



NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES AWARENESS WEEK 2026

Defending our Health by Stopping the Spread of Invasive Species

FEBRUARY 23–27, 2026

National Invasive Species Awareness Week 2026 Mobilizes the Nation to Protect Public and Environmental Health.

Invasive species pose a significant threat to our environment, economy, and public health. They can disrupt ecosystems, degrade habitats, displace native species, and cause substantial economic losses to industries such as agriculture, forestry, and fisheries. Additionally, invasive species can increase the risk of wildfires, alter water quality, and even impact human health by transmitting diseases.

As stewards of our state's natural resources, we must take proactive measures to address the spread of invasive species.

Join the North American Invasive Species Management Association for a series of educational webinars and presentations FREE for the public:

A full schedule of events is available at:

<https://naisma.org/programs/nisaw/>



National Invasive Species
Awareness Week



ASOTIN COUNTY INVASIVE SPECIES WATCH:



Tree of Heaven and the Spotted Lanternfly



Mature Tree of Heaven

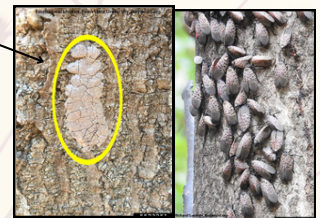
Adult
Lanternfly

Opposite
Leaves



Egg
Mass

Fruit
(Samara)



Breeding Lanternflies

Quagga Mussels



Photos from Left to Right: Quagga mussel, boat propeller covered in Quagga mussels, and a hand holding several Quagga mussels, USGS.

The Voluntary Stewardship Program: Asotin County Work Group Seeking Volunteers

Are you interested in helping guide conservation in Asotin County? We are seeking landowner and producer involvement in the Asotin County Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) Work Group. Rather than leading with regulation, VSP is a voluntary, incentive-based program that protect and enhance critical areas, and maintains sustainable agricultural viability.

Beginning 2017, the Asotin County VSP Work Group has helped guide the direction of VSP efforts in our County. Composed of farmers, ranchers, and County officials, the Work Group ensures that local representation can voice opinions or concerns, provide expertise and insight, and laud achievements that are happening on the ground.

The Work Group typically meets around 4-6 times a year with remote participation available. Local input is essential for reporting to the State Conservation Commission, and reports are reviewed by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Ecology, and the Washington State Department of Agriculture. Additionally, VSP funds can be used to help landowners and producers meet their stewardship goals.

**Interested in being a member of the VSP Work Group?
Contact: keaton@asotincd.org**

**Check out the VSP Work Plan on our website:
www.asotincd.org/stewardship/**



The Dirt Newsletter

Noxious Weed Spotlight: Common Bugloss

LISTING STATUS: CLASS B NOXIOUS WEED SPECIES: CONTROL IS REQUIRED.



Noxious Weed Profile: *Anchusa officinalis*

How to Control it:

Impacts

Displaces native species and decreases crop and forage production. Invades agricultural fields and pastures. Fleshy stalks can cause baled hay to mold. Listed on the Washington State quarantine list. It is illegal to buy, sell, or transport. Not known to be toxic but several plants in the same family contain pyrrolizidine alkaloids which are toxic to humans and animals.

Habitat

Common bugloss has been reported in several eastern Washington counties including Asotin County. Found in disturbed areas, roadsides, and in agricultural fields and pastures.

Identification

- Perennial herb, grows up to 2 feet tall, covered in coarse hairs.
- Flowers blue to purple, with white centers and 5 equal lobes.
- Flowers grow in clusters (cymes) at the end of stems.
- Flower stems start out coiled and uncoil with maturity.
- Leaves are smaller at the stem, upper leaves lack petioles.
- Basal leaves have petioles and are narrowly oblong.
- Flowers produce four nutlets. Each nutlet contains one seed.

Biology

- Reproduces by seed.
- Deep taproot, new plants can develop from root fragments.
- One plant can produce an average of 900 seeds.
- Seeds can remain viable in the soil for several years.

Mechanical

Hand pulling and digging can be effective for controlling small populations, but be sure to remove the deep taproot. Continuous mowing will reduce seed production but not eradicate populations. Control plants before going to seed, make sure to bag and remove plants to prevent seed dispersal.

Cultural

Thoroughly clean boots, clothing and equipment to prevent seed spread. Effective long-term strategies for control include planting competitive vegetation species such as sheep fescue, intermediate wheatgrass, or native bunchgrass. When any ground disturbing activity occurs, seed/plant the desired vegetation once the work is complete.

Biological

No biological controls are currently available in Washington.

Chemical

Follow all applicable laws and regulations regarding herbicide use.

Follow chemical label instructions for application.

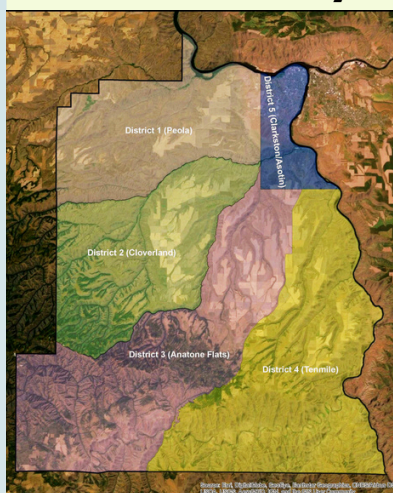
- Recommended herbicides: Clopyralid, Triclopyr, Dicamba, 2,4-D or Glyphosate. Use of a surfactant is highly recommended.
- Target plants while they are in rosette-stage, before flowering.



Need help managing
your noxious weeds?

Contact the Noxious Weed Control Board at ACCD:
(509) 552-8119 - weeds@asotincd.org
www.asotincd.org

Asotin County Noxious Weed Control Board Vacant Positions:



The Asotin County Noxious Weed Control Board consists of five members appointed by the Asotin County Commissioners, each representing a different geographical area of Asotin County.

District 1 (Peola) and District 3 (Asotin Flats) are vacant, and open to those residing in each respective area of the county.

Current board members:

District 1: Peola, *Vacant

District 2: Bruce Petty

District 3, Anatone Flats: *Vacant

District 4: Jerry Hendrickson

District 5: Brit Ausman, Chairman

Please contact Megan Stewart or Kodie Wight if you are interested in serving on the Weed Board.
(509) 552-8119 - weeds@asotincd.org



What does a member of the Noxious Weed Control Board do???

- Meets Quarterly
- Maintains the Asotin County noxious weed list
- Designates Class B and C listed species for control
- Directs county noxious weed control programs

Graphic: Map of Asotin County showing boundaries of Noxious Weed Control Districts.

The Dirt Newsletter



THE TREE SALE HAS BEGUN!

Pre-orders Now Open!

Pre-ordering closes: March 13, 2026

Submit pre-orders
on the ACCD website:

www.asotincd.org/treesale

Tree Pick-up Dates:

March 19-20, 2026



Asotin County Conservation District Request for Formal Bids:

**RFB NO. 2026-01: Tenmile Creek PA-64 Fish Habitat
Restoration - Reach B**

The Asotin County Conservation District (District) is seeking a contractor for the fish habitat restoration project planned on Tenmile Creek in Asotin County. "Reach B" of the designed fish habitat restoration project includes installation of engineered log structures, side channel and floodplain grading, and boulder structures. District is the project sponsor for this project which is on private property. District is working with a private consulting firm who developed the design. Consultant engineers will be present for the pre-bid meeting and for project construction oversight.

BID DUE DATE: March 4th, 2026 at 4:30 PM PST

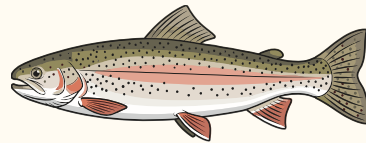
PRE-BID PROJECT SITE VISITATION:

February 10th, at 11 AM PST

To review all bid-documents and project designs,
please visit our website at:

www.asotincd.org/rfb/

or contact the RFB Coordinator at: rfp@asotincd.org
or, visit us at: 1397 Port Drive, Clarkston WA 99403



ACCD Board of Supervisors 2026 Election Dates and Deadlines:

- **Deadline to File Candidate Interest: Feb. 9, at 4:30pm**
- **Deadline to request absentee ballot: Feb. 19, at 4:30pm**
- **Deadline for requested ballots to be sent by ACCD to requestors, or for requestors to pick up their ballot: Feb. 26 at 4:30pm**
- **Election Polls Open/Close: Mar. 12, 2026 from 2:30-7:30p**
- **Appointed Full-Term Position Vacancies Advertisement Opens: Feb. 28th**
- **Deadline to file application for appointed positions: March 31st**



For more elections
information, please check
our website, or contact us:

**Asotin County
Conservation District**

1397 Port Drive,
Clarkston, WA 99403
Phone: (509) 552-8117

Email: Info@asotincd.org
Website: www.asotincd.org

SAVE THE DATES:

ACCD Annual Meeting:

March 12th Social at 5:30pm,
Program Updates Begin at 6pm

Pesticide Recertification Credit Course:

March 12, at 3pm



Important Upcoming Events:

ACCD Board Meeting: Feb. 5, at 12pm

ACNWCB Special Board Meeting: March 3, at 1pm

ACCD Board Meeting: March 5th at 6pm

ACCD Office Closed:

FEB. 16TH - PRESIDENTS DAY

Fun Fact:

Winter freezes can affect tick populations, but ticks are highly adapted to cold weather survival. To successfully "freeze out" part of a tick population, the temperature needs to drop to -7°F, and be sustained for 4 to 5 days. Tick populations are actually more likely to succumb to hot, dry, arid conditions in summer, beginning at 90°F. Source: Tick Research Lab of Pennsylvania.