



WHIDBEY ISLAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT

District Manager: Karen Bishop Board Chair: Ed Adams
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Legislative District: 10 Congressional District: 2

Other accomplishments:



A Waste Storage Tour linked interested property owners with three WICD cost-share-funded waste storage facility installations. Photo by Kelsi Mottet



With Firewise funding from the State Conservation Commission, WICD and five partner agencies provided wildfire education at a Whidbey Island Firewise Day. Photo by Karen Bishop



ADA parking space at the WICD office owned by Frank and Miriam Meyer was a low impact development project mimicking natural hydrology. Photo by Kelsi Mottet

2017 FEATURE ACCOMPLISHMENT

COST-SHARE PROGRAM EMPHASIZES WATER QUALITY



Completed french drain system diverted surface water to existing swale onsite. Photo by Ken Drecksel

Resource challenge

Residential population on Whidbey Island has increased significantly in recent years. This impacts the island's water quality and quantity, which are of highest concern for the public. Whidbey Island Conservation District's (WICD) cost-share program helps urban and rural landowners thoughtfully design and implement complex projects that simultaneously address water quality concerns, mitigate livestock issues, and empower residents to enhance the sustainability of natural resources.

Project summary and results

Whidbey Island residents range from large acreage livestock owners to urban dwellers on small city parcels. WICD's cost-share program reduced nutrient runoff, improved surface water quality, and managed drainage more effectively in several sensitive watersheds through use of the conservation planning process. Eight landowners worked with WICD to identify high-quality best management practices, develop designs, and implement projects they might otherwise have been unable to afford, including waste storage facilities, livestock fencing, hoof-grid, rainwater diversion systems, and pervious pavement.



Covered waste storage facility with 28 feet of gutters installed, made possible in part by WICD's cost-share program. Photo by Kelsi Mottet

Key partners: Washington State Conservation Commission; landowners

MORE WORK TO DO

- ▶ Expand Firewise Program to include community-wide wildfire assessments and Firewise Communities/USA recognition support.
- ▶ Continue work with farmers through the Whidbey Island Growers Association and the Whidbey Island Grown brand to help with environmental and economic sustainability.
- ▶ Continue conservation planning as guide for voluntary stewardship.
- ▶ Assist municipalities with stormwater code implementation.