WASHINGTON Secretary of State Washington State Archives

Records Management Advice

Issued: December 2023

Using Records Retention Schedules: Which Retention Schedules Do Conservation Districts Use?

Purpose: Provide guidance to conservation districts on which records retention schedules to use.

Conservation Districts need to use the following records retention schedules:

1. Local Government Common Records Retention Schedule (CORE)

This schedule covers records that are commonly created/received by most government agencies (including conservation districts), such as records relating to:

- Board meetings
- Contracts and agreements
- Facilities management
- Financial transactions and accounting
- Grants/bonds
- Human resources

- Information systems/technology
- Legal affairs
- Media coverage
- Payroll
- Policies and procedures
- Public records requests

Records with minimal retention value (transitory records) are also covered in CORE.

2. Conservation Districts Records Retention Schedule

This schedule covers records relating to the functions of coordinating, promoting, managing, and administering natural resource conservation programs, such as:

- Agricultural and outdoor burn permits
- Cooperative plans
- Farm Management plans
- Inventory and Evaluation plans
- Landowner consultation
- Landowner project monitoring
- Resource Management System plans
- Site assessments
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Best Management Practice Cost Share Incentive Program agreements
- Water Quality Cost Sharing and Implementation agreements

Additional advice regarding the management of public records is available from Washington State Archives: