PALOUSE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2024-25 Featured accomplishments

Conservation cover crops

Through the Washington State Conservation Commission's Sustainable Farms and Fields funding, Palouse Conservation District staff worked with seven landowners to implement 150 acres of cover crop and 92 acres of conservation cover.

Photo Caption: Fully-established nine-species cover crop mix in the Summer of 2024. Photo by Andrew Wolfe, Palouse Conservation District.

Confluence scholars

Palouse Conservation District's novel Confluence Scholars program, funded by the Environmental Protection Agency, engaged 180 students with hands-on lessons, fieldwork, and a research summit to inspire care for natural resources.

Photo Caption: Students work through chemical testing as part of an aquatic ecology lesson in the classroom at Pullman High School. Photo by Allison Anders, Palouse Conservation District.

Songbird monitoring

Palouse Conservation District partnered with Pine Creek Conservation District to implement a bird acoustics monitoring project, measuring how habitat restoration efforts are impacting songbird communities. This project is made possible with State Conservation Commission Regional Conservation Partnership Program funding.

Photo Caption: Wildlife acoustic sensors used to measure songbird populations in riparian restoration sites. Photo by Madeline Baldillo, Palouse Conservation District.

Other accomplishments

- Planted and maintained 62 acres and 38,086 streambank feet of riparian areas. Installed 15 beaver dam analogs/ bio-engineering structures. New riparian projects were established on over 30 acresa
- Engaged more than 2,900 participants through 43 events and workshops designed to inspire public awareness for conservation agriculture, riparian and habitat restoration, and water quality protection.
- Partnered with the Washington State Department of Ecology to install and plant two saturated riparian buffers. Saturated buffers treat tile lines, aiming to improve water quality by removing excess nutrients before they enter adjacent waterways.
- Coordinated over 40 volunteer opportunities, involving 500+ volunteers who contributed 1,000 hours to riparian plantings, stream clean-ups, water quality monitoring, and maintaining pet waste stations.

Congressional district 5 Legislative district 9

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