

**CENTRAL & EASTERN KLICKITAT
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

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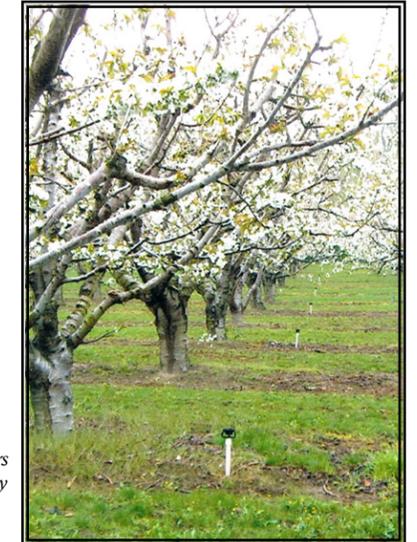
KLICKITAT CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING, 2012

Central & Eastern Klickitat Conservation Districts

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- *2012 Tree Planting Field Trips*
- *(photo right) CKCD provided cost share to help replace 400 impact sprinklers with low-flow emitters in this Dallesport apple orchard, saving over a million gallons of water and 10,800 kwh of electricity per year . This landowner will also receive rebates on the emitters from Klickitat PUD through its Save Water, Save Energy program.*



SPREADING THE WORD

The staff of Central and Eastern Klickitat Conservation Districts have been busy reaching out to our constituents to make sure people know what a conservation district is, why we're here, and what we have to offer. The Boards of Supervisors of both districts have set public education high on their lists of priorities because they know that when people are given good information, they can make good decisions. One of the top resource concerns in both districts is water quality, so we want to make sure that every land user in our districts knows these important things:

- 1) Riparian areas (the land directly adjacent to a body of water) play a critical role in the health of our watersheds.
- 2) People have the ability to affect local riparian areas, for good or for bad.
- 3) Central and Eastern Klickitat CDs have information, technical expertise, and even financial assistance to assist land users who want to protect, enhance, or repair riparian areas over which they have control.
- 4) Local citizens can and should take responsibility for the health of their local watersheds. If we don't, the state can and will take that responsibility, and mandate conservation measures to local land users. Those mandates may or may not be based on local information and conditions.

So how are we spreading the word? Lots of ways! We write and distribute this newsletter. Both districts have web sites. We host day-long annual meetings, at which staff and guest speakers present information on local natural resource issues and conservation activities. We hold our annual plant sale to promote large-scale plantings and the use of native (or at least adapted) plants. We

continued



Conservation • Development • Self-Government

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to improve, conserve, and promote the wise use of natural resources by serving the citizens within our districts through educational programs, public information, technical advice, and financial assistance.

WE WANT YOUR LARGE WOODY DEBRIS

Central Klickitat CD has an immediate need for trees that have been blown over with the roots still intact (a.k.a. rootwads). We need them with at least 20 feet of trunk and large root masses. We also need 15- to 25-foot long logs, 16 to 36 inches in diameter. If you have blow down on your property and would like to be rid of it, we can arrange to have it removed at our expense, to be used in the stabilization of stream banks. Donations of logs and rootwads are tax-deductible.

If you would like to donate logs and/or rootwads for conservation work, please call Jim Hill or Loren Meagher at (509)773-5823 x 5.

SPREADING THE WORD, continued from page 1

sponsor tree planting field trips for local school children, including in-class presentations on why fish love trees (if you don't know, ask a second- or fifth-grader), providing 800 trees and also paying for bus transportation to the planting site. We also partner with other natural resources agencies at Water Jam, a Gorge-wide program for fourth-graders, demonstrating stream and riparian habitat restoration.

As the number of small-acreage landowners in the districts increases, it is important to equip them with information and resources to help them make wise choices in the development and use of their property. To that end, we have added a new program to our repertoire. Our education and outreach technician, Kerry Bodily, has developed a great workshop for real estate professionals; this Continuing Education-qualified presentation acquaints agents and brokers with local conservation programs as well as agricultural and natural resource agencies, and teaches them how this information can be of value to real estate sellers and buyers. Similar information was made available to property owners when Kerry represented both districts at the 2012 Goldendale Home & Garden Show.

We will continue to look for ways to reach people with our conservation message and to fulfill our mission, which is to improve, conserve, and promote the wise use of natural resources by serving the citizens within our districts through educational programs, public information, technical advice, and financial assistance.

If you need information on what you can do to protect or improve the riparian area(s) on your property, or if you have any other natural resource questions, please feel free to call the district office at (509)773-5823 x 5, or e-mail us at cdoffice@gorge.net.



Kerry Bodily, education and outreach technician, at the 2012 Goldendale Home & Garden Show.

Kerry had a variety of native plants displayed at the Home & Garden Show



(right) CKCD supervisor and planting host, Vic Blandine, welcomes the 5th graders.

(below, left) The 2nd graders dig right in.

(below, right) Martha Blair talks to 2nd graders at Goldendale Primary School, in preparation for their tree planting field trip.



2012 PLANT SALE

The 2012 plant sale is behind us now, and what a great sale it was! Every year we learn how to work more efficiently and have more fun with it. This year, we scaled back on the total number of plants offered, in response to slowing sales the last couple of years. The exception was conifers, as we expected some big orders from landowners affected by the Monastery Complex fire. Since we ordered fewer plants from our growers, our expenses were lower and our net profit was larger. As in years past, our left-overs were donated to the local Master Gardeners club.

Successful fund-raising is important for any conservation district, but even more important, in the opinion of Eastern Klickitat CD's Board of Supervisors, is simply making these plants available. We offer a variety of native plants that aren't typically found in most retail nurseries, and we can order bare root conifers in quantities that make it possible for our customers to get them at very low prices.

Special thanks go to the folks at Goldendale Farm Store for letting us use their warehouse, and to volunteers Doug Miller, Kay Hill, and Vic and Cindy Blandine for all their help!