



Underwood Conservation District: CONSERVATION COST-SHARE PROGRAM

Do you have a project idea? You may be eligible for cost-share assistance!

WHAT IS UNDERWOOD CONSERVATION DISTRICT?

Underwood Conservation District (UCD) was established in 1940 when concerned orchardists and farmers gathered to discuss irrigation needs, the decline of forest productivity, and the impacts that development was having on their land. Today, the district works with willing and interested landowners **throughout Skamania and western Klickitat Counties** to enhance the level of natural resource stewardship. UCD is supervised by a 5-member Board, who provides guidance and direction.

PURPOSE

The Conservation Practice Cost-Share Program is an incentive program intended to defray landowner costs for implementing conservation practices that benefit water quality and wildlife habitat on private land. The goal of this program is to help landowners and land users practice better environmental stewardship by providing financial assistance to implement practices that only indirectly or marginally benefit them, and thus would not otherwise be implemented.

COST-SHARE PROCESS

- 1. Contact the UCD with your project idea.** District staff can assist with conservation plan preparation, conservation practice design, and application preparation.
- 2. Applications are accepted on a semi-annual basis.** The next round of applications are due by February 4th, 2010 by 4:00 pm; and again in August 2011. Please request an application a week before due dates.
- 3. The Board of Supervisors will make final award decisions** based on the potential for the project to significantly affect water resources, fish and wildlife, landowner willingness and cooperation, project history and likeliness of success or future monitoring. All Underwood Conservation District Board of Supervisor meetings are public meetings and the public is encouraged to attend. It is the responsibility of the cost-share recipient to submit appropriate documentation of expenses. Such expenses may include purchased or contributed materials, and contracted or donated equipment and labor costs. Original receipts are required.

WHAT PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE?

Projects are generally reimbursed at 50% of total cost, up to maximum amounts. We are able to reimburse landowner labor at rate of \$18/hr. All Best Management Practices (BMPs) meeting Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) standards are eligible for cost sharing. UCD can help you determine practices that would be appropriate to address your resource concern, or see the full list online in the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) at: http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/efotg_locator.aspx?map=WA (select your county, select Section IV, select Washington Conservation Practices, then scroll the list for practices that may address your resource problem).

Please contact the district at 509-493-1936 to learn more. You can also visit: <http://w3.gorge.net/ucd/>

UNDERWOOD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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UCD: Enhancing the level of natural resource stewardship in Skamania & western Klickitat County.