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## Mason-Lake Conservation District Seeks New Directors

The Mason-Lake Conservation District is a local entity of government that strives to be the natural resource stewardship hub for residents in Mason and Lake Counties. The District works on programs dealing with soil erosion, groundwater protection, river restoration, and invasive species management, just to name a few.

An election is coming up for the District, and now is the time to get on the ballot. To be eligible for a Director position, an individual must be a legal resident of Mason County or the west half of Lake County, and be 18 years of age or older. “We try to have Directors that are a good representation of our community.” says Dani McGarry, Executive Director for the Conservation District. “We like to have representation from both counties, with a variety of backgrounds, including natural resources, finance, education, agriculture, business and more. We’re looking for people who are passionate about working on conservation issues and running a small government office similar to a non-profit agency.”

To run for election, an individual must obtain a petition from the Conservation District Office or website ([www.mason-lakeconservation.org](http://www.mason-lakeconservation.org)), obtain five supporting signatures, and return the completed petition to the Conservation District Office no later than **December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019**. Voting will be held at the Conservation District Annual Meeting in February.

The Board of Directors is comprised of 5 individuals that are each elected by local residents for a 4-year term. Directors hold monthly board meetings, oversee the finances of the Conservation District, hire and manage staff and guide projects. Directors also volunteer at events put on by the Conservation District throughout the year. Some of these events include spring tree seedling sales, Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) clean-up day, Farm Tour and other educational workshops.

For the upcoming election, one seat is open for election. For those that are unsure of committing to a 4-year term, the Board of Directors also accepts applications for Associate Directors. This position is intended to encourage those that are interested in learning and being part of the community through the Conservation District.

For more information, contact Dani McGarry (231) 757-3707 ext. 5