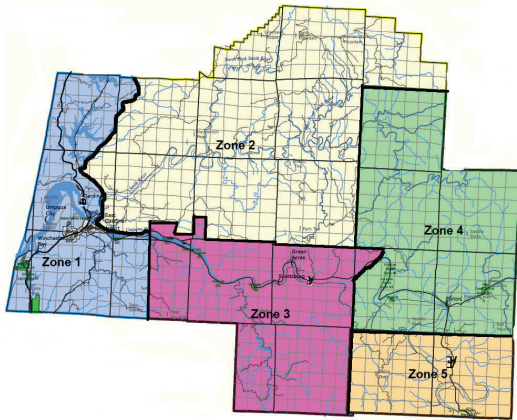


OUR DIRECTORS

The Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District has 5 zone directors and 2 at-large directors. Zone directors must own 10-acres in order to represent their zone. At-large directors do not have a land requirement.



Directors:

Zone 1—Tom Black
Zone 2—George Black
Zone 3—King Phelps
Zone 4—Rod Brandon
Zone 5—Lincoln Russell
At-Large 1—Deborah Yates
At-Large 2—Bob Sharp

Staff:

Rhonda Black
District Manager/Conservation Technician
Jason Hayes—College Intern

“The mission of the locally led Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District is to provide assistance to any individual, group, or agency in applying natural resource conservation practices for the wise use of their natural resources.”

Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. Meetings are generally held at the Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District office located at 1877 Winchester Avenue, Suite 100 in Reedsport



**Soil & Water
Conservation District**

We are located at 1877 Winchester Avenue,
Reedsport, Oregon
Mailing: P.O. Box 415,
Reedsport, Oregon 97467

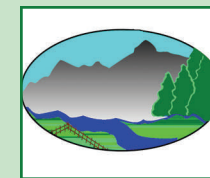
Phone: 541-662-1341
Fax: 888-331-4348

On the Web:
<http://umpquasoilandwater.com>

WHAT IS A SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT?

*“Take care of the land
and it will take care of you”*

Hugh H. Bennett,
Journal of Soil and Water Conservation.
1947



**Umpqua
Soil and Water**

Conservation District

In the Beginning

The need for conservation districts emerged in the early 1930's in response to the massive soil erosion crisis of the Dust Bowl. Congress realized only active, voluntary support from landowners would guarantee success of conservation work on private lands and recommended states adopt legislation to form Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

*Dust storm in Goodwell, Oklahoma
June 4, 1937.*



Credit: Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory

Congress passed Public Law 46 in 1936 declaring soil and water conservation and wise land use to be national policies. Soil and Water Conservation Districts were formed gradually in Oregon as early as 1940. Over the years 45 districts have been established across Oregon.

In the past Soil and Water Conservation Districts worked predominantly with farmers and ranchers. Today, districts have extended their programs and services to other landowners and land managers to promote and enhance Oregon's natural resources.

Structure

Soil and Water Conservation Districts are governed by locally elected officials accountable to the electorate. The Oregon Department of Agriculture provides districts with guidance and oversight. As public bodies, districts have close working relationships and agreements with federal, tribal, state and local agencies as well as a variety of citizen and watershed groups.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts Help Landowners:

- Prevent soil erosion
- Enhance and preserve ground water quality and quantity
- Increase their knowledge and involvement in conservation
- Promote forest management
- Enhance watershed health
- Promote protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat
- Improve rangeland conditions

Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District

Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District was formed in 1953. The district's boundaries encompass 600,000 acres of northwestern Douglas County and include the communities of Reedsport, Winchester Bay, Gardiner, Smith River, Tahkenitch, Ash Valley, Scottsburg, Elkton and Kellogg.

The Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District is governed by a locally elected seven member board of directors. District directors are elected on Oregon's general election ballot and serve terms of four years without pay.

District directors are your neighbors. Men and women from your business and professional communities and the farmers and ranchers who understand the ecological relationship of soil, water, plants and animals.

