



Kitsap Conservation District

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Legislative District: 23, 26, 35 Congressional District: 6

Other Accomplishments



Start of pumpkins for fall food bank consumption.



Demonstration of high tunnels for small-scale farms.



New rain gardens aid condominium owners with their stormwater. KCD continues to build about 60 stormwater projects each year.

2018 FEATURE ACCOMPLISHMENT

Gardening for Restoration and Conservation Education

Resource Challenge

Hunger is real in Kitsap County. There are urban areas of the county with limited access to fresh and healthy food. Limited access refers to land pinched by development where traditional farming is under threat. The community needs access to food sources, education on how to grow and prepare food in an urbanizing culture, and farmland preservation. As growth continues in Kitsap County, the problem of lost farmland and food access is magnified and a multi-faceted solution is needed.

Project Summary and Results

In July 2017, Kitsap Conservation District (KCD) was awarded a \$50,000 grant from the National Association of Conservation Districts to grow technical assistance capacity for urban agriculture conservation projects. From this start-up funding, the GRACE Project was born as a KCD garden that demonstrates best practices for urban agriculture and provides fresh produce to Kitsap food banks. The labor component of the garden completes the grant's element of restorative justice and is staffed by inmates from Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women. The inmates learn about horticulture, food preparation, and giving back.

Key Partners

National Association of Conservation Districts; Washington State Conservation Commission



Installing multiple 10,000 gallon cisterns to water the growing land of the GRACE Project. KCD has 50,000 gallons currently. Photo by KCD staff



The growing ground is located on KCD land. Our signage prompts many questions about the project from the community. Photo by KCD staff

Priorities for 2019...

- ▶ KCD has several large fish barrier removal projects in design that will be constructed in 2019.
- ▶ Continuing interlocal agreements with Kitsap cities that encourage more partnerships for stream restoration and stormwater control.
- ▶ Using our office property as a demonstration site has made best management practices (BMPs) accessible to most landowners.
- ▶ Cost share for agricultural projects is a priority.