



CLARK CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2024 Annual Work Plan

January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024

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Function of the Clark Conservation District

The function of Clark Conservation District is to obtain and coordinate technical, financial, and educational resources to support the needs of the people of Clark County in their efforts to voluntarily conserve and restore soil, water, and other natural resources. Clark Conservation District is a voluntary and non-regulatory political subdivision of the State of Washington with authorities, powers, and structure contained in RCW 89.08.

Mission of the Clark Conservation District

Clark Conservation District works with individuals and communities to conserve and manage our natural resources through education and voluntary conservation practices for the benefit of present and future generations.

Vision for the Clark Conservation District

- We envision a district where our natural resources prosper for current and future generations through sustainable stewardship of our forests, farmlands, soil, water, and habitats across Clark County.
- We envision a culture of voluntary stewardship of our natural resources, built through relationships and partnerships.
- We envision being a well-known resource for the residents of Clark County.
- We envision having sustainable and consistent funding to achieve our mission.

Values of the Clark Conservation District

- We value helping people to conserve, protect, and enhance natural resources for current and future generations.
- We believe voluntary conservation programs should be locally-led, educational, economically feasible, equitable, and sustainable over the long term.
- We value increasing the viability of working lands for agricultural and timber production.
- We value serving our diverse community.
- We value honesty, integrity, and fairness in all we do.
- We value being financially responsible and accountable.
- We value fostering partnerships to leverage our resources and impacts.



Priorities, Goals, and Strategies

Natural Resource Priorities, Goals, and Actions

The natural resource priority areas for Clark Conservation District are:

- [Water Quality and Quantity](#)
- [Habitat Conservation and Restoration](#)
- [Producer and Working Lands Support](#)

Water Quality and Quantity

Water impacts every area of life, and improving this resource is paramount. Declining water quality and quantity stem from a wide range of sources, including stormwater runoff (nutrients, bacteria, sediment), increasing impervious surfaces (development), climate change, and habitat conversion (loss of riparian vegetation, forests, oak woodlands, pasture, etc.). Clark CD will work with district residents and landowners to implement conservation practices that improve the water quality and increase the water quantity in Clark County.

Water Quality and Quantity - Goals and Actions	
Goals Correspond to goals in Five Year Plan	Actions
1. Reduce surface and groundwater impacts due to land use practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Provide technical assistance and support in applying BMPs to agricultural and livestock land-use practices for landowners and operators, including riparian buffer plantings, fencing, mud and manure management and others as applicable. b. Provide technical assistance to complete riparian planting plans and provide funding to implement those plans to address water quality impairment parameters, including increased temperature, excess nutrients, excess bacteria; sediment; turbidity, and low dissolved oxygen. c. Provide forest health technical assistance and plans that improve and/or protect water quality in their designs.
2. Promote water quality and water quantity conservation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Expand the Poop Smart Clark Septic Reimbursement Program county-wide. b. Conduct public outreach via events, social media, press releases, website, Clark CD email list, and print media. c. Promote canine waste cleanup campaigns and education. d. Provide education on stormwater management BMPs. e. Outreach to landowners for mud and manure management. f. Continue promoting materials related to the Watershed Stewardship Program. g. Promote water conservation strategies, including residential water savings activities, district-wide.



<p>3. Implement a Pollution Identification and Correction program to identify and reduce nonpoint pollution sources.</p>	<p>a. Continue to run the Poop Smart Clark PIC program with partners to implement water quality BMPs county-wide.</p> <p>b. Continue offering septic system inspections and pumping rebates and provide funding to repair or replace faulty septic systems. Expand the program county-wide.</p> <p>c. Incorporate livestock management BMPs and agricultural technical assistance to improve water quality impacts.</p> <p>d. Develop and expand district-wide outreach as well as targeted outreach campaigns.</p>
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Habitat Conservation and Restoration

Resilient landscapes support natural systems that humans and wildlife both depend upon. The landscape of our region is diverse and full of critical habitats and ecosystems. We educate and empower land stewards to conserve functional habitat areas and restore degraded landscapes. Clark CD’s goal is to maintain and improve local habitat ecosystems while promoting connectivity and inspiring stewardship to ensure viable and self-sustaining natural spaces and wildlife populations now and into the future.

<p>Habitat Conservation and Restoration - Goals and Actions</p>	
<p>Goals Correspond to goals in Five Year Plan</p>	<p>Actions</p>
<p>4. Work to restore degraded habitat County-wide.</p>	<p>a. Secure funding and solidify partnerships to fund projects in riparian restoration, pollinator habitat, and wildlife habitat restoration.</p> <p>b. Continue to work collaboratively with our partners to expand the riparian plant propagation program.</p> <p>c. Develop and implement projects in riparian restoration work.</p> <p>d. Cultivate landowner relationships and develop projects to improve resource concerns and address landowner goals.</p> <p>e. Promote habitat connectivity and provide input to habitat conservation efforts in planning.</p>
<p>5. Open anadromous fish habitat.</p>	<p>a. Promote the Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP) and remove at least one fish barrier.</p>
<p>6. Promote the use of native plants.</p>	<p>a. Hold the Annual Native Plant Sale - sell 20,000+ native plants in 2024.</p> <p>b. Support private land habitat conservation and backyard habitat programs.</p>
<p>7. Support the management of invasive weeds.</p>	<p>a. Maintain close working relationships with other entities engaged in invasive weed control and restoration</p>



	practices to support the collaborative implementation of control plans and projects within the district.
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Producer and Working Lands Support

Rapid development and population growth have placed increasing pressure on the natural resources of Clark County. As one of the most densely populated and fastest-growing areas in the state, easily buildable flat farmland is in high demand in the area. Clark CD will continue expanding our offerings of technical assistance and best management practice implementation to land managers. We aim to promote viable agriculture, engage urban communities in small-scale agricultural opportunities, and encourage cooperation among stakeholders. By strengthening our connections with agricultural producers and regulatory agencies alike, we will continue serving as a trusted liaison between farmers and those agencies.

Producer and Working Lands Support - Goals and Actions	
Goals Correspond to goals in Five Year Plan	Actions
8. Promote sustainable farm management and soil conservation by providing conservation planning and funding for best management practices to land managers of agricultural operations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Provide 50 site visits to agricultural producers. b. Assist producers in complying with local, state, and federal land use regulations and liaise between producers and regulatory agencies when requested. c. Develop 10 conservation plans for best management practice installation and cost-share.
9. Increase technical assistance to help forest stewards maintain healthy and economically viable forests and foster climate change resilience through forest health enhancement and fire hazard reduction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Secure funding for a forest health and wildfire resiliency program. b. Provide 20 site visits to forest landowners to provide technical assistance for c. Develop 10 forest stewardship plans with private landowners for Firewise and forest management BMPs, including improving plant condition, habitat enhancement, sustainable harvest, wildfire prevention, and watershed health. d. Promote healthy forest management and firewise practices through public education.
10. Support the protection of critical working lands and help reduce land conversion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continue to work towards facilitating conservation easements. b. Leverage expertise from partners to provide information and services to help farms and forestlands be more economically viable. c. Continue the equipment rental program.



<p>11. Support local food production, consumption, and appreciation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Strengthen partnerships with local food system organizations and support networking between producers and markets. b. Establish programming in support of community gardens, school gardens, home-based food production, and/or other urban farm operations. c. Connect farmers to available resources to increase the viability of farming.
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Outreach and Education Goals and Actions

Essential to the mission of Clark CD is providing information and awareness about the impacts and tools available to help with natural resource conservation. Working directly with residents and land stewards, sharing information and resources to help with voluntary conservation projects, and raising the broader public appreciation of resource conservation is critical to creating a sustainable and resource-rich district today and into the future.

Outreach and Education - Goals and Actions	
Goals <small>Correspond to goals in Five Year Plan</small>	Actions
<p>12. Increase the public’s awareness of the resources offered by Clark CD.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Leverage our social media presence to build awareness of our work. b. Coordinate informational presentations to diverse groups within the community (neighborhood associations, churches, community organizations, etc.).
<p>13. Provide education and solutions-based resources about natural resource concerns within the district and foster a stewardship ethic.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continue in-person and virtual workshops. b. Engage individuals, businesses, and the community in active resource conservation efforts and practices. c. In 2024, reach at least 1000 people with conservation education activities.
<p>14. Work to engage all members of our district by ensuring that campaigns and resources are accessible to all residents of our district in an equitable and open approach. Intentionally target underserved communities, particularly those most prevalent in rural areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Build partnerships with groups throughout Clark County, focusing on serving diverse populations, including historically underserved farmers, local tribes, racial and ethnic minorities, and non-native English speakers. b. Provide training resources to ensure outreach is conducted in an inclusive and appropriate manner. c. Work with partners to develop effective messaging for target audiences. d. Develop relevant multi-lingual resources.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. Update Clark CD’s website as needed to ensure accessible and up-to-date information. f. Establish an equity-focused community engagement plan.
15. Promote public appreciation for local habitat areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Model personal pride and appreciation for our county.

District Operations Goals and Actions

Clark Conservation District’s operational goals center on developing and maintaining effective and efficient processes and procedures that support Clark CD’s programs. With our recent growth in grant funding and increasing number of staff members, solidifying the district’s operational procedures and processes is a critical area of focus. Priorities for 2024 include ensuring that our financial processes function smoothly, transparently, and accurately; developing and updating our internal policies and procedures; and improving our grant reporting systems.

Providing the targeted levels of service Clark CD aspires to reach going forward will require strong operational capacity and support. In both the near and longer term, Clark CD is focused on refining the systems that will support staff and district operations to provide the best level of service to our communities.

District Operations - Goals and Actions	
Goals <small>Correspond to goals in Five Year Plan</small>	Actions
16. Begin exploring opportunities for expanded flexible funding, including engaging with private donors and assessing the feasibility of rates and charges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Promote public support from residents, landowners, and partners within the district. b. Work with a diverse set of partners to leverage funds and programs. c. Begin longer-term planning (5-15 years) to outline a long-term vision, including a funding strategy, appropriate staffing plan, strengthening diversity, equity, & inclusion practices, etc.
17. Improve data management and internal tracking systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Implement a customer relationship management (CRM) software system. b. Continue improving budgeting tools.
18. Conduct transparent, accountable, and ethical operations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Update the district’s policy manual. b. Begin developing and putting into place technical, administrative, and human resource processes and policies documented for all standard operations. c. Hold fair and transparent elections.
19. Clark CD Board and Staff represent our community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ensure ongoing professional development for all staff positions, including DEI training.



Clark Conservation District: Calendar Year 2024 Budget

2024 Annual Budget				
	Starting Balances & Revenues		Ending Balances & Expenses	
	Starting Balances - January 1, 2024	\$ Total	Estimated Ending Balances - December 31, 2024	\$ Total
Fund Balances - Not factored into total annual budget	Fund Balance Forward	\$300,238	Fund Balance Forward	\$363,703
	Operating Account	\$178,741	Operating Account	\$185,369
	Unassigned Funds	\$84,560	Unassigned Funds	\$114,560
	Assigned - Vehicle Fund	\$55,000	Assigned - Vehicle Fund	\$26,628
	Assigned - NACD - TA	\$410	Assigned - NACD - TA	\$410
	Assigned - Overhead	\$38,770	Assigned - Overhead	\$38,770
			Assigned - Future Building Fund	\$5,000
	Reserve Account	\$121,498	Reserve Account	\$178,334
	Unrestricted Funds	\$1,205	Unrestricted Funds	\$1,205
	Restricted - Employee Leave Liability	\$32,833	Restricted - Employee Leave Liability	\$32,833
Restricted- Reserve/Contingency Fund	\$50,000	Restricted- Reserve/Contingency Fund	\$106,836	
Restricted - Cliff Homes	\$37,460	Restricted - Cliff Homes	\$37,460	
	Projected Revenues	\$ Revenue	Projected Expenses	\$ Expenses
Federal Funding	NACD TA - 2022	\$10,236	Salaries & Benefits	\$810,120
	NACD TA - 2023	\$73,150	Administrative (34%)	\$273,664
	NRCS RCPP Poop Smart- TA-E (PM)	\$15,000	Programs (66%)	\$536,456
	NRCS RCPP Poop Smart- TA-I (TA)	\$21,000	Supplies for Consumption & Resale	\$44,648
State Funding	WSCC Implementation	\$124,575	Cost Share	\$1,147,159
	WSCC CREP	\$46,342	Truck Maintenance and Fuel	\$6,200
	WSCC NRI - Natural Resource Investments	\$96,584	Equipment and Tools	\$113,042
	WSCC RCPP Poop Smart	\$881,221	Office and Operating	\$70,582
	WSCC Salmon Recovery Funding	\$67,627	State Sales Tax	\$17,288
	WSCC Forest Health	\$240,832	Professional Services Expenses	\$101,936
	WSCC Sustainable Farms and Fields	\$113,200	Inventory Resale Trees	\$37,000
	WSCC RPPP (Nursery)	\$140,649	Insurance	\$14,000
	WSCC CEP (DEI)	\$10,000	Dues/Registrations/Misc.	\$7,444
	ECY Poop Smart - EFLR	\$146,966	Travel	\$13,885
	ECY Poop Smart - All County	\$60,000	Increase to Unassigned Bank Balance	\$30,000
	RCO - FFFPP - Unrein	\$273,642	Increase to Reserve/Contingency Fund	\$56,836
	Local Funding	Clark County Ag HCO 2024	\$20,000	*NEW* Future Building Fund
LCFRB Poop Smart Lacamas		\$21,610		
General Account/Other	Misc Revenues/Non Revenues (Retail/Sales/Other)	\$84,135		
	Use of Vehicle Fund	\$28,372		
	Projected Revenue Total	\$2,475,141	Projected Expenses Total	\$2,475,141
Summary				
	Projected Revenue Total	\$2,475,141		
	Projected Expenses Total	\$2,475,141		
	Budget Surplus	\$0		

This is an estimated budget and is subject to change.

