



Conservation CONNECTION

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WHIDBEY ISLAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



We need your help. . .

Approval of our rates & charges proposal (see article at right) is ultimately a Board of Island County Commissioners (BICC) decision based on public support. If you value our non-regulatory, voluntary approach to natural resource conservation, show your support!

Two ways to show support:

- 1) **Send us a letter of support** to include in our submission package to the BICC.
- 2) **Attend our Public Hearing** on July 16th.

Details below or visit: www.whidbeycd.org/rates-charges.html



Weeds of Summer 2019 Now Available

These seasonally-themed bulletins are a partnership between WICD and Island County's Department of Natural Resources. To view, sign up to receive future Weed Bulletins, or view an archive of local weed resources, visit www.whidbeycd.org/weed-bulletin. View the complete list of Island County's Noxious Weeds for 2019 at bit.ly/2CgbedB.



Proposal to Renew and Replace Local Assessment Keeping pace with the ever-growing resource needs of Island County

Whidbey Island Conservation District (WICD) and Snohomish Conservation District (SCD) are proposing to renew and replace our existing Island County special assessment with a system of rates & charges, and request public support and input at two public hearings.

Since 1967, WICD has served local residents and landowners as a trusted, non-regulatory partner in natural resource conservation. SCD has served the Camano Island community in a similar capacity since 1961.

WICD and SCD have a current annual assessment of \$5/parcel + \$0.05/acre which has been in effect since 2010 and is due to expire at the end of 2019. This funding represents 1/3 of WICD's annual budget and has enabled us to keep up with the growing demand for our programs and services over the past 10 years. Replacing the assessment with a system of rates & charges will allow us to create a more equitable rate structure versus the flat rate of an assessment. The proposed rates and charges cannot exceed \$5/parcel + \$0.10/acre.

Renewing this stable, local funding will allow us to continue providing vital pro-

grams and services which help sustain local working lands, improve soil health and water quality, enhance wildlife habitat, increase public education opportunities, and more!

Show Your Support - Write a letter!

It's simple, just follow these steps:

- ✓ **Step 1 - Write Your Letter of Support:** To access a letter of support template that provides a foundation to customize your own letter, click [here](#).
- To access a letter of support template which you can just sign and date, click [here](#).

✓ Step 2 - Mail or Email Your Letter to WICD:

- (1) Mail your letter to: Whidbey Island Conservation District, P.O. Box 490, Coupeville, WA 98239
- OR (2) Email your letter as an attachment to wicd@whidbeycd.org.

We'd appreciate letters by no later than Friday, July 26, 2019 by close of business.

✓ Step 3 - We'll Include Your Letter in Our Proposal. Thank You!

Show Your Support - Attend Our Public Hearing! - In addition to the letter, WICD staff encourages you to attend our public hearing to learn more about the renewal process and proposal - **Tuesday, July 16th, 2019 from 6 - 7 PM at the Coupeville Library Meeting Room, 788 NW Alexander St. in Coupeville.** Click [here](#) or the image at right for more information.

