



State Legislative District #9
Congressional District #4

Adams Conservation District

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Board Chair: Curtis Hennings

Other Accomplishments



Local 5th graders learn about soil, worms, weeds, wildlife, and weather at Adams Conservation District's annual field day.



Winners of the 6th grade essay contest read their papers on "the Benefits of Cover Crops" at the district's annual meeting.



Adams Conservation District hosts FFA Land Judging competition for 230 students from 20 schools.

2016 Feature Accomplishment

Installing livestock management practices to protect Steptoe Creek



New corral in foreground, cattle along creek in background

RESOURCE CHALLENGE

Some of the streams within local watersheds do not meet water quality standards for dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature, and fecal coliform. Adams Conservation District has been providing assistance to operators to install better management practices that improve riparian (streamside) areas and minimize surface water contamination. Practices that limit livestock access to degraded streambanks and support riparian re-vegetation help reduce turbidity, filter run-off, and provide shade and habitat.

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PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS

A livestock feedlot was relocated away from Steptoe Creek in order to improve the riparian zone and protect water quality. Adams Conservation District helped the landowner install heavy use/winter feeding areas, 5,200 feet of fencing, and off-stream watering facilities. Relocating the feedlot away from the creek will reduce fecal contamination and soil erosion. It also will allow vegetation to re-establish, which helps to stabilize the bank, filter run-off, and provide shade and habitat. The landowner will plant approximately 1.5 miles of riparian buffer along both sides of the creek. As vegetation develops, water quality parameters should improve.



New feeding area away from creek

KEY PARTNERS: Washington State Department of Ecology; Washington State Conservation Commission; Palouse Conservation District

More work to do!

- Provide operators with assistance to implement reduced tillage practices and install livestock watering facilities.
- Work with landowners and partners to improve riparian and wetland habitat.
- Expand outreach efforts to educate and support our community and operators' needs.