



CLARK CONSERVATION DISTRICT

District Manager: Denise Smee Board Chair: Dean Longrie, Ph.D.
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Legislative District: 14, 17, 18, 20, 49 Congressional District: 3

Other accomplishments:



Assisted a cattle operation with a manure storage and composting facility and heavy use area to reduce water pollution.



Helped local schools install rain gardens and native plants.



Installed riparian plantings along the East Fork Lewis River.

2017 FEATURE ACCOMPLISHMENT

SUPPORT FOR URBAN FARMERS AND LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION



A Clark County farmer and Salmon-Safe representative talk about urban farming practices.

Resource challenge

Clark County is located just minutes from the Portland, Oregon metropolitan area, making it one of the fastest-growing communities in the Pacific Northwest. The rapid population growth puts development pressures on farms. Land becomes fragmented, and agricultural support systems disappear. In an effort to conserve and protect agricultural soils, Clark Conservation District provides technical and financial assistance for these smaller, non-traditional urban farming operations.

Project summary and results

Clark Conservation District is assisting Clark County farmers in becoming Salmon-Safe certified. Salmon-Safe certification identifies those farms committed to ecologically sustainable agricultural practices that protect water quality and fish and wildlife habitat. Farms certified Salmon-Safe are promoted with the Salmon-Safe label and can gain competitive advantage in the marketplace. The district also developed the Clark Food and Farm Network, which provides technical assistance and support for urban agriculture; fosters community engagement with farmers, organizations, and citizens interested in conservation; and promotes access to local food.



Clark Food and Farm Network display banner.

Key partners: Washington State Conservation Commission; National Association of Conservation Districts; Clark County Clean Water Restoration Fund; Salmon-Safe; Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board

MORE WORK TO DO

- ▶ Secure a long term, stable funding source.
- ▶ Assist in the development of a county-wide agricultural preservation program.
- ▶ Provide stormwater management assistance to homeowners and neighborhoods.