



## Thurston Conservation District

Local solutions to local problems

Thurston Conservation District  
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[FACEBOOK](#) [TWITTER](#)

The Thurston Conservation District promotes voluntary stewardship among private landowners in Thurston County. Our services are free to the residents of our County. We are committed to finding available resources and coordinating them in a way that they meet the needs of our local community.

As we move into the coming months and years, we realize that large agricultural land-holding are becoming threatened by growth in Thurston County. As a result, we are committed to adjusting to the needs of our urban community needs as well as preserving our precious local farmland.



[www.ThurstonCD.com](http://www.ThurstonCD.com)

# Internship Opportunities

### Administrative Assistant Intern/Volunteer

Primary provider of office support to customers and staff. This position will give the intern essential Administrative Assistance experience, including tasks such as:

Learning money handling procedures.

Preparing meeting minutes.

Managing TCD's main office phone line.

Equipment rental scheduling.

Using Microsoft Office Suite: Outlook, Word, Excel and Access.

Providing Administrative Assistance to other staff.

### Education & Outreach Intern

This is a full-time position, preferably for 2 consecutive quarters. One quarter positions may be available. The education and

outreach intern will assist the Education and Outreach Coordinator in variety of projects and tasks. Some of these will include:

Clear Choices For Clean Water Program, South Sound Regional Envirothon, South Sound GREEN, assist with the coordination and delivery of TCD's Annual Native Plant Sale event., marketing for TCD workshops, programs and events.

### Natural Resource Technician Intern

Interns will assist TCD Resource Specialist staff in working with landowners to improve management and water quality on their property or farm. Interns will learn to inventory soils, water, plants, and animals to iden-

tify potential sources of non-point pollution. Interns will also assist with analyzing site data in order to make recommendations for the implementation of certain Best Management Practices. Interns will have the opportunity to write their own Farm Plan, with assistance from TCD staff.

Two quarter, full time interns are eligible for a \$1,000 stipend. This internship also qualifies for the AmeriCorps Students In Service volunteer stipend.

For more information about the Thurston Conservation District, visit: [www.thurstoncd.com](http://www.thurstoncd.com).

Please submit resume and cover letter to:

**Sarah Wooten**  
2918 Ferguson St SW  
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[swooten@thurstoncd.com](mailto:swooten@thurstoncd.com)  
360-754-3588 Ext. 136

THURSTON  
CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT

# Conversations on Conservation

LOCAL SOLUTIONS TO LOCAL PROBLEMS WINTER 2012

## Get Involved: Become A Board Member

The Thurston Conservation District Board of Supervisors is seeking candidates among Thurston County residents that are interested in serving the people of Thurston County as a volunteer Conservation District Supervisor. There is one elected (Position #1) and one appointed position (Position #1) open to applicants at this time.

These positions are part of a volunteer five-person Board of Supervisors, who serve without compensation. The Board is responsible for setting and maintaining overall district policies and programs regarding the management

and conservation of natural resources within the district. Nominees must be registered voters and a Thurston County landowner or operator of a farm within the Thurston Conservation District boundaries.

Candidate information and nominations are due at the District Office by January 31, 2012 at 4:30 pm. The election is scheduled for Saturday, February 25, 2012 from 10 am – 2 pm at the Thurston Conservation District office, located at 2918 Ferguson St. SW, Tumwater. Absentee ballots will be available February 1 – February

22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:30 pm by contacting the District Office. All absentee ballots must be received by the Thurston County Elections Office no later than 5:00 pm, Friday February 24, 2012.

For more information and to obtain nomination and application forms, visit the District's website at [www.thurstoncd.com](http://www.thurstoncd.com) or contact the District office at 360/754-3588, ext 114.



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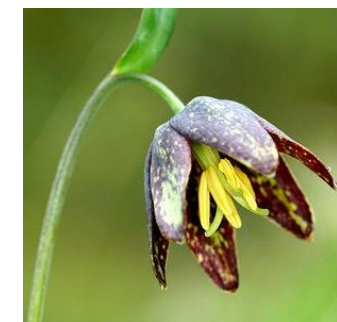
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## Annual Native Plant Sale: PREORDER!



IT'S TIME! Preorders started January 1st! Order forms can be found on our new website, under the 'Services' tab: [www.ThurstonCD.com](http://www.ThurstonCD.com)

Preorders end January 31st—be sure to reserve your plants early as some species

go quickly!

Preordered species are sold in bundles of 10 (Evergreen Huckleberry in bundles of 5).

You will receive a confirmation receipt in early February.

## Upcoming South Sound GREEN Events:



Komachin student records water quality monitoring data.

### 20th Annual Student GREEN Congress - Friday, March 23, 2012

We will be hosting our 20th Annual GREEN Congress in partnership with the Nisqually River Education Project. The GREEN Congress is a watershed summit where student delegates present the results of their stream investigations. The Congress will be held at The Evergreen State College.

### Water Watcher Training - Thursday, February 16, 2012 - 1:00 - 3:00 PM OR 6:30 - 8:30 PM

This year we will offer two training sessions on Thursday, February 16, 2012. Please contact Akua Nyame-Mensah at [anmensah@thurstoncd.com](mailto:anmensah@thurstoncd.com) with your name, phone number and time you would like to attend the training.

### Water Quality Monitoring - Thursday, February 23, 2012

We will need volunteers for our teachers for Winter Water Quality Monitoring. We ask that our volunteers attend a Water Watcher Training before volunteering. Please contact Akua if you are interested in assisting a teacher before Monday, February 20, 2012.

## JANUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 TCD Closed	3 Plant Pre-orders!	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 TCD Closed	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 TCD Board Meeting	25 TESC Intern Fair	26	27	28
29	30	31 Plant Pre-orders End				

### Schedule of Events

- } 1/2/2012 - TCD Closed for New Years Day
- } 1/3/2012 - Plant Sale Preorders Start!
- } 1/16/2012 - TCD Closed for MLK Day
- } 1/24/2012 - TCD Board of Supervisors Meeting, 3:00PM @ TCD Office
- } 1/31/2012 - Plant Sale Preorders End



## New Co-Coordinator Joins South Sound GREEN!



Amber Smith earned her

undergraduate degree in 2000 from the Evergreen State College with majors in Environmental Studies and Marine Science. She comes to this position with more than 10 years experience developing and delivering a wide range of environmental education programs. Her career began as an Environmental Educator for the city of Bellingham, where she

taught water, salmon, and marine science programs to school age children and adults. She later worked as an Outreach Coordinator for Grays Harbor County and as an Education and Outreach Specialist for Thurston County Solid Waste. Anne Mills and Amber will each work half time sharing the position as co-coordinators until June.

*“These assessments will not only make a huge impact on energy conservation, but will prove to be an economically sustainable option for our local dairies as well.”*

## Energy Efficiency: Coming To A Dairy Near You

Thurston Conservation District has begun work on a pilot program together with Washington State NRCS and WSU Energy to increase agricultural energy efficiencies on farms in Thurston County. The program provides technical service to assess the

current energy usage of commercial dairies and then provides the recommendations to improve equipment and procedures to maximize energy efficiency. These assessments will not only make a huge impact on energy conservation, but

will prove to be an economically sustainable option for our local dairies as well. For more information on this project, contact:

Dave Nygard  
[dnygard@thurstoncd.com](mailto:dnygard@thurstoncd.com)  
 360-754-3588 Ext. 134

## Saving The World, One Farm At A Time

Thurston Conservation District was awarded a Watershed Protection and Restoration Grant to address agricultural land conversion and barriers to direct markets. This project will link farmers looking for land with land owners seeking to protect their lands from development using various land

planning tools including open space agriculture tax enrollment, conservation easements, and the transfer and purchase of development rights. The group will also provide farmers training for business planning and accessing capitol and local markets. Partner organizations: Capi-

tol Land Trust, Cascade Harvest Coalition, Enterprise for Equity, South of the Sound Community Farmland Trust, and The Evergreen State College.

