



State Legislative District #9, 16
Congressional District #4

Franklin Conservation District

Mark Nielson, District Manager

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Board Chair: Dick Bengen

Other Accomplishments

- The Franklin Conservation District (FCD), with funding from the WA State Conservation Commission (SCC), provided a cost-share incentive program for producers to implement irrigation water management. The District had 37 entities apply to treat 29,203 acres of row crops and 53 orchard sites. Funding levels only allowed for the application of irrigation water management on 7,488 acres and 20 orchard sites.
- The FCD, with funding from the SCC, provided a cost-share incentive program for producers to implement cover crops. The District had 11 entities apply to treat 5,355 acres. Funding levels only allowed for the implementation of cover crops on 2,500 acres.

2014 Feature Accomplishment: Stormwater education through conservation districts



Zach Hinman teaching students about stormwater runoff using the Enviroscape Model.
Photo: Naomi Alhadoff

RESOURCE CHALLENGE Stormwater runoff is a major concern in Washington State. Stormwater runoff is unfiltered water that reaches streams, rivers, aquifers, and the ocean. Many cities and counties hold stormwater permits through the Department of Ecology that require a certain level of public outreach and education concerning stormwater. Teaching the public good land practices as well as stormwater protection will continue to have a significant impact on local water bodies, including groundwater.

PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS Franklin Conservation District's Water on Wheels education program has been providing stormwater education in Eastern Washington for the past seven years. Recently the Department of Ecology provided a GROSS Grant (Grant of Regional or Statewide Significance) to implement and increase Water on Wheels across Eastern Washington. The focus has been to modify the program to include a stormwater component into each lesson; deliver the lessons to as many students and classrooms as possible between January and December 2014; and to provide feedback to the municipalities about the success of the program.



Student creating a paper watershed to understand the impact of land planning in a watershed.
Photo: Naomi Alhadoff

KEY PARTNERS: Water on Wheels partner funders include: WA Department of Ecology; North Yakima Conservation District; Spokane Conservation District; Grant County Conservation District; Asotin County; City of Asotin; City of Clarkston; City of Pasco; City of West Richland; City of Richland; City of Kennewick; Washington Potato Commission; Washington Grain Commission.

More Work to Do!

- Build a 4,000 square foot office building and shop to house the District's operations.
- Launch a cost-share program to implement Integrated Pest Management on 4,000 acres with funding from the SCC.
- Continue to assist USDA with the implementation of Irrigation Water Management.
- Ensure that 18 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) contracts are completed.