



Kittitas County Conservation District

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Legislative District: 13 Congressional District: 8

Other Accomplishments



659 acres converted to more efficient sprinkler irrigation with funding from the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCP) and State Conservation Commission.



Protected fish by providing screens for four irrigation diversions with RCP and Bonneville Power Administration funds.



Organized the 18th annual Elementary Agriculture Appreciation Day in April including all the 3rd grade classrooms in the county.

2019 FEATURE ACCOMPLISHMENT

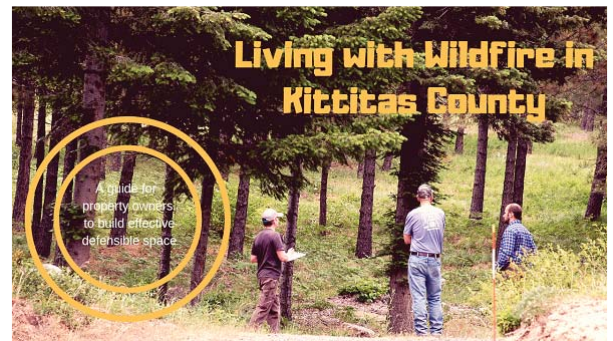
Building Fire Adapted Communities

Resource Challenge

Large wildfires in Kittitas County are increasingly common. The Jolly Mountain Fire in 2017 threatened communities along Lake Cle Elum down to Ronald, Roslyn, and Cle Elum as well as the Teanaway. Hundreds of homes were on a level 2 evacuation notice for several days, and the smoke impacted everyone in the County for weeks. Kittitas County Conservation District (KCCD) is part of the Kittitas Fire Adapted Communities Coalition (KFACC) who are working together to improve our community's understanding of wildfire.

Project Summary and Results

During the Jolly Mountain Fire, social media was an effective communication tool. The same platform was used to premier three videos while the fire experience was fresh in everyone's minds. Two of the videos were published in late 2018 and early 2019. They provide instructions on how to prepare for a fire by creating and maintaining defensible space around homes and how to plan for an emergency evacuation. Both videos starred local residents and first responders who shared their experiences. The Facebook posts for these videos were viewed 7,000 times and shared more than 100 times.



This video instructs landowners on defensible space. www.youtube.com/watch?v=B1Y2Hne1y3o



Key Partners

Suncadia Fund for Community Enhancement; Puget Sound Energy Foundation - Powerful Partners; City of Ellensburg Community Fund; Washington Department of Natural Resources

Left: "Ready, Set, GO!" video instructs on emergency planning and evacuation. www.youtube.com/watch?v=uflicipfD5ul&t=2s

Priorities for 2020...

- ▶ Work with 11 producers to convert 750 acres of cropland from rill to sprinkler irrigation.
- ▶ Contact 150 producers to complete Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) on-line surveys, and assemble custom VSP inventories for 50 producers.
- ▶ Contact 200 landowners through an on-line map for Kittitas Fire Adapted Communities Coalition: <https://kittitasfireadapted.mapseed.org>.