecosystems through landowner assistance, education and partnership*

**Strategic Priority: *Involve and educate our local community through hands-on volunteer activities to improve the quality of streams in Pierce County for the benefit of fish, wildlife, and people***

- *Water Quality Monitoring: Utilize trained citizen volunteers to collect water quality data from Pierce County streams and lakes for public education and to inform management decisions*
- *Riparian Restoration/Habitat Enhancement: Utilize volunteers to enhance or restore native habitat through the eradication of invasive weeds and the installation of native plants*
- *Education and Outreach: Promote public education about water quality, salmon habitat, non-point source pollution, and other natural resource concerns through partnerships, public participation, and outreach opportunities*