

Events and Opportunities

Pierce Native Plant Pre-Sale

PROTECT OUR EARTH ONE NATIVE PLANT AT A TIME



Native Plant Pre-Sale Open Now!

Native Plant Sale preorders open until January 15th

Head over to piercenativeplantsale.com and secure your order of native plants before it is too late. Our website can provide you with low-cost, conservation-grade bareroot plants, and is accepting orders until January 15th. You are enhancing local biodiversity and lessening the consequences of climate change with every native plant you buy and plant. Beyond its environmental benefits, your yard will become an oasis of fruiting, flowering, and evergreen plants that you can enjoy the beauty of year-round. If this sounds like the yard you would like to create, click the link below.

[Order Plants](#)


Monthly Board of Supervisors Meeting

Wednesday, December 13th from 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

In Person and Virtual

Open to the public. Our monthly Board of Supervisors meeting to update work accomplished and future plans.

[Calendar Event](#)
[Agenda](#)


Final Call for Farm Foundations Applications

Application Deadline: December 15th

The priority deadline may have passed, but you still have plenty of time to get in your application for the 2024 Farm Foundations Cohort. This program is calling for all who are interested in small scale vegetable farming, whether you dream of a homestead or selling at farmers markets, this program is for you. It will carry you through the growing season with outside physical experience and educational courses that cover topics like soil science, farm planning, cover cropping, weed and pest control, and so much more! This year the influx of applications has been low, so please do not be deterred by the priority deadline having passed. Visit our webpage for more information and follow the link to fill out an application.

[Apply](#)


Renewable Energy Funding Opportunity for Farms and Rural Small Businesses

Quarterly Grant Application Deadlines: March 31, June 30, Sept 30, and Dec 31

The USDA Rural Development Rural Energy for America Program, also known as REAP, offers up to 50% grants for small rural businesses and agricultural producers interested in making the transition to renewable energy and other energy efficiency improvements.

Interested in applying? If you are located in Washington State, Spark Northwest and Pierce Conservation District can help! Assistance is offered in both English and Spanish.

[Learn More & Apply](#)


Wildfire Season is Right Around the Corner

Free Wildfire Site Assessments Available

Just because Washington weather is raining down on us doesn't mean we can forget about wildfires. Fall, Winter and Spring are the ideal time to have your property assessed for wildfire risk. Having a risk assessment completed before the summer season allows you the time to implement changes that ensure your home is defensible. Pierce Conservation District offers free wildfire risk assessments. We'll visit rain or shine, and then send you a report that offers custom suggestions to help you get your space wildfire ready before next summer.

[Apply](#)



Vote in PCD's Board District Election

Request a Ballot Today!

The 2024 PCD Board of Supervisors Election is right around the corner! Our Board of Supervisors is elected by the residents of Pierce County*. **To vote in the election, you must request a ballot.** Requesting a ballot only takes a few minutes, and has a major impact on what PCD does and how well we can support community-driven solutions to our most pressing environmental challenges.

*Eligible voters are registered voters who reside within the boundaries of the District. Voters information must match the Pierce County Auditor's voter rolls.

[Ballot Request Form](#)

Volunteer Opportunities



Volunteer at Colibrí Farm

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, Dates TBD in December

Colibri Farm 4326 S 36th St Tacoma WA, 98409

Join a work party at Colibrí Farm to assist in getting it prepared for the 2024 growing season! Colibrí Farm, situated on the ancestral lands of the Puyallup and Steilacoom tribes, is part of a collaborative effort between the City of Tacoma and Harvest Pierce County to address objectives within the City's [Climate Action Plan](#). The farm's primary mission is to cultivate culturally uplifting crops and medicinal plants that celebrate the rich heritage of the continent, while maintaining deep roots in the principles of environmental stewardship. Use the link below to be notified for upcoming work parties.

[Sign Up](#)



Whitter Park Work Party

Saturday, December 2nd, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Fircrest, WA

Activities include caring for existing plants and removing invasive species such as Himalayan blackberry and thistle. This work supports water quality, our local wildlife, and pollinators. Exact address will be provided on sign up.

[Sign Up](#)



South Prairie Creek Preserve Work Party

Saturday, December 2nd, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Fircrest, WA

Activities include planting trees and shrubs along the creek to provide shade, mitigate effects of flooding, and enhance salmon habitat. Get outdoors and get your hands dirty to help improve critical salmon habitat!

[Sign Up](#)



Bradley Lake Park Work Party

Saturday, December 9th, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Puyallup, WA

Activities include caring for existing plants and removing invasive species such as Himalayan blackberry and thistle. This work supports water quality, our local wildlife, and pollinators. Exact address will be provided on sign up.

[Sign Up](#)

News from Pierce CD



High water at the Tacoma DeMolay Sandspit Nature Preserve during a 2022 king tide.

King Tides Wash In With Winter Holidays

‘Tis the season for high waters on the Puget Sound shoreline, which bring with them the opportunity for action to prevent marine pollution and build resilience on our shores. King tides - the highest astronomical tides of the year – [can exceed 15 feet in elevation](#) on our South Sound shorelines. [Read more...](#)



Volunteers and staff planting native plants at Frey Family Farm.

Creek Restoration at Frey Family Farm

To the Freys, finding land to start a farm was a dream of theirs for years. According to Claudia Frey, the core of this dream has always been community connection. "We always knew we wanted to do organic farming. To us, providing good food for our community means being organic." Thanks to the years-long resource and planning help of Pierce Conservation District's farm team, that dream has become a reality. [Read more...](#)



AmeriCorps Member Laura Wagner showing off a demonstration salmon.

Educational, Fishy Fun at Chum Fest

On November 18, Pierce Conservation District attended the Gig Harbor Chum Fest. The event was a great success, with 203 total visitors coming to our tent for some educational fishy fun. [Read more...](#)



It's Almost Time for Salmon Eggs!

The education team is hard at work setting up fish tanks for the 2024 Salmon in the Schools program, in partnership with the [Foss Waterway Seaport](#). Over the course of three months, 5th grade classrooms in partnering schools will get to learn about and care for salmon until they are released in March at Swan Creek Park in Tacoma. While these salmon grow up students will learn about the salmon life cycle, salmon habitat stewardship, and take part in an art project taught by the [Museum of Glass](#) educators. In total, we intend to help establish salmon tanks in 24 Tacoma public schools, as well as a demonstration tank at the Museum of Glass. Not to be left out of the fun, Pierce CD has a tank set up as well. We'll be sharing updates on our social media as these Chum Salmon grow from eggs to fry!



Happy December! This year has been a year of many changes, and I have been grateful to get to grow our organization with everyone in the PCD community. I am thankful for the work we get to do together.

This month we enjoyed many events in partnership with the Tacoma community. We assisted Tacoma Tree Foundation with [Branch Out](#), an event where residents in urban Tacoma could receive free trees for their yard. Great job to our Water Quality team for their hard work on set up and for making the day so successful! It was great to chat with the city's Urban Forest Program Manager, Mike Carey, and to have Tacoma City Council Member Olgy Diaz join in on the fun.

We are also gearing up for our annual Board Supervisor election this spring. Don't forget to [register to receive your ballot!](#)

- Executive Director, Dana Coggon

In The Conservation Community

[Winter 2024 Online Forest Stewardship Coached Planning Course](#)

[Long Live The Kings 2023 Annual Report](#)

[Metro Parks Tacoma's Salmon Saturdays](#)

[Puyallup Watershed Symposium](#)

