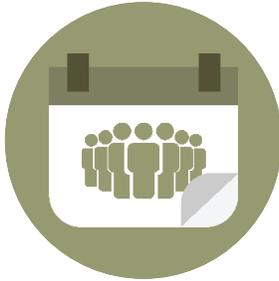




Palouse Conservation District

(509) 332-4101 | palousecd@palousecd.org | palousecd.org
Legislative District: 9 Congressional District: 5

Other Accomplishments



Hosted the Soil Health Sit Down and The Conservation Talk Series, attracting 690 producers and community members.



Facilitated cover crop trial program through the Department of Ecology to explore alternatives to fallow on 287 acres.



Piloted a vegetation monitoring program to gauge planting success on over 22 riparian restoration projects.

2019-21 Biennium Feature Accomplishment

A Grande Ronde-vous of Water Resource Literacy

Resource Challenge

Water is a precious resource on the Palouse, an area dominated by agriculture and expanding urban development. Residents rely entirely on the Grande Ronde aquifer for drinking water and surface waters have become contaminated with non-point source pollutants from agricultural and urban runoff. Palouse Conservation District (PCD) partnered with regional leaders, who recognized the need for alternative water source research, sparking conversations about water quality and quantity conservation measures.

Project Summary and Results

To foster science literacy about water resources, PCD implemented educational programming including virtual workshops, community demonstrations, stream clean-ups, riparian planting events, water conservation incentives, and a citizen science water quality monitoring program. Funding provided an opportunity to provide sub-awards to community partner education projects to support rural distribution of water savings devices, water literacy programs at the local science center, urban xeriscaping, a community watershed festival, and interpretive signage along riparian corridors.

Key Partners

Environmental Protection Agency, Washington State Department of Ecology, City of Pullman, Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee.



Students exploring aquatic macro-invertebrates along the South Fork of the Palouse River. Photo by: Cailin O'Malley.



The distribution of Grande Ronde Guardian stickers served as a reminder to be vigilant of our precious water resources.

Priorities moving forward...

- ▶ The Palouse River Watershed Regional Conservation Partnership Program was selected for renewal, after implementing 51,000 acres of conservation tillage practices, conserving 103,000 tons of soil. Partnering with the Columbia River Basin Restoration Program to sample the Palouse River for more than 150 pesticides to better understand pesticide residuals in the environment.