

The Conservation CONNECTION



Promoting sustainable uses of natural resources through responsible stewardship.

2005 Plant Sale Season Wrap-Up

Thanks to everyone who ordered bare-root native trees and shrubs from us this Spring. We are having a very dry Spring so try and provide watering as much as possible for your young plants. These native plants will be hard at work in the coming years providing wildlife habitat, controlling soil erosion and beautifying our landscapes. KCD provided plants for over 300 private projects, both large and small all over King County.

If you missed out, or need more plants there is a final open sale date at our Plant Material Center near Mount Vernon on Sat. April 9th from 9 to 1. There should be a decent selection available at low end-of-season prices. Contact www.skagitcd.org or call the Skagit Conservation District at 360-428-4313 for details.



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Board of Supervisors Election

The King Conservation District will be holding our annual public election for one position on the 5-member Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, March 22nd at the following locations:

King CD Office – 935 Powell Ave SW Renton
Snoqualmie Valley Senior Center – 4610 Stephens Ave.
Carnation

Enumclaw Community Center – 1350 Cole st. Enumclaw
Seattle City Hall – 601 5th Ave. Seattle

The winner will serve a 3-year term on our unpaid Board which meets monthly to oversee King CD operations, policy and provide direction to 12 full time staff. KCD Office. The election is run according to RCW 89.08 which is the State law that conservation district's comply with.

Poll hours are noon until 7PM. All registered voters or residents of King County are eligible and encouraged to vote and rest assured – your vote will count!

Change Service Requested

935 Powell Avenue S.W.
Renton, WA 98055
KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Volunteer Opportunities



The staff of the King Conservation District invites you to participate in a variety of environmental restoration projects where you will learn about restoring streams and wetlands, using native plants to restore native plant communities, and engineering techniques to enhance fish and wildlife habitat. These projects are both fun and educational! Contact Amy, (425) 277-5581 ext 129, amy.tippery@kingcd.org, for more information on these and other volunteer opportunities.

Winter and Spring 2005

Garden of Goo

Native plants grown from locally collected seed are the corner stone of conservation and ecological restoration. Learn about and actively participate in growing native plants for stream and wetland restoration and enhancement projects. Activities include starting plants from seed and cuttings, and transplanting and maintaining nursery stock. Activities will occur at the King Conservation District nursery facility in Renton from **9am– 12pm**.

Scheduled volunteer dates include:

March: 25th and 26th

April: 15th and 16th

May: 20th and 21st



Please take a moment to fill out the following form if you would like to be added to our mailing list, receive notice of upcoming issues to view on-line, or if your address is changing.

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

E-mail _____

Mail to King Conservation District, 935 Powell Avenue. S.W., Renton, WA 98055 or call (425) 277-5581.

Thanks for participating! Your reply will ensure that the **Conservation Connection** will be delivered promptly.

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Joshua Monaghan, Paul Borne

King Conservation District is a subdivision of state government created to promote the wise use of natural resources. A five-member board of supervisors, representing local interests, hold meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at our office in Renton. The public is encouraged to attend.

Features



We've Been Googled

*submitted by Jane Paige
King County Horsefarmer*

"I'm calling about the manure. Do you ship it?", a gravelly voice said.

The fact that we received a call about manure did not surprise me even slightly; it was the shipping part that threw me. Our two horses consume six tons of hay a year. By some miracle of nature their output seems to double the input. If we were measured by the GDP our horsey family should receive a Wall Street Journal award for productivity. Needless to say, in this new world of entrepreneurs, product placement and marketing has been a passion for us over years of productivity. Ads in the newspaper placed shortly after the February Flower and Garden Show have yielded consumers of the gardeners "black gold" nuggets. Nothing is more thrilling than hearing "I'm calling about the manure."

Over the years we have managed to achieve a small cadre of loyal consumers as varied as our paddock

locations. For years our equine miracle blessed the entrance to the local Mormon temple and later a contemplative Buddhist garden. It has been transported in garbage cans, pickups, old VW vans, and even an off duty taxicab. One of our favorite customers is Mr. Mendoza who got his pickup stuck in the pile and calmly attached a wench to a Douglas fir, extricated his truck and returned for more that afternoon.

So, a call about manure is exciting but not unusual. But shipping?

"Do you mean do we load it and bring it to your location? No, you have to haul it your self."

"No, I mean do you ship it? I'm calling from Cleveland."

"Are you aware that you are calling Seattle?"

"Yes, I found you on the Internet under 'horse manure'."

Do we ship it? Not yet. Maybe next year.

For more information on Manure Share here in King County, contact Josh Monaghan at 425-277-5581 ext 130.

Josh can put you in touch with someone local to your area and you'll have great compost for your spring gardens or pastures.



Call for Contractors

King CD wants to update their list of persons providing custom tractor services in the King County area such as mowing, turning manure piles, hauling manure, spreading manure, harrowing, etc. If you are interested in placing your name and contact information on our list, please contact Roseanne Campagna at 425-277-5581 x.125 or Paul Borne at 425-277-5581 x. 122.

Dear Conservation Connection Subscriber,

We would like to thank you for your interest in receiving our newsletter and supporting our work. The Conservation Connection covers current, local natural resources issues and agricultural interest features; as well as the annual native plant sale information and educational and volunteer events. In light of our growing readership base and a desire to reduce mailing and printing costs, we are offering the option of receiving an electronic newsletter to those of you with e-mail who prefer to receive publications in an electronic format. If you do not want to receive the newsletter electronically, simply do nothing and we will be happy to continue sending you the newsletter via regular mail.

*To subscribe electronically please e-mail us at:
roseanne.campagna@kingcd.org.*

You will need to include your name as it appears on the newsletter mailing label and e-mail address. You will then be notified via e-mail when each issue of the Conservation Connection newsletter can be read from our web site at www.kingcd.org.



Features



Mock Orange



Red Flowering Currant

Governor Declares May 1-7 Native Plant Appreciation Week



Red Osier Dogwood



Serviceberry

4th Annual Small Farm Expo

The 4th annual **Small Farm Expo** is March 19th and will be held at the King County Fairgrounds in Enumclaw. This Event puts practical tools in the hands of small-acreage farmers and rural landowners through displays, demonstrations, exhibits and presentations by local experts.

To volunteer, please contact Tara Zimmerman at tara.zimmerman@metrokc.gov or 206-205-3203.

For more information, please visit:

www.metrokc.gov/wsu-ce/farmexpo.

This event is sponsored by King Conservation District, Washington State University, and King County.



King Conservation District
Assisting landowners since 1949 to protect our natural resources.

Call for FREE Technical Help

Farm Planning • Water Quality • Noxious Weeds
Native Plants • Pasture-Manure-Mud Management
• Wildlife Habitat

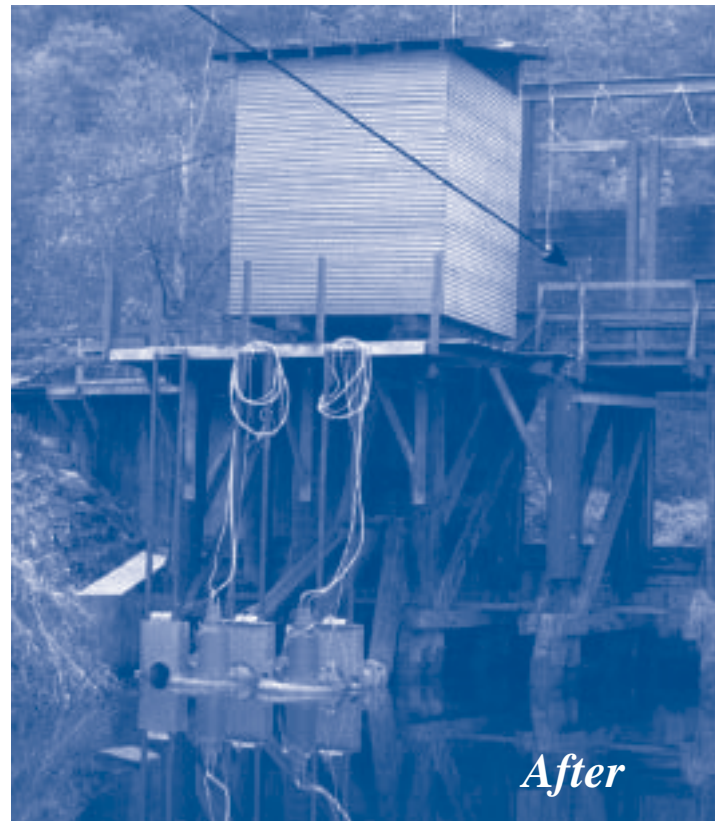
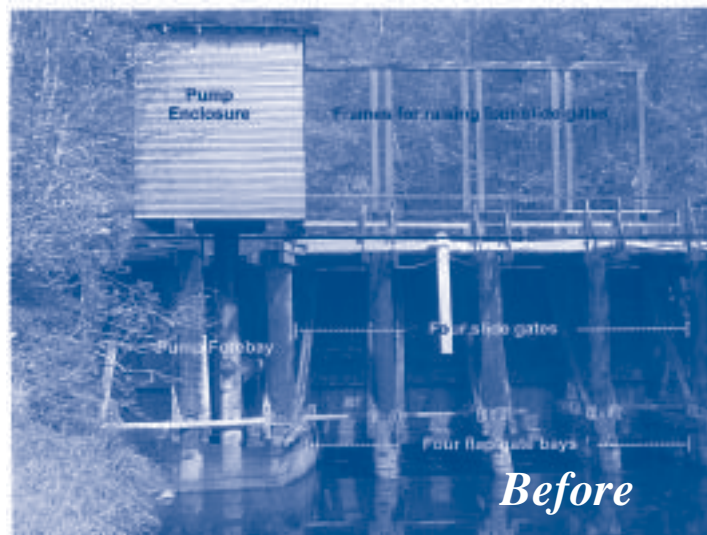
935 Powell Avenue SW • Renton, WA 98055
425-277-5581 ext 105 • www.kingcd.org

Spotlight on Conservation



Cherry Creek Receives New Drainage Pump Station

A major success for both fish and farmers finally came together in the completion of a new drainage pump house in the cherry valley drainage district near Duvall. Thanks to a State grant, some local match money from the CD and the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum, a modern fish-friendly pump was installed to drain the low lying farm field while protecting juvenile salmon and trout that reside in the ditches that make up the drainage system. Engineer Ryan Bartelheimer headed up the project, which corrected a long standing problem on the Cherry Creek system.



Hmong Farmers - A local cultural resource

If you visit the Pike Place Market in Seattle you are no doubt aware of the beautiful flowers and vegetables that our local Hmong farmers grow and sell here in our area. The Hmong are traditionally from southeast Asia where they supported our efforts in the Vietnam conflict. When the U.S. withdrew from Vietnam in the early 1970's many Hmong had to relocate to America as refugees to avoid being killed. Farming runs deep in their culture and it is the same today right here in Western Washington. Many Hmong still work in farming and desire farm related jobs. Currently the CD has begun working with the Hmong to provide manure spreading services at a reasonable cost for horse and other livestock owners. Many small farms in our area compost manure, but have no mechanism for

loading or spreading the manure on their pasture and fields. The King County Agriculture Commission provided the CD with a small grant to purchase a new manure spreader and trailer to transport it. If you would like to schedule a manure spreading appointment with a Hmong farmer or would like more information please contact us. It is good for the environment, good for your land and a great cultural learning experience as well. March is the right time to fertilize pastures and fields so... lets get the manure flying!

Also, the Hmong are continuously looking for affordable, farmable land in the area to lease for farming. So if you have some fallow farm ground, why not consider renting it to a Hmong farmer?

Contact Geoff Reed at 425-277-5581 ext.103 or geoff.reed@kingcd.org for any additional info on either of these efforts.

Features



New Good Nature Publishing Poster produced by King Conservation District

This beautiful new posture featuring a working farm with a hedgerow, wildlife and more will be available soon.



Upcoming Farm Tours

Vashon Island, WA - 8.5 acre breeding farm
Saturday March 19th 10 am to Noon

Renton, WA - Lake Desire Area
Saturday, April 30th 10am to Noon

To register and receive a map contact the King Conservation District at 425-277-5581 ext 125 or roseanne.campagna@kingcd.org.



These businesses support conservation practices. Thank you sponsors for supporting us in our ongoing programs. To become a sponsor, contact Roseanne Campagna at 425-277-5581 ex 125.

King Conservation District Contacts

Office Phone:
425-277-5581 Ext 105

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

District Chair: Max Prinsen
Vice-Chair: Scott Wallace
Secretary/Treasurer: Matt Livengood
Member: Bobbi Lindemulder
Member: Richard Gelb

KCD E-MAIL ADDRESS:

district@kingcd.org

WEB SITE: <http://www.kingcd.org>

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