



# Spokane Conservation District

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 Legislative District: 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 Congressional District: 5

## Other Accomplishments



Spokane County Voluntary Stewardship Program Work Group is finalizing the plan for critical areas. Approval is expected in September 2018.



Greater Spokane River Watershed Regional Conservation Partnership Program included 40,000 acres of conservation tillage and 50 miles (211 acres) of commodity buffers.



Vets on the Farm offers a bustling Farm Stand that provides fresh produce to customers and employs four full-time employees.

## 2018 FEATURE ACCOMPLISHMENT

### Vision for Conservation Campus Becomes a Reality

#### Resource Challenge

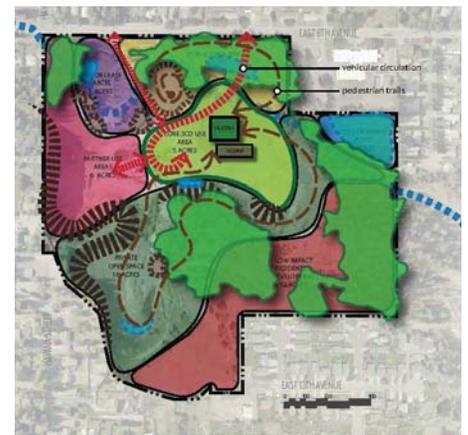
Neighbors watched anxiously as the Spokane Rock Products property went up for sale. It was a former quarry with 50 acres of varied wildland, including impressive basalt rock features, meadows, and ponderosa pines. They worried, "How many apartments would a developer squeeze in?" The parcel was being re-zoned, and 500 units could change everything. An unexpected buyer shifted the landscape's future. Instead of a new office, Spokane Conservation District extended their vision to create a Conservation Campus and purchased the property.

#### Project Summary and Results

Spokane Conservation District worked with a consulting firm to develop a five-phase plan to build a new office space and create demonstration spaces for Firewise, small acreage farming techniques, food forest plantings, and drought-tolerant landscaping. In the final phases of the plan, a conference building, outdoor auditorium, and low impact development are possibilities. The existing building is leased to a local technology company whose leadership passionately supports the mission of the Spokane Conservation District: to promote the sustainable use of natural resources from the ground up!

#### Key Partners

Oldcastle/Central Pre-Mix; Intrinium; AHBL; Integrus Architecture



Left: View of the property purchased by Spokane Conservation District and the future site of the "Conservation Campus." (City of Spokane Valley is in the distance.) Right: A conceptual design shows the diversity of the property's landscape.

## Priorities for 2019...

- ▶ The Commodity Buffer Program receives presentation requests for national conferences interested in protecting water quality while paying producers market value for the land. Other states may adopt the program due to this outreach.
- ▶ The Family Forest Fish Passage Program has opened 120 miles of stream habitat for Redband Trout and will open another 14 miles this coming year.