



King Conservation District

Brandy Reed, Interagency Director of Conservation Projects
1107 SW Grady Way, Suite 130 Renton, WA 98057
(425) 282-1900 | info@kingcd.org | www.kingcd.org
Board Chair: Dick Ryon

State Legislative District #1,5,11,30,31,
32, 33,34,36,37,39,41,43,45,46,47,48
Congressional District #1, 7, 8, 9

Other Accomplishments



In November, the Metropolitan King County Council unanimously passed the five-year work plan and budget that King Conservation District had built with its stakeholders.



King Conservation District showcased 15 environmental stewardship projects it supported through partner organizations on local National Public Radio station KUOW.



King Conservation District provided Landowner Incentive Program funds for an innovative self-composter to this cooperator that works with differently-able kids and teens.

2015 Feature Accomplishment: Agricultural Drainage Assistance Program revives farmland



Reed canarygrass chokes the drainage ditch before the project begins.
Photo: Mark Musick

RESOURCE CHALLENGE King County has an estimated 1,837 farms on 46,717 acres, with annual sales of \$121 million. Over the past few decades much of the county's best farmland has become impacted by poor field drainage, and the threat has been compounded by rapid urbanization, which promotes increased stormwater runoff. This spring 120 landowners responded to a preliminary King Conservation District survey, reporting drainage problems impacting an estimated 3,434 acres of land in the county.

PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS

In 2015, the King Conservation District partnered with King County to significantly expand the Agricultural Drainage Assistance Program, with a goal of bringing land considered "too wet to farm" back into production. In the program's first year we assisted five landowners with clearing a total of 11,300 linear feet of clogged drainage ditches, returning an estimated 165 acres to full production. Snoqualmie Valley cattle rancher Bobbi Lindemulder said, "Drainage problems have been building on our land for more than twenty years, and we're thrilled to finally get the work done."



Water quality is monitored regularly during the drainage project to check for turbidity. Photo: Mark Musick

KEY PARTNERS: King County Flood Control District; King County Water and Land Resources Division; Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance

More Work to Do!

- Launching a Regional Food System Grant Program to address gaps in the production, distribution, and access of local produce and protein!
- Working with cities to implement urban forestry programs that will improve canopy cover and other green infrastructure on public and private lands across the district!
- Bringing shoreline restoration to urban environments through new and enhanced partnerships with our member cities!