



ASOTIN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Assisting, protecting, and restoring Asotin County's natural resources.



The Dirt is intended to provide a monthly summary of recent activities and inform you of upcoming events and important information. We have other mailing lists that target specific land uses or topics and communications are sent throughout the year. If you are interested in receiving additional information from ACCD, please contact us at info@asotincd.org or 509-552-8117.

WEED CONTROL PROGRAMS

The Asotin County Conservation District and Asotin County Noxious Weed Control Board are excited to announce the 2021 Weed Control Programs!

The 2021 Cost-Share program is available for all Class B and C weeds. Treatment of Russian thistle is also eligible. There are two options available, but landowners may only participate in one of the options. Ground application will be 50% cost-share not to exceed a payment of \$25 per acre with a cap of \$250 per landowner. The Aerial applications will be 50% cost-share not to exceed a payment of \$37.50 per acre with a cap of \$750 per landowner. To apply for the cost-share program, applicants need to submit a map identifying the location of the treatment, number of acres that will be treated and weeds that will be sprayed. If you need assistance with weed identification, ACCD technical staff can assist you. Acres enrolled in CRP, CREP and CCRP or acres in a cropping rotation are not eligible for the program.

There will also be funding available for the Early Detection, Rapid Response program. This program targets all Class A weeds and the following Class B weeds: orange hawkweed, meadow hawkweed, spotted knapweed, Japanese knotweed, rush skeletonweed (small, localized infestations) and white bryony. This program covers 100% of the costs for treatment by a consulting contractor or conservation crew provided by ACCD. Landowners must provide written consent for treatment and allow monitoring of the infestation.

For more information, please contact the Conservation District at 509-552-8117 or email weeds@asotincd.org.

ACCD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ELECTION

The ACCD mail-in election was conducted on March 18. Eligible voters have “unofficially” re-elected Rod Hostetler for another three-year term. The election will become official when the Washington State Conservation Commission certifies the election results at their May Commission meeting.

MOVING ON

On March 26th, we said good-bye to Zach Van Orsdel. Zach joined the district in January 2020 as a Resource Technician and was responsible for overseeing the implementation of cost-share projects. We will Zach luck as he relocated to Minnesota and makes another conservation district his new home. If you were working with Zach on a cost-share project and need assistance, Brad will be handling this workload until a new technician is hired.

THE END IS NEAR!

April marks the beginning of the end...of the state fiscal year. June 30, 2021 is the last day of the state fiscal year and this also marks the end of the biennia. What does this mean? Washington State operates on a two-year budget cycle and grant funds from the Conservation Commission must be spent by the end of the June. ACCD staff will be working closely with cooperators that have projects scheduled to be completed in June since there is NO option for an extension for these funds. These projects must be completed by June 30 and ACCD staff must inspect, certify and process payment by July 6 in order to submit final vouchers and grant reports to the Conservation Commission.

COVID 19 PHASE 3 - WHAT IT MEANS FOR ACCD

In March 2020, ACCD staff started telecommuting with the plan of being back in the office six weeks later. One year later and we have two staff members working from the office while the remaining members continue to work from their home offices. We want to thank everyone for their patience and willingness to work with us during these difficult time. Asotin County has entered Phase 3 of reopening under Washington States Healthy Washington and we are working on our transition plan to have all of the staff under the same roof by June 1st! We will be following business reopening guidance but hope to welcome members of the community into our office again in the near future.

FUN FACT!

Asotin County was created out of Garfield County in 1883.