

# Franklin Conservation District Newsletter

September 2020

## VSP Five Year Report

Franklin County's Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) five-year status report is due to the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) on January 12th, 2021. The WSCC, VSP Technical Panel, and VSP Statewide Advisory Committee will review the plan to determine whether the work plan's protection goals and benchmarks are being met. If they are not met, Franklin County may fail out of the program which would lead to loss of funding for conservation practices and potential for new regulatory critical area protections.

If you are a farmer, rancher, orchardist, etc. in Franklin County, help to meet plan goals by sharing your stewardship through the landowner checklist available [here](#).

If you are interested in more information on the VSP five-year status report requirements the WSCC will host a webinar on September 25, 2020 at 1 pm to go over the report template.

Register [here](#) for the VSP Five Year Report Template webinar.

## WA Conservation Society

Conservation Districts in Washington State are supported by the Washington Conservation Society (WCS). The WCS was formed on October 26, 2007 and is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The mission of the WCS is to promote natural resource conservation efforts in Washington State by providing a philanthropic center for investments in citizen-led, voluntary-based conservation projects, activities, education, and outreach efforts. One of the goals of the WCS is to invest in the future of sustainable environmental assets. To that end the WCS will utilize its 501(c)(3) status to assist conservation districts in obtaining grants to support conservation programs.

In addition, the WCS also honors the legacy of late conservationists by publishing *Leaving a Legacy*, a memorial book dedicated to conservationists who have made a notable impact on the natural resources in Washington State. To learn more about the WCS visit their [website](#).

## Virtual Education

The Franklin Conservation District's education programming has been converted to a virtual format for the 2020-2021 school year.

Wheat Week will be delivered to any 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher in Washington State by means of education videos and hands-on kits.

Drain Ranger teacher workshops will be delivered virtually in Yakima, Benton and Franklin Counties.

Jr. Dr. Rangers will be offered virtually to K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade classrooms and will include fun hands-on "kits" delivered to teachers to disperse to their students.

Salmon in the Classroom will be all virtual this year! Students and teachers will be able to participate from the comfort of their own homes by logging into the FCD's salmon tank webcam to follow along with the growth and development of the fish! Virtual salmon lessons and salmon dissections will also engage students learning!

## Connect With Us

 @FranklinConservationDistrict

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 @Franklinconser1

To subscribe to our newsletter email [kara-kaelber@conserveva.net](mailto:kara-kaelber@conserveva.net)

## Upcoming Events

September 3 – Water Conservancy Board Meeting

September 7 – Labor Day (observed)

September 15 – FCD Board Meeting, [virtual](#)

September 25 – VSP 5-Year Reporting Webinar

Upcoming:

October 1 – Water Conservancy Board Meeting

October 20 – FCD Board Meeting, virtual

For more information and an updated calendar, visit [www.franklincd.org](http://www.franklincd.org)