

Christy Cox Elected as Supervisor

Originally from Leavenworth, WA, Chisty has lived in Port Angeles for nearly five years. She is a mother to three wonderful children, and they love to spend time outdoors as a family.

Christy has spent most of her career as a banker, but this year she has put her dreams into action and started farming full time. She is one of the founders of SisterLand Farms, a small sustainability minded farm focused on community engagement and regenerative growing practices.



Dungeness Well Metering Pilot Project

In January 2013, the state Department of Ecology approved the Dungeness Water Rule. It requires all owners of new permit-exempt wells in the area to purchase mitigation certificates from the Dungeness Water Exchange (administered by Washington Water Trust—<http://www.washingtonwatertrust.org/water-exchange>), install meters, and it sets limits on water use.

The Water Rule (<https://ecology.wa.gov/Water-Shorelines/Water-supply/Protecting-stream-flows/Instream-flow-implementation/Dungeness-water-management>) basically establishes a water right for streams in eastern Clallam County, which is senior to new water uses in the watershed but junior to all previously established water rights, including permit-exempt wells that were in use prior to the rule.

In January 2018, the Washington State Legislature passed legislation that provided funding for two ten-year well metering pilot projects: one in the Dungeness and the other in Kittitas County. These two areas were selected because metering of new wells was already required and underway in their water rule areas. The legislature's intent was to determine the costs and feasibility of well metering for other water rule areas of the state, which as a result of a 2016 Washington Supreme Court ruling, will likely require metering of new wells. Clallam Conservation District is administering the new well metering pilot project for the Dungeness.

Following a request for proposals for a well meter and meter system vendor, MetronFarnier was selected. The new meters are cellular-read, thus eliminating the need for manual readings. The meters record flow data throughout the day and then during the night, upload the data to WaterScope, an analytics portal.

All previously installed meters are in the process of being replaced by Brothers Plumbing at no cost to homeowners. Beginning in July, meters for new mitigation certificate buyers are being provided by the district at no cost. It will be up to the homeowner or their contractor to install the meter; however, the district will reimburse up to \$200 for installation.

Homeowners will receive instructions on how to go online to access WaterScope and review their meter data. In addition, the Department of Ecology and Washington Water Trust will have access to the data.

The well metering pilot project only applies to homeowners that are subject to the Dungeness Water Rule, thus have water use restrictions. **No one will be charged for their water use.**

2020 Native Plant Sale Pre-Orders

Place Large Orders Now

Place orders of *100 or more* native plants of the same species by contacting the Conservation District by phone 360-775-3747, ext. 1 or via email at info@clallamcd.org.



Red Flowering Current

These large orders can be purchased at substantial discounts. The deadline for placing large pre-orders is November 14, 2019. Plants will be available for pick-up on February 29, 2020. Prepayment is required. Limited quantities are available at the large order pricing and will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

Place Smaller Orders in December and January

Regular plant sale ordering takes place between December 3, 2019 and January 23, 2020. This includes bundles of 10 for all species, as well as bundles of 25 for conifer trees.

Order forms and pricing information will be included in the Winter issue of the district newsletter, which will be delivered the first week of December, and will also be posted online. Please visit www.clallamcd.org for more information on the plant sale, including descriptions of plants that are offered.

Natural Landscaping Course - 3 Weeks

WHEN: Thursday evening sessions from 6:00-8:30 on Oct. 10, 17, & 24 and Saturday afternoon fieldtrips on Oct. 12, 19, & 26.

WHERE: Dungeness River Audubon Center in Sequim (evening classes)

COST: \$25 materials fee. Register at <https://clallamcd.org/workshops> or call 360-775-3747, ext. 5.

Learn how to design and install a sustainable landscape. Course participants will learn how to evaluate the unique site conditions of their properties, prepare landscape plans suited to those conditions, develop implementation strategies, and tour example landscapes.

Field Workshop: Landscaping with Native Plants

WHEN: Friday, October 11 from 1:00 to 4:00

WHERE: Dungeness Recreation Area

COST: FREE. Please register at <https://clallamcd.org/workshops> or call 360-775-3747, ext. 5.

Hike trails near the Dungeness Wildlife Refuge with Conservation District Executive Director, Joe Holtrop, and learn to identify over 25 native trees and shrubs and how to incorporate them into your landscape.



Mock Orange

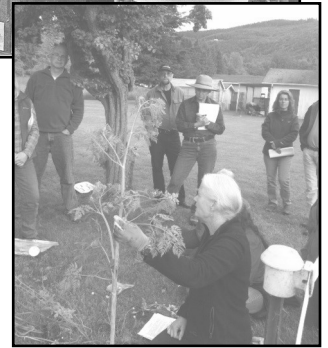
Species	PRICE (Per 100 Plants)
2020 Plant Sale	
Conifers	
Douglas Fir	\$67.00
Grand Fir	\$67.00
Shore Pine	\$67.00
Sitka Spruce	\$67.00
Western Hemlock	\$91.00
Western Red Cedar	\$91.00
Hardwoods	
Big Leaf Maple	\$104.00
Pacific Crab Apple	\$104.00
Rocky Mtn Maple	\$104.00
Red Alder	\$99.00
Vine Maple	\$92.00
Shrubs	
Blue Elderberry	\$92.00
Indian plum	\$99.00
Mock Orange	\$114.00
Ninebark	\$104.00
Nootka Rose	\$97.00
Oceanspray	\$97.00
Oregon Grape - Low	\$114.00
Red Elderberry	\$99.00
Red Flowering Current	\$97.00
Red Osier Dogwood	\$97.00
Serviceberry	\$97.00
Thimbleberry	\$104.00
Twinberry	\$104.00

We're turning 60 and still going strong!

Believe it or not, Clallam Conservation District has been in existence for 60 years (officially formed on September 29, 1959). The original mission of helping farmers and landowners conserve natural resources on their lands hasn't changed much in the past six decades, but the land, land users and resource concerns have.

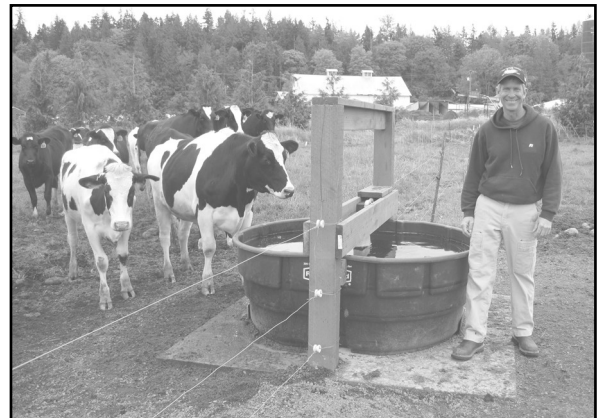
Major milestones and accomplishments over the past 60 years include:

- 1959 – District established.
- 1989 – First district employee hired.
- 1989 – First issue of *Conservation News* published and distributed to mailing list of 350. Current mailing list exceeds 3,500 which includes over 1,800 email recipients.
- 1990 – First native plant sale conducted – 1,500 plants sold. Over past 30 years, more than 345,400 native trees and shrubs sold to about 5,700 customers.
- 1990 – First *Landscaping with Native Plants* workshop. Nearly 5,000 participants in sustainable landscaping workshops and courses to date.
- 1993 – Constructed wetland built to evaluate treatment of irrigation tailwater.



- 1994-99 – Jobs for the Environment crews restored habitat on miles of stream, installed dozens of miles of fencing and riparian planting throughout district.
- 2001 – First major irrigation ditch piping project completed. District has helped install 51+ miles of irrigation pipeline in past 19 years, for a total estimated Dungeness River water savings of about 24 cubic feet per second (over 7,000 acre feet per year). Annual irrigation water diversions reduced by more than half levels of 1980s.

- 2002 – First *Horse & Livestock Land Management* workshops held. Nearly 2,000 participants over the past 18 years.
- 2004 – First *Natural Landscaping* course. Spring and fall courses held annually since.
- 2006 – First *Family Forest Fish Passage* project completed. 18 projects completed in past 14 years, accessing nearly 20 miles of salmon habitat.
- 2007 – *Small Projects Drainage Manual* for stormwater management developed.
- 2009 – *Three Crabs Area Assessment* completed.
- 2014 – Cost-share assistance provided for first septic system repair. Assistance provided for repair of 12 systems to date.
- 2014 – First shallow aquifer recharge system constructed. Six system installed to date.
- Conservation education for nearly 10,000 students.



Orca Recovery Day

Orca Numbers Dropping in the Pacific Northwest

The Southern Resident Killer Whales (orcas) that call Puget Sound home are critically endangered. In the past few months alone, three of our local orcas died from a combination of malnutrition, polluted waters, and stress from local boat traffic, bringing the population down to only 73 orcas.

The single biggest threat to our local orca whales is the fact their primary food source, Chinook Salmon, are also endangered. Salmon comprise 80% of their diet, but Puget Sound salmon populations are a fraction of what they used to be. Conservation Districts around the state, along with dozens of non-profit and agency partners, are coming together to offer the second annual Orca Recovery Day to provide citizens the chance to take action on this critical issue.



Volunteers Needed to Help with Restoration

WHEN: October 19 (Saturday) from 9:00 to noon

WHERE: Lake Aldwell Road (follow it to the end for parking), Port Angeles

REGISTRATION: Volunteers must pre-register to ensure we have enough tools and parking. Please sign-up online at <https://clallamcd.org/workshops> or call 360-775-3747, ext. 5.

The removal of the lower Elwha dam in 2011 and the upper Glines Canyon Dam in 2014 gave unrestricted passage to Chinook salmon, as well as other fish species, to make their way through the Elwha River system. Dam removal left roughly 600 acres of former lakebeds to return to native forests for the freed up Elwha River to flow through. Harsh growing conditions, such as no top soil, have made establishing conifers a challenge in the old lakebeds. Restoration plantings are crucial in order to restore the ecosystem.

Please consider joining us to plant 700 conifer seedlings in the former Lake Aldwell reservoir as we work to help accelerate the restoration of Elwha River fish habitat. In time, these seedlings will provide vital shade to the river and contribute large woody debris to create excellent instream fish habitat.

We will kick-off the planting project with a brief introduction to the Elwha River restoration project by project partners from the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe. We will also learn what can be done on a daily basis to support the Orca recovery efforts. We will then break into small groups for planting. Our hope is for folks of all ages to enjoy the beauty of the Elwha River and former lake bed while taking action to make a difference in the plight of the orcas.



We must act now if we're going to save one of the most iconic species of the Pacific Northwest. For more information on other ways to help please visit:

<https://pierced.org/457/Actions-You-Can-Take>

Free Farm Tour—Raising Grass Fed Livestock

WHEN: Monday, September 23 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM

WHERE: Bent Gate Farms in Agnew
(address will be provided upon registration)

COST: Free. Please register at <https://clallamcd.org/workshops> or call 360-775-3747, ext. 5.

Join Clallam Conservation District and the Swanbergs of Bent Gate Farms to tour an intensive, pasture-based livestock operation. Learn tips for raising beef, lamb, goats, pork, and horses on pasture. Topics will include multi-species grazing, rotational grazing, irrigation and soil fertility, pasture grass identification, and pasture re-seeding.



Fall Pasture Management

WHEN: Late September, pre-register and we'll keep you posted!

WHERE: Coastal Farm and Ranch store, 990 E. Washington St., Sequim

COST: Free. Please register at <https://clallamcd.org/workshops> or call 360-775-3747, ext. 5.

Clallam Conservation District is once again partnering with Coastal Farm and Ranch store to share tips on managing pastures in the fall. Come learn about soil testing for proper fertilizer and lime applications, weed management, pasture renovation, grazing techniques to improve forage yields, and fencing techniques for rotational grazing systems.

Prepping Your Farm for Winter

- ⇒ **Don't overgraze pastures. Maintain a 3" to 4" stubble height going into the fall.** Carbohydrate reserves are reduced in overgrazed grasses, which will starve new young grass shoots and slow or stop root formation, resulting in less forage during the next year's grazing season.
- ⇒ **Mow and drag pastures** after grazing to spread out manure, and clip weeds and old grass plants.
- ⇒ **Apply lime.** Raising the pH of your soil with lime helps grass plants better utilize nutrients present in the soil, and the fall and winter rains will help the lime incorporate into your soil. Take a soil test to determine your lime needs (see info. box below).
- ⇒ **Prepare for a mud-free winter by installing gravel footing** in winter confinement areas and checking and replacing faulty gutters and downspouts on barns. Contact us to request a free copy of our Technical Guide with step-by-step information on designing a Heavy Use Areas.
- ⇒ **Plan ahead for watering animals during the winter.** Consider utilizing roof runoff water to fill stock watering tanks, and install frost free hydrants and stock tank heaters for watering animals during freezing conditions.

Soil Testing

Soil samples are accepted the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month from 9:00am to 4:00pm at the Conservation District office. The cost is \$20 per sample and gives specific fertilizer and liming rates for the plants you are growing (pastures, garden, lawn, etc.) Soil probes are available for check-out (free of charge). Visit our website at www.clallamcd.org for instructions on how to collect a soil sample.

Conservation Sponsors



John Bornsworth
Senior Arborist and Ecologist
john@peninsulauf.com
www.peninsulauf.com

Tree Management, Habitat
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Certified Arborists and Plant Biologists

Conservation News sponsorships cost \$50 a year for business names printed every issue or \$100 for a name every issue and a business card once a year.

Newsletter sponsorships help offset the costs of publishing and distributing our *Conservation News*, which reaches 4,000 readers four times a year.

Thank you sponsors!

- * **Eagle Creek Tractor**
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- * **Peninsula Urban Forestry**
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- * **John and Kriss Seago**
- * **Cascade Woodland Design**
john.keller@cwd-forestry.com

Clallam Conservation District is a subdivision of state government created to promote the stewardship and conservation of natural resources in Clallam County. Public meetings are held at 3:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Clallam Conservation District office, 228 W First St., Suite H in Port Angeles (top floor of the Armory Square Building).

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Matt Heins, Chair
Ben Smith, Vice-Chair
Robert Beebe, Auditor
Scott Chitwood, Member
Christy Cox, Member

DISTRICT STAFF

(360) 775-3747

Executive Director: Joe Holtrop
Admin. Assistant: Judy Minnoch
Conservation Planners:
Meghan Adamire & Jennifer Bond

Office Hours

Tues. - Thurs. - 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Mon. & Fri. - by appointment

Over 1,800 people are having their newsletter delivered via email. Call us at (360) 775-3747 ext. 5 or send an email to: info@clallamcd.org to start receiving your newsletter electronically.

WANT TO HELP US SAVE A TREE?

- ⇐ Dungeness Well Metering
- ⇐ 60 Years of Conservation
- ⇐ Orca Recovery Day
- ⇐ Upcoming Workshops

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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