

What We Do

Production Agriculture

The Production Agriculture department works with producers to maximize profits while maintaining environmentally-friendly farm practices.



Direct Seed Loan Program

SCCD offers low-interest loans for eligible producers for major direct seeding and no-tillage agricultural equipment purchases.

The loans are made available by the Department of Ecology and the Environmental Protection Agency through the State Revolving Fund Program.

The loans help producers purchase the equipment to:

- Transition from conventional to conservation tillage and direct seeding operations
- Implement alternatives to field burning

Soils

Soil is among the most basic and valuable of all natural resources found in the world. It produces the food we eat, supports life to all earthly ecosystems and filters our wastes.

SCCD staffs a full-time Soil Scientist to answer your soil-related questions and provides free soil testing kits to the public. Our own soils testing lab is in the works!

What We Do

Public Outreach

An important role of the Conservation District is to provide the public with up-to-date and accurate information about their natural environment.

SCCD utilizes a variety of tools in providing education:

- Publishing an informative newsletter
- Participating in local events
- Hosting workshops & conferences
- Providing a Web site with information on the District and its programs



The District often has informational booths at public events, such as Arbor and Earth Day celebrations.

Environmental Education

SCCD offers several education opportunities, such as Water on Wheels and Wheat Week for students, K-12, in and around Spokane County. These programs offer hands-on activities, demonstrations, educational games and grade-level materials designed to educate students on the natural resources that surround them.



Our staff also does presentations at community events, special educational events, and for outside organizations upon request.

FORESTRY



WATER RESOURCES



SOILS



PRODUCTION AG



PUBLIC OUTREACH



EDUCATION



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Spokane, Washington 99202
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Conservation is in our Hands-- Handle with Care

Who We Are

The Spokane County Conservation District (SCCD) is a subdivision of State government. We are governed by a Board of Supervisors who establish the overall direction and priorities for the District's natural resource programs.

SCCD works in partnership with individuals, landowners, businesses and government agencies to protect water resources, expand options for agricultural production, promote sustainable forest practices and protect and enhance wildlife habitat throughout the urban and rural areas of the Spokane region.

The concept behind conservation districts is that local people know best how to handle conservation issues in their areas. The SCCD has been active since the 1940s, teaching and facilitating wise land use and sustainable practices.



The emphasis for the SCCD is on educating landowners on how to use their land and resources wisely and to encourage voluntary cooperation to achieve conservation of our natural resources.

What We Do

Forestry

Trees are an important natural resource in Spokane County, whether they are part of a forest or if they are providing shade in your backyard.



The Forestry department is available to provide a wealth of tree information and assistance, such as:

- Free technical assistance visits for tree & forest owners
- Free fire risk assessments to assess your home's ability to survive a wildfire
- Reforestation plans and planting
- Tips for backyard habitat development
- Educational workshops on proper tree & forest management

Ask us about our annual tree and shrub seedling sale!

Avista Shade Tree Program

In an effort to increase the urban tree canopy within the City of Spokane and to reduce the cost of cooling homes, SCCD and Avista Utilities have partnered on a project to strategically plant shade trees to reduce residential energy costs.

What We Do

Water Resources



The Water Resources department addresses the water quality and quantity issues within the District's boundaries.

We provide technical assistance, information and education, and implement projects to protect, enhance and maintain the natural resources in Spokane County.

The Water Resources department leads, facilitates, and participates in many planning and implementation projects throughout the county, such as:

- Water Quality Cleanup Plans
- Shoreline Riparian Restoration Projects
- Bioengineering Stabilization Projects
- Watershed Planning
- Fish Barrier Removal Program
- Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program

Hangman Creek Groundwater Study

In 2010 SCCD began a groundwater study in the Hangman Creek watershed. The study will develop a hydrogeologic model using existing well data from the Department of Ecology's well log database and the data collected during well drilling and testing.

Monitoring wells were drilled in four key areas within the watershed. The wells are set up to allow long-term water level monitoring. The monitoring will provide information about groundwater resources in the Hangman basin. The monitoring information will allow planners and local community members to make informed decisions regarding existing groundwater supplies and future groundwater development.

What You Can Do to Help

Join the Board of Supervisors: The Board is comprised of locally-elected officials who voluntarily serve three-year terms to provide direction on SCCD's programs.

Volunteer: The District maintains a volunteer pool for a variety of projects, such as water quality testing, tree

plantings, riparian revegetation, and stream cleanup.

Participate: The District is working with local citizens, interest groups, and government agencies to address local natural resource issues.

Get Involved!

