



WHIDBEY ISLAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT

FY2019 Summary Report of Accomplishments

July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

Farm & Forest Conservation Planning • Engineering • Water Resource Management • Backyard Conservation

OUR MISSION: To assist in the management of natural resources on and around Whidbey Island for present and future generations, inspiring voluntary conservation practices through education, outreach, as well as technical and financial assistance.


TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE Highlights



WICD worked one-on-one with **200 cooperators**, representing **2,958 acres**. Conservation planning and technical assistance were provided recommending **327 Best Management Practices (BMP's)**, **16 implemented** in FY2019.

Keeping Whidbey Forest Lands Healthy and Firewise™

WICD staff developed **15 forest management plans** in FY19 and assisted **35 forest landowners** with technical assistance for improving stewardship of their forest stands. **34 landowners** covering **158 acres** received Firewise™ home assessments and **110 Firewise™ BMPs** were recommended.



WICD's voluntary incentive-based approach to natural resource planning is available to all Whidbey residents and landowners.



EVENTS & EDUCATION Highlights



WICD delivered **59 workshops and events** and coordinated **85 collaborative meetings** reaching **3,087 direct contacts** and exposing **21,416 members of the public** to WICD resources. Additionally, WICD staff is seen as the "go-to resource" for community partners on natural resource education materials and satisfied **19 community partner requests**. WICD's outreach program features workshops on topics including introduction to conservation planning for livestock; forest stewardship; Firewise™; water resource management topics including habitat restoration for wetlands & shorelines and beaver management; native plant landscaping; local resources for agriculture including pollinators on farms, hydrogeology & water rights, marketing & business tools, and soil health; watersheds and water quality.





OUTREACH Highlights

In WICD's biggest outreach event of the year, the **Annual Native Plant Sale** distributed **10,134 native trees and shrubs** to more than **300 customers**. Over **50 volunteers** assisted with the sale. While the goal of the sale is to promote native planting, WICD collected over **\$26,000** in revenues and netted **\$1,700** to return to District services. Throughout the year, **7,645 pieces** of conservation educational material were handed out at WICD workshops, collaborative events, to community partners, and through one-on-one assistance to landowners.



WICD created and distributed **3 "Conservation Connection" e-newsletters** and partnered with Whidbey Weekly, local residents, and partner organizations to publish **4 quarterly "Noxious Weed Bulletins"** and **12 monthly "Make a Difference" articles**. A new user-friendly website was launched with a wide array of conservation resources, attracting **34,663 unique visitors** with a total of **96,333 page views** in just one year! WICD's Facebook presence grew, generating **987 "Likes"** and reaching **52,819 people** with content through **181 posts** that shared resources pertinent to voluntary conservation.

WATER RESOURCE Highlights



Collecting water samples at Lone Lake as part of the development of a management plan to reduce toxic algae blooms.



WICD directly assisted **35 land-owners** with water related issues, including **wetland maintenance/protection**; **bluff/shoreline assistance**; **permeable pavement** for new parking lots; **rain garden**

consultations; **farm field drainage**; **drainage issues** following development; and **drip irrigation** and **rain water collection** systems. Additionally, WICD leveraged funding through the WA State Dept of Ecology to develop a management plan for **Lone Lake** focused on **reducing** the frequency and duration of **toxic algae blooms**, restoring recreational use, and maintaining a high-quality fishery. WICD continues to provide technical assistance to other water resource projects aimed at improving water quality and restoring habitat, including for Phase 2 of the **Greenbank Marsh** Restoration Design project, and conservation planning assistance to residents in **Maxwelton Creek** and **Penn Cove** watersheds.



WICD coordinated volunteers to rehab two demonstration rain gardens, installing 50 plants, as part of Puget Sound Orca Recovery Day



Partnerships in Action

WICD participated in the first **Puget Sound Orca Recovery Day**, a collaborative event led by **10 Puget Sound conservation districts** and numerous partner organizations. Under the theme of "Better Ground for Islands and Sound," WICD hosted **4 thematic events** drawing over **105 attendees** and involving **6 local partner organizations**: Orca Network, Island County Marine Resources Committee, National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration,



and WA State University Extension's Shore Stewards, Master Gardeners, and Waste Wise Programs. These four events included the planting of over **50 native plants** in **2 demonstration rain gardens**, a native plant workshop, and an Open House, Awards Ceremony, and Keynote Speaker on Orca Recovery.

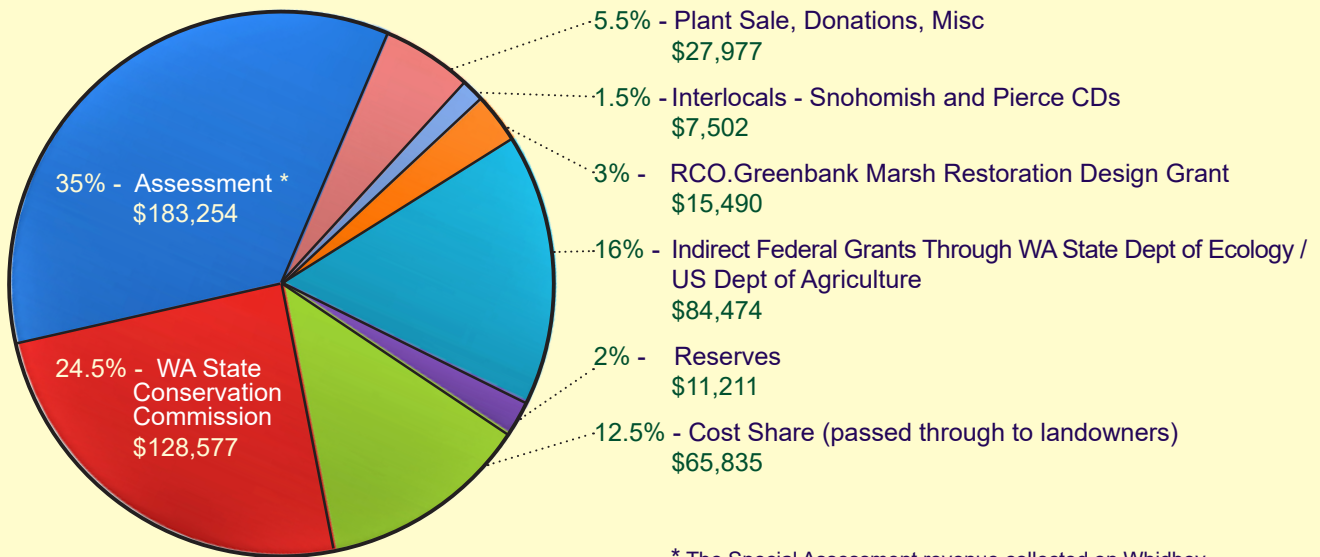
Whidbey Island Conservation District

Final Reporting FY2019

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

FY 2019 Revenues

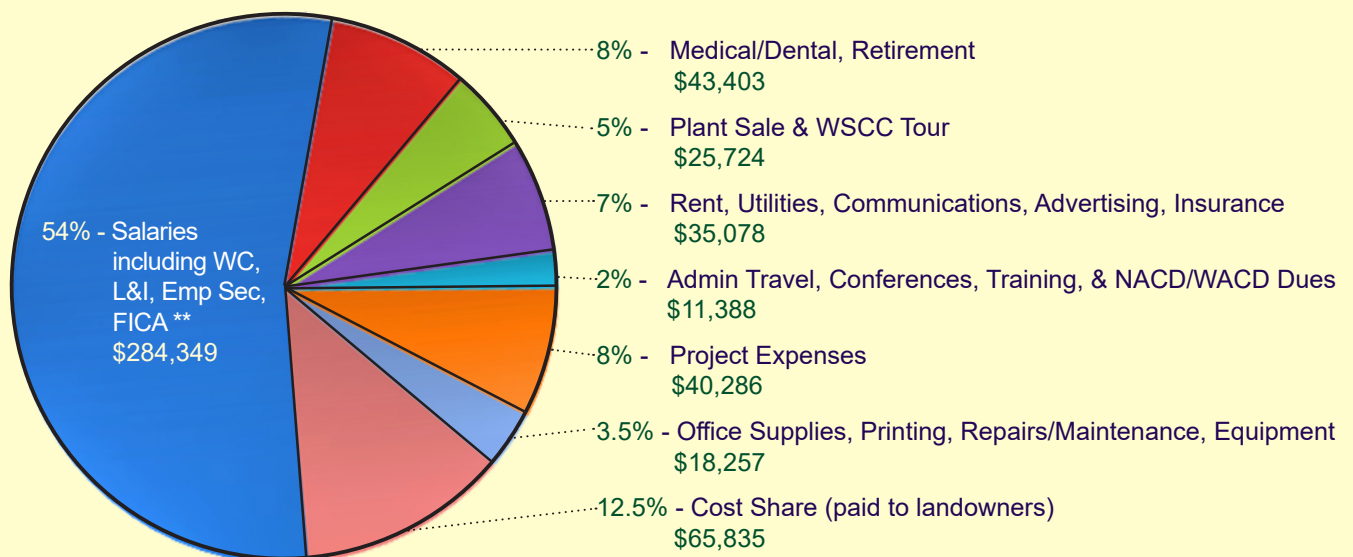
Total \$ 524,320



* The Special Assessment revenue collected on Whidbey Island June 1, 2018 - May 31, 2019 is included in this FY2019 report.

FY 2019 Expenses

Total \$ 524,320



** To be consistent with WA State Auditor's Office reporting, payroll liabilities are included with salaries.