

# WATERSHED WISE

## MASON CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### 2014 Special Plant Sale Issue



### A November to Remember

The Mason Conservation District continues to make substantial progress in riparian restoration throughout Mason County. Riparian habitats are vegetative areas (buffers) along streams, lakes, and marine shorelines that provide habitat, improve water quality, and protect land from hydraulic erosion and property loss. Riparian habitats are the primary foundation and the most fundamental building block for forming and maintaining habitat, as well as protecting aquatic ecosystems and the species that depend on them.

In the past five years, the Mason Conservation District has implemented over 300 acres of riparian planting in the Skokomish Valley alone. These projects have been paid for by a combination of funding from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP, administered by the Farm Service Agency and the Washington State Conservation Commission), and Natural Resource Conservation Service. One major key to success in implementing a successful riparian restoration program is having a consistent source of labor. Over the past five years, the District has contracted a Washington State Department of Ecology Conservation Corps Crew (WCC) to work on these projects. This symbiotic relationship has proved to be extremely positive and beneficial. The crews work year-round to support the District's riparian restoration efforts and also respond to other community and partner organization needs.

An essential part of riparian restoration is continued maintenance of each planting site until the buffer is mature enough to survive on its own. As the riparian restoration footprint continues to grow, so does the need for maintenance. These maintenance tasks can be physically demanding and monotonous at times, but the Skokomish Farms CREP project is one that crews always seem to look forward to visiting. Farm owners Alann and Mali Krivor describe the landscape as being "gentle and full of opportunity". With breathtaking views and an abundance of wildlife there is no telling what a typical day might offer. This was especially true this past November when the crew was maintaining the CREP buffer. Crew leader Tyler Harris explained that the task provided a great experience for the crew, and that the wildlife and beauty kept them in good spirits. The crew spent almost 6 full days on the farm, where a river full of spawning salmon added an additional sense of purpose. Each day they encountered a large herd of elk, and Tyler explained that some crew members had never seen an

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## Conservation Corner

### 2014 DISTRICT ELECTION

Mason Conservation District's Board Member election will be early next year. The District is governed by a five member Volunteer Board consisting of local Mason County landowners. Three of the board positions are elected and two are appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission, an agency that supports conservation district activities in Washington State. The next elected position will be filled in February 2014. Mason Conservation District elections occur annually during the first quarter of each calendar year, as required under RCW 89.08.

Mason Conservation District will conduct an election for one Board position on February 22, 2014 between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM at the District office. The position is currently held by Adam James, a resident of the Hood Canal area. Local residents interested in seeking election to this volunteer position should contact the District to be placed on the February ballot. Successful candidates serve a three-year term as a District Board member. To be eligible, a candidate must occupy land and be a qualified county elector and registered voter within the conservation district

boundaries. This would include all residents of Mason County outside the incorporated boundaries of the City of Shelton. A candidate may also qualify through the possession of land within the district as an owner, lessee, renter or tenant. Individuals interested in these positions must pick up a nomination petition at the District office at 450 W Business Park Road, Shelton, WA 98584. Petitions must be returned to the District by January 25th for a candidate to be placed on the ballot.

Conservation districts are subdivisions of state government directed by a volunteer board that represents landowners while directing the efforts of a paid staff. The staff provides technical assistance on natural resource issues for Mason County landowners. Board members identify local natural resource needs, set goals and direct the efforts of the staff to implement Best Management Practices designed to protect soil, water, wildlife and other renewable natural resources.

Additional information can be obtained by contacting John Bolender, District Manager, at (360) 427-9436, Ext. 121 or email at [jbolender@masoncd.org](mailto:jbolender@masoncd.org)



Collier Boat Ramp

the wave energy within Puget Sound. Many species are dependent on certain sizes of rock and pebbles present on the beach for different stages of their lifecycle. For example, sand lance are small finger-sized fish that lay their eggs on small pebbles only. Their population is limited by the amount of spawning habitat they have. Sand lance and other forage fish are an important part of a salmon's diet. Structures that extend onto the beach in many locations cause the composition of the beach to change down drift (downstream) of their location.

In Hammersley Inlet, there is a unique population of herring that salmon also feed upon. In the Puget Sound Action Agenda, the Puget Sound Partnership has set a goal to increase the production of herring by 880 tons by 2020. The removal of the boat ramp and basin with this project contributes greatly to that goal.

## State Invests in Local Restoration

The WRIA 14 Salmon Habitat Recovery Lead Entity committee was able to obtain additional funding from the Puget Sound Partnership's Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) fund to implement an additional project in 2014. The project, the Collier Boat Ramp and Jetty Removal, was brought forth by the Squaxin Island Tribe. With the \$165,000, the Squaxin Island Tribe will remove a boat ramp and boat basin that are blocking the movement of sediment along the beach in Hammersley Inlet.

The movement of sediment is important because it allows for rocks and pebbles of various sizes to be sorted by the



## November to Remember continued.....

elk before. While hard at work they were able view many birds including eagles, and they even encountered a silver fox. Additionally, the crew stumbled upon a baby cow that was only hours old. They watched this rare British White Park calf stand up and take some of its first wobbly steps. One crew member indicated that this was her most memorable experience as a crew member to date. Young adults ages 18 to 25 become members of WCC to spend time outdoors, gain work experience, continue education, and make a difference. These gifts of nature offered a deserved reward to crew members for their dedication to preserving and restoring natural resources in our community.



Skokomish Farms has partnered with the Mason Conservation District and others to plant almost 90 acres of riparian and floodplain habitats, install more than 2.5 miles of livestock exclusion fencing, and provide off-stream watering facilities to livestock. Farm owners Alann and Mali Krivor plan to implement additional best management practices in the future such as a waste storage structure, and are in the process of certifying their hay fields as organic. This multi-layered partnership has proven to be successful to say the least.

Alann and Mali moved to Washington from Idaho where they had been successful land developers. They purchased Skokomish Farms in 2008 and in short time they realized that this farm was more important than development. They are currently implementing their design for a new type of “environmental development.” The 750 acre farm will soon be home to 18 farm houses. This farming community will not be managed by farmers; instead it will be managed by the farm owners association making it easier to make decisions that are good for the farm and profits. Each member will have an equal vote in farming and community decisions. Alann and Mali have owned many ranches in the past, but plan on making Skokomish Farms their permanent home. For more information visit [www.skokomishfarms.com](http://www.skokomishfarms.com)

If you would like to implement a riparian restoration project, or would like more information about CREP please feel free to contact Evan Bauder at 360-427-9436 Ext. 114 or [evan@masoncd.org](mailto:evan@masoncd.org).

## Landscaping with Native Plants Workshop

The Mason Conservation District will present a workshop on “Landscaping with Native Plants” as part of WSU Master Gardeners 2014 Through The Garden Gate workshop series.

WSU Master Gardeners will offer six workshops beginning in January and ending in March. The workshops will cover new and exciting topics chosen with input from the community that are perfect for both experienced and beginner gardeners. The 2014 workshops feature a range of modern gardening and sustainability topics including “Wild Edibles” with Elizabeth Campbell, “Landscaping with Native Plants” with Karin Strelloff of the Mason Conservation District, a panel discussion on greenhouse options, and “Growing Mushrooms at Home” with Peter McCoy from Radical Mycology. You will not want to miss out on these unique learning opportunities!

These workshops will be held on six Saturdays from 9:00am to 12:00pm, starting on January 11th 2014 at Memorial Hall in Shelton, WA (2nd and Franklin Street) The cost of each workshop is \$10, cash or check. Pre-registration for each workshop is preferred due to the limited space. To pre-register, contact the WSU Mason County Extension office at (360)427-9670 Ext. 680













































































## Restoring Habitats and Finding Creative Economic Opportunities



Grading work at the Skokomish Estuary, Fall 2013. Photo by R. Tennison

The Mason Conservation District is continuing to assist the Skokomish Tribe to fully restore the Skokomish Estuary on Annas Bay. During the summer and early fall of 2013, construction crews replaced nine fish passage barriers, restored historic tidal channels and installed fourteen engineered log jams. The Skokomish Estuary site is one of the largest estuarine restorations in Puget Sound. In addition to providing high quality habitat for numerous aquatic and upland species, the project has provided several opportunities for the Skokomish Tribe to implement cost savings that have direct environmental benefits. A major part of the restoration is filling “borrow pits” where soil was excavated to create dikes and drainage systems for the agricultural operation that was formerly located at the site. Finding suitable material for filling borrow features at a reasonable cost was a challenge due to the high cost of buying and transporting soils to the site, as well as the fact that soils suitable for the restoration needed to be consistent with the soils on site. Fortunately, the Washington Department of Transportation had a project underway in the Skokomish Valley that generated several thousand cubic yards of material that had been deposited by a historic channel of the Skokomish River. Not only was the material perfectly suited for use at the restoration site, it was obtained well below current market value because the DOT would have otherwise had to dispose of the soil at an approved waste site. Using the DOT soil at the Skokomish Estuary resulted in significant cost reduction and provided ideal soils for the restoration. Another opportunity to limit costs and achieve environmental benefits was realized by re-using concrete that was removed from former agricultural buildings that had occupied the restoration site. Nearly 2,000 cubic yards of concrete was sorted and then crushed on site. Rather than paying to dispose of the concrete, the Tribe was able to keep the concrete on site and create a valuable product that will be used to repair roads and build sidewalks at the Skokomish Reservation. This not only provided cost savings, but recycled a waste product (broken concrete) into a valuable commodity. A final win-win situation resulted from a larger than expected return of Chum salmon to the Skokomish. The excessive numbers of returning adult salmon swamped the fish buyers and their markets, which unfortunately left the tribal fisherman with no place to sell or process their catches. Rather than simply disposing of the excess fish, the Skokomish Tribe partnered with Brady’s Trucking to create a composting facility at the restoration site. The fish are being composted on-site with wood chips from Brady’s. Once fully composted, the product will be offered for sale, creating an environmentally sound product from what was a potential waste product. The Mason Conservation District is proud to work with organizations like the Skokomish Tribe and Brady’s Trucking to create economic benefits while also helping to restore and properly manage the natural resources of Mason County. For more information about the Mason CD’s role in the Skokomish Estuary Restoration, please contact Gavin Glore at (360) 427-9436 ext. 120 or by email at [gavinglore@masoncd.org](mailto:gavinglore@masoncd.org).

COMMON NAME GENUS SPECIES	HEIGHT	CLASSIFICATIONS	Habitat and Growth Characteristics. Typical Uses and Description.
<b>EVERGREEN TREES</b>			
Douglas Fir <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	250'	  	Important food source for chickadees, finches, and Douglas squirrel. Grows best in full sun to part shade on well-drained soil.
Grand Fir <i>Abies grandis</i>	250'	  	Glossy, dark green to bright green needles. Grows in dry to moist conditions and is a shade tolerant species.
Sitka Spruce <i>Picea sitchensis</i>	200'	  	Fast growing evergreen. Short, thin needles are prickly to the touch and bluish-green in color. Grows best in full sun on moist, well-drained sites.
Western Hemlock <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	160'	  	Evergreen tree that is shade tolerate. Found in fairly dry to wet sites. Graceful branches that droop with deep green needles.
Western Red Cedar <i>Thuja plicata</i>	150'	 	Lustrous dark green foliage. May be planted under existing canopies on moist sites. Vigorous growing, ornamental tree.
<b>DECIDUOUS TREES</b>			
Garry Oak <i>Quercus garryana</i>	75'	 	Dry to moist, well-drained soils. Full sun to partial shade. Once established, provide good habitat for many species of birds and mammals.
Pacific Dogwood <i>Cornus nuttallii</i>	60'	   	Moist, well-drained soils. Produces large showy white flowers. Red berries in late summer are a favorite food for many species of animals.
Quaking Aspen <i>Populus tremuloides</i>	60'	 	Tolerates wet, open conditions. Brilliant yellow-orange fall color. A good species for cavity-nesting birds.
<b>SHRUBS</b>			
Mock Orange <i>Philadelphus lewisii</i>	10'	   	Fragrant, white 2" flowers. Arching green branches, which retain foliage. Highly adaptable, grows in most locations.
Nootka Rose <i>Rosa nutkana</i>	3-8'	   	Clusters of large 2" pink flowers & red fruit. Grows well in most areas. Good for erosion control & wildlife habitat.
Pacific Ninebark <i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>	10-15'	   	Arching branches hold small white flower clusters. Prefers wet, somewhat open sites.
Red Flowering Currant <i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	3-10'	   	Hummingbirds are attracted to the pale pink to red flowers blooming March - June. Grows in clearings and open forest areas that remain dry.
Red Osier Dogwood <i>Cornus sericea</i>	15'	   	Red winter branches. Large white flowers. Grows best in moist areas. Good for erosion control. Excellent food & cover for wildlife.
Silk Tassel Bush <i>Garrya elliptica</i>	10-15'	   	Evergreen shrub with 2" slim cascading flower clusters. Thrives in full sun to part shade in well-drained moist soil often in coastal conditions.
Snowberry <i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	4-8'	   	Ornamental bright white berries. Attractive foliage. Good in partial shade & moist locations. Excellent for erosion control. Drought tolerant.
Snowbrush <i>Ceanothus velutinus</i>	3-8'	  	Flowering evergreen shrub with fragrant flowers and shiny leaves. Grows in open areas in well-drained soils.
Tall Oregon Grape <i>Mabonia aquifolium</i>	6-10'	    	Grows in dry to moist soils. Bright yellow flower clusters in spring, dark berries in summer, and the reddish green leaf color in fall and winter.
Vine Maple <i>Acer circinatum</i>	15-25'	  	Grows in full sun to shady areas on dry to moist sites. Provides good forage for wildlife and attracts butterflies. Great fall color.
<b>INDIVIDUAL POTTED PLANTS</b>			
Black Huckleberry <i>Vaccinium membranaceum</i>	2-6'	    	Creamy pink flowers followed by edible & tasty berries. Grows naturally at higher elevations in moist, well draining soils.
Bleeding Heart <i>Dicentra formosa</i>	1-2'	   	Fern like perennial with pinkish purple heart-shaped drooping flowers. Flowers from March to July.
Coastal Strawberry <i>Fragaria chiloensis</i>	10"	    	Ground cover perennial has shiny, dark-green leaves that spread from horizontal runners. It has large white flowers followed by edible berries.
Creeping Dogwood <i>Cornus canadensis</i>	6"	   	Spreading ground cover perennial. Striking white dogwood flowers bloom in spring followed by scarlet berries in late summer.
Evergreen Huckleberry <i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>	3-15'	    	Ornamental shrub with bell-shaped flowers and blue edible berries. Has excellent soil binding, erosion control capabilities.
Kinnikinnick <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	8-12"	   	Ground Cover. Evergreen leaves with pinkish flowers and bright red fall berries. Grows in sandy soil in filtered shade to full sun.
Pacific Rhododendron <i>Rhododendron macrophyllum</i>	15-20'	   	Large bell shaped flowers bloom on this evergreen native in late spring. Grows in moist to dry openings or on forest margins.
Salal <i>Gaultheria shallon</i>	3-7'	   	Evergreen shrub has shiny dark green leaves. Produces showy clusters of pink to white flowers followed by purplish edible fruit.
Sword Fern <i>Polystichum munitum</i>	2-5'	  	Evergreen fern with dark-green fronds arch from central clump. Grows well in lowland forests, full sun to full shade.
<b>LEGEND:</b>  Full sun  Partial shade  Shade  Evergreen  Deciduous  Flowers  Fruit			
VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO VIEW, ORDER AND PAY FOR PLANTS USING YOUR CREDIT CARD AT <a href="http://WWW.MASONCD.ORG">WWW.MASONCD.ORG</a>			



## MASON CONSERVATION DISTRICT 2014 ORDER FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ New Customer? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, how did you hear about the sale? \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Bundles	Plant Species	Plant Size	Price Per Bundle	Amount
	<b>Evergreen Tree</b>			
	Douglas Fir	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$5.00	
	Grand Fir	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$5.00	
	Sitka Spruce	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$3.80	
	Western Hemlock	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$6.00	
	Western Red Cedar	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$6.00	
	<b>Deciduous Tree</b>			
	Garry Oak	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$9.50	
	Pacific Dogwood	12" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$9.00	
	Quaking Aspen	18" Bare Root	5 Trees for \$9.50	
	<b>Shrub</b>			
	Mock Orange	18-36" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$9.50	
	Nootka Rose	18-36" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$9.10	
	Pacific Ninebark	18-36" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$7.00	
	Red Flowering Currant	18-36" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$8.80	
	Red Osier Dogwood	18-36" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$7.00	
	Snowberry	18-36" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$9.10	
	Snowbush	12-18" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$9.50	
	Tall Oregon Grape	18-36" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$7.00	
	Silk Tassel Bush	12" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$8.50	
	Vine Maple	18" Bare Root	5 Shrubs for \$9.50	
<b>Number of Plants</b>	<b>Potted Plant</b>		<b>Price Per Plant</b>	
	Black Huckleberry	4" pot	1 Plant for \$3.75	
	Bleeding Heart	4" pot	1 Plant for \$3.00	
	Coastal Strawberry	4" pot	1 Plant for \$2.70	
	Creeping Dogwood	4" pot	1 Plant for \$3.00	
	Evergreen Huckleberry	4" pot	1 Plant for \$3.75	
	Kinnikinnick	2" pot	1 Plant for \$2.85	
	Pacific Rhododendron	4" pot	1 Plant for \$3.75	
	Salal	4" pot	1 Plant for \$2.70	
	Sword Fern	4" pot	1 Plant for \$3.00	
			Subtotal	
			Tax 8.5%	
	DO NOT SEND PAYMENT AT THIS TIME		TOTAL	

Once we have received your order form, we will reserve your order and send you a bill. All bills must be paid before February 1st. Plants are sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. Quantities are limited and some species always sell out so please order early. Several species of native plants not listed are available for special order. Call for availability and pricing. Orders will be taken through Friday, January 17th.

Pick up your order Friday, February 21st, between 10 AM & 5 PM or Saturday, February 22nd, between 10 AM & 2 PM at the Mason Conservation District office. If you have any questions please call (360) 427-9436, Ext. 113 or (800) 527-9436, Ext. 113. Please mail completed order form to: **Mason Conservation District, 450 W Business Park Road, Shelton, WA 98584.**

# Planting Native Landscapes

SYMBOL	PLANT
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DOUGLAS FIR  
*Pseudotsuga menziesii*



SHORE PINE  
*Pinus contorta var. contorta*



PACIFIC WAX MYRTLE  
*Myrica californica*



MOCK ORANGE  
*Philadelphus lewisii*



RED FLOWERING CURRANT  
*Ribes sanguineum*



TALL OREGON GRAPE  
*Berberis aquifolium*



SNOWBERRY  
*Symphoricarpos albus*



SNOWBRUSH; STICKY LAUREL  
*Ceanothus velutinus*



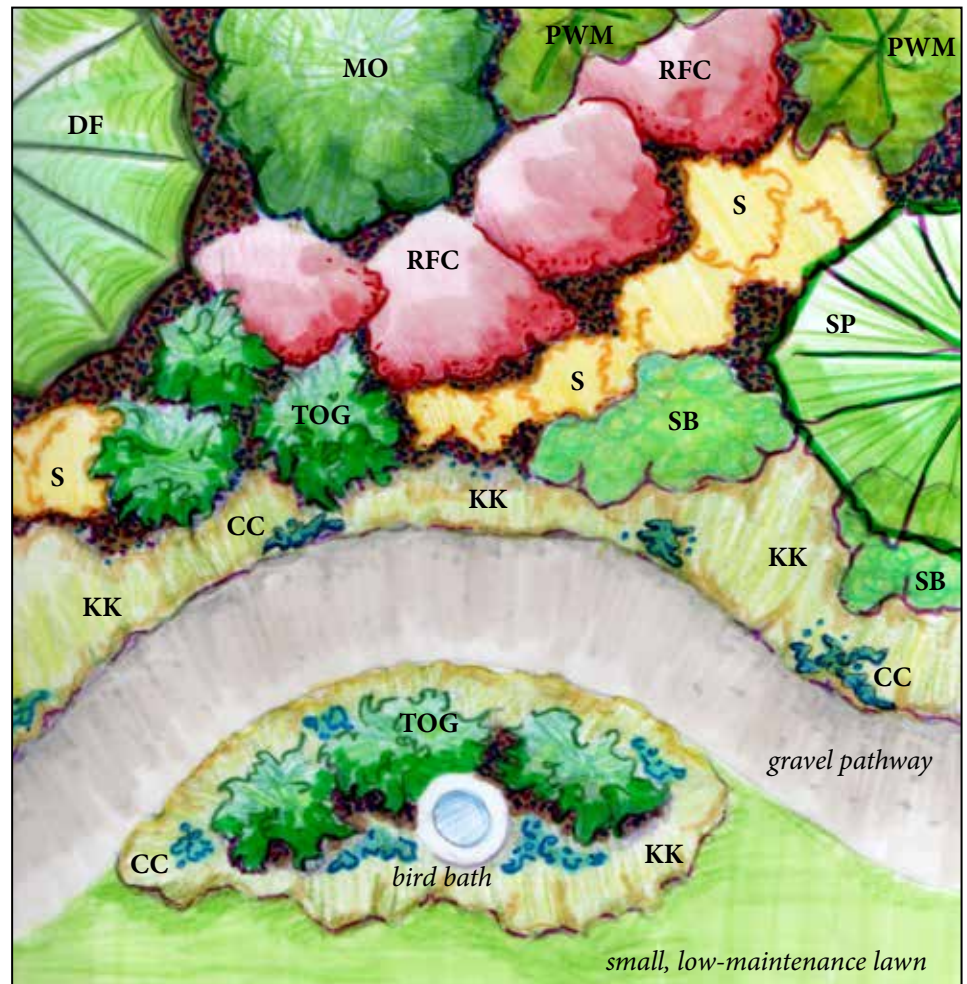
KINNIKINNICK  
*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*



COMMON CAMAS  
*Camassia quamash*

## SUNNY & DRY CONDITIONS

Sample Planting Plan using Native Pacific Northwest Plants



Landscaping with Pacific Northwest native plants is an easy way to create a beautiful and low-maintenance garden that also provides important sources of food and shelter for local birds, insects and wildlife. Each upcoming issue of Watershed Wise Newsletter will include a sample planting plan with suggestions of species appropriate for particular conditions. Although the plans focus on native plants, mixing in non-native ornamental plants can be a great way to add additional color and interest to your yard. This approach is especially effective when you integrate ornamentals in the front borders of landscape beds while leaving natives as the foundation behind. You can create an attractive landscape that minimizes maintenance, concentrating most of your energy along the front edges where plants are easiest to reach and most visible. Just be sure to avoid invasive plants like ivy or Japanese knotweed! Happy gardening!

## Marine Shoreline Homeowner Survey

Are you a marine shoreline landowner? Are you interested in helping Mason Conservation District staff better understand what resources or technical assistance would be most helpful for you?

Please share your thoughts in our informal survey, which can be found on the front page of the District's website: [www.masoncd.org](http://www.masoncd.org)

All feedback is anonymous and no personal information is collected. We appreciate your ideas, and look forward to learning more about your interests and needs.



## MASON CONSERVATION DISTRICT

450 W Business Park Road

Shelton, WA 98584

Phone: 360-427-9436

Fax: 360-427-4396

[www.masoncd.org](http://www.masoncd.org)



### Plant Sale Reminders:

- Plants are sold in bundles of FIVE except for pots.
- Place orders by January 17, 2014.
- View, Order and Pay for plants using your credit card through our website [www.masoncd.org](http://www.masoncd.org).
- Send order form by mail. If you are mailing your order form we will confirm your order in full or in part by sending you an invoice.
- Pick Up: Friday, February 21st, 10AM to 5PM or Saturday, February 22nd, 10AM to 2PM at the District office.
- Warning: Any order not picked up will be donated to conservation projects or organizations.
- For questions about the native plant sale please call Jen at (360) 427-9436, Ext. 113 or (800) 527-9436, Ext. 113.

### District Board of Supervisors

Bill Burrows, Adam James, Michelle McCallum, Bonnie Hall, Jason Ragan  
(David Mackey and Larry Boltz, Associates)

### MCD Staff

Evan Bauder - Resource Technician  
Dan Blatt - Engineering Technician  
John Bolender - District Manager  
Ron Cummings - Environmental Specialist  
Rich Geiger - District Engineer  
Gavin Glore - Engineering Technician  
Erik Hagan - Small Farms/Outreach Coordinator

Amy Hatch-Winecka - WRIA 14 Lead Entity Coordinator  
Adam Lloyd - Resource Technician  
Mario Skelly - Resource Technician  
Karin Strelloff - Environmental Specialist  
Rodney Tennison - Engineering Technician  
Jen Thurman-Williams - Environmental Specialist  
Denise Velthuysen - Treasurer