



## INTRODUCTION

The 2016 KCD Program of Work carries forward initiatives identified as essential regional priorities by the Conservation Panel, Task Force, and KCD Advisory Committee. At base, these include activities and partnerships that will help build a regional, sustainable, and equitable food system, improve the health of our forests, neighborhood tree canopies, shorelines and ensure clean water for all.

The 2016 Program of Work outlines the ways in which KCD will continue to implement its programs in response to guidance received from the KCD Advisory Committee.

## THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

As the pressures of climate change and population increases begin to be felt in common and extraordinary ways, our region is challenged to develop tools to adapt and succeed. Efforts are underway to understand and develop strategies to combat systemic barriers to healthy fresh food for all, expand tree canopies in dense neighborhoods and protect our rural forests, and ensure that our region's people, plants, and animals have clean water.

Conservation districts were created at the center of our nation's first national environmental crisis – the dust bowl. Our unique mission places us squarely in the center of many human-natural resource intersections. It's our job to help people understand why a healthy environment is essential to them and then give them the tools they need to do something about it, especially on the nearly 50% of land that's under private control. Growing stewards is what conservation districts do – wherever those stewards may

be – on the farm, in neighborhood backyards, or working alongside friends to restore a stream or park.

We provide broad messaging to elevate natural resource conservation among a diverse constituency. We teach workshops and classes and host tours of demonstration projects to bring essential information on stewardship to interested people. And we work hand-in-hand, often bringing financial resources, with landowners to help them steward natural resources on their land for the public's benefit. **Education, technical assistance, and cost-share.** It's how conservation districts help people build better ground.

In the face of climate change impacts, food production and access barriers, and development pressures on the natural environment, King Conservation District stands ready with our partners to continue to leverage the region's existing expertise and passion for this place and make a difference.

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The 2013 King Conservation District/King County Conservation Panel and Task Force roundtables examined the region's existing programs and identified specific needs that were not being addressed in natural resource conservation. In 2014 and 2015, KCD worked with a broad-based Advisory Committee to develop an implementation plan for work in the following areas:

- Rural Small Lot Forest Health Management
- Urban Forest Health Management
- Regional Food System
- Urban Agriculture
- Rural Agriculture
- Shorelines and Riparian Habitat
- Landowner Incentive Program
- Community Engagement & Member Jurisdiction Grants

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

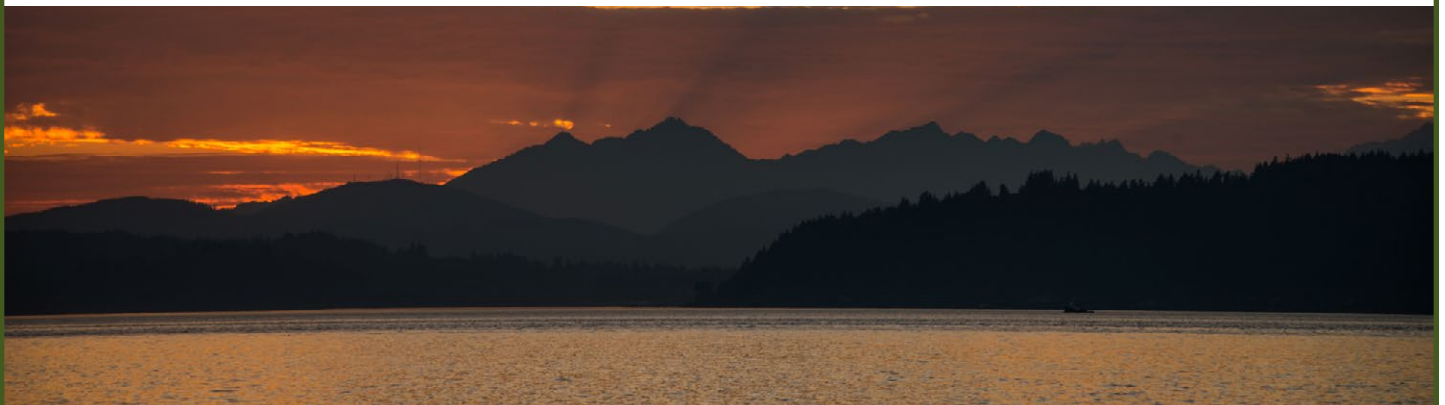
KCD's proposed guiding principles to direct and leverage our resources equitably and effectively include:

- Strive to fund projects and programs across a geographically diverse landscape
- Proposed projects are encouraged to address multiple natural resource priorities
- Proposed projects should seek to align with established regional policy and research and planning process
- Proposed projects are encouraged to address economic as well as environmental challenges
- Projects are encouraged to address equity and social justice directly or indirectly
- We strive to coordinate with local jurisdiction conservation programs and initiatives where they exist.

## PARTNERSHIP

KCD is committed to continue implementing these new regional programs in close collaboration with our Advisory Committee and other stakeholders. In order for KCD resources to have the greatest impact, we are committed to building partnerships that direct funds towards effective but underfunded existing programs, innovative pilot projects, and, especially, partnerships across municipalities, organizations, and individuals with congruent goals to build regional capacity and translate into on-the-ground improvements.

Criteria for grants, loans, services, and other resource allocation have been developed jointly by KCD staff and the KCD Advisory Committee, through the leadership of its Executive Committee, and through the KCD Board for consideration and action.



# RURAL SMALL LOT FOREST HEALTH MANAGEMENT

Forests cover two-thirds of the land area in King County, and over 364,000 acres of these forests are in private ownership. The residents of King County value these forestlands for their social, economic and ecological benefits: The recreational opportunities and scenic beauty afforded by forests are central to the quality of life in King County; Pacific Northwest forests are among the most productive in the world; and King County forests provide direct and tangible benefits to entire watersheds by intercepting, evaporating and transpiring rainfall, recharging groundwater and releasing storm water slowly to receiving waterways, sequestering carbon, and providing fish and wildlife habitat.

For these reasons, the King County Rural Forest Commission has recommended promoting and supporting the retention and enhancement of our valuable forested landscape by maintaining a strong focus on incentives and services for small lot forest owners.

King Conservation District works with small-lot forest landowners across unincorporated King County to increase the resilience of the forested landscape and capture the ecological, recreational and other values of forests by helping landowners actively manage forestlands and open space areas. KCD has expanded this effort by enhancing its partnerships with King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Washington State University (WSU) Cooperative Extension, and rural residential and small private forest landowners to protect and enhance woodlots and smaller stands of forest, reduce forest fragmentation, and capture the ecological benefits and in some cases the economic value of forests.

*"The combined impacts of increasing wildfire, insect outbreaks, and tree diseases are already causing widespread tree die-off and are virtually certain to cause additional forest mortality by the 2040s."*

*Climate Change Impacts in the United States – Northwest May, 2014*

## 2016 PROGRAM RESOURCES

King Conservation District works with King County, WSU Cooperative Extension and other partners to continue implementing a program that promotes forest health on private lands through workshops, one-on-one education, and technical and financial incentives to plan and implement best management practices. We will build on existing programs and utilize other available resources when available. Program resources needed are shown below.

	2015	2016
Staff and Consulting	\$92,523	\$92,523
AmeriCorps Intern & Other contracted	\$52,500	\$52,500
Materials/supplies, facility rentals	\$10,000	\$10,000
	<b>\$165,023**</b>	<b>\$165,023**</b>

*\* Current funded activities include providing technical guidance, cost-share application development, and project materials to landowners and residents who independently plan and implement forest health management practices.*

*\*\*See the Landowner Incentive Program section of this document for additional funding in the form of cost-share allocated for rural forest health stewardship practices.*

## 2016 PROGRAM AND SERVICES

The range of opportunities includes:

- **Fund the annual offering of WSU Coached Forest Stewardship Workshops** in King County to rural non-commercial small forest landowners.

**Washington State University (WSU) (Grant or Contract)**

- **Target current and increased technical site assessment and support** services to non-commercial rural forest landowners (under 5 acres). Capitalize on synergistic opportunities on properties with combined farm and woodlot land uses (see Regional Food System section of this document. )

**KCD Staff**

- **Target new technical assistance and implementation services to homeowners associations** with Native Growth Protection Areas, forest buffers and other open space management areas.

**KCD Staff**

- **Conduct outreach to rural non-commercial small forest landowners** to directly market the range of forestry services available across agencies in King County.

**KCD Staff in partnership with WSU, King County and others**

- **Collaborate with local and regional service providers on enhancing economic development incentives to support small scale forestry** and on conservation programs that help maintain forest health in the urban/rural interface.

**KCD Staff in partnership with WSU, KC and others**

- **Collaborate with local and regional service providers** on delivering regional fire fuels reduction efforts to small non-commercial forest landowners.

**KCD Staff in partnership with KC and others**



## BENCHMARKS

KCD will continue to deliver a robust program of outreach and technical services to increase the contiguous acres of small acreage privately held forest stands that are actively stewarded and restored, including:

- 40 to 225 acres of rural forest / woodlot treated and planted annually, a total of 1,125 acres over 5 years
- 18,000 - 36,000 native trees and shrubs planted on forest land annually, a total of 90,000 to 180,000 over 5 years
- \$144,900 of private sector funding leveraged on forest health management annually, a total of \$724,500 over 5 years
- 18 or more small forest landowners engaged annually in planning and implementing best management practices through KCD technical services, a total of at least 90 landowners engaged over 5 years.
- Offer 1 or more WSU Coached Forest Stewardship Workshop held in King County annually or at least 5 workshops in 5 years.
- \$150,000 in KCD LIP cost-share funding awarded annually for contracts with small private forest landowners to implemented best management practices, for a total of \$750,000 in cost share monies awarded over 5 years.



# URBAN FOREST HEALTH MANAGEMENT

King Conservation District is tasked with one of the most interesting and multi-faceted opportunities facing any conservation district: to extend its traditional reach and work in the backyards, public easements, and parks and open spaces in the incorporated landscapes of the 34 cities we are proud to call our partners. Healthy trees and forests are important attributes in our communities – they increase property values, decrease crime rates, and bring well-studied health benefits to communities. Urban forestry programs across the country are expanding their historical focus on aesthetics and heat islands to include wildlife habitat in cities, storm water management, water quality improvement, pollution abatement and carbon sequestration.

As managed growth concentrates development within the Urban Growth Boundary, healthy urban forests, tree canopies and street trees become even more necessary. KCD works to increase the resilience of urban tree canopies and capture the ecological, recreational and other values of green infrastructure by helping residents and landowners actively manage urban trees in yards and public open spaces. KCD will build on its successful 2015 partnerships with member cities to expand conservation of urban tree canopies and grow green infrastructure where it is deemed most needed.

## King County STAR Community Rating Program Reveals Growing Disparity in Urban Canopy Cover

Trees form the backbone of the green infrastructure in urban environments. Tree canopy has decreased in low-income parts of the city of Seattle over the past decade. High income neighborhoods have actually experienced an increase in forest canopy. Urban tree canopy contributes to decreased summer temperatures, increased capacity to absorb severe storm events, and habitat for wildlife.

## PROGRAM RESOURCES

King Conservation District will continue working with our member jurisdictions and other partners to continue a program that increases street trees and urban tree canopy coverage and build green infrastructure in communities across King County. We will build on existing programs and utilize other available resources when available. The Urban forest Health Management Program resources needed are shown below.

	2015	2016
Staff and Consulting	\$111,056	\$111,056
AmeriCorps Intern	\$13,575	\$13,575
Materials/supplies, facility rentals	\$30,000	\$30,000
		<b>\$154,631**</b>

\* Current funded activities include providing technical assistance, planning and implementation service, and project materials to jurisdictions and residents on urban forest health management projects.

\*\*See the Landowner Incentive Program section of this document for additional funding in the form of cost-share allocated for urban trees, canopy and green infrastructure stewardship practices.

## PROGRAM AND SERVICES

The range of opportunities includes:

### FOR LANDOWNER LITERACY

- **Provide workshops, classes and tours to neighborhood residents** on improving forest/tree ecosystem functions and values, enhancing wildlife habitat, reducing storm water runoff, and sequestering atmospheric carbon by planting and maintaining native trees and shrubs.

**KCD Staff / WSU Cooperative Extension**

- **Assist neighborhood residents, through increased levels of technical support**, on retaining and restoring their part of the neighborhood forest, improving neighborhood forest ecosystem functions and values, enhancing wildlife habitat, reducing storm water runoff, and sequestering atmospheric carbon by planting and maintaining native trees and shrubs.

**KCD Staff in partnership with Member Jurisdictions**

- **Support and/or coordinate public/private partnerships between private parcels and jurisdictions** on restoring buffers adjacent to public easements, parks and other neighborhood open space areas in cities.

**KCD Staff in partnership with Member Jurisdictions**

### FOR SMALL & MEDIUM-SIZED JURISDICTIONS

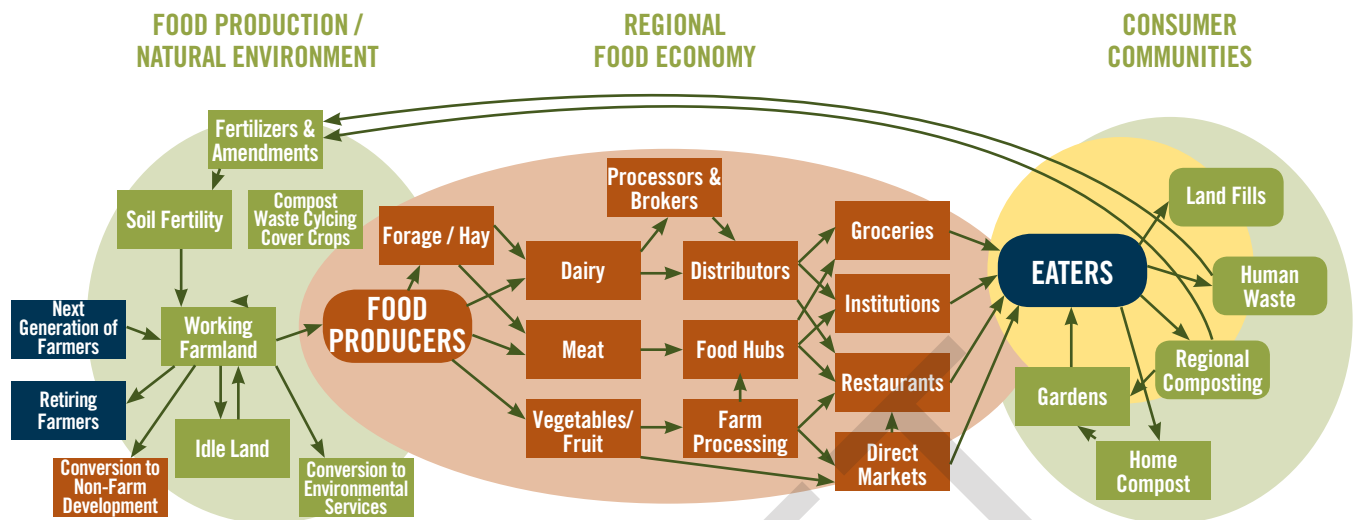
- **Organize and facilitate three round tables for each year to explore the needs, concerns and potential opportunities to partner with jurisdictions on city forestry initiatives** including monitoring and maintaining healthy tree canopy, developing city forest retention and restoration strategic plans, and conducting public tree inventories & canopy assessments.

**KCD Staff in partnership with Member Jurisdictions**

## BENCHMARKS

- 14 acres of urban forest/upland treated and planted annually, a total of 70 urban acres over 5 years.
- 34,400 native trees and shrubs planted on urban forest/upland habitat annually, a total of 172,000 trees and shrubs planted in urban areas over 5 years.
- Increase from \$144,000 to \$324,400 private sector funding leveraged on urban forest/upland health annually, a total of \$1,622,000 of private sector funds over 5 years.
- Work with at least 3 new jurisdictions annually in a support and/or coordination role to plan and implement urban forest retention and restoration programs, building urban canopy programs in a minimum of 15 King County cities within 5 years.
- \$150,000 KCD funds awarded annually for projects consistent with the urban forest initiatives in partnership with member jurisdictions, for a total of \$750,000 in project investments awarded over 5 years.

# REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEM



In 2015, the King Conservation District established the **Regional Food System Program** based on King County Kitchen Cabinet and the Puget Sound Regional Council action plans, and on personal engagement with a wide range of local food system advisors. Drawing on this community input, KCD is implementing a series of initiatives that will contribute to the economic viability of local farmers, encourage more new farmers, expand acreage in food production, improve food access, and increase demand for local farm products.

In 2016, the Program of Work includes a second year of the **KCD Regional Food System Grant Program**.

The 2016 KCD budget includes ongoing funding for the Regional Food System Grant Program. Eligible applicants will include farmers, producer networks, governments, marketing cooperatives, farmers market, and nonprofit organizations. 2015 grant guidelines are available on our website. We are currently seeking feedback on the 2015 cycle and will be adjusting the 2016 process and procedures to improve the program.

## PROGRAM RESOURCES

In 2016, King Conservation District will continue to work with partners and technical experts to further improve the Regional Food System Grant Program. Goals include to better sync this program to increase ability for grant applicants to leverage these funds to bring other resources to the region, including funding from the USDA, EPA, and state sources. Program staff in 2016 will include a full time Program Manager, support from a Program Assistant, and other District staff support, as needed.

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

This Grant Program seeks to fund a wide range of efforts to strengthen the food system in accordance with the below selection criteria developed by KCD staff and Board in collaboration with the KCD Advisory Committee.

	2015	2016
Staff, Consulting	\$196,500	\$196,500
Grant Funds	\$900,000	\$900,000
	<b>\$1,096,500*</b>	<b>\$1,096,500*</b>

\* Current funded activities include Farm Planning and Outreach staff and contractor support time



## Grant Selection Criteria

1. Provides direct benefit for food producers and agricultural lands:
  - a. Addresses infrastructure needs or gaps.
  - b. Targets natural resource priorities on farmland.
  - c. Increases demand for King County farm products.
2. Aligns with goals in the Kitchen Cabinet Action Plan and Puget Sound Regional Food Policy Action Plan.
3. Aligns with KCD guiding principles.
4. Project is sustainable and/or replicable.

In 2015, this resulted in the following projects:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Pasture-raised Poultry and Egg Cooperative Start-up                        | Nelli Farms  |
| 2. King County Farmers Market Access Coordination                             | City of Seattle Office of Sustainability and Environment |
| 3. Food Hub Development for King County Farmers                               | NW Agriculture Business Center                           |
| 4. Urban Agriculture/Agroforestry/Food Security                               | Highline College   |
| 5. Experience Farming Project Infrastructure Upgrades                         | Snoqualmie Valley Tilth                                  |
| 6. Beefing up Infrastructure Needs for King County USDA Meat Processing       | King County WLRD Program                                 |
| 7. Launching a Successful Watershed Improvement District                      | Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance                  |
| 8. Growing Potential: Bringing WSU Extension Expertise To King County Farmers | Washington State University                              |
| 9. A Hedgerow Trial to Attract Beneficial Insects to Farm Edges               | Humanlinks DBA 21 Acres                                  |

## DRAFT 2016 GRANT APPLICATION TIMELINE\*

- |              |                                       |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| April 18     | Letter of Intent deadline.            |
| April 27     | Invitations for full grant proposals. |
| May 6        | Community Presentation Workshop.      |
| June 6       | Final proposal deadline.              |
| September 12 | Grant awards announced.               |

\*Note that these are dates may shift as we look at process improvements for 2016. A final timeline will be in place and announced in February 2016.

## 2016 ADDITIONAL SERVICES

KCD will continue to offer the loan of two new pieces of equipment to small farmers:

- No till drill
- Small scale chicken processor

## BENCHMARKS

KCD proposes to continue to deliver a robust program of grants and services that address the following regional goals:

- ...Production- More Food Acres and More New Farmers
- ...Demand- More Demand for Locally Grown Food
- ...Access- Greater Access to fruit and vegetables by most vulnerable in our communities

In 2016, KCD proposes to commit over \$1,000,000 to the expansion and stabilization of a sustainable, equitable, and resilient regional food system. In the 2015 awards, on average, each \$1 KCD has committed is leveraging an additional \$1.30. We look forward to working to further strengthen this leveraging power.



# URBAN AGRICULTURE

"Urban agriculture can play an important role in increasing food security, building community, and improving the environment. Local governments occupy a key role in ensuring that cultivation, processing, and sales of locally-produced food occurs in appropriate locations with few barriers. Urban agriculture activities include home gardening in front and back yards, planting strips and roots; keeping livestock, beekeeping, larger urban farms, private and public community gardens, production and sale of value-added products like jams and pickles, and on-site sales of locally-produced food."

*Urban Agriculture Blueprint, Regional Food Policy Council*

## PROGRAM RESOURCES

King Conservation District works with our member jurisdiction cities, King County, Seattle Tilth, Cascade Harvest Coalition, Pike Place Market, the Regional Food Policy Council, and others across the food system spectrum to identify opportunities to develop urban agriculture.

	2015	2016
Staff, Consulting and Demonstration Project Costs	\$173,871	\$173,871
Soil Testing	\$17,929	\$17,929
	<b>\$191,800</b>	<b>\$191,800**</b>

\* Current funded activities include soil testing within the District's Nutrient Management Services Program

\*\*See the Landowner Incentive Program section of this document for additional funding in the form of cost-share allocated for rural and urban agriculture stewardship practices. KCD will also look to the newly published Regional Food Policy Council 2014-2017 Action Plan for guidance and potential strategies.

## PROGRAM AND SERVICES

- 1. Soil Fertility** - help urban farmers and gardeners understand how to manage soil fertility, including soil testing and cover cropping, food cycle, and natural resource cycles through practical workshops, site specific technical expertise, soil testing program, pilot cover cropping incentives.
- 2. Farm friendly cities** - Work with cities to review comprehensive plans and local regulations to target changes that help cities make updates to become more urban agriculture friendly.
- 3. Food growing in low income communities** - partner with cities, King County and community leaders on opportunistic, demonstration projects.



## BENCHMARKS

- Assess regional need for urban farming-related natural resource planning support through coordination with member jurisdictions and the KCD Advisory Committee.
- Continue to market and expand soil fertility services to promote responsible fertilizer practices (increase gardener involvement by at least 100 more new gardeners annually, engaging at least 500 new gardeners over 5 years); In 2015, KCD surpassed 500 soil tests in early Fall.
- Grow current soil testing program and customers into a more comprehensive urban conservation program focused on growing healthy local food and protecting and enhancing urban water quality.
- Assist up to 15 jurisdictions with Comprehensive Code and Regulatory Code audits over 5 years.
- 20 Urban Farm Planning Technical Assists per year. Our goal is to assist urban farm planning across the District so that by year 5, a total of 100 urban farms have received planning technical assistance across King County.





# RURAL AGRICULTURE

United States Dept. Of Agriculture statistics show that King County farmers produced \$120 million worth of Agricultural products in 2012. About \$90 million of that total are food products. The county ranks 18th in value of agricultural production of the state's 39 counties. King County consumers spend \$6 billion on food.

Farmers are the stewards of over 60,000 acres of farmed and farmable lands in King County. Enabling their stewardship of our shared water, soil, and habitat resources requires supporting those efforts in meaningful ways. Placing expensive regulatory burdens on farmers without committing the technical and financial resources to help land managers implement environmental practices runs the very real risk of losing that farmland to bankruptcy, abandonment, or development.

"The agricultural lands within the region are among the most productive in the state, and the loss of good quality farmland has implications for air quality, water quality and quantity, and the region's self-sufficiency."

-The Puget Sound Regional Council

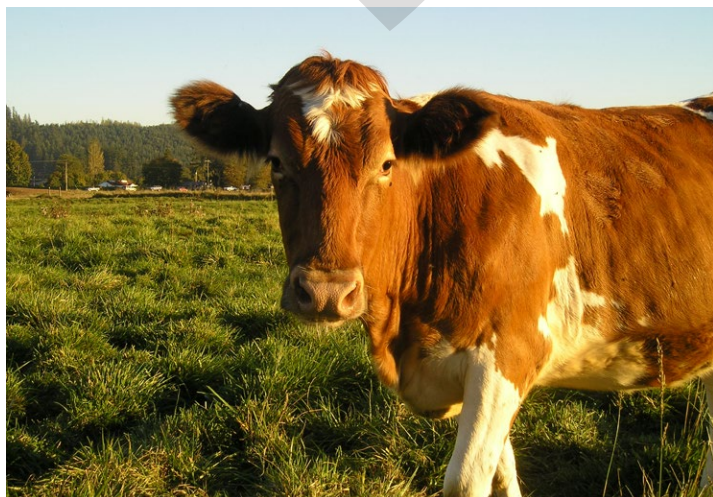
## PROGRAM RESOURCES

King Conservation District has increased its support of rural farmers through both increasing the number of plans to self-selected clients as well as expanded pilot efforts on sub-basin targeting to improve water, soil, and habitat quality in watersheds that exhibit poor benchmarks.

	2015	2016
Staff and Consulting	\$725,814	\$725,814
	<b>\$725,814**</b>	<b>\$725,814**</b>

\* Current funded activities include Natural Resource Planning and Technical Assistance and Livestock Owners Workshops and Farm Tours

\*\*See the Landowner Incentive Program section of this document for additional funding in the form of cost-share allocated for rural and urban agriculture stewardship practices.



## PROGRAM AND SERVICES

- Continue a multi-year plan to deploy targeted farm planning services approach county wide to key targeted natural resource concern areas, for example, PIC approach-targeting water quality impaired sub-basins with significant commercial farming land use (5 -10 watersheds prioritized; may result in 10+ year plan).

**KCD Staff**

- Continue targeting 1 natural resource concern area for outreach each 2 years, ensuring a comprehensive approach to conservation

**KCD Staff**

- Serving 50 farming customers in targeted natural resource areas (90% result in site visits to assess natural resource concerns and solutions) annually.

**KCD Staff**

- Delivering 20 farm plans in targeted natural resource areas (25% regulatory nexus; 10% Current/PBRS nexus: 65% stewardship nexus only) annually.

**KCD Staff**

## BENCHMARKS

- Maintain level of county-wide farm natural resource planning support. This program currently addresses water quality, salmon habitat, and farm productivity goals, as defined through regional planning efforts and local, state, and national Best Management Practices.
  - 150 farming service customers
  - 70 farm conservation plans, including 2 dairy nutrient management plans
  - Follow up on 150 farm plans to document implementation
  - Loan Manure Spreader to 30 landowners
  - Loan hay probe to 20 farmers for feed nutrient management
  - Loan lime spreader to 25 landowners for soil fertility management
- Develop a multi-year plan to deploy targeted farm planning services county-wide. For example, target water quality impaired watershed sub-basins with significant commercial farming land use (5 -10 watersheds prioritized; may result in 10+ year plan) Establish a regionally coordinated outreach and service delivery program. This will include quantitative monitoring to evaluate on-the-ground and in-the-water progress at reaching improvement goals.
- Target 1 natural resource concern area for outreach each 2 years, ensuring a comprehensive approach to conservation and investing in 3 areas over 5 years. (This program was in BETA in 2014, funded by outside grants)
- Serve 50 farming customers in targeted natural resource areas (90% result in site visits to assess natural resource concerns and solutions) annually, reaching 250 farmers over 5 years. (in addition to 2014 levels above)
- Delivering 20 farm plans in targeted natural resource areas (25% regulatory nexus; 10% Current/PBRS nexus: 65% stewardship nexus only) annually, totaling 100 over a 5 year period (in addition to 2014 levels above).
- Connect land managers and farmers with financial assistance to make identified improvements.

# SHORELINES AND RIPARIAN HABITAT

King County's landscape is a diverse mosaic of mountains, forests, rivers, lakes, and marine habitats. The King Conservation District's service area includes approximately 2,100 square miles of land, plus nearly 2,000 miles of freshwater and marine shorelines. Where more than 2/3 of the shoreline properties are held in private ownership, a century of intensive logging, agriculture and neighborhood development have degraded these aquatic habitats throughout the region. In 1999, Chinook salmon were listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, prompting concerted efforts to restore and protect lakes, rivers and streams. Ongoing concern for the health of Puget Sound has led to the Puget Sound Partnership Action Agenda strategies and priorities focused protecting and improving freshwater and marine shorelines and near-shore and in-stream habitats.

Additionally, support for increased technical and educational assistance and capacity-building among shoreline property owners was recommended by the King Conservation District/King County Conservation Panel and Task Force. These regional initiatives acknowledge that efforts to recover the health of these aquatic systems require close collaboration with private property owners whose lands abut freshwater and marine shorelines. KCD currently works to protect and improve freshwater and marine shorelines in our region by helping landowners and residents steward these habitats and implement protection and enhancement practices. KCD has increased the number of acres and miles of enhanced freshwater and marine riparian habitat on private property engaging more landowners and residents through increased levels of education and technical services and financial incentives.

## PROGRAM RESOURCES

King Conservation District works with our member jurisdictions and other local and regional to deliver a program that increases the acres and miles of enhanced freshwater and marine shoreline on private lands through workshops, one-on-one education, and technical and financial assistance for implementing best management practices. We build on existing programs and utilize other available resources when available. Program resources needed are shown below.

	2015	2016
Staff and Consulting	\$536,921	\$536,921
AmeriCorps Intern & Crew & Other Contracted	\$292,210	\$292,210
Other Contracted	\$227,515	\$227,515
Materials/supplies, facility rentals	\$221,938	\$221,938
	<b>\$1,278,584**</b>	<b>\$1,278,584**</b>

*\* Current funded activities include planning, designing and implementing urban and rural residential and rural working lands freshwater and marine aquatic area enhancement projects; engineering and implementing fish passage barrier removal and stream restoration projects; recruiting and coordinating volunteer involvement on projects; providing technical guidance, cost-share application development, and project material to landowners and residents who independently plan and implement aquatic area enhancement projects.*

*\*\*See the Landowner Incentive Program section of this document for additional funding in the form of cost-share allocated for marine and freshwater shorelines stewardship practices.*

## EXPANDED PROGRAM AND SERVICES

The range of opportunities includes:

### FOR LANDOWNER LITERACY

- Provide assistance to landowners and residents in communities that are currently underserved or are disproportionately affected by pollution, including toxics and sedimentation, or habitat degradation.

**KCD in Partnership with Member Jurisdictionss/NGOs**

### FOR JURISDICTIONS

- Continue to help jurisdictions meet their aquatic resource protection and enhancement objectives through education, technical support and implementation services to landowners and neighborhood/community groups. The range of services to jurisdictions include community organizing, project planning, and implementation services.

**KCD in Partnership with Member Jurisdictionss/NGOs**

- Develop a *Member Jurisdiction Urban Shorelines Outreach Toolkit* to help City Staff and KCD to work together and support each other in delivering aquatic area protection and enhancement services to urban homeowners and residents. Toolkit elements include City and KCD web materials and resources, publication, social media and other electronic format technical and informational content, City / KCD collaboration events and opportunities.
- Support jurisdiction efforts to improve freshwater and marine shoreline habitat in parks and on other public properties. These efforts, currently offered as a contracted service, could be increased. Jurisdiction investments could be augmented by working with landowners of adjacent private holdings.
- Support jurisdiction efforts in targeted shoreline outreach, education and technical services that promote and support enhanced shoreline buffers and reduced pollutants in surface water runoff.

**KCD in Partnership with Member Jurisdictionss/NGOs**

**KCD in Partnership with Member Jurisdictionss/NGOs**

## BENCHMARKS

KCD will continue to develop and administer a robust program of educational outreach and technical services to increase acres and miles of privately held shoreline that are actively stewarded and restored, including:

- 3.6 miles of shoreline replanted and enhanced annually, totaling 18 miles of shoreline over 5 years
- 47 acres of riparian corridor replanted and enhanced annually, for a total of 235 acres of riparian corridor over 5 years
- 115,100 native trees and shrubs planted annually, totaling 575,500 over 5 years
- 220 freshwater aquatic area landowners engaged annually in learning about, planning and implementing aquatic area planting and enhancement practices, engaging 1,100 freshwater landowners over 5 years
- 120 marine shoreline aquatic area landowners engaged annually in learning about, planning and implementing aquatic area planting and enhancement practices, engaging 600 marine landowners over 5 years
- 20 freshwater aquatic area planting and enhancement projects planned and implemented by KCD, on a combination of neighborhood and rural residential lands.
- 8 Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program projects planned and implemented per year.
- \$112,500 KCD LIP cost-share funds awarded annually for contracts with freshwater and marine aquatic area landowners to implement freshwater and marine shoreline planting and enhancement practices in neighborhoods and rural areas, for a total of \$562,500 of cost-share monies awarded over 5 years



# LANDOWNER INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The Landowner Incentive Program is a financial incentive tool that supports best management practices on private property by sharing the cost of implementing those practices between the public and private sector. The ratio of public and private investment in implemented practices depends upon the benefit received by each. Examples of practices supported by the KCD LIP include installing fences to protect streams and wetlands by excluding domesticated livestock, building manure bins to protect water quality by storing and composting livestock waste, installing native plant buffers along streams, wetlands and marine shorelines to enhance fish and wildlife habitat, etc. The LIP program supports KCD's other programs outlined in this Implementation Plan. Below this cost breakout is a list of the KCD Proposed Program of Work Programs and the LIP allocations assigned to each.

## PROGRAM RESOURCES

King Conservation District has increased our region's capacity to protect and enhance natural resources by providing financial incentive complementary to our technical programs and services that support private landowners in meeting the region's expectations that common resources, such as water quality and fish and wildlife habitat be protected and enhanced for the public benefit. We will build on existing programs and utilize other available resources when available. Program resources needed are shown below.

	2015	2016
Staff and Consulting	\$180,932	\$180,932
Cost share (landowner matching funds)	\$656,250	\$656,250
	<b>\$837,182</b>	<b>\$837,182</b>

*\* Current funded activities include awarding and administering cost-share funding.*

	2015	2016
Rural Forest Health	\$150,000	\$150,000
Urban Trees, Canopy and Green Infrastructure	\$150,000	\$150,000
Shorelines/Riparian (Marine & Freshwater)	\$112,500	\$112,500
Rural and Urban Agriculture (Water Quality Protection)	\$243,750	\$243,750
	<b>\$656,250</b>	<b>\$656,250</b>

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & MEMBER JURISDICTION GRANTS

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Community Engagement program supports the other King Conservation District programs through program marketing, outreach, and communication. In addition, Community Engagement works to raise literacy among residents, public agencies, and non-profits about the services we provide, the impact of our organization, and ways in which we partner with people and organizations. Community Engagement works closely with our Advisory Committee to ensure broad regional perspectives are included in policy development and guidance to the KCD Board of Supervisors.

## MEMBER JURISDICTION GRANTS

King Conservation District awards grants to local governments, nonprofit organizations, tribes, and other agencies to improve natural resources and increase regional conservation. District funds for projects listed below were collected from an annual, per-parcel assessment or rate and charge for projects in partnership with Member Jurisdictions and/or the three watershed forums. These monies support high-impact projects in both urban and rural areas and are often matched with funding from state, federal, and other sources. For more information on these projects or about the grant programs, please contact Jessica Saavedra at 425-282-1906 or e-mail [Jessica.Saavedra@kingcd.org](mailto:Jessica.Saavedra@kingcd.org). Visit our website at [www.kingcd.org](http://www.kingcd.org) and find us on Facebook.

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# KCD BUDGET

KCD PROPOSED BUDGET	2015	2016
FOOD AND FARMING		
Local Food System	\$1,096,500	\$1,096,500
Rural Farm Planning Services	\$725,814	\$725,814
Urban Farm Planning Services	\$191,800	\$191,800
Forestry Services (urban/rural)	\$319,654	\$319,654
Shoreline and Riparian Services (urban/rural)	\$1,278,584	\$1,278,584
Landowner Incentive Program (urban/rural)	\$837,182	\$837,182
Member Jurisdiction Grants and Services Program <i>including grant administration</i>	\$1,296,507	\$1,296,507
Communications, Outreach, Advisory Committee	\$404,999	\$404,999
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,151,042</b>	<b>\$6,151,042</b>



# KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT – SENIOR PROGRAM STAFF

## BRANDY REED, Senior Program Manager, Implementation and Education

Brandy Reed joined the King Conservation District in 1996. She serves as the District's Interagency Director and Senior Program Manager for Implementation and Education. Brandy offers nearly three decades of dedication and experience in conservation and education, as well as deep commitment to management of financial and staff resources in fiscally challenging environments. As part of the District's management team, Brandy supervises and coordinates the duties and activities of field staff, including the freshwater and marine habitat restoration and enhancement efforts of the District's and the KCD Native Plant Nursery. In recent years, Brandy has worked on regional efforts to help Puget Sound Conservation Districts align programs and services with regional priorities, and has supported some significant District-level projects, including implementation of a Rates and Charges funding system. Her education includes a BS in Outdoor Education and Environmental Interpretation and a Masters in Environmental and Science Education, both from Western Washington University.

## JOSH MONAGHAN, Program Manager, Planning and Strategic Initiatives

Joshua Monaghan has been with the King Conservation District for over 17 years and currently serves as Program Manager for Planning and Strategic Initiative Programs. He is an experienced conservation planner, leads a team of talented conservation planners who assist farmers and landowners in their efforts to understand natural resource issues and get conservation solutions on the ground to steward their natural resources - water, soils, fish and wildlife and more, and works with partners to balance natural resources protection with economic viability of local, working lands. Josh maintains several professional certifications, including Certified Crop Adviser (ASA), Conservation Planner, and Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan Writer Certification (ISU). He holds a BA in Sustainable Agriculture from Hampshire College, and was recognized as Northwest Employee of the year in 2009 by the Washington Association of Conservation Districts. In recent years, Josh has worked on several successful statewide efforts to improve training coordination and overall professionalism of District employees, and has supported some significant District-level projects, including an administrative staff restructuring, project-based budgeting overhaul, and implementation of a Rates and Charges funding system.

## JESSICA SAAVEDRA, Grant Program Manager

Jessica Saavedra has managed the Member Jurisdiction and WRIA Grant Programs at the King Conservation District since March 2007. Jessica has a Bachelors degree in Environmental Studies and Spanish and graduate level education in the fields of Public Administration, Urban Planning, and Facilitation and Negotiation. She is an experienced program manager responsible for tracking millions of dollars in grant funding with a successful track record of liaising with local governments, nonprofits, and watershed groups on natural resource conservation issues. On an annual basis, Jessica manages more than 100 grant contracts and works with applicants such as cities, agencies, and organizations to move more than 50 applications through the grant review and approval process. As a result of the changing funding environment, Jessica has expanded her role at the District to include helping the organization find alternative funding sources. She has also been a participant and representative of the District at three regional watershed forum groups and enjoys volunteering as a Master Gardener.

## DEIRDRE GRACE, Community Engagement Manager

Deirdre Grace joined the King Conservation District in May of 2013. Deirdre has worked with northwest stakeholders to improve community and natural environments for over 20 years. Her experience spans ensuring diverse voices were included in research at the US DOE Hanford Nuclear Reservation, delivering on the City of Seattle's commitments to neighborhood improvements while meeting Growth Management mandates, and helping Puget Sound cities increase their recycling rates. She holds a Masters in Public Policy from the University of Washington's Evans School of Public Affairs and a Bachelors in Writing from the University of New Mexico.

## AVA SOUZA, Operations and Human Resources Manager

Ava Souza joined the King Conservation District in 2011. She manages Operations and Human Resources at the District. Ava holds a Bachelors degree in Business Management from the University of Phoenix as well as a certificate in Project Management from the University of Washington. Ava has over 15 years of experience managing multiple processes, procedures, projects and staff while working closely with high level management such as CEOs, Presidents, and Vice-Presidents at large and international companies. She is known for her enthusiastic can-do attitude and passion for collaborating with others, while implementing programs and initiatives to improve organizational processes in areas of productivity and employee relations.