



A quarterly newsletter produced and distributed by the Palouse Conservation District— bringing you news and updates on conservation efforts within SE Whitman County

# Palouse News

## NORTH FORK PALOUSE RIVER INFORMATION MEETING

The Palouse Conservation District is excited to invite you to attend the North Fork Palouse River Information Meeting. Landowners, livestock owners, local residents, and anyone interested in the watershed is invited to attend. Please join us for light refreshments and discussion.

### *Agenda Items include:*

- Water Quality 101...what is the Department of Ecology's role?
- Input from stakeholders: provide input on PCD direction, activities, and projects in 2012
- Update on Whitman County Agricultural Conservation Practices survey
- How you can obtain cost share for conservation projects

**When: Monday, March 5, 2012 7:00pm**

**Where: Palouse Community Center, 220 E. Main Street, Palouse, WA**

For more information please contact us at 509-332-4101 or [palousecd@palousecd.org](mailto:palousecd@palousecd.org).

### Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

As spring draws near, people are beginning to inquire about possible volunteer opportunities. The Palouse Conservation District has a reputation for providing fun and engaging events that allow volunteers to work alongside others interested in conservation on the Palouse. The following is a list of volunteer activities that will be available in March and April:

-Tree planting

Please contact us at 509-332-4101 or [palousecd@palousecd.org](mailto:palousecd@palousecd.org) with questions or if you would like to sign up for an event.



Did you know that you can receive the Palouse News electronically right to your e-mail Inbox?

Simply call or email our office and we will put you on our electronic mailing list. You can also go to our website: [www.palousecd.org](http://www.palousecd.org) where you will find the Palouse News filed under "Newsletters".

If for any reason you want to be removed from our mailing list please let us know.

## **District Annual Board of Supervisors Election!**

The District will be holding its Annual Board of Supervisors Election on Tuesday, March 6, 2012. The election will take place at the District office at 1300 NE Henley Court, Suite 6 in Pullman. The polls will open at 10:00 AM and close at 6:00 PM.

Registered voters who reside within the Palouse Conservation District boundary are eligible to vote. Elections procedures are available at the district office. Absentee ballots are available upon request for eligible voters and must be received at the Palouse Conservation District office by February 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 PM. Please contact Pam at 509-332-4101 or visit the Palouse Conservation District office at 1300 NE Henley Court, Pullman, WA, for absentee ballots or if you have any questions.

The candidates are Kim Weerts from Garfield and Incumbent Keith Kopf from Pullman.

**Please stop by and cast your vote!**

## **Meet the Candidates**

**Keith Kopf**  
Pullman, WA

**Kim Weerts,**  
Garfield, WA

Keith Kopf, 56, is a life-long resident of the Palouse. He has farmed since 1979, transitioning from conventional tillage to minimum tillage and direct seed. Keith is a long-time member of the Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association.

When away from the farm, Keith enjoys backcountry flying, boating, and snow catting. Keith, a natural innovator, is always building something new in his shop.

Keith has served on the Palouse Conservation District Board of Supervisors since 1997, and has been dedicated to assisting the Palouse in natural conservation to provide opportunities to land-owners while enhancing the environment.



I grew up in a family of four in central Illinois. My parents and grandparents all hailed from rural Iowa. My father's career was spent with the Soil Conservation Service helping people solve problems; he gave that same desire to me. I left the outside world of working in 1985 to stay at home and raise our daughter. Since that time I have volunteered for Meals on Wheels, served on church councils, supervised a church affiliated pre-school, and worked with several other organizations within our community. More recently I was on the Homeowner's Association Board of a large community and served as their president for over 8 years. We moved to Elberton in 2007 to expand our beef business and to live in this beautiful place. My desire to serve on the Palouse Conservation District Board is a natural extension of living here and participating in the community.

No photo provided

All candidate information provided directly by candidates

## Whitman County Regional Envirothon

The Whitman County Regional Envirothon competition will be held at Klemgard County Park on Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012. During the competition, students will visit seven “in-the-field” test stations (forestry, wild-life, soils, water quality, current environmental issue, presentation prep, and team presentation), staffed by career professionals, where written, oral, and hands-on problem solving will be required along with formulating a strategy for increasing public awareness of local conservation issues. Last year, the Garfield-Palouse High School team that placed first at the Whitman County Regional Envirothon competition continued on to the Washington State Envirothon event where they took second place.

Envirothon is North America's largest high school environmental education competition. Envirothon is a great opportunity for students to compete in a team setting, meet people who work in natural resource-related careers, and have a good time while learning more about environmental topics! The Regional Envirothon competition is open to teams of 9th-12th graders from Whitman County and surrounding areas. Teams consist of 3 to 5 students. Please contact Jennifer at [jenniferpcd@palousecd.org](mailto:jenniferpcd@palousecd.org) if you are interested in fielding a team this year.

Find out more about Envirothon at:  
[www.envirothon.org](http://www.envirothon.org).



Left to right: Jennifer Boie (PCD) with Garfield-Palouse High School team members (2011 Envirothon 1st place team): advisor Buddy Carter, Ben Weagraff, JB Lange, Tiona Shea, Chad Redman, Blake Slocum, and advisor George Landle

## Annual Surplus Plant Sale



Mark your calendar! The Palouse Conservation District's Annual Surplus Plant Sale is just around the corner. The event will take place on **Friday April 6th from 9:00am - 4:30pm** and **Saturday April 7th from 9:00am - 1:00pm** at our office which is located at 1300 NE Henley Ct in Pullman.

Overstocked conservation trees and shrubs will be available for purchase at a great price on the day of the surplus plant sale. Palouse Conservation District staff will be available on site to answer any questions that you may have. Whatever the size of the planting project you have in mind, the Palouse Conservation District is available to help develop a plan which will include the proper plants, materials and labor to help make it more successful.

The surplus tree sale will include a limited number of plants—so come early!

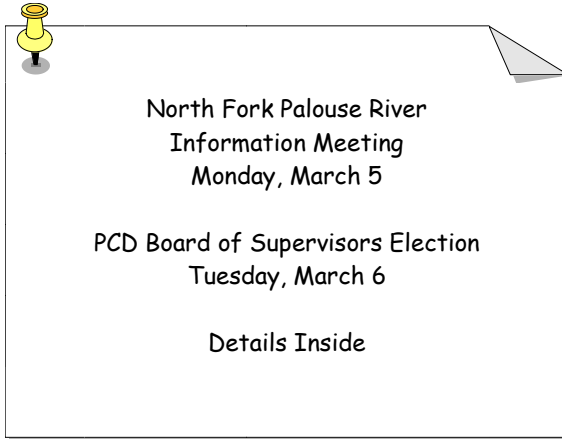
Reminder: If you ordered plants during our pre-sale, your plants will be available for pick up during the Annual Surplus Plant Sale.



*Palouse News*  
**Palouse Conservation District**  
1300 NE Henley Ct.  
Pullman, WA 99163

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## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## PCD says “Goodbye”



Palouse Conservation District says “goodbye” and “thank you” to Randy Stevens. Randy has worked as the Palouse Conservation District’s Natural Resource Coordinator since 2010. Although Randy will be leaving the Palouse Conservation District, he plans to stay in the area so please say “thank you” when you see him around the Palouse. Randy has lived on the Palouse for almost 14 years and has come to love it and call it home. He looks forward to continued conservation work on the Palouse and will continue making a positive impact on its landscape.

The Board of Supervisors meets monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at the District Office (call for meeting time)  
There is no meeting in August.

### Board of Supervisors

Larry Cochran, Chair (1990)  
Chris Heitstuman (1998)  
Keith Kopf (1997)  
Mark Whitmore (1998)  
Joan Folwell (2010)

### Associate Board Members

Greg Jones (1992)  
Dave Stout (2010)  
Al Bruns (2011)  
Patrick O’Neill (2011)

### District Staff

Mary Rosen, District Manager  
Pam Furchtenicht, Administrative Assistant  
Jennifer Boie, Information & Education Coordinator  
John Celley, Conservation Intern

### Contact Information:

(509) 332-4101 phone  
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