



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

District Annual Board of Supervisors Election

The District will be holding its Annual Board of Supervisors Election on Tuesday, March 5, 2013. 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 March 5th at 1:00 PM. The deadline to request absentee ballots is February 25 at 4:00 pm. Please contact Pam at 509-332-4101 or visit the Palouse Conservation District office for absentee ballots or if you have any questions.

The candidates are Kim Weerts from Garfield and Incumbent Joan Folwell from Pullman (see candidate details on page 2)

Please stop by and cast your vote!

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:

- Water quality monitoring
- Native tree and shrub planting

Please contact Drew at 509-332-4101 or drews@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 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.

Meet the Candidates

Joan Folwell
Pullman, WA

My family and I have called Pullman home for 45 years; I worked at WSU for 30 years. I learned about the Palouse Conservation District when we decided to plant native grasses, trees, and flowers exclusively on our small acreage. I became a district supervisor three years ago with the hope that I could pay back the service that had been given to me. Currently, I am the only supervisor with a background that matches the interests and concerns of town people and small land owners. I initiated funding that has brought grants worth \$62,000 to the district with another \$76,000 pending. I have increased the district's level of activity with our partners, the WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. I have established the preservation and restoration of the native Palouse Prairie as an additional focus of the district. I have attended state and regional meetings to increase my understanding of all aspects of conservation districts and to learn from other supervisors and staffs. To educate myself about issues facing our district, I have attended meetings such as the Dept. of Ecology's Water 101 and the North Central Idaho Grazing Conference. Some of my other activities include being treasurer of the Pullman League of Women Voters and vice president of the Palouse Prairie Foundation.



Kim Weerts,
Garfield, WA

I am Kim Weerts and I am running for the Palouse Conservation District Board of Supervisors. My husband, Keith, and I live in Elberton along the North Fork of the Palouse River. We have a small cattle ranch and raise Galloway/Angus cows for direct marketing. We sell natural beef and consider our way of life a blessing because we are live in an exquisitely beautiful place. Our daughter lives and works in Colfax. I am currently an Associate Supervisor with the PCD. I am also President of the Whitman County Cattlemen's Association and am a member of the 5 Star Watershed Stewardship group.

As an Associate Supervisor of the PCD I attend meetings and participate in discussions but am not allowed to cast votes that could enhance opportunities I feel are important to the constituents of the conservation district. It is important for the conservation district board to represent a variety of producers in the district. With the birth of the 5 Star Watershed Stewardship program and the district's interest and offerings, the potential alignment of on-the-ground producers, environmental groups and cutting-edge educators seem to be only steps away. The Palouse Conservation District has the opportunity to be on the forefront of this far-reaching endeavor.



All candidate information provided directly by candidates

Garfield-Palouse H.S. Students Shine at the 2012 WA State Land Judging Competition

The 2012 Washington State Land Judging Competition was hosted by the Grant County Conservation District at Boe Clausen's farm just outside of Warden. The 124 participants represented 15 different FFA Chapters and various eastern and central Washington high schools. The high schools represented in the 2012 competition included: Cashmere, Cheney, Freeman, Garfield-Palouse, Lacrosse, Lind-Ritzville, Moses Lake, Pomeroy, Prosser, Quincy, Springdale, Tekoam, Rosalia, Washtucna, and Wilson Creek.

Students were required to assess soil conditions on three cropland sites (irrigated potato, irrigated wheat, and dryland wheat) and a home-site. Contest participants evaluated various soil characteristics, including topsoil and subsoil texture, permeability, slope, erosion potential, and land capability class. Students also recommended land treatment options, including vegetative/crop management strategies, types of mechanical treatments recommended to control undesirable vegetation or decrease erosion, and what types of fertilizer or soil amendments would be recommended for the site. The home-site was evaluated based on limitations the soil types might possess which might interfere with the construction of buildings, septic tanks, roads, and lawns/landscaping.

The winning team was from Garfield-Palouse High School and included members Jesse Lopez, Chandler Pfaff, Taylor Redman, Hunter Woltering, and Gabe Cocking. Buddy Carter served as their team advisor. The 1st place team won \$300 dollars and will proceed to the national land judging contest to be held April 2013 in Oklahoma. The top scoring individual for the competition was Jesse Lopez from Garfield-Palouse. Jesse won a \$1,000 scholarship to Washington State University. Congratulations to the Garfield Palouse High School students and Buddy Carter for their achievements!



The winning team, Garfield-Palouse #1, accepting their awards with team-advisor Buddy Carter.

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 5th from 9:00am - 4:30pm** and **Saturday April 6th 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.



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

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PCD Board of Supervisors Election
Tuesday, March 5, 10am-6pm
Deadline to request absentee
ballots is February 25th at 4:00pm

Annual Surplus Plant Sale
Friday, April 5 and Saturday, April 6

Details Inside

Meet the new District Manager



Palouse Conservation District welcomes Jennifer Boie as the new District Manager. Jennifer has worked as the District's Education and Outreach Coordinator since 2010 and she looks forward to her new role with the District. Jennifer has spent the past 13 years working with local community members to implement conservation projects on the Palouse. In her leisure time she enjoys exploring the Northwest with her husband and daughter.

Jennifer is excited to work with you to meet your conservation needs so next time you are in the neighborhood please stop by the office to introduce yourself and say "hello".

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)
Kim Weerts (2012)
Ben Moehrle (2012)

District Staff

Jennifer Boie, District Manager
Pam Furchtenicht, Administrative Coordinator
Drew Schuldt, Natural Resource Coordinator

Contact Information:

(509) 332-4101 phone
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palousecd@palousecd.org