



# South Douglas News

South Douglas Conservation District

Fall 2021

Assisting cooperators to adopt, implement and promote conservation practices which encourage good land stewardship and the protection of natural resources.

## CHIPPING DAY—EARLY NOVEMBER

We will be offering FREE wood chipping in early November.

This is a great way to get rid of those branches you have been gathering while staying at home. **Guidelines of what the piles should look like are on our website.** The chips will stay with you. They are good for mulch or walkways. Some landowners have had the chips put into a trailer and hauled down to the Stemilt Organic Recycling Center in south Wenatchee.

This program is paid through a Washington Conservation Commission grant. Landowners from Waterville down to Rock Island have reduced fire danger around their homes as the piles that were ready to be chipped were reduced to mulch and chips. This program is intended to create a defensible space around homes and out-buildings in case of fire.

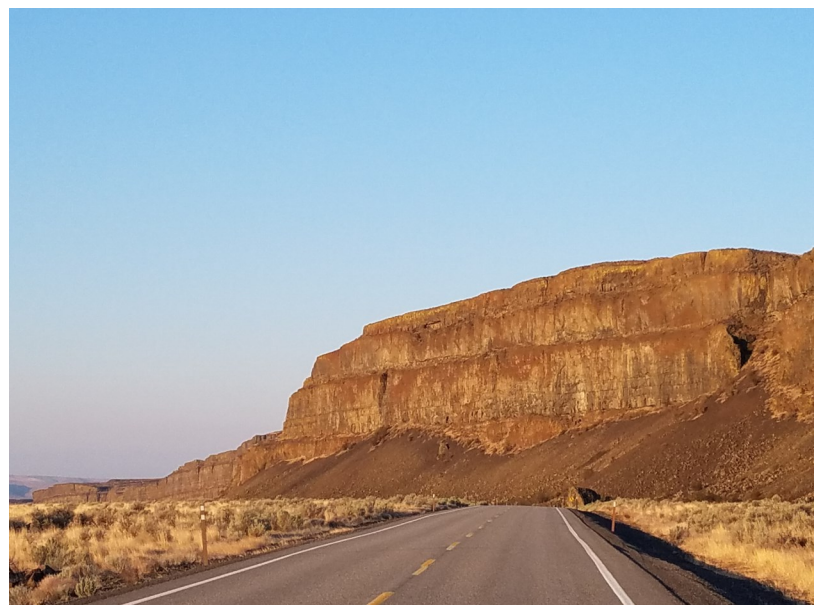
Contact us at 509-745-9160 for more information. Register by October 30.



**South Douglas CD, in cooperation with Department of Natural Resources, has funding that can pay for 100% of fuels reduction on Badger Mountain. Thinning your trees, reducing the amount of undergrowth, and opening up the forest floor can help save your forest when fire hits. Improved wildlife habitat and forest health and access to the forest land are benefits that are achieved. Call the office to make an appointment to assess your land and get those forests healthy.**

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## BRINGING BEAVERS BACK

### Kodi Jo Jaspers—Trout Unlimited

Bringing beavers back- That's the goal of Trout Unlimited's, Wenatchee-Entiat Beaver Project. The project assists landowners with beaver issues and educates the community about the important role beavers play in our local ecosystem. The project works with landowners to investigate beaver issues on their property. The crew will evaluate the damage and determine the best solution for mitigation. Mitigation efforts include painting trees to discourage gnawing, caging trees to prevent beaver access, or installing a "beaver deceiver" that maintains pond levels if a beaver dam is built.



When mitigation services have failed or aren't an option, the beaver project provides a free non-lethal relocation service. Once safely trapped, beavers are taken to an acclimation facility at the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery. Here, individual beavers can relax in shaded structures, and are provided room service from the crew, while they wait to be reunited with their family. Beavers are social animals and keeping the beavers at the hatchery allows for the highest chance to trap the whole colony prior to relocating the beavers.

Once all individuals thought to be in the area are captured, they are released at suitable sites higher in the watershed, where their natural ecosystem benefits can be implemented, with reduced conflict with humans. Restoring beavers to the watersheds they were once plentiful in can have many benefits. A beaver dam structure slows the flow of water, increasing water storage as surface water and groundwater, increasing sediment retention which filters pollutants, flood mitigation, and escalates the overall biodiversity. Trout Unlimited's interest in this project stemmed from the potential benefits for salmon and trout habitat restoration. Beaver dams, once believed to be impassable by fish, actually provides crucial habitat for trout and salmon to lay their eggs. Their dams and pools can also cool water by more than 2°C (3.5°F), critical for the heat-sensitive salmonids.

Do you have questions about beavers on your property? Are you interested in having beavers reestablished on your property? Trout Unlimited currently has a stream restoration project planned for this fall along Rock Island Creek with hopes to continue work in Douglas County. Call (509-650-5848) or email ([kodijo.jaspers@tu.org](mailto:kodijo.jaspers@tu.org)) Trout Unlimited today to learn more.

Our workshop—"Birds, Bees and Bats" - has been put on hold until we can meet in person. Watch this newsletter for information. (Hopefully in March, 2022)



# HAVE YOU TRIED THE NEW COSMIC CRISP APPLE?

Lindsey Morrison

As fall rolls around each year we all see the trucks hauling apples for harvest. Apples are still the number one cash crop for NCW. Now we're on the homeward stretch of harvest with last few varieties coming off the trees in the coming weeks. This year you might see a newcomer on the shelf. The "Cosmic Crisp" apple. It was bred using traditional apple breeding techniques here in Washington State, at WSU Tree fruit and Extension Center, right here in Wenatchee. It is a cross between the popular Honeycrisp variety and the lesser known variety, Enterprise. The result is a crisp juicy apple with a delicious crunch to every bite. It has been described by the NY Times as "the most promising and important apple of the future". It is planted by



design, only in WA state for the first ten years to give our growers exclusive rights to produce this world class apple for a decade. It is a delicious addition to our already rich portfolio of apples grown here in Washington State. Growing 70% of conventional apples and 90%+ of the organic apples in the USA we are a tough crowd when it comes to new apples. Please welcome this new variety into your grocery cart when its available in a store near you. I promise, you won't be disappointed.

## South Douglas Looking for Supervisors

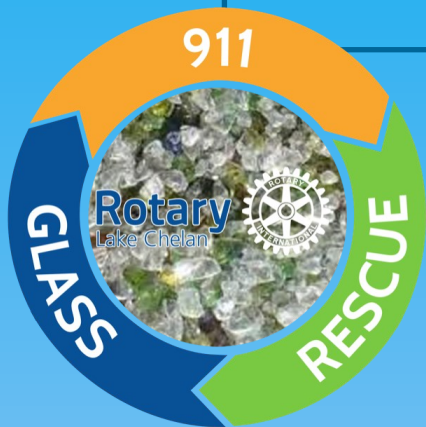
South Douglas Conservation District currently is looking for a supervisor to fill an appointed position early 2022. An elected position is also open.

The five member Board of Supervisors meets on the first Monday of each month, except August. The supervisors set policy and direction for the Conservation District, serving without compensation. They oversee conservation practices in southern Douglas County, promoting education and participation in protecting natural resources. Currently, the district is involved in developing the Firewise Program in Douglas County, fuel reduction and water quality projects, and a cost share program for its cooperators. Supervisors serve as community contacts to identify resource needs and provide assistance, whether technical, financial or educational. See our website for more information

If you are interested in becoming a supervisor, please call the office, (509) 745-9160. Anyone who is a landowner or occupier within the district boundaries is eligible. Deadline for the application is 12/30/21

# 911 GLASS RESCUE IS CRUSHING IT IN CHELAN

Julie McCoy



## What can we do with the glass?

The end products (sand and 3/8-inch aggregate) can be taken home for a suggested donation of \$5.00 per 5-gallon bucket. Local residents are using the products for landscaping and other projects. The properties of glass make it ideal for the garden, as its negative charge attracts water, keeping soil moist. It also repels pests, controls weeds, and acts as a thermal blanket in the Winter. The response to the product has been enthusiastic, with many repeat "customers." All kinds of glass are accepted, including porcelain and ceramics.

## How did you get started?

In July, 2021, the Rotary Club of Lake Chelan successfully launched its signature project to repurpose used consumer glass, with grant monies from the City of Chelan and the County of Chelan, as well as numerous generous sponsors. The new enterprise, 911 Glass Rescue, a non-profit corporation, purchased a commercial glass pulverizing system from Andela Products of Richfield Springs, NY. Andela is an established (25-year) vendor of glass pulverizing equipment and ships their systems throughout the world. The system 911 Glass Rescue purchased, the Andela GP 05L, is capable of crushing 1-2 tons of glass per hour, turning wine bottles and other glass containers into glass sand and aggregate.

## When are you open?

911 Glass Rescue receives glass from local businesses and individuals on Saturdays at the Chelan Recycle Center between the hours of 8:00 to noon (subject to seasonal adjustment). The suggested minimum donation to drop off used glass is two cents per pound (or about two cents for a single wine bottle). The Lake Chelan Wine Valley has broadly supported the project, with 15 wineries becoming fiscal sponsors, some at the \$10,000 level. 911 Glass Rescue and the Lake Chelan Rotary Club are grateful to the many contributors and partners that have made this important community service a reality. [www.911glassrescue.org](http://www.911glassrescue.org). Or (509) 402-1138 for more information.

## Carol Cowling—NCW Fair Volunteer of the Year

Carol Cowling, our Coordinator, was chosen for 2021 NCW Fair Volunteer of the Year. Her dedication to the Fair, not only the CD booth and promoting agriculture but also as Open Horse Barn Chairman was noted by the Fair Board and County Commissioners. Keep up the good work!

### South Douglas Conservation District

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### Staff Member

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### Board of Supervisors

Mike Lesky *Chair*  
Joe Sprauer, *Vice Chair*  
Eileen Bone, *Auditor*  
Lindsey Morrison, *Member*  
Carolyn Kelly, *Member*



Please recycle.

At the end of summer, bumble bee queens burrow just below the soil to wait out winter. Give them the extra protection they need.

LEAVE THE LEAVES



 [xerces.org](http://xerces.org)

Photo by Rich Hatfield