



Pierce Conservation District has been working with local landowners in a non-regulatory, voluntary manner since 1949. Our goal is to conserve the natural resources essential to both our economy and our region's quality of life. Our core programs include: Farm Planning and Agricultural Assistance, Habitat Improvement and Environmental Education, Water Quality Improvement and Monitoring, and Urban Agriculture and Local Food Access. Contact us for further assistance or information via (253) 845-9770 or [www.pierced.org](http://www.pierced.org)

### Some Things You Need To Know As A Rural Landowner!

Category	Contact	Website & Phone Number
<b>Home Sites:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Septic/Well: Inspect and maintain frequently! The County mandates that you inspect your septic system every 1-3 years. The County approves permits for new installations, replacements and repairs.</li> <li>• Building codes/permits: Before building, contact the County for zoning requirements and permits.</li> <li>• Buried Utilities: Washington law requires that you notify utility companies 2-10 days before you dig.</li> <li>• Hazardous waste: Products that contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable or reactive ingredients must be disposed off at specific waste stations in Pierce County.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department</li> <li>• Pierce County Planning &amp; Land Services</li> <li>• Washington Utility Notification Center</li> <li>• Pierce County Public Works</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.tpchd.org/septic">www.tpchd.org/septic</a> or (253) 798-6470</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/index.aspx?NID=903">www.co.pierce.wa.us/index.aspx?NID=903</a> or (253) 798-7210</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.callbeforeyoudig.org">www.callbeforeyoudig.org</a> or 811</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/index.aspx?NID=1544">www.co.pierce.wa.us/index.aspx?NID=1544</a> or (800) 287-6429</li> </ul>
<b>Soils:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soil testing: Pierce Conservation District offers first soil sample free for pastures, hay fields and crop land.</li> <li>• Find out your soil type.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pierce Conservation District</li> <li>• NRCS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.pierced.org">www.pierced.org</a> or (253) 845-9770</li> <li>• <a href="http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov">websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov</a></li> </ul>
<b>Wet Areas:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Floodplains, wetlands and riparian areas are considered "critical areas" and land uses are limited in these zones in accordance with local ordinances.</li> <li>• Water quality: You are responsible for managing manure, erosion, pesticides, fertilizers etc. on your property to protect surface and groundwater quality.</li> <li>• Buffer width recommendations vary depending on salmon habitat potential.</li> <li>• Drainage and flooding: With 38-56 inches of rain/year you need to manage water on your property. Do not locate house, barns etc. in low spots.</li> <li>• Emergency Preparedness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pierce County Planning &amp; Land Services</li> <li>• Pierce Conservation District</li> <li>• Washington Dept. of Ecology</li> <li>• Pierce County Public Works Surface Water Management</li> <li>• Pierce County</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/index.aspx?NID=117">www.co.pierce.wa.us/index.aspx?NID=117</a> or (253) 798-7210</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.pierced.org">www.pierced.org</a> or (253) 845-9770</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.ecy.wa.gov/Puget_sound/docs/grants/2013-riparian_guidance.pdf">www.ecy.wa.gov/Puget_sound/docs/grants/2013-riparian_guidance.pdf</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/index.aspx?NID=1595">www.co.pierce.wa.us/index.aspx?NID=1595</a> or (253) 798-2725</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.piercecountywaw.org/PREPARE">www.piercecountywaw.org/PREPARE</a></li> </ul>
<b>Wildlife:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Threatened and endangered species are protected by law. Your land management is affected by and impacts wildlife.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://wdfw.wa.gov">wdfw.wa.gov</a> or (360) 249-4628</li> </ul>

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<b>Woodlots:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forestry: Permits may be required for timber harvest, thinning, road construction, fertilization and any chemical application.</li> <li>Small woodlot management: With proper care you can avoid most costly pests and diseases.</li> <li>Wildfires: Leave a clearing between woodlots and structures to try and limit damages from wildfires.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pierce County or Washington Department of Natural Resources</li> <li>WSU Extension</li> <li>Fire Wise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.dnr.wa.gov">www.dnr.wa.gov</a> or <a href="http://www.co.pierce.wa.us">www.co.pierce.wa.us</a></li> <li><a href="http://Forestry.wsu.edu">Forestry.wsu.edu</a> or (425) 357-6017</li> <li><a href="http://www.firewise.org">www.firewise.org</a></li> </ul>
<b>Weeds:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noxious Weeds: Certain noxious weeds require control. Invasive weeds crowd out forage and destroy wildlife habitat. Learn to identify and control noxious weeds.</li> <li>Toxic Algae: Pose a serious health concern. If swallowed seek immediate medical attention via 911.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pierce County Noxious Weed Control Board</li> <li>Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://piercecountyweedboard.wsu.edu">piercecountyweedboard.wsu.edu</a> or (253) 798-7263</li> <li><a href="http://www.tpchd.org/toxicalgae">www.tpchd.org/toxicalgae</a> or (253) 798-6470</li> </ul>
<b>Livestock &amp; Wildlife Health:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avian: Avoid contact between wild and domestic birds and maintain sanitary conditions.</li> <li>Livestock: Inadequate enclosures, conditions and feeding may be considered animal cruelty and is illegal. Know what you are doing before bringing livestock onto your property. You are responsible to properly manage livestock waste. Contact us to be added to our manure share list or get tips on disposal options.</li> <li>Report any dead domestic or wild animals along County roads.</li> <li>Sick or injured wildlife.</li> <li>Animal control can help with complaints, lost and found etc.</li> <li>Learn how to best live together with wildlife; including when and how to trap nuisance wildlife.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Washington State Department of Agriculture</li> <li>Pierce Conservation District</li> <li>Pierce County Public Works</li> <li>South Sound Critter Care</li> <li>Pierce County</li> <li>Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/AvianHealth">agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/AvianHealth</a> or 1-800-606-3056</li> <li><a href="http://www.pierccd.org">www.pierccd.org</a> or (253) 845-9770</li> <li>(253) 798-6000</li> <li>(360) 886-8917</li> <li><a href="http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/index.aspx?NID=3966">www.co.pierce.wa.us/index.aspx?NID=3966</a> or (253) 798-7387</li> <li><a href="http://wdfw.wa.gov/living/">wdfw.wa.gov/living/</a></li> </ul>
<b>Funding:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tax reductions are potentially available for land in farming or open space.</li> <li>Cost-share funding is potentially available for installing best management practices on farms. Several Trusts also offer financial assistance to preserve farmland.</li> <li>Low interest/no-interest loan programs are available for certain farm improvements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pierce County Assessor-Treasurer</li> <li>Pierce Conservation District</li> <li>Farm Service Agency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/index.aspx?NID=91">http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/index.aspx?NID=91</a> or (253) 798-6111</li> <li><a href="http://www.pierccd.org">www.pierccd.org</a> or (253) 845-9770</li> <li><a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov">www.fsa.usda.gov</a></li> </ul>
<b>Other:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ATTRA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://attra.ncat.org">attra.ncat.org</a></li> </ul>



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