



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.

❖ **CHANGING IN BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

We'd like to give our well wishes to Kelsey Crawford as he officially steps down from his position on the Board. He has served a total of four years as a Board Supervisor. We appreciate the guidance, dedication, and knowledge he has brought to ACCD. He has provided great leadership that has helped shape the future of the District. His humble jokes and bright ideas will be greatly missed at the meeting table. Thank you for your service, Kelsey!

Given the opportunity to fill the open seat at the meeting table is Jesse Greene. During our election at the Annual Meeting, Jesse was elected by fellow community members. The WA Conservation Commission officially certified the election results on May 18th. Welcome to the ACCD team Jesse!

❖ **SUMMER INTERNSHIP**

"My name is Caylie Browne, and I am a summer intern here at ACCD. I am from Asotin, Washington, where I grew up on my family's dry land farm and cattle ranch. In June of 2022, I graduated as Valedictorian from Asotin High School. During high school, I was extremely active in FFA. I was a chapter officer for two years, on four state winning FFA teams, and competed at the National FFA Convention in three different events. I have just completed my first year at the University of Idaho where I am pursuing a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education. My goal after receiving this degree is to come back and teach at Asotin High School. I am looking forward to my summer internship at ACCD because of the new learning opportunities and the strong connection to agriculture that ACCD offers."

❖ **CLOSING OUT FISCAL YEAR**

Our fiscal year is quickly coming to an end. Cost-share projects need to be completed prior to June 30th. *Please coordinate with your technician regarding the status of your projects.*

On July 1st, the new fiscal year will begin and with it comes new grants and contracts. A 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 next project!

❖ **COVER CROPS**

Did you miss out on the last round of funding for cover crops? Well, here's another chance! More funding is coming through the Sustainable Farms and Fields program during the upcoming biennium. The program's goal is to adopt soil health management systems. Contact Brad Riehle to get signed up, 509-552-8121 or brad@asotincd.org.

❖ **WATER QUALITY PROGRAM**

The Department of Ecology's Water Quality program is set to begin a monitoring effort on Alpowa, Asotin, Couse, Deadman, Meadow, and Tenmile Creeks in Asotin and Garfield counties. This monitoring effort comes a decade after "Straight to Implementation" clean-up plans for these waterways were developed. Since the plans were developed, Ecology has been working with partners in the watersheds such as the Asotin County Conservation District, to get projects on the ground that protect and improve water quality. Improvements in the impaired parameters (E. coli, pH, Dissolved Oxygen, temperature) are expected to be recorded, as a result of the numerous stream miles that have undergone restoration.

If you see the Ecology crew out sampling, stop and say hi! Jennie Weathered is the field lead for the effort and is also Ecology's new nonpoint pollution contact for the area. She comes most recently

from a Natural Resource Conservation Service office in Southeast Idaho and is excited to now call Pullman “home” and be diving into water quality. Any questions about the monitoring effort or other water quality topics, can be directed to her at jennie.weathered@ecy.wa.gov.

❖ **FIRE PROTECTION**

May is Wildfire Awareness Month, and DNR wants homeowners to work together to become better prepared for wildfires by reducing the risk on their property and in their neighborhood.

Each year, wildland fires consume homes in the wildland-urban interface – defined as areas where homes are built near or among lands prone to wildland fire. Studies show that as many as 80 percent of homes lost to wildland fire may have been saved if brush around the homes were cleared and defensible space created around structures. There is no better time than now to prepare and educate your family, friends, and neighbors. Make sure everyone knows what to do to protect people and homes in case of fire.

UPCOMING DATES

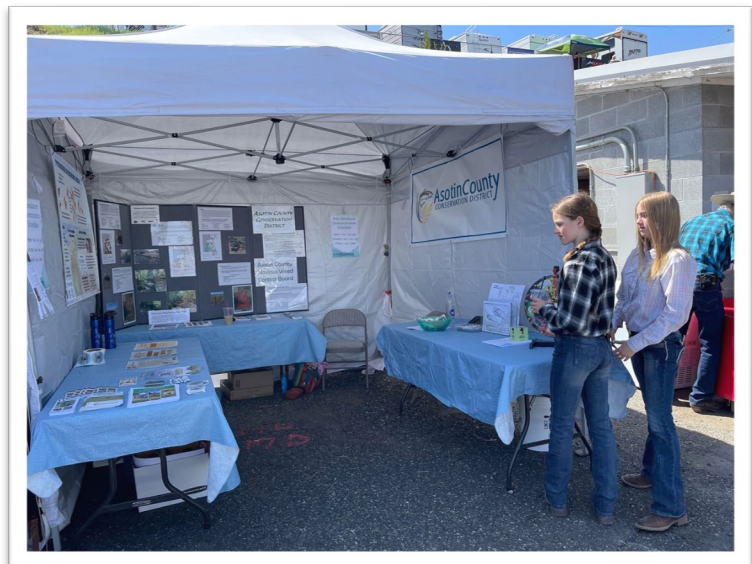
- **ACCD Monthly Board Meeting: June 8th at 6pm**
- **ACNWC Board Meeting: June 20th at 6pm**

“NOT SO” FUN FACT!

In the U.S., there has been a 223% increase in the amount of land burned by wildfires annually since 1983, when official wildfire record-keeping began. Wildfires in 1983 burned 1.3 million acres of land; in 2022, there were 7.5 million acres burned by wildfires.



2023 Asotin County Fair – ACCD Rainfall Simulator Trailer



2023 Asotin County Fair – ACCD Booth