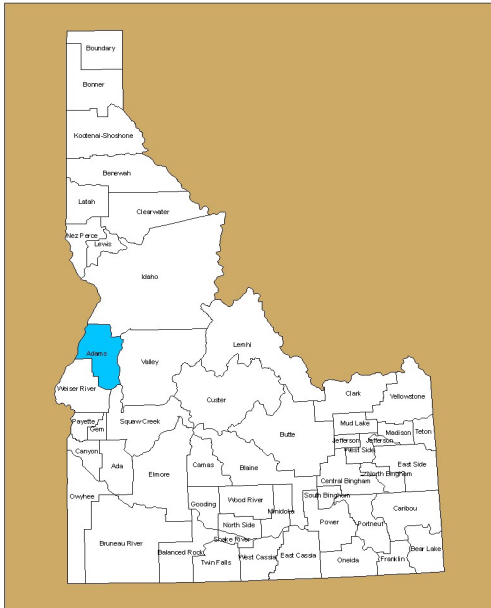


# Adams Soil and Water Conservation District



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Council, ID 83612  
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[adamsconservationdistrict.org](http://adamsconservationdistrict.org)

### Top Five District Priorities:

1. District Operations
2. Public Outreach
3. Water Quality & Quantity
4. Pasture & Hay Land
5. Rangelands

### FY 2023 Revenue

State	\$ 27,485
Adams County	\$ 4,000
City of Council	\$ 500

### Board Members & Staff

Wendy Green, Chairman  
Judy Dietch, Vice-chair  
Kris Stone, Supervisor  
Charlie Munden, Supervisor  
Julie Burkhardt, Supervisor  
Holden McKee, Admin. Assistant

### Our Mission

To use the educational, fiscal and technical resources at our disposal to assist landowners, especially agricultural producers, in putting voluntary resource conservation into practice.

### “Go On” Scholarships

Three graduating seniors at Council high School each received a \$1000 scholarship to attend college in the fall of 2023. For the last several years, Adams Soil & Water Conservation District has offered two scholarships annually to Adams County students who want to advance their education in agriculture or natural resources. This year, three exceptional students applied, so ASWCD awarded three scholarships.



Amy Williams



Levi Armichardy

The 2023 recipients include Amy Williams, who is continuing her education in natural resources at the College of Western Idaho; Levi Armichardy, who is pursuing a degree in natural resources at the College of Idaho; and Sam Tharp, who is studying agriculture at Treasure Valley Community College.



Sam Tharp

Education is an important component of the District’s Public Outreach priority. That education may take the form of hosting workshops, answering questions, and providing technical assistance to help landowners implement best practices to conserve land and water resources and improve agricultural production. But the ASWCD board believes it is equally important to encourage the next generation of stewards to learn about and engage in natural resource conservation.

## Council Education Resource Crew

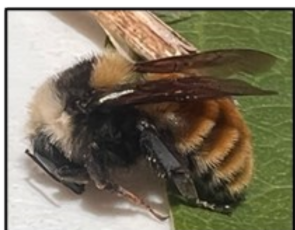
The Council Ranger District of the Payette National Forest launched the CERC program in 2010. The partnership with the Council School District provides summer jobs for high school students who earn income and gain work experience while completing resource projects both on and off the Payette NF. ASWCD supports the CERC by providing funding each summer.

In 2023, the District contributed \$2800 to employ three Council high school students plus a supervisor. The funds allowed CERC to work for a week in July for both Adams Cooperative Weed Management Area and Adams Soil and Water Conservation District. The crew dug and bagged Mediterranean sage (*Salvia aethiopis*) from several private properties bordering the Weiser River Trail and pulled houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*) along the East Fork Ditch near Shingle Flat Campground.



A CERC worker eradicates another Med sage plant near the Weiser River Trail in Adams County in July 2023.

The crew also completed Pacific Northwest Bumble Bee Atlas surveys at several locations in Adams County. They captured 89 bumble bees at six different locations and identified seven species out of the 22 native bumble bee species found in Idaho.



White-shouldered Bumble Bee (*Bombus appositus*)

The students evaluated water quality at two locations on Lick Creek and the Weiser River near Council, Idaho. They collected water samples and measured ten parameters

to calculate a Water Quality Index (WQI). The WQI for Lick Creek on July 10, 2023, was 94.49, meaning the water quality was “excellent” at the time of sampling. The WQI rating for the Weiser River at the Cuprum/Bear Road Bridge was 93.9, another excellent rating.

## Other Accomplishments in 2023

- Purchased an Esch No-till Drill for rent by area landowners. Using a no-till drill promotes soil health by increasing soil fertility and decreasing soil disturbance.
- Collaborated with the Payette SWCD and other districts to put on the 12th Soil Health Symposium, a valuable one-day educational event on regenerative agriculture for area producers.
- Co-sponsored the weed tour with the Adams CWMA and Adams County Weed Control to educate landowners about noxious weeds.
- Co-hosted the Forestry Tour for Southwest Idaho with the Idaho Department of Lands to promote best practices in forest management.
- Participated in the Payette Forest Coalition, Adams CWMA, and Little Salmon River Watershed Collaborative, including helping with community spray days and riparian planting.



## Looking ahead to 2024

We plan to partner with Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission staff and Adams County to procure grant funds to replace one or more county road culverts to reduce erosion and sediment delivery in the Weiser River watershed.

The District remains committed to public information and education. We support Idaho Environment, the Forestry Contest, Ag in the Classroom, UI Natural Resources Camp, and Land and Soil Evaluation competition.

Other plans for 2024 include:

- Co-hosting the 13th Soil Health Symposium
- Participating in Little Salmon River Watershed Collaborative
- Reaching out to landowners to encourage and assist with fuels reduction projects on private timber lands
- Offering two or more \$1000 scholarships to local students who are pursuing post-secondary education in agriculture or natural resources
- Assisting area landowners with technical and cost-share assistance as needed.