



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.

OFFICE OPENING

As of Monday, June 14th, the ACCD office is open to the public by appointment. Please call to schedule an appointment with staff. If the state opens as planned, the office will fully open on July 1st to the public without appointments.

PUBLIC OUTREACH EVENT

We had a fantastic turnout on June 22nd for our outreach event at the Asotin Co. Fire District. Over 50 landowners and community members relaxed in the A/C to listen to Tracy Drury recap all the work that has been done on the Grande Ronde Geomorphic Assessment, Megan Stewart briefed on the upcoming George Creek Resource Planning and the remarkable partnership we now have with the weed board. Lacy Ausman-Ditto gave an exciting presentation on the low-tech instream habitat structures as well as her "world premier" video of the structures at work. Love Shack Kitchen provided a delicious BBQ dinner for all attendees.

NEW FISCAL YEAR

On July 1st the new fiscal year will begin for our grants and select contracts. The new round of funding will be available for projects that enhance and protect natural resources. Stop by the office to talk to us about planning your new project!

EDUCATION

The end of the school year initiates the release of rainbow trout from eight tanks that were in various classrooms in Asotin County. The classrooms received fish eggs on January 8th and students learned about the Salmonid life cycle as the eggs transitioned into Parr by the beginning of June. They were then released in various locations around the county.

Lincoln Middle School held their Education Day on June 2nd, ACCD was invited to participate. Nearly 100 8th grade students learned about the Salmon/Steelhead life cycles, watershed health, and conservation efforts in Asotin County.

BURN BAN IN EFFECT

On Monday, June 14, the Asotin County Board of Commissioners implemented a burn ban in Asotin County, suspending any type of fires/open burning, effective immediately. The ban will continue until a further ordinance is adopted lifting the suspension. All fires and open burning in the unincorporated areas of the County are suspended until further notice.

The ban has been implemented as a result of Asotin County experiencing warm and unusually dry weather resulting in extreme fire hazard conditions, as well as the Lewis-Clark Valley, at times, experiencing air quality levels that are "less than desirable."

Any person who violates any provisions of the Ban shall incur a civil penalty. The penalty for a first violation shall be \$200, and the first \$100 shall not be suspended or deferred. The penalty for a second violation shall be \$500, \$1000 for a third violation, and a fourth violation shall be up to \$10,000. For each violation of a continuing nature, each day shall constitute as a separate offense.

In addition to the fines above, in the event of an illegal burn, the Board of County Commissioners may charge any costs of response or costs incurred for fire suppression, testing of materials, or investigation to the property owner and/or any responsible parties involved.

Exceptions:

1. Campfires will be permitted within designated fire pits at Chief Timothy Park (island only) unless a Washington State-wide Burn Ban is enacted.
2. Throughout the unincorporated areas of Asotin County, approved fire rings, approved propane and charcoal barbeques are allowed.

WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS

It is that time of year again when all Asotin County residents should be alert, proactive and prepared for wildfires. This is our chance to get ready before the fire season is fully upon us and being proactive now will empower you to make sensible decisions in the event of a wildfire. Here are a few things to consider, so when the fire comes, you and your property are ready:

- Get Ready: Prepare your property
- Get Set: Plan your evacuation routes and emergency plan
- Go!: Evacuate if you receive notice

WILDFIRE WORKSHOP

Preparing for the 2021 Wildfire Season: Reducing Wildfire Risk to Your Home & Outbuildings

Tuesday, June 29, 2021 Free On-line Zoom Presentation
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Pacific Time (U.S. & Canada)

This workshop is designed to give property owners practical information about what they can do to make their properties more likely to survive wildland fire.

Provide an understanding of fire behavior, fire protection jurisdiction, and the decisions that firefighters must make when battling wildland fire in wildland urban interface.

Register Today at uidaho.edu/clearwater-events

UPCOMING DATES

- Independence Day Observed: July 5th – Office Closed
- Monthly Board Meeting: July 8th at 7:00 pm – In person and virtual options available. The meeting link is available upon request.

FUN FACT!

Asotin County is 636.21 square miles big!