

# Natural Resource Stewardship King Conservation District

## 2014 Annual Report



# Mission



*To promote  
sustainable  
uses of  
natural resources  
through responsible  
stewardship*



# Goals

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## King Conservation District – 2014



The King Conservation District was established in 1949 by the Washington Conservation Commission to provide landowners with assistance to protect and enhance natural resources. KCD serves 35 jurisdictions (34 cities and King County) with a combined population of 1.8 million. The District's mission is *"to promote the sustainable uses of natural resources through responsible stewardship."*

More than 60 years after it was formed, increased urbanization, endangered salmon, loss of forest cover, threats to the health of Puget Sound, increased challenges from stormwater and flooding, and the need for a resilient, sustainable, and equitable food system make the King Conservation District's programs and services essential.

Conservation districts use an “incentive-based” approach to stewardship and employ a service delivery model that is a 3-pronged approach to behavior change:

- *Education to foster understanding of voluntary stewardship,*
- *Direct technical assistance and support services, and*
- *Financial incentives for landowner and community conservation that benefit the public conservation interests.*

KCD collaborates with private landowners, member jurisdictions and nonprofit organizations to provide stewardship services. Because it is an independent, non-regulatory agency, KCD is seen by many landowners as a trusted mentor and partner, providing education, technical assistance, and financial incentives to help people implement measures to improve the sustainability and productivity of their land.



## Letter from the Chair

Dear King County Executive Constantine and Councilmembers,

The King Conservation District (KCD) serves 35 member jurisdictions (34 cities and King County), with a total population of 1.8 million. Our **2014 Annual Report** summarizes KCD's programs and services for King County residents and member jurisdictions, including habitat restoration, public education, technical assistance, financial incentives, and expanded grant funding.



I first became acquainted with the King Conservation District when I served on the King Conservation District/King County Task Force in 2013. After learning about the breadth and depth of KCD's impact on natural resource conservation, I ran and won a seat on the Board of Supervisors in 2014. Coming from a long career as a forest management professional, dedicating my time and expertise to this organization is a labor of love. It was with enthusiasm that I accepted the Chair position earlier this year, accepting the reins from long-time Chair Bill Knutsen who demonstrated such leadership through KCD's 2013 and 2014 evolution. I am excited to share with our partners at King County the tremendous progress we have made toward our renewed and expanded commitment to work with landowners, agencies, and non-profit organizations in stewarding and improving our natural resources.

While this report documents KCD's impact on a wide range of measures, I'm especially pleased to report that the work of the King Conservation District Advisory Committee continues to strengthen our relationship with our member jurisdictions and community partners. Through our regular collaboration, evaluation and planning process, we developed a plan for implementation of a broad set of programs for increased resource conservation and food systems support across King County.

We look forward to continuing our strong partnership with the King County Executive and Council to deliver these expanded programs in the coming year.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dick Ryon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dick Ryon, Board of Supervisors Chair, 2015  
King Conservation District  
December, 2015

## Recognition

### KCD 2014 Rock Awards

#### **Conservation Landowners of the Year—George & Paddy Irwin**

The Irwins are exemplary stewards of the land, serving by example to educate and demonstrate good natural resource management. They have a King Conservation District Farm Plan and incorporate Best Management Practices in their daily operations, and their farm is highly visible to many local residents as well as folks traveling from Seattle to the mountains.



Moreover, George and Paddy have opened their farm to the Conservation District for Farm Tours on several occasions and visitors are always welcome at their farm to learn more about how they operate a business while caring for the Newaukum Creek which runs through the property and the woodlands they work hard to preserve.

#### **Best Partnering Organization—Sound Cities Association**

**The Sound Cities Association (SCA)** represents 36 cities within King County and provides a voice for nearly one million people.

Over the past two years, SCA and KCD have built a meaningful understanding of each other's mission, role and strengths and today we are working hand in hand to use that relationship to benefit our shared constituents.

SCA played an integral role in seating our 2014 Advisory Committee and in helping KCD work through the formulation and refinement of our 2015 Program of Work. In addition to having cities represented on the Advisory Committee, SCA staff attended early Advisory Committee meetings and reported back information to their committee at large, ensuring that every jurisdiction received information on the 2015 proposal submittal process.

#### **Local Government Award—King County Stormwater Services**

The Local Government Award was awarded to King County Stormwater Services. Jeanne Dorn and Ray Timm of the Water and Land Resources Division provided excellent technical and educational support to KCD's Boise Creek project. Their efforts helped to ensure clean water is entering Boise Creek from King County's stormwater system and provided key support to KCD's Boise Creek Stream Steward program through project development, data collaboration, facilitating equipment and materials donation, and acting as ongoing technical resources to KCD staff.

The Stream Steward Program was developed in close partnership with Stormwater Services and we look forward to collaborating with them to expand the program to other watersheds across the County.

### **2014 KCD Service Award—David Hymel & Marilyn Jacobs, Rain Dog Designs**

Rain Dog Designs specializes in sustainable landscaping services with a special focus on rain garden education, design and installation. **David Hymel** and **Marilyn Jacobs** started Rain Dog Designs in 2009 and have collaborated on installation of well over 500 rain garden projects in the past 4-1/2 years.

Additionally, David and Marilyn have worked on rain garden education and installation projects collaborating with several jurisdictions and organizations in King County including: Kirkland, Seattle, Burien, Stewardship Partners, and Sustainable Seattle.

In 2012, KCD received a grant proposal for Moving Green Infrastructure Forward to create and model a mobile aquifer to remove pollutants from rooftop stormwater runoff. And thus SplashBoxx was born!

### **KCD Wildlife Steward of the Year Award—Barbara & Ed Bickford**

Barbara and Ed Bickford have worked with the King Conservation District since 1998 on a series of riparian habitat restoration measures, culminating in 2013 with a major project to remove two culverts that blocked fish passage to the upper reaches of the tributary.

The stream restoration project was undertaken through a partnership of the DNR Family Forest Fish Passage Program and NRCS funding under the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Partnership. The project included removal of an old, 48-inch diameter steel culvert on the Bickfords' property and a 54-inch diameter concrete culvert on adjoining property owned by King County Drainage District 6, opening up 1.46 miles of upstream spawning habitat for Chinook, Steelhead, Coho, and Searun Cutthroat.

In 2014 the Bickfords participated in the KCD Stream Steward Training and they are currently helping to monitor the health of Boise and Beaver Creeks. This fall they hosted a KCD farm tour showcasing riparian habitat plantings and the stream restoration project.

### **Special “Mhoonlighting” Award—Marlla Mhoon**

Located in the Soos Creek watershed, Marlla's home borders an isolated patch of public land owned by the City of Covington. Her initial inspiration was to clear the accumulated brush and trash harboring rodents and other pests.

As she removed the weeds and rubbish, Marlla discovered remnant apple trees from a long forgotten farm. After clearing one small patch after another, she planted native trees and shrubs purchased at the KCD Native Plant Sale to create an inviting oasis for wildlife. Long dormant salmonberries emerged from the under the invasives, and elderberry, hazelnut and Indian plum have re-established.

Wild birds have also re-appeared, including juncos, grosbeaks, goldfinches, bluejays, chickadees, Western tanagers, red tailed hawks, woodpeckers, and great blue heron. Now that they can see the results of Marlla's efforts, neighbors are now pitching in for the first time, and the City of Covington is helping dispose of large woody debris and blackberry cuttings.



### **KCD Conservation Leader Award—Claire Dyckman**

Recently retired after more than forty years of community service, Claire Dyckman has a passion and magic touch for building bridges between people with conflicting points of view.

Claire became involved in agricultural issues through hosting workshops with Tony Angel in the Skagit Valley. In the 1970s, Claire became active in the farmland preservation movement and traveled the state teaching workshops for teachers entitled “Energy, Food and You.”

In the 1980s, she assisted the Puget Sound Water Quality Authority in implementing the Puget Sound Management Plan and she administered the first PIE grant, putting millions of dollars on the ground to assist agricultural producers in improving water quality throughout the Puget Sound Basin.

In 1992, Claire was hired by the King County Department of Development & Environmental Services (DDSES) to develop their Environmental Education Program. In 1994, she led the team working on the agricultural component of the King County Comprehensive Plan, which among other things called for the creation of the King County Agriculture Commission and large lot zoning in King County’s Agriculture Production Districts and reconnected Claire to the King Conservation District. Claire retired from King County in July, 2014, capping a 40 plus year career devoted to environmental education in a wide range of settings.

### **KCD Lifetime Achievement Award—Mark Musick**

Mark Musick grew up in Steilacoom, a small town on the shores of Puget Sound. His introduction to agriculture was harvesting strawberries and raspberries in the Puyallup Valley as a young boy. In 1974 he helped organize the Northwest Conference on Alternative Agriculture in Ellensburg, which was the catalyst for the regional Tilth movement. Musick coordinated the Tilth Association for several years. He edited the Tilth journal, organized local chapters, and published three books: Winter Gardening in the Maritime Northwest, The Future Is Abundant, and the Seattle Tilth Garden Guide.

For 10 years Musick was a member of Pragtree Farm, a commercial organic farm specializing in direct marketing to high-end restaurants. Forced to retire from farming in 1985 due to the late effects of polio, he devoted the next 15 years to marketing for local farmers, first by developing the direct buying program for Larry’s Markets in Seattle, and then as farmer liaison for the Pike Place Market.

In 1989 Musick helped found the Vashon Cohousing Community, where he now lives with his wife, Terry. Over the past decade he facilitated food safety trainings for the Vashon Island Growers Association, developed food recovery programs for the City of Seattle, and currently provides communications services for the King Conservation District. Musick also serves as the social media editor for Tilth Producers of Washington and is assisting with planning for Tilth’s 40th Anniversary Conference.

## King Conservation District – A Tier One District

The Washington State Conservation Commission has designated King Conservation District as a Tier 1 agency. Tier 1 conservation districts must meet the strictest good governance criteria, including:

- 1) The previous year's Annual Work Plan addresses the resource concerns identified by the board of supervisors; the district has been in regular consultation with the state and local agencies of record for those resource concerns, and those activities have been implemented.
- 2) Implementation goals (intermediate outcomes) on WSCC funded work for the last state fiscal year were all met.
- 3) Supervisors and staff are leveraging financial and other resources with other districts to achieve efficiencies
- 4) Board of Supervisors actively governs the district by demonstrating leadership in conservation stewardship as well as instilling an ethic and culture of constant improvement.
- 5) District has the technical capacity to implement and maintain conservation on the ground with reliable and consistent quality
- 6) Regular communication to the public (such as: newsletters, current and updated website, social or other media, and educational programs or workshops) within the current fiscal year has occurred.
- 7) Input is sought from stakeholders (which include at least one public meeting) before annual work plan and long range plan are approved by the board
- 8) Demonstrated ability to work with all local public, private, and nonprofit partners (as well as entities represented and partnering with the Commission) to identify and target areas for natural resource conservation and improvement.
- 9) The conservation district develops its goals and measures its accomplishments based on data that is self-generated as well as cooperatively received from partner agencies.

The King Conservation District is pleased to hold the designation of Tier 1 and will continue to work collaboratively and responsibly with our partners and stakeholders to ensure this designation continues.

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*"I have worked with this District since 1996. The process you just went through has done much for your conservation district, but I think it will bear fruit to all 45 conservation districts in Washington state. The process you just went through is unique and rare for a conservation district, here or elsewhere across the nation. I work a lot with the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD), I serve on their Urban and Community Conservation Policy Group, and I have seen a lot of conservation district activity. I am not aware of any district across the country that has done the level of complex collaboration you have demonstrated over the last 18 months. So, congratulations! It has been a pleasure working with this District for the last 18 years."*

Stu Trefry – WSCC Southwest Regional Manager

## King Conservation District - Programs



Natural Resource Planning and Technical Assistance

Implementation and Natural Resource Conservation

Education

Grants

Initiatives and Program Development

Community Engagement

Board Governance

Operations



## Natural Resource Planning and Technical Assistance

The King CD Planning staff engages farmers, landowners, and others to promote and support implementation of conservation practices and plans that address natural resource concerns. For landowners seeking to put conservation practices on the ground, our planning programs are often the first step. Our trained staff collaborates with landowners to identify their site-specific resource concerns and develop their conservation plan. After developing their conservation plan, some landowners are able to get the work done on their own, while many landowners continue working with King CD's implementation staff to accomplish identified tasks.

For the landowner, implementing their conservation plan is a multi-year effort, commonly taking three years to complete planned conservation practices. For many, the available funding and time can limit what they can actually be accomplished. Our follow-up assistance seeks to increase conservation actions taken, and many landowners go on to work with our Implementation programs, such as the Conservation Projects and Landowner Incentive Program. Many of our outstanding cooperators also go on to host peer education farm tours as part of our Education program.

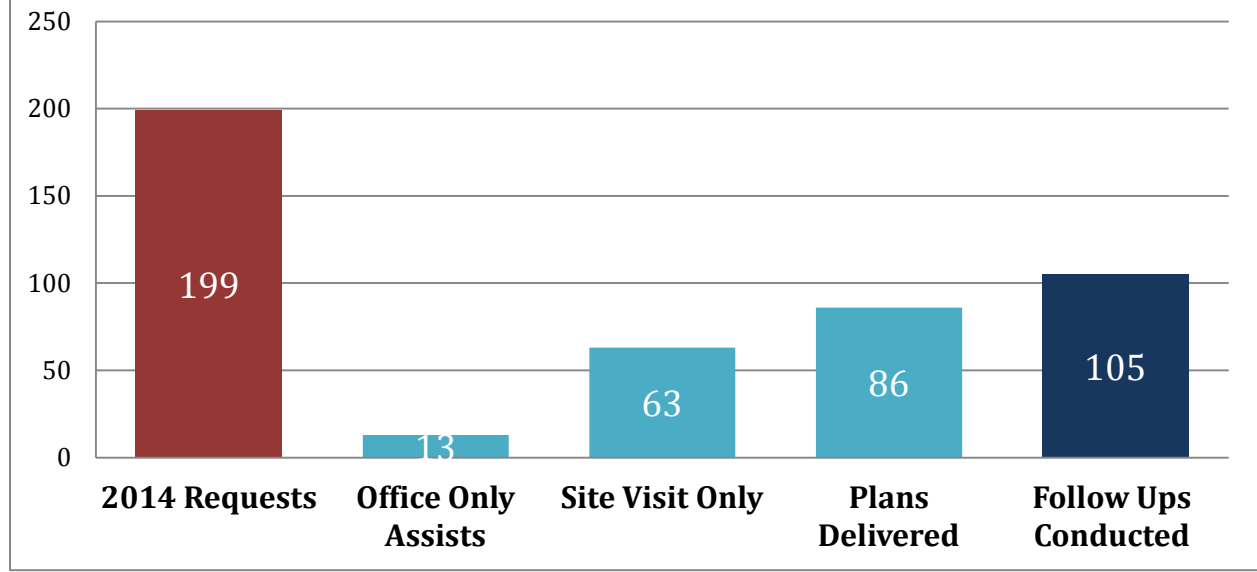
### **Natural Resource Planning & Technical Assistance**

This program provides farm conservation planning services to farm and livestock owners within the District, including licensed dairies and Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations. Upon completion of a conservation plan, the land user has made decisions to manage natural resources consistent with the resource needs recommended by District staff. A farm conservation plan may be used by the landowner to meet the requirements of other agencies and programs, including: King County Codes- Title 21A.30 (Livestock Management), 21A.24 (Critical Areas), King County Programs- Agricultural Drainage Assistance, Best Management Practice Cost Share, Public Benefit Rating System (property tax incentives), Dairy Nutrient Management Act of 1998 (RCW 90.64), the Clean Water Act.

#### Program Goals

- Promote increased voluntary stewardship of private lands, primarily focused on working lands
- Increase implementation of King CD recommended practices to address identified resource concerns
- Meet planning needs mandated in code to address natural resource stewardship practices on farmland
- Serve 150 farming service customers
- Deliver 70 farm plans, including 2 Dairy NMP plans
- 150 plan follow-ups to document implementation

## 2014 Farm Planning Service Accomplishments



### Program Accomplishments

- Served 162 planning customers
- Delivered 86 Farm Conservation Plans
- Developed plans that serve 1,912 acres
- Recorded 100 BMPs implemented in 2014 as a result of conservation planning follow-ups
- Conducted 105 follow-ups

### **Nutrient Management Program**

Nutrient Management Services is an umbrella program that includes several related services focused on helping King CD cooperators implement different elements of nutrient management plans. These services were each developed to address hurdles that our cooperators identified to us as they worked on implementing their nutrient management practices. The services include:

#### Manure Spreader Service

It has been identified that a significant hurdle to small scale livestock managers is access to a manure spreader to distribute the material. To address this, King CD purchased and now maintains a small manure spreader to loan to cooperators. This service includes scheduling, delivery, and pick up of the manure spreader. The manure spreader is loaned for free. To use the spreader, cooperators need to demonstrate that they have adequate acreage to spread and that they will apply the manure at agronomic rates.

### Soil Testing Service

Another hurdle for many cooperators working on implementing good nutrient management practices has been that many cooperators either did not see the value in, or did not understand how to take soil samples. To help promote the good nutrient management habit of soil testing, King CD's soil testing service pays the lab fees for up to five samples from anyone in the District (urban, rural, and farm). In addition, King CD staff assists farm cooperators with some field collection, as available.

### Lime Spreader Service

Recently, KCD identified that a significant hurdle to small scale livestock managers whom are working on nutrient management is access to a lime spreader to distribute lime. To address this, KCD is investigating acquiring a lime spreader to loan out to cooperators. The potential program would involve the purchase of a lime spreader and trailer and scheduling its use. Cooperators would pick the lime spreader up from KCD office. The lime spreader would be available for free.

### Manure Share

For over a decade, King CD has offered the manure share service to connect farmers, nurseries, and gardeners seeking manure to livestock owners who have surplus. This service involves maintaining a list of available manure sources, some promotion to farm and garden audiences, and providing the manure share list to interested parties via the King CD website, e-mail and phone inquiries. This service is one small part of helping cooperators with surplus manure to develop responsible plans for manure utilization, and thus avoid stockpiling waste that can become an environmental liability.

### Program Goals

- Loan manure spreader to 30 landowners
- Serve 200 landowners with Soil testing assistance
- Loan hay probe to 20 landowners
- Loan lime spreader to 25 landowners

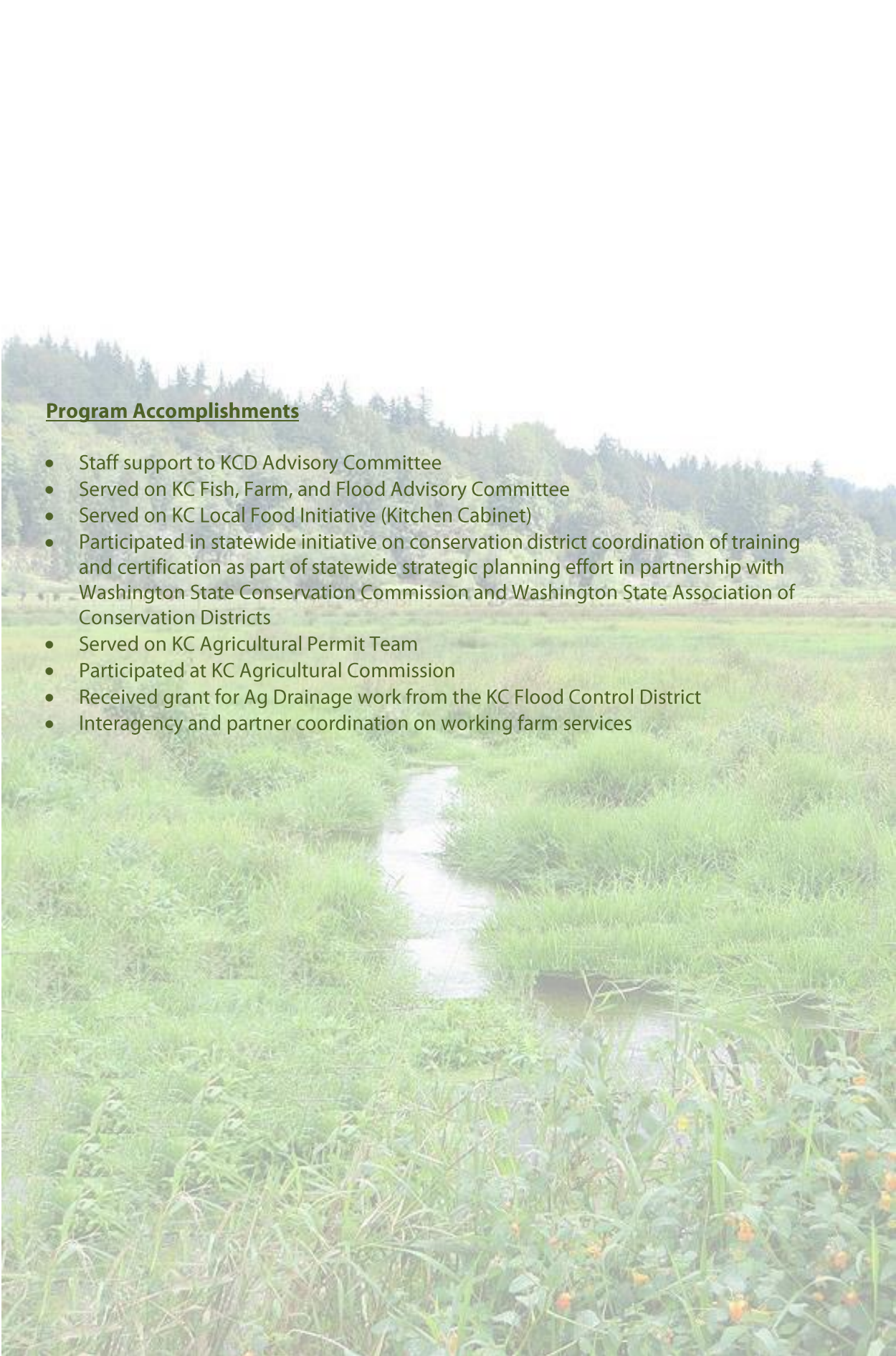
### Program Accomplishments

- 46 Manure spreader loans
- 1026 soil testing samples run as part of nutrient management assistance to 398 cooperators
- 2 Hay probe loans
- 3 Lime Spreader loans

### **General Program**

This includes general staff activities for Planning staff, general planning services coordination activities with partners/ potential partners, and miscellaneous small, planner services-related projects. The program objectives include planning services coordination and capacity building with other King CD programs and our partners.





### **Program Accomplishments**

- Staff support to KCD Advisory Committee
- Served on KC Fish, Farm, and Flood Advisory Committee
- Served on KC Local Food Initiative (Kitchen Cabinet)
- Participated in statewide initiative on conservation district coordination of training and certification as part of statewide strategic planning effort in partnership with Washington State Conservation Commission and Washington State Association of Conservation Districts
- Served on KC Agricultural Permit Team
- Participated at KC Agricultural Commission
- Received grant for Ag Drainage work from the KC Flood Control District
- Interagency and partner coordination on working farm services

## Implementation & Natural Resource Conservation

King Conservation District provides programs and services to assist landowners and land managers with implementing natural resource management practices that protect water quality, conserve soils, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat. KCD implementation services include planning, designing, and implementing aquatic area enhancement projects and other natural resource management practices; and providing other technical services, funding services, and volunteer assistance to increase the implementation of natural resource management practices by individuals, organizations, and agencies.

### Conservation Projects

King Conservation District provides assistance to agriculture and livestock owners; urban, rural, and suburban landowners; organizations; schools; businesses; and government agencies on implementing aquatic area enhancement projects. The primary focus of this program is to serve KCD cooperators participating in the KCD Farm Management Program by planning and implementing stream and wetland buffer protection and livestock exclusion fencing practices detailed in individual landowner Farm Conservation Plans. Other natural resource conservation and management concerns addressed by the program include water quality protection; soil erosion prevention; stream, wetland, and estuarine protection and enhancement; fish and wildlife habitat protection and enhancement. Occasionally, the program also addressed protection and enhancement of other sensitive areas such as steep slopes.

### Program Goals

- Design and install 10 aquatic area enhancement projects with KCD cooperators who have a Farm Management Plan. Aquatic area enhancement projects include stream and wetland areas and implement one or more of the following NRCS conservation practices – Hedgerow, Riparian Forest Buffer, and Livestock Exclusion Fencing. Aquatic area enhancement projects average 400–500 feet in length and 25 feet wide.
- Maintain and monitor KCD designed and installed aquatic area enhancement projects. Activities include developing a three-five year maintenance plan for each project, and conducting maintenance and monitoring as needed. Typical maintenance is one crew day for the first three years (summer) followed by a crew day in the 5th summer as needed.
- Maintain project records project by including correspondence, designs, and records in project files. In addition to project files, project details are tracked on the Practices and Implementation Form in a corresponding KCD Farm Management Plan file. Program activities are reported quarterly using the KCD Program Group Report. Grant funded activities are reported quarterly using the District grant reporting system.

### Expected Results from 2014 work plan

- Design and install a minimum of 10 freshwater aquatic area enhancement projects (*build capacity to install 10 more projects per year*).
- Maintain and monitor 35 KCD designed and installed aquatic area enhancement projects

### Program Accomplishments

- Planned and installed 10 buffer enhancement plans
- Enhanced 6,340 linear feet of aquatic area shoreline
- Enhanced 5.4 acres of aquatic area buffer
- Installed 8,280 native trees and shrubs
- Conducted maintenance on 56 aquatic area enhancement project sites

### Summary of 2014 Aquatic Area Enhancement Practices:

<b>Best Management Practice</b>	<b>Project Quantity</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Linear Feet</b>	<b>Quantity Plants</b>
<b>Hedgerow</b>	6	2.1	3,440	3,524
<b>Riparian Forest Buffer</b>	4	3.3	2,900	4,756
<b>Wetland Habitat Enhancement</b>	0	0	n/a	0
<b>Forest Health Management</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>6,340</b>	<b>8,280</b>

### **KCD Engineering Services**

The King Conservation District Engineering Program assists landowners, organizations, and agencies with implementing natural resource management projects that protect water quality, conserve soils, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat. Projects supported by this program are planned and implemented consistent with standard practices included in the NRSC FOTG and other professional standards when NRSC standards are not applicable. The Engineering Program also supports other KCD programs and services, including providing technical and planning assistance related to farm conservation plan development; developing Best Management Practices for LIP cost-share eligible practices; designing and implementing aquatic area restoration projects and providing streamlined JARPA services for partner landowners, organizations and agencies;; and participating on KCD Board of Supervisors Science, Engineering and Program Development Subcommittee.

### Program Goals

- Provide engineering technical and planning support to other KCD programs and KCD partners
- Provide natural resource management engineering and design services to Member Jurisdictions and WRIA Forums
- Sponsor partner projects for streamlined JARPA review
- Staff District SE&PD Subcommittee

### Expected Results from 2014 work plan

- Provide technical engineering support to KCD programs and cooperators.
- Engineer and construct a minimum of 2 aquatic area enhancement projects (livestock crossings, FFFPP culvert replacement projects, etc.).
- Sponsor streamlined JARPA review of 4 KCD agency and NGO partner projects.
- Support NRCS on at least 2 Task Orders
- Conduct fish passage assessment projects and market to up to 25 landowners.
- Formalize and document the KCD Public Work Program.
- Market District engineering services to member jurisdictions and WRIA Forums.

### Program Accomplishments

- Completed design and/or planning process for 1 manure holding tank (designed/permitted); 1 passage bridge/McMahon (designed, prepared specifications and permitted); 1 arch (designed, prepared specifications and permitted); 2 bridges/Bonomi (designed to 90%); 1 bulkhead removal project (designed 100% and permit applications submitted).
- Provided design and permit support to 1 existing, completed livestock bridge design (Cherry Valley Dairy).
- Constructed 1 manure holding tank (Keller); 1 passage bridge (McMahon).
- Performed 8 site assessments associated with Farm Management Plans and prepared 3 site assessment reports.
- Performed 3 site assessments associated with Implementation projects and prepared associated technical documentation.
- Provided Technical expertise to other KCD programs including KCD Grant Program during interviews with grant recipients including 3 technical assistance site visits; provided KCD Plant sale banner design assistance to Engagement Staff.
- Provided technical expertise to other Conservation District Engineers on 3 FFFPP projects and 1 survey assist.
- Represented KCD to WSCC by participating in 6 Cluster Engineer meetings.
- Maintained engineering relationship with local WRIA Watershed For a and other working groups by attending 4 related meetings and 2 continuing responses to PSP BMP plan .

### Summary of 2014 Engineering Practices:

Best Management Practice	Quantity Planned	Quantity Implemented	Acres	Linear Feet	Miles Habitat Opened
Access Road	3	1	0.08	300	n/a
Animal Walkways	1	0	15	430	n/a
Fish Passage	2	1	n/a	n/a	10.8
Open Channel	2	1	0.07	109	n/a
Streambank & Shoreline Protection(bulkhead removal)	2	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Stream Crossing	4	1	0.08	48	n/a
Sub-Surface Drainage	0	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Surface Drainage	0	1	n/a	n/a	n/a
Stream Habitat Improvement	2	1	0.06	n/a	n/a
Underground Outlet	0	1	n/a	30	n/a
Waste Storage Facility	0	1	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Totals</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0.44</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>10.8</b>

### Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) compensates agriculture landowners for setting aside, planting, and maintaining riparian buffers to restore fish habitat on private agricultural lands adjacent to depressed or critical condition salmon streams and rivers. CREP is a joint effort of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency, the USDA Natural



Resources Conservation Service, and the Washington State Conservation Commission acting through the King Conservation District.

#### Program Goals

- Market CREP to agriculture landowners by conducting outreach activities such as program advertising to potentially eligible landowners through direct mailing
- Assist landowners with the CREP application and contracting processes and develop CREP riparian buffer enhancement plans
- Coordinate implementation of CREP riparian buffer enhancement plans
- Assist landowners with documenting and invoicing CREP cost-share reimbursement requests
- Coordinate CREP riparian buffer enhancement project maintenance and monitoring activities
- Prepare CREP reports, document CREP projects, and maintain CREP project files

#### Expected Results from 2014 work plan

- Market CREP services to landowners.
- Prepare CREP plans for 6 landowners. *(build capacity to plan and install 15 projects per year)*
- Coordinate installation of 4 CREP projects.
- Coordinate maintenance on 6 previously installed and 4 newly installed CREP projects.

#### Program Accomplishments

- Prepared initial CREP proposals for 2 Landowners (Robb, Haberzette)
- Initiated planning of 3 CREP buffer projects (Dolder Ph 3, Abram, Kuo)
- Completed planning of 4 CREP buffer plans (Blakely, Cook, Dolder Ph2, Tucker)
- Submitted 2 plans to NRCS, KCD, and FSA for review and approval
- Oversaw maintenance on 4 previously installed CREP contracts

Summary of 2014 CREP Practices:

Best Management Practice	Planned	Installed	Acres Planned	Acres Installed	Linear Feet Planned	Linear Feet Installed	Quantity Plants
Hedgerow	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Riparian Forest Buffer	4	0	14.6	0	6802	0	6838
Livestock Crossing	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Watering Facility	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Buffer Fencing	0	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6802</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6838</b>

#### **Wetland Plant Cooperative and Native Plant Holding Facility**

The King Conservation District Wetland Plant Cooperative and Native Plant Holding Facility (WPC) is a plant nursery where native trees, shrubs, herbs, and wetland plants are propagated for stream, wetland, estuarine, and upland habitat enhancement projects. Projects supported by the nursery



include aquatic area enhancement projects implemented by KCD and projects implemented in partnership with individuals, organizations, and agencies. Partnering individuals, organizations, and agencies volunteer at the WPC in trade for technical services and plant material. Community groups in particular benefit by volunteering to obtain assistance on planning and implementing enhancement projects that otherwise could not be implemented due to lack of technical expertise and funding. Organizations and agencies are able to expand the size of their projects by partnering with KCD for supplemental native plant material.

In addition to providing technical services and growing native plants, the WPC serves as an informal training facility for local youth and adults, who gain experience in horticulture and stream and wetland enhancement techniques, as well as leadership skills through volunteer service at the WPC. The WPC is also an informal recycled materials demonstration site where recycled materials are utilized in plant production. The WPC proudly utilizes reclaimed water for irrigation. Reclaimed water is provided free of charge by the King County Wastewater Treatment Division East Section Reclamation Plant, and allows KCD to conserve potable drinking water and support the reduction of discharged wastewater into local waterways.

#### Program Goals

- Propagate native plant trees, shrubs, herbs, and wetland plants
- Provide technical assistance to individuals, groups, and agencies on aquatic area enhancement projects
- Support KCD designed and implemented aquatic area enhancement projects
- Install an automated irrigation controller system

#### Expected Results from 2014 work plan

- Propagate approximately 6,500 new plants and maintain approximately 10,000 plants in existing inventory.
- Support implementation of at least 20 landowner and agency freshwater and marine aquatic area enhancement projects.
- Support the implementation of at least 10 KCD sponsored aquatic area enhancement projects.
- Maintain the nursery facility, and install irrigation controller and electrical power delivery system.

#### Program Accomplishments

- Propagate approximately 6,500 new plants and maintain 10,000 plants in existing inventory
- Provide technical assistance and support implementation of 29 freshwater and marine aquatic area enhancement projects on urban, suburban and rural residential properties.
- Provide plant material for implementation of 15 KCD sponsored conservation projects
- Maintain facility and install irrigation controller, including installing electrical power delivery system

Summary of 2014 Native Plant and Technical Assistance Activity:

	Number of Projects	Quantity of Plants
<b>KCD Aquatic Area Enhancement Projects</b>	15	5,912
<b>WPC Volunteers</b>	22	857
<b>Landowner Project Assistance</b>	32	133
<b>Strategic Partner Project Assistance</b>	1	478
<b>Totals</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>7,380</b>

### Bareroot Plant Sale

The King Conservation District Bareroot Plant Sale provides landowners, organizations, schools, and government agencies with low cost bareroot native plant material for habitat enhancement and native plant landscaping. In addition to receiving low-cost native plants, plant sale customers receive assistance on species selection, information on installing and maintaining plants to achieve high rates of survival, and recommendations related to habitat enhancement.

#### Program Goals

- Conduct 2013 pre-order bare-root plant sale, including receiving sales orders, assembling plant orders, and distributing sales orders at annual sale event
- Conduct 2013 walk-up bare-root plant sale
- Order bare-root plants for 2014 bare-root plant sale
- Advertise and market 2014 bare-root plant sale through winter edition of the KCD newsletter and website
- Increase general public knowledge of the District and District programs and services

#### Expected Results from 2013 work plan

- Conduct 2014 pre-order and walk-up bareroot plant sale
- Sell approximately 45,000 native trees and shrubs to approximately 450 customers

#### Program Accomplishments

- 49,590 native plants sold
- \$83,647 in gross sales including sales taxes collected
- 729 total customers, including 543 pre-orders

Summary of 2014 Bareroot Plant Sale Activities:

Plant Sale	Quantity of Plants Ordered	Quantity of Plants Sold	Number of Customers	Gross Sales
<b>2014 Bareroot Plant Sale</b>	51,490	49,590	729	\$83,647

## Landowner Incentive Program

The King Conservation District Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) promotes stewardship of natural resources on private property by providing cost-share funding to assist landowner implementation of natural resource management practices. The LIP funds agricultural and non-agricultural natural resource management practices planned in association with District technical service programs. Fourteen individual practices are eligible for funding. Examples include *Heavy Use Protection Area*, *Aquatic Area Buffer Planting*, *Waste Storage Facility*, and *Upland Wildlife Habitat Enhancement*.

Cost-share reimbursement rates for approved projects range from 50% to 90% depending on the natural resource management practice. KCD reimburses project costs at the cost-share reimbursement rate in combination with established cost-share limits. There is no lifetime maximum on the amount of cost-share funding a landowner can receive through the LIP. However, awarded practices must be implemented and cost-share contracts closed before applications for additional practices will be considered.

### Program Goals

- Implement approved natural resource management practices
- Promote the implementation of practices detailed in KCD prepared Farm Management Plans
- Promote the implementation of practices planned in association with District technical assistance services for non-agriculture audiences

### Expected Results from 2014 work plan

- Award 40 new cost-share contracts. (*FHM = 2 projects per year; Upland Wildlife Habitat Management = 1 per year; Aquatic Area Enhancement = 1 per year*).
- Manage 81 open contracts.
- Monitor 182 implemented practices for contract maintenance compliance.
- Prepare specifications for the LIP Forest Health Management and LID practices.
- Coordinate annual program review for policy revisions to be implemented in 2014.

### Program Accomplishments

- Award 53 new cost-share contracts. Of these awards, 35 are agriculture & livestock management practices, 4 are Forest Health Management Practices, and 14 are freshwater Aquatic Area Enhancement Practices.
- Manage 232 previously awarded cost-share contracts, including administering cost-share reimbursement, conducting site visit to verify practice implementation, and closing contracts
- Coordinate annual program review for policy revisions to be implemented in 2015

Summary of 2014 LIP Projects & Awards:

Best Management Practice	Contracts Awarded	Acres	Linear Feet	Quantity Plants	Funding Level
Agricultural & Livestock Management	35	53.44	8,053	0	\$ 151,472.00
Forest Health Management	4	34.50	0	9,678	\$ 51,375.00
Freshwater Aquatic Area Enhancement	14	1.4	800	935	\$ 36,127.11
<b>Totals</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>10,613</b>	<b>\$238,974.11</b>

## Volunteer Program

The King Conservation District Volunteer Program supports KCD outreach and education activities, and implementation of KCD conservation efforts. The volunteer program increases public awareness of KCD programs and services while volunteers gain knowledge about local natural resource management concerns, such as restoration of watershed functions, and gain experience implementing practices to address those concerns. King Conservation District volunteer events include propagating and maintaining native plants at the Wetland Plant Cooperative (WPC); implementing stream and wetland enhancement projects on KCD cooperator properties; and conducting maintenance on previously installed enhancement projects.

### Program Goals

- Recruit volunteers and retain their participation on KCD sponsored volunteer events through event advertising, program marketing and networking
- Explore new partnerships with agencies and organizations to expand the range and amount of volunteer opportunities offered by KCD
- Create & implement a volunteer recognition system to honor volunteer service hours
- Continue to provide plant material in exchange for volunteer service at the Wetland Plant Cooperative

### Expected Results from 2014 work plan

- Recruit 800 new volunteers
- Connect volunteers to 47 KCD sponsored projects
- Support volunteers in donating 2,000 hours of service

### Program Accomplishments

- Facilitated 51 volunteer events where more than 703 volunteers donated 2,491 hours of service
- Connected 128 volunteers to more than one KCD volunteer event
- No activity on developing a volunteer recognition system

Summary of 2014 Volunteer Project Activity:

Volunteer Project	Number of Projects	Volunteers Connected	Hours Donated
<b>Wetland Plant Cooperative</b>	24	216	668
<b>Aquatic Area Enhancement Projects</b>	7	170	609
<b>Longfellow Creek Enhancement Projects</b>	14	184	621
<b>Totem Lake Habitat Enhancement Projects</b>	3	66	132
<b>Bareroot Plant Sale</b>	2	9	34
<b>Stream Stewards</b>	1	58	427
	<b>51</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>2,491</b>

## **Marine Shoreline Program**

The King Conservation District Marine Shoreline Landowner Assistance Program provides workshops, site visits, and limited cost-share funding to help landowners address concerns and improve critical natural resources associated with Puget Sound marine shorelines. Workshops focus on the ecology of the Puget Sound marine near-shore environment, coastal geological processes, and vegetation management. In combination, these topics provide an overview of how landowners can promote stable natural shorelines, reduce the risk of bluff erosion and landslides, and improve fish and wildlife habitat. Workshop participants may request a free site visit to learn about natural resource management concerns specific to their marine shoreline properties. A limited cost-share program is available to implement fish and wildlife habitat enhancement projects that are identified through personalized site visits. Cost-share is budgeted through the KCD LIP and the WSCC Capital Budget program. The workshop component of this program is budgeted under the Education Group.

### Program Goals

- Facilitate *Where the Water Begins* workshops
- Provide marine shoreline property site assessments
- Implement critical fish and wildlife habitat enhancement projects on marine shorelines.

### Expected Results from 2014 work plan

- Conduct site visits to assess natural resource management concerns on 25 properties and prepare site visit reports that provide recommendations to address those concerns.
- In Partnership with the Green-Duwamish Watershed Forum, engineer and install 2 marine riparian, marine forest, and/or marine shoreline enhancement projects on private property

### Program Accomplishments

- Facilitated 2 *Where the Water Begins* workshops (Vashon 6/14/14 and Discovery Park 6/28/14) serving 94 homeowners/landowners.
- Recorded 25 technical assistance site visit requests from workshop attendees
- Conducted technical assistance site visits to assess natural resource management concerns on 12 properties and prepared site visit reports that provide recommendations to address those concerns
- Continue planning and designing creosote bulkhead removal project. 100% design level completed on bulkhead; dock and ramp issues pending KC SMP update.



#### Summary of 2014 Marine Shoreline Practices:

Best Management Practice	Quantity Site Visits	Projects Planned	Projects Installed	Acres Installed	Feet Installed	Quantity Plants
Hedgerow	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Riparian Forest Buffer	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Buffer Fencing	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Building Set-back from Critical Area	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bulkhead Removal	n/a	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Landowner Site Visits	12	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Totals</b>						

### General Program

General Program work includes activities on implementation initiatives, as well as program support and development activities that do not fit in a specific Implementation Group program.

#### Program Accomplishments

- Coordinated Implementation Group staff and activities.
- Built program capacity to serve and collaborate with KCD programs and partners.
- Managed grant and contract funding sources.
- Supported collaboration between the twelve Puget Sound conservation districts and WSCC to address regional natural resource management priorities, engage our programs and services.

## Education

The King Conservation District provides educational opportunities that promote the sustainable uses of natural resources through increased knowledge and understanding of natural resource conservation topics and natural resource management practices. King Conservation District education programs include classes, workshops, tours and other field-based learning opportunities, and the development and distribution of publications and other information materials on a variety of natural resource management topics and practices. These topics and practices include water quality protection, soil conservation, livestock management, aquatic area enhancement, and fish and wildlife habitat enhancement. Audiences served by KCD education programs include livestock owners, agriculture operations, rural, urban, and suburban landowners.

### Envirothon

Envirothon is a nationwide environmental literacy competition for high school youth. Sponsoring businesses and organizations include the Canon Corporation, NRCS, WSCC, and the WACD. The King Conservation District participates in the Washington State Envirothon program by recruiting high school teams from King County to participate in the Northwest regional, state, and national Envirothon competitions. Coordination of the Northwest Regional Envirothon competition rotates among the Northwest conservation districts. The King Conservation District last coordinated the Northwest regional event in 2009 in cooperation with the Pacific Science Center, the City of Bellevue, and the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center.

### Program Goals

- Support partner agencies and NGOs in delivering field-based high school education programming.
- Increase knowledge of KCD programs and services.

### Expected Results from 2014 Workplan

- Plan and host the 2014 Washington State Envirothon Competition.
- Recruit and register teams from 4 King County area high schools for the 2014 Washington State Envirothon Competition.
- Assist recruited teams with preparations for regional, state and national competitions as applicable.

### Program Accomplishments

#### NW Regional Envirothon Competition

- Recruit and register teams from King County area high schools for 2014 NW Regional Envirothon
- Assist these teams with competition preparation if requested
- Assist with regional event planning
- Assist with regional event

### Washington State Envirothon Competition

- Support King County team registration for state event
- Plan and host Washington State Envirothon competition
- Assist with state event planning
- Participate in state event

### Washington State Envirothon Committee

- Participate in monthly planning and management meetings
- Perform Treasurer duties
- Attend annual meeting
- Help with other committee tasks as needed

### Summary of 2014 Envirothon Activities:

Participating School District	Number of Teams	Event
<b>Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center (Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Seattle Lutheran High School, Sammamish High School, Garfield High School)</b>	7	NW Regional Envirothon
<b>Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center (Bellevue and Sammamish High Schools)</b>	1	WA State Envirothon

### Land & Water Stewardship Workshops

The King Conservation District workshop series titled *Land and Water Stewardship for Livestock Owners* is a series of four workshops where livestock owners learn about planning and implementing natural resource management practices to protect water quality, conserve soils, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat. Each workshop includes presentations in combination with exercises to help participants learn about and apply natural resource management practices consistent with the NRCS FOTG and that are typically prescribed in a Farm Conservation Plan. Subsequent to participating in these workshops, livestock owners have the option to work with KCD staff on a customized Farm Conservation Plan for their property, and/or the design and installation of an aquatic area buffer protection and enhancement plan.

### Program Goals

- Facilitate the workshop series titled Land & Water Stewardship for Livestock Owners,
- Connect workshop participants with KCD farm planning and aquatic area buffer enhancement project services

#### Expected Results from 2014 work plan

- Facilitate 8 workshops, 2 each of the following:
  - Get Wet! Stream & Wetland Buffer Protection for Livestock Owners
  - Record Rainfall? Record Mud! Mud Management for Livestock Owners
  - Got Livestock? Got Manure! Manure Management for Livestock Owners
  - Becoming a Grass Farmer - Pasture Management for Livestock Owners

#### Program Accomplishments

Facilitate 8 workshops, 2 each of the following:

- Get Wet! Stream & Wetland Buffer Protection for Livestock Owners
- Record Rainfall? Record Mud! - Mud Management for Livestock Owners
- Got Livestock? Got Manure! - Manure Management for Livestock Owners
- Become a Grass Farmer - Pasture Management for Livestock Owners

Summary of 2014 Land and Water Stewardship Workshops:

<b>Workshop Title</b>	<b>Number Facilitated</b>	<b>Number Participants</b>
<b>Stream &amp; Wetland Buffer Protection for Livestock Owners</b>	2	18
<b>Mud Management for Livestock Owners</b>	2	9
<b>Manure Management for Livestock Owners</b>	2	10
<b>Pasture Management for Livestock Owners</b>	2	32
<b>Totals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>69</b>

#### **Farm Tours & Special Agriculture Classes**

Facilitate farm tours and classes on agriculture topics to provide peer education opportunities for members of the livestock community. Farm tours are open house events where a host landowner highlights management practices they've implemented to protect and enhance natural resources on their property. Classes on agriculture topics are offered to provide information on emerging topics relevant to the livestock community.

#### Program Goals

- Increase understanding in livestock community of the natural resource impacts associated with livestock management practices.
- Increase livestock operations managed consistent with Farm Management Plans.
- Support voluntary stewardship of natural resources on private lands.
- Increase knowledge of KCD programs and services.

#### Expected Results from 2014 work plan

- Conduct 8 tours featuring farms that have implemented farm best management practices
- Conduct 4 agriculture classes on emerging and priority farm best management practices

#### Program Accomplishments

- Conducted 10 farm tours to feature farms that have implemented best management practices.
- Conducted 3 agriculture classes on emerging and priority best management practices.

#### Summary of 2014 Farm Tours and Agriculture Topic Classes:

Event	Location or Title	Number Participants
<b>Farm Tour</b>	Triple J Ranch	24
<b>Farm Tour</b>	Caviness Farm	40
<b>Farm Tour</b>	Mason Jar Farm	28
<b>Farm Tour</b>	Kelsey Creek Farm	4
<b>Farm Tour</b>	Mason Jar Farm	11
<b>Farm Tour</b>	Rainier Biogas Manure Digester	25
	Rene Skaggs Farm Tour	12
<b>Farm Tour</b>	Seattle Polo and Equestrian Club	16
<b>Farm Tour</b>	Setting Up the Perfect Winter Paddock	15
<b>Farm Tour</b>	Farrel McWhirter	26
<b>Ag Class</b>	Pasture Management	12
<b>Ag Class</b>	Climate Change and Horse Keeping	62
<b>Ag Class</b>	Small Farm Equipment and Least Toxic Weed Control	23
<b>Totals</b>		<b>298</b>

#### **General Program**

General Program work includes activities on education initiatives, as well as program support and development activities that do not fit in a specific Education Group programs.

#### Program Goals

- Coordinate Education Group staff and activities.
- Build Education Group capacity to serve and collaborate with KCD programs and partners.
- Manage contractor activities associated with Education Group program tasks.

#### Program Accomplishments

- Coordinated Education Group staff and activities.
- Managed contractor activities associated with Education Group program tasks.



## Grants

King Conservation District awards grants for natural resource improvement actions such as education and outreach, pilot and demonstration, capacity building, and on-the-ground improvement projects implemented by community organizations and cities in King County.

### Member Jurisdiction & WRIA Forum Grants Programs

The KCD Member Jurisdiction and WRIA Forum Grant Program awards grants for natural resource improvement projects in partnership with 35 King County jurisdictions that are members of the District and the WRIA 7, 8, and 9 watershed forums.

#### Grant Funding Levels

Grant Program Category	2014 Grant Funding Level
Member Jurisdiction Grants Program	\$1,200,000.00

#### Program Goals

- **Promote** the implementation of natural resource improvement actions by jurisdictions, non-profit organizations, tribes, and other land managers and owners
- **Assist** in the development of partnerships between jurisdictions, non-profit organizations, and the watershed forums in order fulfill KCD's mission of promoting sustainable uses of natural resources through responsible stewardship.
- **Support** the natural resource improvement priorities of jurisdictions, watershed forums, non-profit organizations, tribes and other land managers and owners through grants for activities including but not limited to; salmon habitat enhancement projects that are congruent with the WRIA Forum salmon recovery plans; implementation of nearshore and marine riparian enhancement projects on private property; implementation of stormwater management practices; implementation of non-point source pollution reduction practices on urban, suburban, and rural properties; and implementation of other water quality improvement measures.
- **Effectively and efficiently administer** the Member Jurisdiction & WRIA Forum Grant program by collecting biannual progress and expense reports, performing grant close out reviews and site visits, reviewing new grant applications, coordinating the award of and amendments to grant agreements, and notifying member jurisdictions of funding available. Continually working to improve the program and assist grantees in navigating the grant process and accomplishing projects.
- **Encouraging Monitoring and Maintenance** of our grant projects by working with grantees to plan for at least three years to ensure long term sustainability and success of our financial investments.



### **Program Accomplishments**

- **Grant Awards** – For a complete list of grants awarded please see Appendix A.
  - In total 30 grant applications were awarded totaling \$1,090,595
  - In 2014, WRIA grants were not awarded.
  - In cooperation with Seattle Public Utilities, the KCD-Seattle Community Partnership Grant Program received 34 applications requesting \$1.4 million dollars in funding. The City recommended and KCD awarded 12 grants for a total of \$371,976.
- KCD and Seattle Public Utilities worked cooperatively to craft a grant application that met mutual goals of natural resource conservation and community engagement.
- An objective team of reviewers committed many hours of their time and worked with KCD to evaluate the proposals
- One large workshop was held in March at Seattle City Hall to promote the grant program and over 100 people attended
- **Grant reporting** was collected from over 100 open grants managed by two program staff.
- **Grant close-outs and site visits** occur throughout the year
  - 37 WRIA grants were closed out in 2014.
  - 28 Member Jurisdiction grants were closed out in 2014
- **Grant program policy development**
  - Grant applicants utilized the new pilot application developed in partnership with a grant subcommittee of the KCD-KC Task Force. The subcommittee included representatives from KCD, Seattle, King County, Bellevue, Redmond, Snoqualmie, and Auburn. The subcommittee recommended a pilot grant application form to be adopted in 2014. The intent of revising the pilot grant application form was to make the application process more transparent, eliminates duplicative questions, and increase ease of application by member jurisdictions. Many applicants commented that the new form is easier to use.
- **Grant amendment requests** are submitted throughout the year and are processed by staff, the grant subcommittee, and the Board of Supervisors as detailed in the amendment approval authority document. Grant amendment documents are available on the KCD webpage. Numerous grant amendment requests were processed and approved.

## INITIATIVES & PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Each year, the King Conservation District is engaged in a number of strategic initiatives and new program development efforts each year. These include projects that extend the impact of the King Conservation District through other organizations, that address resource concerns and issues facing landowners and managers in the enhancement of natural resources, and that expand the capacity and effectiveness of KCD.

### **Boise Creek Community Project**

This community involvement initiative engaged landowners and land managers to reduce nutrient levels in Boise Creek as part of a coordinated, multiagency/ partner effort. Partners included King County, Pierce Conservation District, the City of Enumclaw, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, The Puyallup Indian Tribe, Washington State Departments of Agriculture and Ecology. This Project was funded by generous grant support from The Russell Family Foundation and the King County Flood District, WRIA 10 Grant Program.

In this initiative, KCD coordinated a mix of community engagement events, activities, services, and opportunities to encourage property owners, farmers, and residents in the Boise Creek sub basin to get involved with conservation and stewardship activities on their property and in the community. The initial program goal was to contact 95% of the Boise Creek landowners between summer 2013 and spring 2014.

Through this project, landowners had numerous opportunities to learn about and get involved with a menu of conservation services and opportunities, which share goals for reducing high nutrient levels in surface water. This menu included:

- Conservation and stewardship workshops and farm tours to learn more about what actions landowners can take on their properties to improve local natural resource concerns.
- One-on-one help from resource specialists with conservation-focused site visits, conservation planning assistance, and assistance applying for financial assistance for conservation actions.
- Promote agricultural drainage assistance program with King County.
- Volunteer water quality monitoring project to enlist the community to better understand and connect with Boise Creek, modeled off of a successful program at the Pierce Conservation District.
- Participate in Knotweed survey on creek-side properties to better understand weed pressures in the watershed, lead by Pierce Conservation District Knotweed Program.
- Participate in Water Quality characterization to target areas for help solving
- Connect interested landowners with opportunities to assist with water quality characterization sampling with King County Stormwater Services.
- Connect interested landowners with opportunities to improve stream habitat for salmon on their properties, with the District, King County and other partners.
- Promote septic system related services with King County Health Department including site assessments, and technical and financial assistance.

Traditionally, KCD relies on word of mouth and partner referrals for marketing our programs, which has generated a full workload at our current staffing/funding level. Therefore, the District has not pursued additional more active, targeted marketing of current rural farmer services because we didn't want to oversell and end up providing poor service.

Over the last 10 years, we have seen a steady increase in farm services requests. During this same period, our staffing level farm planning has decreased as a result of increasing costs and fixed revenue. In response, staff have been able to meet the growing demand without decreasing the quality of service by efforts that have included staff development, work flow improvements, and interagency streamlining efforts.

This initiative represents an active, targeted approach to market and deliver traditional services within the Boise Creek watershed. Over the first 4-5 years of this initiative, marketing and outreach will be actively targeted to increase the rate of community engagement. After this initial period, the District plans to move this targeted outreach to a new watershed and will continue to offer traditional services, relying on ongoing word of mouth, education event referrals, and partner referrals (depending on available funding).

#### Expected Result

- Contact 95% of landowners in Boise
- 2 Farm Tours per year (60 participants/ yr)
- 2 outreach events ( community presentations or events per year)
- Water Quality Volunteer Monitoring
- Referrals to technical support and other partner services

#### Actual Results

- More than 95% of landowners were contacted via mailing, and other outreach channels (All landowners mailed to for Resource Fair, 325 mailed to for Knotweed; 2860 take home fliers via schools)
- 2 farm tours and one hatchery tour conducted (68 participants)
- 11 events (incl tabling, fairs, expo, presentations, and classes (350+ individuals)
- Two trainings and one other coordination meeting and 115 sampling events

## **Parr Creek Project**

KCD, in partnership with the City of Bothell received a generous grant from the Rose Foundation, to enhance a portion of Parr Creek that runs through the Bothell Business Park.

Removing weedy invasive plants and installing native trees and shrubs will shade the creek, creating lower temperatures and improving water quality here and downstream in the Sammamish River. These improvements will also enhance habitat for fish, birds, and other wildlife and will beautify the section of the creek that runs adjacent to trails and ball fields.

The Parr Creek Riparian Enhancement project is an excellent example of multiple public and private parties working together to improve natural resources in the region. Property owners partnering on the project include the Woodinville Montessori School the City of Bothell, RH Wright, King County, and YMCA.

“Working partnerships are critical to the future of environmental stewardship today,” says City of Bothell Public Works Director Erin Leonhart. “Bothell is excited to provide hands-on learning opportunities for children and adults in our community in partnership with the King Conservation District, local educators, and small business.”

Educators from the Cascadia Environmental Center worked with the students at the Woodinville Montessori School to conduct pre- and post-project water quality testing to monitor the creek’s conditions over time. Data collected was incorporated into the students’ curriculum. KCD and the City of Bothell held an event for the community to raise awareness about the creek in their neighborhood and its role in the larger ecosystem.

## **Water Quality Program**

This program investigates the on the ground impact of conservation practices at achieving water quality and other natural resource outcomes. In 2014, the focus was on an ongoing shade study we initiated with WSU and Whatcom Conservation District in 2012.

### Program Goals

- Develop quantitative evaluation tools for conservation plan and practice effectiveness.
- Improve understanding of shade and temperature impacts from buffers on agricultural waterways.

### Expected Results

- Build on 2012-2013 Pilot Shade Study for Ag Ditch investigations with WSU Extension, King County, and Whatcom Conservation District
- Develop BMP Implementation Monitoring Pilot Program

### Results

- Conducted second year of work on Shade Study for Ag Ditch investigations with WSU Extension, King County, and Whatcom Conservation District



## **NRIM Program Development**

Washington State conservation district enabling legislation specifies that each conservation district will develop a Natural Resource Inventory to guide their work. The KCD NRIM is a GIS-based data analysis tool, which draws from publicly available data and sources on resource harvest levels, ambient air, water and soil conditions, species abundance and habitat health to provide an ongoing, continuously updated analysis of natural resource management priorities. The KCD NRIM can be used to guide its various grant programs, to verify that its limited assessment funds are being spent to address the most relevant conservation challenges and opportunities, and to help local governments, community-based organizations and landowners identify issues of concern on a scale relevant to their influence. This Project was initiated in 2007 and has been unfunded in recent years.

### Program Goals

- Initiate next phase of Natural Resource Inventory Project
- Develop natural resource evaluations to inform District goal setting and future strategic planning and work plan development

### Expected Results

- Prepare an RFQ for consultant bids to complete Natural Resource Inventory focused on King County APDs in coordination with King County

### Results

- No activity conducted in 2014 because staff time was reassigned to higher priority efforts.

## Community Engagement

### King Conservation District Advisory Committee

Building upon the success and recommendations of 2013's Conservation Panel and Task Force, King Conservation District formulated a broad-based Advisory Committee to help build a five-year Implementation Plan and Budget to present to the Metropolitan King County Council in November 2014. The structure of the Advisory Committee can be seen below:

KCD Advisory Committee: A Stakeholders Group					
King Conservation District Board of Supervisors	Member		Alternate		
King County	Appointed by		Chair of KC Council		
	Appointed by		KC Executive		
City of Seattle Staff					
City of Bellevue					
Equity & Social Justice	Appointed by		KC Executive		
Environmental Partners	Appointed by		KCD		
Sound Cities Association					
			SCA Appointments shall strive for geographic balance		
Landowners	Ag Com	Appointed by		Ag Commission	
	Forest Com	Appointed by		Forest Commission	
	Rural	Appointed by		KCD	
	Urban	Appointed by		KCD	

The Advisory Committee met each month January through November in 2014. Throughout the year, partnerships were built and strengthened. The Advisory Committee, some members of which had served on either the Conservation Panel or Task Force, helped KCD take the six priority areas of natural resource conservation identified in 2013 and turn them into more refined program areas that KCD could present to the King County Council for adoption.

The ultimate product of this close, year-long collaboration was KCD's *2015 Implementation Plan*, which is included as Attachment 1.

On November 17, 2014, the Chair of the King Conservation District Advisory Committee, the Honorable John Stokes of the City of Bellevue City Council, joined several other Committee members and the Chair of the KCD Board of Supervisors, Bill Knutsen, in presenting the *KCD 2015 Implementation Plan* to the Metropolitan King County Council for approval. The Council voted unanimously to approve the Plan, citing KCD's ground-breaking collaboration with its key stakeholders as a primary reason.

## **Partnerships**

King Conservation District's Engagement programs are designed to communicate the activities of KCD in ways that are meaningful to our key constituents and the broader community. They include intergovernmental relations and non-governmental organization relations, which specifically target building relationships with key jurisdictional partners within KCD's boundaries and in the Puget Sound region, to Stakeholder Outreach, which focuses specifically on current co-operators and more broadly on all citizens of the District.

King Conservation District extends its mission through a number of partnerships. These include collaboration on projects and programs in which KCD provides coaching, technical assistance, resources, and funding to assist individuals and organizations with multiple programs and partners.

Engagement with partners is also accomplished through KCD staff participation at key conservation tables throughout the region. This effort is valuable in helping KCD better identify resources and opportunities that are appropriate for KCD conservation efforts.

### Program Goals

- Identify and support constituent priorities
- Achieve a greater public awareness of King Conservation District and its services
- Increased participation in KCD's programs and demand for its services
- A collaborative / synergistic relationship between partners and KCD for more efficiency of conservation stewardship

### Program Accomplishments

- The bulk of this work was conducted through the KCD Advisory Committee in 2014
- KCD leadership and senior staff met with several cities' senior staff in 2014 to begin to understand key areas of potential collaboration
- KCD participated in WRIA events
- KCD partnered with Snohomish, Mason, and Pierce conservation districts to begin to develop Better Ground as a conservation district brand and build synergistic capacity across our districts

## **Program Marketing**

King Conservation District's program marketing targets the promotion of specific programs and services to primarily target audiences. These promotions include core programs, services and events as well as those conducted by partner groups, when they are determined to be of interest to our

constituents. In marketing KCD programs, Engagement staff coordinates with other KCD staff to develop program materials and events.

Engagement staff promotes programs and events through the KCD website, email blasts, social media, printed publications, fact sheets, flyers, paid advertisements, local media and partner communication networks.

#### Program Goals

- Increasing recognition of KCD and its mission so that it is known throughout the Puget Sound region.
- Providing marketing tools for each KCD program and supporting consistent use of brand identity and messaging.
- Developing publications that are easily understood by target audiences (e.g., private partners, landowners, grantees, general public) and that successfully promote and educate people about KCD programs, services and recommended best management practices.
- Raising public awareness of the need for individual, voluntary natural resource stewardship.

#### Program Accomplishments

- Website homepage refinement and increased updating and usage
- Colorful, interesting, and informative monthly emailed newsletter read by nearly 3,000 in 2014
- Dynamic, rapidly updated, and well-used Facebook page
- Strategic email alerts for key events and developments
- Event sponsorship in support of local food system, watershed improvement, and other related topics
- Program and jurisdictional factsheets
- Special Publications
- Messaging support to staff and Board
- Recognition Awards – Annual Meeting Event and Rock Awards
- Exhibits and other presence at fairs, farmers markets & festivals

#### **Legislative Activities**

King Conservation District staff and Board devote time and effort on a regular basis communicating and engaging with local and state elected officials. New legislators are unfamiliar with conservation districts, their mission and their efficacy. King Conservation District Board members and senior staff met with legislators to raise literacy about the new revenue tool of Rates and Charges and other issues of interest to state and local lawmakers.

#### Program Goals

- Familiarity, on the part of all new and two year legislators, with conservation districts' mandate, constituency and programs and reciprocal KCD familiarity with legislators' issues
- Securing a conservation district presence at legislative tables when conservation and resource stewardship is being discussed
- Tee up conservation district election and Puget Sound Conservation District Caucus issues with legislative, PSP and State agency staff.



### Program Accomplishments

- Met with 48 state legislators in late January during Legislative Days, followed up through phone calls and letters
- Recognition among many state legislators that private landowners of all types of properties are a key component of resource conservation and stewardship
- Support from jurisdictional leaders for KCD's commitment to the Advisory Committee process to build strong working relationships with its partners going forward
- Presented to 12 City Councils to update them on KCD's new direction and answer questions of how new programs would be developed in collaboration with Sound Cities Association (SCA) and other partners through the Advisory Committee

### **Branding and General Public Literacy**

In response to the Conservation Panel and Task Force's strong recommendation that King Conservation District expand its effort to raise awareness of its services and impact, KCD engaged in a multi-prong campaign to begin that process. Activities included:

**KUOW Underwriting** – KCD highlighted a key partner each week by celebrating a grant or program supported by KCD funding in 20-second radio spots on this local NPR station through the spring, summer, and fall during the local program *The Record*. This allowed KCD to promote non-profit, jurisdictional, and other efforts while simultaneously underscoring KCD's impact in the community and our collaborative approach. KCD received excellent feedback throughout this effort and saw significant increase in year-over-year web traffic as the spots ran.

**Transit Billboards** – KCD secured a limited exterior transit billboard on 12 Metro buses in the dense Seattle core with a poster that underscored our impact on urban, human-scale environments and paired with effort with our Facebook page.

**Farmers Markets Engagement** – KCD exhibited at four farmers markets throughout the summer and early fall. Engagement staff interacted directly with as many as 40 constituents at these events as well as had informational images easily visible to reinforce other efforts to farmers market shoppers.

### Program Goals

- Increased public awareness of KCD's existence and impact
- Increased demand for KCD's services
- Increased opportunities for future collaboration with partners

### Program Accomplishments

- Reached shoppers at four farmers markets, a key constituent audience
- Increased general literacy of KCD, conservation districts overall, voluntary stewardship
- Increased web traffic, Facebook subscribers, and e-newsletter requests

## Board Governance

### Board of Supervisors

The King Conservation District Board of Supervisors is responsible for all policy and funding decisions of KCD. The Board is composed of five Supervisors: Three are elected at large throughout the District, and two are appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission. All members of the Board of Supervisors are volunteers and serve three-year terms. In cooperation with the Executive Director, the Board Chair manages regular meetings of the Board and provides leadership and direction to the Board.

The Board's primary responsibilities are strategic planning and fundraising, with support from the staff. The annual workload of the Board includes policy development and the setting of annual priorities as well as oversight and approval of the Annual Work Plan & Budget in coordination with the Executive Director and KCD management staff. Throughout the year, the Board reviews and approves proposals to KCD for its grant funding. The Board also adopts KCD policy congruent with the Washington State Conservation Commission, including the holding of an annual supervisor election, and other requirements set out by State law and policy. The Board sets policy regarding personnel and the allocation of KCD funding to meet its needs. Supervisors also serve on various regional boards and commissions, attend outside meetings, represent KCD to the Conservation Commission and the Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD), and engage with legislators and stakeholders throughout the District.

The activities of the Board of Supervisors include the staffing and administration expenses for Board activities, which includes the cost of running the annual Supervisor election, the Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner, and outside legal coverage.

### Program Goals

#### General Program

- Review and act upon recommendations from the KCD Advisory Committee.
- Support adjustments as required to conservation district enabling legislation.

#### Election

- Continue to support expanded participation in the KCD's annual election
- Work with state legislators to identify and analyze changes that will result in greater voter participation

#### Statewide Conservation District Activities

- Represent KCD at Washington Association of District Employees and Washington and National Association of Conservation District conferences, to the Washington State Conservation Commission, and to other regional bodies.





## **Program Accomplishments**

### General Program

- Secured grant funding for several pilot projects with jurisdictional or other partners
- Board members served on the KCD Advisory Committee and participated in discussions regarding KCD's 2015 Implementation Plan that was adopted by the King County Council in November, 2014
- Effectively raised local literacy regarding conservation district mandates and responsibilities to local stakeholders
- Worked to promote KCD's role concerning natural resource conservation
- Held Annual Board Celebration Meeting to thank and appreciate all its partners throughout the year

### Election

- Engaged Advisory Committee in conversation with the Washington State Conservation Commission regarding barriers to voting in KCD elections, other issues
- Tracked Washington State Conservation Commission analysis of voting issues
- Laid the groundwork for more progress on election process in 2015

## Operations

KCD's Operations Program includes those activities that focus on managing the processes to produce and distribute products and services to internal and external partners. Activities include managing purchases, inventory control, quality control, storage, logistics and evaluation of processes. By facilitating the flow of information between human resources, accounting, inventory control, and other assets, planning and decision making are made easier. A great deal of focus is on efficiency and effectiveness of processes. Therefore, operations management often includes substantial measurement and analysis of internal processes. The Operations team makes recommendations to and works collaboratively with the Board of Supervisors and staff on projects.

### General Overhead Expenses

KCD's Annual Budget includes expenses for general overhead. Although these do not constitute expenses with specific program deliverables, they provide the operational infrastructure and support for District staff to implement on-the-ground work. These expenses are currently referred to as Tier 1 overhead items. The largest expenses of this category are rent, utilities, office equipment, IT and vehicles.

### Finance

KCD's Finance team consists of a cross-functional working group that provides all accounting related functions for the organization. These functions include, but are not limited to, annual reporting, audit, budgeting, financial reporting to Board of Supervisors and Executive Director, and external partners accounts payable and receivable, grant funding, contracting, and payroll.

### Human Resources

Human Resources provides recommendations and strategies for recruitment and employee development, growth and retention. HR's priorities are clustered in eight categories: compensation, HRIS technology, planning, performance management, professional development, workforce recruitment, strategic planning and work culture enhancement. HR works closely with the Board and ED to update its salary schedule and performance-based compensation system, update the personnel policy and employee benefit programs, review employee career development and training programs, and maintain KCD's employee records, as well as maintain team building initiatives with staff.

### Legal and Related

The Executive Director and Director of Operations and HR oversee the day-to-day contracting and regulatory interpretation as well as respond to and monitor all legal actions that impact the organization. King Conservation District maintains outside legal counsel to handle issues that arise with KCD's unique and collaborative grant program and contracting responsibilities.

### General Operations

General Operations formulates, implements and evaluates administrative policy and programs for all assignments. GO develops pertinent administrative and management policies as they affect employees, budgets, logistics and management, as well as provides administrative and analytical support in a wide variety of areas including: special projects, budgets, correspondence, and general maintenance of KCD programs, including managing KCD's facilities, equipment and IT infrastructure.



### **Program Goals**

- Complete the reorganization of the Operations team, adding solid support to programs
- Manage KCD finances to achieve optimal oversight, with a cross functional team to create transparency and with Operational oversight
- Provide operational support to all KCD programs and staff

### **Program Accomplishments**

- Expanded planning, Implementation and Engagement staff's one-on-one contact with KCD partners and cooperators
- Passed annual State Auditor review with no issues or violations
- Streamlined and simplified budget tracking, document storage/retrieval and payroll systems
- Contributed to and supported a professional culture and climate of proactive, creative and collaborative staff committed to continuing improved performance and expanding partners
- Reconfigured existing space and started negotiations of additional space within the existing building at a lower cost than expiring lease
- Finance team established and monitored specific and measurable financial strategic goals on a coordinated, integrated basis, thus enabling KCD to operate efficiently and effectively, while producing timely reports
- Operations combined with Finance helped to link strategic goals to performance and provide timely, useful information to facilitate strategic and operational control decisions
- HR partnered with program managers to screen applicants and then provide the best training possible to turn employees into assets.
- HR began the process of ensuring compensation and performance management processes are in line to maximize staff performance
- HR documented and broadly communicated available recruiting services and hiring options to support program and general staff hiring
- Operations, Finance and HR created an atmosphere of positive relationships to foster work and team collaborations across all programs

## 2014 Board and Staff

### Board Members

Bill Knutsen, Chair  
Dick Ryon, Vice-Chair  
Max Prinsen, Auditor  
Kit Ledbetter  
Jeanette McKague

### Executive Director

Sara Hemphill

[www.kingcd.org](http://www.kingcd.org)

425-282-1900

### Staff by Program Area

<b>Brandy Reed</b>	Interagency Director
<b>Josh Monaghan</b>	Program Manager – Planning & Initiatives Group Lead
<b>Ava Souza</b>	Director of Operations & Human Resources/Public Inform. Officer
<b>Deirdre Grace</b>	Community Engagement Manager
<b>Melissa Tatro</b>	Outreach Coordinator
<b>Corin Laverne</b>	Project Coordinator
<b>Jessica Saavedra</b>	Member Jurisdiction & WRIA Forum Grants Programs
<b>Adam Jackson</b>	Resource Specialist – Volunteer Program
<b>Erin Ericson</b>	Resource Specialist/ Planner
<b>Jacobus Saperstein</b>	Resource Specialist – Farm Aquatic Area Enhancement Projects
<b>Jason Mirro</b>	Senior Resource Specialist - Nutrient Management Services Program
<b>Karen Hills</b>	Resource Specialist
<b>Lou Beck</b>	District Engineer
<b>Paul Borne</b>	Project Specialist - CREP Program
<b>Rachel Konrady</b>	Landowner Incentive Program Lead
<b>Nikki Marschke</b>	AmeriCorps Education Program Coordinator
<b>Sofia Gidlund</b>	Program Assistant
<b>Liz Clark</b>	Program Assistant
<b>Michael Jones</b>	Administration and Program Assistant
<b>Contract Help</b>	Bookkeeping

## Appendix A: 2014 Grant Awards

The King Conservation District awards grants for projects that directly improve the condition of natural resources, provide education and outreach to increase awareness, build capacity to enhance implementation of natural resource improvement projects, and implement pilot or demonstration projects. In 2013 KCD awarded a total of \$2,347,991 in grants to more than 40 public agencies and nonprofit organizations across King County. Below is a list of the funded organizations with brief descriptions of their projects.

### MEMBER JURISDICTION GRANTS

**City Fruit – Master Tree Fruit Steward Program \$43,000** Training for volunteers to provide Seattle property owners with hands-on support to care for their fruit trees. Surplus fruit will be donated to City Fruit's food bank partners. The first Tree Fruit Stewards will be in the Rainer Valley, Phinney Ridge and West Seattle. Contact: Gail Savina, 206-818-5684, [info@cityfruit.org](mailto:info@cityfruit.org).

**City of Auburn – Auburn International Farmers Market \$20,000** Continued support for marketing and promotion of the farmers market with paid advertisements, mailings, materials, social and printed media, and educational demonstrations from partner organizations. Contact: Joanne Macnab, 253-931-3051, [jmacnab@auburnwa.gov](mailto:jmacnab@auburnwa.gov).

**City of Bellevue and Horses for Clean Water – Bridle Trails Program \$22,000** Bellevue Utilities will partner with Horses for Clean Water and Kirkland Public Works to present a no-cost workshop series to horse owners in the Bridle Trails Neighborhood of Bellevue and Kirkland about best management practices that will help improve water quality. Contact: Mike Graves, 425-452-6099, [MGraves@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:MGraves@bellevuewa.gov).

**City of Clyde Hill – Arbor Day Celebration \$1,990** Educate children of Clyde Hill Elementary School in the values and aims of the National Arbor Day Foundation by planting trees, handing out educational materials and sending students home with a tree of their own to plant. Contact: Courtney Benjamin, 425-453-7800, [courtney@clydehill.org](mailto:courtney@clydehill.org).

**City of Des Moines Public Works – Barnes Creek, 223rd St Culvert Replacement \$52,482** Additional funding to support the removal of an undersized culvert and the replacement with a larger fish passage box culvert. Contact: Loren Reinhold, 206-870-6524, [lreinhold@desmoineswa.gov](mailto:lreinhold@desmoineswa.gov).

**City of Kent Parks & Community Services – Green Kent Partnership, Year 4 \$62,403** Support the following Green Kent Partnership activities: temporary employee, intern, contracted crew time, parks staff time, plants, tools, and contract with Forterra to steward publicly-owned natural areas. Contact: Victoria Andrews, 253-856-5113, [VAndrews@ci.kent.wa.us](mailto:VAndrews@ci.kent.wa.us).

**City of Kent Parks & Community Services – Green Kent Partnership, Year 5 \$54,086** Continue implementation of the Green Kent Partnership utilizing the 20 Year Plan as a road map. Enroll 5 new acres and focus on maintenance of work done on 109 acres. Support and train up to 20 stewards with two part time staff and crews. Contact: Victoria Andrews, 253-856-5113, [VAndrews@ci.kent.wa.us](mailto:VAndrews@ci.kent.wa.us).

**City of Kirkland Parks & Community Services – Update Kirkland 20 Year Plan \$50,000** Expand Green Kirkland Partnership to newly annexed neighborhoods, including five additional parks and 11 open spaces transferred to city ownership, representing an additional 72.43 acres to include in the plan. Coordinate volunteers and crews to remove invasives and plant native plants in parks around Kirkland. Contact: Jennifer Schroder, 425-587-3301, [JSchroder@ci.kirkland.wa.us](mailto:JSchroder@ci.kirkland.wa.us).

**City of Kirkland Public Works Department – Stormwater Audit Pilot Program \$20,000** Funding for a Low Impact Development rebate program for private landowners. A stormwater auditor will assess properties and provide recommendations and options for landowners to implement. Contact: Betsy Adams, 425-587-3858, [badams@ci.kirkland.wa.us](mailto:badams@ci.kirkland.wa.us).



**City of Maple Valley Public Works – Lake Lucerne Outlet Restoration \$32,803** Additional funding to support restoration of the Lake Lucerne outlet. Contact: Ken Srilofung, 425-413-8800 X 646, [Ken.Srilofung@maplevalleywa.gov](mailto:Ken.Srilofung@maplevalleywa.gov).

**City of Seattle Dept of Parks & Recreation - Jimi Hendrix Park Garden Expansion \$9,604** Increases the 2012 KCD-funded project to expand the rain gardens and include a butterfly garden. The project is located in at the Northwest African American Museum in the Central District. Contact: Andy Sheffer, 206-684-7041, [Andy.Sheffer@seattle.gov](mailto:Andy.Sheffer@seattle.gov).

**City of Seattle Dept of Transportation - Neighborhood Beautification Tool Trailer \$17,300** Provides a trailer with tools for regular use by community groups working with SDOT Urban Forestry Program. Trailer will include educational materials on landscaping best practices. Contact: Susan Paine, 206-386-4681, Email: [Susan.Paine@seattle.gov](mailto:Susan.Paine@seattle.gov).

**City of Tukwila Parks & Recreation Department – Codiga Park Shoreline Restoration \$10,000** Stewardship training and ongoing support to perform invasive plant control and replanting with the help of Earth Corps. Contact: Paul Surek, 206-433-7157, [paul.surek@tukwilawa.gov](mailto:paul.surek@tukwilawa.gov).

**EarthCorps – Eagle Landing Park Restoration \$37,104** Building upon previously funded work in 2010, park volunteers and City staff will remove invasive plants and replant with natives on approximately 80,000 square feet of the 5.8 acre park, with free help from a Washington Dept of Natural Resources crew. More than one thousand plants will be installed and maintained. Contact: Bill Brosseau, 206-322-9296 X 207, [Bill@earthcorps.org](mailto:Bill@earthcorps.org).

**EarthCorps – Eagle Landing Park Trail Restoration and Development \$12,232** Decommission stairway trail that has failed and replace it with a boardwalk and trail protecting shoreline from erosion and allowing pedestrians safe access to the beach. Contact: Bill Brosseau, 206-322-9296 X 207, [Bill@earthcorps.org](mailto:Bill@earthcorps.org).

**Earth Corps – Puget Sound Stewards - Duwamish River \$19,500** Expand recruitment, training and retention of volunteer stewards to lead outreach activities at four Duwamish River restoration sites, and in nearby neighborhoods (City of Seattle and WRIA 9). Contact: Dhira Brown, [dhira@earthcorps.org](mailto:dhira@earthcorps.org).

**Friends of Licorice Fern Natural Area - Habitat Restoration \$17,635** Funded through the Thornton Creek Alliance, restoration of seven acres of deciduous forest along the North Branch of Thornton Creek, including planting and volunteer training. Contacts: Gary Olson, 206-523-4384, [judyngaryol@msn.com](mailto:judyngaryol@msn.com), and Donna Keyser, 206-784-8875, [keysermae@comcast.net](mailto:keysermae@comcast.net).

**Friends of the Burke Gilman Trail – Northern Burke-Gilman Trail Restoration \$25,300** Funding through the Seattle Parks Foundation to restore 1.5 miles of the Burke-Gilman Trail in northeast Seattle, including plants, new tools, volunteer work parties, community outreach and a plan to complete the remaining trail restoration. Contacts: Shava Lawson, 206-332-9900, [shava@seattleparksfoundation.org](mailto:shava@seattleparksfoundation.org), and Nalani Askov, 206-397-6704, [nalani.askov@gmail.com](mailto:nalani.askov@gmail.com).

**Friends of Yesler Creek – Yesler Swamp Shoreline Restoration & Walkway \$45,000** Funding through the Seattle Parks Foundation to restore 4,700 square feet of wetland near the University of Washington, including a public walkway, community outreach and education. Contacts: Shava Lawson, 206-332-9900, [shava@seattleparksfoundation.org](mailto:shava@seattleparksfoundation.org), and Carol Arnold, 206-632-2660, [carol.s.arnold@gmail.com](mailto:carol.s.arnold@gmail.com).

**King County Agriculture Program – Keeping Farmers Farming \$191,000** Support for King County programs to conserve farmland and agricultural soils, increase economic success of farm enterprises, and improve farm management practices to protect soil, water quality, and wildlife. Contact: Kathy Creahan, 206-477-4772, [Kathy.Creahan@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Kathy.Creahan@kingcounty.gov).



**Magnuson Community Center - Habitat Connections Field Trip Program \$9,226**

Provides Habitat Connections field trips and transportation for 2nd and 3rd grade classes in north Seattle, including hands on learning activities at the Magnuson Community Center native plant landscape. Contact: Karla Withrow, 206-684-7026, [Karla.Withrow@seattle.gov](mailto:Karla.Withrow@seattle.gov).

**Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust - Discovery Park Capehart Restoration Project \$43,000**

Restores the 21-acre Capehart site at Discovery Park, including volunteer work parties and partnerships with Seattle Parks and Recreation, Carter Subaru and others. Contact: Tor Bell, 206-849-4331, [tor.bell@mtsgreenway.org](mailto:tor.bell@mtsgreenway.org).

**Nature Consortium - Urban Forestry Summer Job Training Internship \$23,100** Designs a summer-long intensive forest restoration job training internship for high school teens from groups under-represented in the environmental field. Location is West Duwamish Greenbelt. Contact: Renee Mona, 206-923-0853, [renee@naturec.org](mailto:renee@naturec.org).

**Newcastle Weed Warriors – Hands On! Critters, Creatures & Farm Animals \$500** Connect urban kids to wildlife and farm animals via a petting zoo where they can experience and interact with tame animals in a safe and fun environment as part of the Newcastle Days event. Contact: Grace Stiller, 206-795-5783, [gracestiller@comcast.net](mailto:gracestiller@comcast.net).

**Solid Ground Lettuce Link Program - Lost Fork of Hamm Creek Stewardship Project \$11,335**

Restores the portion of Hamm Creek that runs by Marra Farm in South Park, including community cleanup work parties, educational materials, and signs. Contacts: Amelia Swinton, 206-694-6731, [amelia@solid-ground.org](mailto:amelia@solid-ground.org), and Nate Moxley, 206-694-6754, [natem@solid-ground.org](mailto:natem@solid-ground.org).

**Snoqualmie Tribe – Tolt MacDonald Park Riparian Habitat Restoration \$11,000** Restoration of a minimum of 2.5 acres of critical floodplain riparian buffer to improve degraded shoreline and riparian habitat conditions in a high priority reach and highly visible site on the lower Tolt River in Carnation. Contact: David Steiner, 425-888-6551 X 1114, [david@snoqualmietribe.us](mailto:david@snoqualmietribe.us).

**Stewardship Partners - Rain Gardens for Underserved Communities in South Seattle \$40,000**

Installs rain gardens or cisterns in south Seattle neighborhoods that could include Longfellow Creek, South Park, Beacon Hill and Rainier Valley. Contact: Aaron Clark, 206-292-9875, [ac@stewardshippartners.org](mailto:ac@stewardshippartners.org).

**Sustainable Seattle - Greening the Grounds: Holy Family Church and Parish \$42,000** Supports the installation and community demonstration of green infrastructure features that will reduce rain water runoff and leverage the City's RainWise and stormwater credit programs. The 13-acre site is in White Center. Contact: Hannah Kett, 206-622-3522, [Hannahk@sustainableseattle.org](mailto:Hannahk@sustainableseattle.org).

**University of Washington - Urban Pollination Project - \$13,000** Supports research and conservation of native pollinators through education in schools, public workshops, YouTube videos, and experimental data gathering. Locations include community gardens.

Contacts: Marie Clifford, [marieclifford@gmail.com](mailto:marieclifford@gmail.com), and Karen Bergeron, 206-616-7022, [karenb@u.washington.edu](mailto:karenb@u.washington.edu).

**YMCA Earth Service Corps - Stewardship, Watershed Restoration & Ecology Education \$15,000**

Funds a one-year, hands-on restoration program at West Seattle, Cleveland and Roosevelt High Schools. Students from each school will restore three project sites. Contact: Geoff Eseltine, 206-839-8913, [geseltine@seattleyymca.org](mailto:geseltine@seattleyymca.org).

## **WRIA GRANTS**

**City of Issaquah – Lower Issaquah Creek Restoration \$250,000** Improve salmon habitat and natural functions in the lower reach by implementing in-stream improvements to control erosion and sedimentation along 1800 lineal feet of creek (WRIA 8). Contact: Kerry Ritland, 425-837-3410, [KerryR@issaquahwa.gov](mailto:KerryR@issaquahwa.gov).

**City of Normandy Park – Beaconsfield on the Sound \$336,500** Continued acquisition of 10 shoreline parcels through fee simple purchase or easements to create a contiguous conservation area along Puget Sound (Normandy Park and WRIA 9). Contact: Maryanne Zukowski, 206-248-8256, [maryannez@ci.normandy-park.wa.us](mailto:maryannez@ci.normandy-park.wa.us).

**City of Tukwila – Duwamish Gardens Construction \$300,000** Creation of close to an acre of shallow water habitat (mud flats surrounded by emergent marsh) along a stretch of the transition zone currently devoid of off channel shallow areas for juvenile salmonids (WRIA 9). Contact: Ryan Larson, 206-431-2456, [ryan.larson@tukwilawa.gov](mailto:ryan.larson@tukwilawa.gov).

**Earth Corps – Duwamish River Habitat Maintenance and Monitoring \$25,000** Invasive removal, native plant installation, mulching, steep bank stabilization, goose excluder fence maintenance and vegetation monitoring at six restoration sites on the Duwamish River (WRIA 9). Contact: Dhira Brown, [dhira@earthcorps.org](mailto:dhira@earthcorps.org).

**Earth Corps – Puget Sound Stewards - Duwamish River \$18,306** Expand recruitment, training and retention of volunteer stewards to lead outreach activities at four Duwamish River restoration sites, and in nearby neighborhoods (City of Seattle and WRIA 9). Contact: Dhira Brown, [dhira@earthcorps.org](mailto:dhira@earthcorps.org).

**Forterra – Connecting Community to Clean Urban Waters \$5,000** Outreach and education activities with schools and neighborhoods closest to Westcrest Park and Maple School Ravine to continue restoration in those parks with professional and volunteer labor and reach residents in the South Seattle neighborhoods (WRIA 9). Contact: Joanna Nelson de Flores, 206-905-6913, [jnelson@forterra.org](mailto:jnelson@forterra.org).

**King County Water & Land Resources Division – Tolt River & Griffin Creek Additions \$68,214** Protect high quality floodplain and riparian habitat and associated habitat forming processes in two key Snoqualmie sub-basins to further the recovery of salmonids by purchasing property and precluding further development. (WRIA 7 - Snoqualmie Forum) Contact: Mary Maier, 206-477-4762, [Mary.Maier@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Mary.Maier@kingcounty.gov).

**King County Water & Land Resources Division – Big Spring Creek Restoration \$330,000** Funds phase two of this large-scale restoration project which includes the creation of a new 1,200 foot stream channel, riparian corridor, rerouting of a roadside ditch to the new channel and the acquisition of a northern parcel to create a flood berm to protect adjacent landowners (WRIA 9). Contact: Josh Kahan, 206-477-4721, [Josh.Kahan@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Josh.Kahan@kingcounty.gov).

**King County Water & Land Resources Division – Newaukum Creek Revegetation Project \$25,000** Revegetate areas of public land along two tributaries of Newaukum Creek (Stonequarry Creek and North Fork Newaukum Creek) to increase shade, lower temperature, and improve refuge and food availability for salmonids before weeds can re-infest the banks. (WRIA 9) Contact: Sally Abella, 206-296-8382, [sally.abella@kingcounty.gov](mailto:sally.abella@kingcounty.gov).

**Mid Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group – Big Spring Creek Smolt Monitoring \$12,500** Build a new, more durable two-way trap to monitor smolt migration patterns for the 2014 season, analyze data, reporting and preparation for 2015 monitoring year, which will inform project planners about the immediate impacts of the large scale project on fish. (WRIA 9) Contact: Troy Fields, 206-529-9467, [troy@midsoundfisheries.org](mailto:troy@midsoundfisheries.org).

**Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust – Little Bear Creek Knotweed Control & Reforestation**

**\$5,553** Conduct a weed survey, control invasive weeds, and plant native vegetation along the lower two miles of the creek in partnership with the City of Woodinville and Snohomish County (WRIA 8).

Contact: Tor Bell, 206-849-4331, [tor.bell@mtsgreenway.org](mailto:tor.bell@mtsgreenway.org)

**Stewardship Partners – Salmon-Safe Vashon Island \$8,318** Identify and reach out to landowners on Vashon Island for Salmon-Safe Certification, with the goal of assessing and certifying 12

landowners in cooperation with multiple organizations including KCD, the Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust, and chef and restaurant owner Matt Dillon. (WRIA 9) Contact: David Burger, 206-292-9875, [db@stewardshippartners.org](mailto:db@stewardshippartners.org).

**Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust – Judd Creek Estuary Acquisition \$12,000** Funds to negotiate and bridge-finance the purchase of ten acres in the heart of the Judd Creek estuary from the top of the tidal influence down to the Judd Creek Bridge. Judd Creek is the largest watershed on Vashon with naturally spawning runs of salmon. (WRIA 9) Contact: Tom Dean, 206-463-2644, [tom@vashonlandtrust.org](mailto:tom@vashonlandtrust.org).