

The Conservation CONNECTION



KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Fall 2008

Promoting sustainable uses of natural resources through responsible stewardship.

King Conservation District Board of Supervisors Hires Jeffrey Possinger as New Executive Director



*Jeffrey Possinger, Executive Director
King Conservation District*

The King Conservation District (KCD) Board of Supervisors has hired Jeffrey Possinger as the new executive director. Possinger brings impressive credentials and a commitment to the position.

A Northwest native, Possinger was formerly the managing partner of a private business law practice in Bellevue. Leveraging his legal and strategic consulting experience, which has focused on advising clients in various stages of business development, he is committed to furthering KCD's educational and environmental initiatives.

Possinger was a member of the Duvall City Council from 2003 to 2007 and served as Mayor Pro Tem from 2005 to 2007. In

addition, he served as the acting mayor in 2005. While on the council, Possinger was active in a number of committees and organizations and was particularly involved with the governing board of the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness, the Suburban Cities Association and the King Conservation District Advisory Committee.

Beyond Possinger's professional and civic experience, he holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Washington and a JD (Law) from Seattle University School of Law.

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Change Service Requested

KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT
935 POWELL AVENUE S.W.
RENTON, WA 98057

KCD Board News

King Conservation District Board Elects New Chairman and Vice Chairman



*Bill Knutsen, Chairman
KCD Board of Supervisors*

Kirkland resident Bill Knutsen has been elected chairman of the KCD. Appointed to the KCD board of supervisors in 2006 by the Washington State Conservation Commission, Knutsen had previously served as an associate supervisor. A member of a long-time family dairy operation, Bill's Dairy, he was named a commissioner of the newly-formed King County Agriculture Commission in 1998. He has been

active in numerous agriculture and environmental recovery initiatives, including WRIA 7 Snohomish salmon recovery efforts.

“The KCD is a tremendous resource for individual property owners seeking assistance in meeting the requirements of increasingly sophisticated environmental standards,” said Knutsen, who first worked with the KCD as a “customer” in developing a farm plan for his Carnation operation in 1981. “We offer many resources to landowners who come to us on a voluntary basis.”



*Bob Vos, Vice-Chairman
KCD Board of Supervisors*

Enumclaw area resident Bob Vos was elected vice-chair of the KCD's five-member, volunteer board. An engineer at the Boeing Co., he was appointed to the board in 2006 and was elected to the position in a district-wide election earlier this year. He had previously served as an associate board member.

Vos first worked with the KCD as a property owner on stream maintenance and tree plantings for his 15-acre beef cattle farm. “If someone wants to help with local land and water conservation efforts, KCD offers many opportunities throughout the year. They're a fun and rewarding way to contribute to local stewardship,” said Vos.

The five-member board consists of three members elected by district voters while two are appointed by the Washington Conservation Commission. Their responsibility is to ensure that the district meets its legal and public trust obligations. The board conducts regular public meetings to oversee the district's budget and provide guidance and oversight to district staff.

KCD Electronic Newsletter Signup

The KCD newsletter will be going through a transformation in the coming months and, in addition, we would like to offer you the option to receive newsletter electronically only, which is also more environmentally-friendly.

To sign up for our electronic newsletter, please send an email to signup@kingcd.org and include in the subject field: Sign me up for KCD's electronic newsletter!

If you currently receive a hard copy of the newsletter, then please include your name, address, phone number and the email address that you would like the electronic newsletter sent to.

We share your privacy concerns — and KCD will protect your personal information to the fullest extent allowed under the law.

Once you subscribe, modifying your contact information and preferences (or unsubscribing) is as simple as sending an email with updates.

Please send an email with updates to: signup@kingcd.org

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and we hope that you enjoy the new KCD newsletter in the near future.

Volunteer Opportunities

King Conservation District invites you to participate and learn about restoring streams and wetlands, using native plants to restore native plant communities, and engineering techniques to enhance fish and wildlife habitat. These projects are both fun and educational!

Contact Jacobus at (425) 277-5581 ext 126 or email jacobus.saperstein@kingcd.org for more information on these and other volunteer opportunities.

Look for project updates and new announcements by visiting www.kingcd.org



Fall 2008

Seeds, Roots & Shoots: Work Your Way Around the Native Plant Nursery.

Native plants grown from locally collected seed are the cornerstone of conservation and ecological restoration. Learn about and actively participate in growing native plants for stream and wetland restoration projects. Activities include starting plants from seed and cuttings, and transplanting and maintaining nursery stock. Activities will occur at the KCD Wetland Plant Cooperative Nursery facility in Renton.

Events: September 19, 27; October 10, 11; November 7, 8; December 12, 13 from 9 am to 1 pm

Nurturing Nature – Totem Lake, Kirkland

Our stream and salmon habitat restoration program has many successful restoration projects that require ongoing maintenance and monitoring. Come and learn about our restoration techniques while weeding and replanting restored sites.

Event: November 22 from 9am to 1 pm

Urban Forest Restoration – Longfellow Creek, Seattle

Join KCD and the Green Seattle Partnership to help restore habitat on Longfellow creek in West Seattle. Longfellow creek is one of only four salmon streams in Seattle. Come join our ongoing efforts to replace invasive ivy and blackberry with native trees and shrubs.

Events: September 20; October 18; November 15; December 12, 13 from 10 am to 2 pm

Please take a moment to fill out the following form if you would like to be added to our mailing list, receive notice of upcoming issues to view on-line, or if your address is changing.

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

E-mail _____

Mail to King Conservation District, 935 Powell Avenue S.W.
Renton, WA 98057 or call (425) 277-5581.

Thanks for participating! Your reply will ensure that the ***Conservation Connection*** will be delivered promptly.

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King Conservation District is a subdivision of state government created to promote the wise use of natural resources. A five-member board of supervisors, representing local interests, hold meetings on the second Monday of each month at our office in Renton. The public is encouraged to attend.

Farm Tours and Classes

King Conservation District and Horses for Clean Water

Guided educational presentations at horse properties — get a first-hand look at environmentally friendly ways to manage horses. All farm tours are FREE! Register and receive directions with the King Conservation District at 425-277-5581 ext. 122, or paul.borne@kingcd.org.



For more information about additional classes with Alayne Blicke this fall, please keep checking the KCD website for updates (www.kingcd.org) or contact Paul Borne (425-277-5581 ext. 122, or paul.borne@kingcd.org).

Managing Horse Property in Winter

Saturday, November 8th, 10 am to noon, Hobart, WA

Visit Hobart, often referred to as the horse capital of South King County, to see mudfree, chore-efficient management techniques on this new, seven-acre farm. This property owner recently moved to their new horsey property, designed by the owners from the ground up. Hear why choices were made including gravel versus sand paddocks. See a covered round pen. Find out about Incinolet toilets, an environmentally-friendly option for barns without a septic system.

BONUS: Pick up maps for trail riding on King County's Taylor Mountain Park.



Save the Date!

SAVE THE DATE: 2008 Harvest Celebration Farm Tour in King County

Date: September 27, 2008, 10:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Location: Farms on Vashon Island, and in South and East King County

Information: Tour is FREE!

Visit: www.king.wsu.edu/foodandfarms/events.htm

Farms across King County will be open to the public on September 27th, 2008.

The 10th Annual Harvest Celebration Farm Tour in King County will take place on Saturday, September 27th, 2008. Since 1999, this event has provided an opportunity for citizens of King County to experience the vitality of our local agriculture, to learn the importance of supporting farmers, and to realize the value and joy of eating locally grown and prepared food.

- Meet your local farmers: Meet the people who grow your food!
- Taste your local food: Farm-Fresh produce at farm stands throughout the tour.
- Walk the fields of your local farms.
- Activities Galore!: live music, corn and bamboo mazes, hay rides, U-pick crops, alpaca fiber knitting, hand-pressed cider making, fresh food sampling, and hay rides and so much more!

Contact Tricia Sexton at 206-205-3206 or tricia.sexton@kingcounty.gov for more information.

Workshops: 2008

Attention Livestock Owners!

Do you own horses, ponies, cattle, goats, sheep, pigs or other livestock? Are you ready to build and install livestock management practices that will help you reduce mud, manage manure and care for streams and wetlands? Do you want to know how to start?

The KCD is offering four workshops on land and water stewardship practices for livestock owners that will help turn your farm into a more useable place for you, your animals and the environment. As a workshop participant, you will receive one-on-one guidance from District farm planners and technicians to help you design, construct and implement livestock management practices that can meet your specific needs and circumstances. Attend all four workshops, or only those that meet your needs. Workshops are free!



Workshops will be held from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm at the Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust located at: 10015 SW Bank Road on Vashon Island. Please call the King Conservation District at 425-277-5581 ext. 122, or paul.borne@kingcd.org to register or for driving directions.

Streams and Wetlands: Living with Livestock near Water

October 23, 2008

Take the plunge and protect your property, water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat. Attend this workshop to design a stream or wetland native plant restoration plan. Calculate the length and cost of a livestock exclusion fence to keep animals out of sensitive areas, select native plants suited to stream and wetland buffers, determine plant placement, and outline a maintenance plan.

Mud Management: Record Rainfall / Record Mud

October 30, 2008

It's always the right time to prepare for wet weather. Attend this workshop to develop a mud management plan. Design a confinement area for livestock, select footing material, estimate gutter and downspout needs based on barn roof runoff, and develop a confinement schedule.

Manure Management: Got Livestock? Got Manure!

November 6, 2008

Discover what's possible based on your finances, time and ability. Attend this workshop to develop a manure composting and utilization plan. Estimate the volume of manure produced by livestock, design and construct livestock manure storage bunkers or compost bins. Develop a plan to spread composted manure on pastures.

Pasture Management: Growing Grass / Producing Forage

November 13, 2008

Yes, you can grow grass without weeds and meet your livestock forage needs -even on small acreage. Attend this workshop to develop a pasture management plan, determine the grazing capacity of your pastures, and learn how to manage grazing for optimal pasture production.

We're All Neighbors

The King Conservation District promotes the sustainable use of natural resources through responsible stewardship.

Contact the King Conservation District for the following:

- Receive a **FREE** copy of the *Rain Garden Handbook for Western Washington Homeowners*
- Receive a **FREE Puget Sound Hedgerow Poster** (King County residents)

- Receive a **Manure Share Source** list for finding composted horse manure near your location



Please go to www.kingcd.org for more information on KCD programs and services.

NEW! Bailing Twine & Tarp Recycling

Finally, a way to recycle all that leftover bailing twine and used tarps! Thanks to the combined efforts of the King Conservation District, Horses for Clean Water, Reber Ranch, Avoco Plastics Corp and ReSources there's a new way to keep plastics out of the landfill!

On your next shopping trip to Reber Ranch in Kent, drop off your bailing twine and spent tarps in the collection bins located in the covered loading area outside. Avoco Plastics Corp, will pick up the materials and they'll be recycled into new bailing twine and tarps.

This pilot project is one of the first in the nation – do your part to make it a success!

Reber Ranch • www.reberranch.com
28606 – 132nd Ave SE
Kent, WA 98042
Phone: (253) 630-3330

For specific questions about the project, contact Alayne Blickle at 425-432-6116 or email: Alayne@horsesforcleanwater.com



HAY Probe Loan Program

What is a Hay Probe?

A hay probe is a sharpened tube that is used to take a representative sample of the forage in the bale.

Are you interested in knowing more about the nutritional value of your hay? The King Conservation District has recently purchased a core sampler or 'hay probe' that is available for loan (at no charge!) The hay probe is used to collect forage samples that can be

sent to a laboratory for analysis. Knowing the nutrient composition can help you match feeds to animal requirements or help with hay marketing.

For more information, contact:
Paul Borne at 425-277-5581 ext.122
or paul.borne@kingcd.org

Please note: In order to operate the hay probe, you will need a drill (recommended 14 Volt or greater).



Landowner Incentive Program

New KCD Program! Get Help Paying for Conservation Projects on Your Land



Our new Landowner Incentive Program promotes good stewardship by helping landowners pay for qualified conservation

projects on their land. The program covers 50 to 90% of the project cost with the remainder to be provided by the applicant. The list of funded projects includes both agricultural and non-agricultural best management practices. There is no lifetime maximum on the number of projects a landowner can fund through the program. However, the landowner must complete and receive reimbursement for a funded practice before a new application will be considered.

For more information, contact Marcie Hagen,
LIP Cost-Share Lead,
425-277-5581 x106
marcie.hagen@kingcd.org

Landowner Incentive Program Basics

- Any landowner within the King Conservation District boundary may apply.
- The applicant will be required to have either an approved farm plan, forest stewardship plan, or be currently receiving technical assistance from the King Conservation District in order to apply.
- An applicant may only apply for one best management practice at a time.
- There will be no reimbursement for purchases made before the acceptance letter is received.
- When requesting reimbursement (after completion of the project), a copy of all applicable receipts will be required along with the project budget.
- Eligible and interested landowners will have the option of receiving a sign to place near their project site.

Best Management Practice	% of Total Cost Reimbursable	\$/unit max
Animal Trails and Walkways	50%	**/ft
Aquatic Area Buffer Plantings	90%	\$11,250/project
<i>Building Relocation from Aquatic Area/Buffer*</i>	50%	**/project
<i>Bulkhead Removal (Freshwater Marine)*</i>	75%	**/project
Clean Water Diversion	50%	**/ft
Confinement Area	50%	\$1,300/animal unit
Cross Fencing	50%	\$2.00/ft
Gutter, Downspouts, and Outlet Piping	50%	\$7.00/ft
Livestock Watering Systems	50%	**/project
Manure Management Systems	75%	\$420/animal unit
Pasture Renovation (includes rental and seed)	50%	\$325/acre
Pasture Seed	50%	\$45/acre
Stream Crossings	50%	\$1,100/ft
Forest Health Management	75%	**/acre
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	75%	**/acre

The District reserves the right to modify or discontinue the Landowner Incentive Program at its discretion

* *Shoreline practices in italics*

** *\$/unit max determined on a case by case basis using NRCS guidelines as a reference*

More News

KCD Videos Available Now!

The recently created DVDs highlight many of KCD's projects and programs around the county. You can download the videos on our website: www.kingcd.org or email us to get your own copy: district@kingcd.org



The videos answer the questions:

1. What is the King Conservation District's primary mission?

Promote sustainable uses of natural resources through responsible, voluntary stewardship; and educating citizens about resource conservation.

2. WHAT does the King Conservation District do?

The King Conservation District (KCD) provides a free program of services that help landowners manage the natural land and water resources on their property. Our free information and technical assistance is available to all landowners within the District boundaries, which includes most cities in King County and all of unincorporated King County. Our assistance is hands-on, site specific and results oriented. We provide workshops, education programs, site visits, farm plans and consultations on land, water and wildlife management. Conservation districts are the only entities with the sole mission of serving the natural resource issues arising from private land management.

Check Out the Newest Version of Green A.C.R.E. Radio.

"Bringing you the Agricultural, Conservation, Resource, and Environmental information you need."



Green A.C.R.E. Radio is a co-production of the King Conservation District, King County Agriculture and KBCS. Green A.C.R.E. Radio is a five-minute news feature focusing on sustainable agriculture, conservation, restoration and environmental issues. Green A.C.R.E. Radio airs every Thursday during One World Report.

http://kbc.sfm/site/PageServer?pagename=green_acre_radio

Host: Martha Baskin

Engineer: Moe Provencher and Steve Ditore

Produced at Jack Straw Studios in Seattle.

There are two ways to have this program delivered to your computer:

1. Sign up for Green A.C.R.E. Radio Podcasts.

Green A.C.R.E. Radio

http://bellevuecollege.edu/kbc.s/downloads/Green/green_podcast.xml

2. Download the mp3 file:

Right-click the link - choose save target as - save the file to your desktop. After the file has finished downloading, you can listen to it.

Do You Know Your 10 Essentials?

Check out the King Conservation District's new publication: *The 10 Essentials Checklist for Rural Landowners* to find out! This concise checklist will help you figure out if you've got all of the essentials on your property covered—from well protection to septic care, to woodlot management, hazardous substance safety and more. The checklist is also full of resources to help you fill in the missing pieces on your property and get questions answered. Come by the office to get a copy or email us at district@kingcd.org

