DIRECTOR'S OFFICE and AGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Who to Contact

WSDA serves the people of Washington State by supporting the agricultural community and promoting consumer and environmental protection

Performance and Process Improvement Office

Supports the success of programs and the agency as a whole. We provide coordination, guidance and consulting services to support operational effectiveness and efficiency, and to ensure transparency and accountability.

Kristin Rondeau, Performance and Process Improvement Manager
360/485-2173

Cindy Brown, Business/Editor/Analyst
360/489-4738

Vicky Leonard, Performance and Process Improvement
360/725-3890

Nicole Wolf, Performance and Process Improvement
360/764-0515

Policy and Communications

Provides leadership, policy support and coordination on legislative and policy issues, oversees internal and external communications. Responds to media and public inquiries.

Evan Sheffels, Senior Policy Advisor to the Director
360/902-1918

Kelly McLain, Policy Advisor to the Director
360/902-1945

Hector Castro, Communications Director
360/902-1815

Kathy Davis, Internal Communications Coordinator
360/902-1927

Katie Rains, Food Systems Manager
360-688-4549

Beca Sotelo, Graphic Design and Publications
360/725-5766

Karla Salp, Public Engagement Specialist
360/902-2178

Nicole Johnson, Policy Assistant
360/725-5498

Rapid Response Program/Rapid Response Team (RRT)/Emergency Management

The Rapid Response Program develops and manages the Food Emergency Rapid Response Team (RRT) and works closely with WSDA’s Emergency Management team in responding to natural resource disasters.

Vacant, Program Manager
360/256-6157

Erin Coyle, Emergency Management Program Specialist
360/764-9704

Regional Markets

Aims to strengthen the economic vitality of small and direct marketing farms and increase availability of healthy, locally grown Washington foods. Supports rural communities, helps keep agricultural land in production and ties to community goals for economic development through partnerships in urban and rural communities. Services include peer-led, on-site workshops; clear and detailed publications; and technical assistance to individuals, businesses, and communities.

Laura Raymond, Program Manager (Seattle)
360/256-6157

Amber Slomin (Seattle)
360/724-7157

Katie Lynd, Local Buying Mission Specialist (Seattle)
360/256-6110

Risk Management/Safety

Coordinates all aspects of WSDA’s enterprise risk management program; which includes employee health and safety, homeland security, tort claims and vehicle accidents, as well as policy and contract review.

Ron Hassung, Safety/Risk Manager
360/902-2074

Jason Gambill, Safety Officer (Western WA)
360/902-7565

Brenda Davis, Safety Officer (Eastern WA)
360/485-1245

Robert Ambriz Safety Officer (Eastern WA)
360/249-6965

Stacy Laney Wellness Coordinator
360/902-2160

Specialty Crop Block Grant Program

Responsible for administering the federal funds to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops in Washington State.

Leisa Schumaker, Program Manager
360/742-7194

Tricia Bertsch, Grant Specialist
360/884-3878

Lindsey Erickson, Grant Specialist
360/688-3515

ANIMAL SERVICES

Jodi Jones, Operations Director
360/902-1889

Animal Health

Oversees livestock and poultry disease control, issues livestock import permits, and regulates restricted feed lots and rendering plants.

Dr. Amber Ile, Acting State Veterinarian
360/961-4129

Kerris Pålgraf, Regulations and Permits
360/902-1878

Avian Health

Provides information to increase awareness about poultry and poultry disease through education, outreach and surveillance.
Avian Health Hotline ............................................................... 800-606-3056

Animal Disease Traceability
Oversees Animal Disease Traceability program in Washington State, provides animal movement and identification expertise to Washington’s livestock industry.
David Heimovich, Animal Disease Traceability Coordinator ……… 360/725-5493

Livestock Inspection
Registers livestock brands; licenses certified feed lots and public livestock market; inspects cattle and horses for proof of ownership.
General Information ................................................................. 360/902-1855
Robbie Parker, Program Manager ........................................... 360/902-1836
Brennan Kimbel, Customer Service Specialist ....................... 360/902-1808
Carrie Ruschmeier, livestock ID ............................................. 360/902-1855

COMMODITY INSPECTION
General Information ................................................................. 360/902-1960
Jessica Allen, Assistant Director ............................................. 360/902-1828
Rachel Forth, Business Administration and Operations Manager … 360/902-1997
Reanna McNamara, Operations Admin …………………………… 360/688-3219
Cannabis Coordinator .............................................................. 360/384-3711
Trecia Ehrlich, Hemp Coordinator .......................... 360/384-3711

Yong Liu, Lab Manager .......................................................... 360/664-8962

Linda Condon, Compliance ..................................................... 360/902-1860
David Smith, Program Manager ............................................. 360/902-1952

General Information/Complaints ............................................. 360/725-5640
Angela Starr, Division Coordinator ....................................... 360/902-1967
Steve Fuller, Program Manager ............................................. 360/902-1836
Brennan Kimbel, Customer Service Specialist ....................... 360/902-1808
Carrie Ruschmeier, livestock ID ............................................. 360/902-1855

Food Safety and Consumer Services Laboratory Program
Yong Liu, Lab Manager .......................................................... 360/664-8962

Beckie Weatherford, Management Analyst ......................... 360/664-8959
General Information/Complaints ............................................. 360/664-8959

Feed
The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) regulates commercial animal feed including livestock feed, poultry feed, fish feed and pet food at the state level. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates animal feed at the federal level. For consumer protection WSDA ensures that feed products meet the guaranteed analysis stated on their label by conducting periodic product sampling at both the retail and manufacturing level.
Ali Kashani, Program Manager ............................................. 360/902-2028
Stormy Townsend, Administrative Assistant ....................... 360/902-1844
General Information/Complaints ............................................. 360/902-1844

Organic Program
WSDA’s Organic Program provides organic certification and technical assistance to farms and businesses wishing to market and label products with an organic claim. The Organic Program also evaluates input materials and registers materials that are approved for use in organic production and handling.
Brenda Book, Program Manager ............................................. 360/902-2090
General Information/Complaints ............................................. 360/902-1805

Produce Safety Program
In partnership with the Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) is developing and implementing a Produce Safety Program. This program will encourage the safe production of fruits and vegetables thereby reducing the public health risks for consumers of Washington produce across the nation and around the world. The program will address two key goals which are to help Washington farmers comply with the FDA Produce Safety Rule and to consistently and uniformly apply the FDA Produce Safety Rule in Washington State.
Luisa Castro, Acting Program Manager ................................. 360/725-3898
Lyndsey Wilson, Administrative Assistant ........................... 360/902-1961
General Information/Complaints ............................................. 360/902-1961

Pesticide Management
Toll-Free General Information ............................................. 877-301-4555
General Information .............................................................. 360/902-2010
Robin Schoen-Nessa, Assistant Director ............................... 360/902-2010
Maryann Connell, Division Coordinator ............................... 360/902-2012

Dairy Nutrient Management
Inspects dairy farms and takes action to ensure compliance with water quality laws.
Chery Sullivan, Program Manager ......................................... 360/902-1928
Kyrro Flege, Supervisor ........................................................ 360/746-1249

Compliance
Enforces state and federal pesticide laws; investigates complaints of pesticide misuse.
Tim Schultz, Program Manager ............................................. 509-994-0936
Olympia Compliance ............................................................ 360/902-2040
Moses Lake Compliance ....................................................... 509/766-2574
Spokane Compliance ............................................................ 509/990-8869
Wenatchee Compliance ....................................................... 509/994-0936
Yakima Compliance .............................................................. 509/766-2574

Registration Services
Kelle Davis, Program Manager ................................................. 360/902-1851
Pesticide Registration ........................................................... 360/902-2030
Fertilizer Program, (Olympia) ................................................. 360/902-2025
Fertilizer Compliance Program .............................................. 509/533-2689
Fertilizer Tonnage Program .................................................... 509/319-6243

Licensing & Recertification
Licenses and recertifies commercial, public and private pesticide applicators, operators, consultants and pesticide dealers; licenses pesticide application equipment.
Christina Zimmerman, Program Manager ............................ 360/902-2150
Licensing & Recertification Western Washington .................. 360/902-1937
Licensing & Recertification Eastern Washington ................. 509/249-6925
Statewide Toll Free Licensing & Recertification .................... 1-877-301-4555

Technical Services & Education
Collects and disposes of waste agricultural pesticides Collects data to assess pesticide impacts. Administers Spanish-language farm worker training and pesticide continuing education programs.
Waste Pesticide Collection .................................................... 360/902-2056
Farmworker Education, (Yakima) ........................................ 509/249-6939
PLANT PROTECTION

General Information .................................................. 360/902-1908
Dr. Brad White, Assistant Director .................................. 360/902-1907
Deanna Painter, Division Coordinator ............................... 360/902-2061
Susie Allen, Administrative Assistant ............................... 360/902-1901

Chemical & Hop Laboratory
Analyzes feed, fertilizers, and pesticide products. Analyzes food and environmental samples for pesticide residues. Grades hops for seed, stem & leaf content and analyzes hops for brewing value.
Mike Firman, Program Manager .................................... 509/249-6933
Hop Seed, Leaf and Stem Certificates ............................ 509/249-6947

Pest Program
Prevents establishment of high-risk and exotic insects, plant diseases and weeds through surveys, inspections, quarantines, and eradication projects; coordinates and administers state noxious weed program.
Greg Haubrich, Program Manager ................................. 360/902-2071
Leah Doyle, Administrative Assistant ............................. 360/902-2070
Jennifer Falacy, Plant Pathology Project Coordinator ....... 360/586-5309

Entomology
Spichiger, Sven-Erik, Managing Entomologist .................. 360/664-8969
Dr Chris Looney, Entomologist ...................................... 306/902-2042
Wade Petersen, Pest Biologist ....................................... 360/902-2042
Rian Wojahn, Japanese Beetle Specialist ......................... 360/664-8970
Jenni Cena, Wood Boring Insects ................................. 360/664-8966
Mike Bush, Apple Maggot Project, (Yakima) ................. 509/249-6966
Gypsy Moth Hotline .................................................. 800/443-6684

Noxious Weed Control
Chad Phillips, Spartina Coordinator ............................... 360/902-1923
Greg Haubrich, Noxious Weed Coordinator, (Yakima) .... 509/249-6973

Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board
Mary Tallman Fee, Executive Secretary .......................... 360/902-2053

Plant Services
Inspects nurseries to ensure plant materials are healthy, pest-free and disease-free; enforces quarantines to prevent pest introduction Certifies disease-free planting stock for fruit trees, seed potatoes, hops, grapevines, mint, garlic, caneberrries and strawberries.
Cindy Cooper, Program Manager ................................. 360/902-2062
Lara Massey, Administrative Assistant ......................... 360/902-1922

Nursery Inspection
Scott Brooks, Program Supervisor ................................. 360/740-1213
Benita Matheson, Program Supervisor ............................ 360/410-1260
Cheryl Spink, Secretary Senior ..................................... 360/902-1874

Plant Certification
Dr. Lauri Guerra, Plant Pathology Coordinator, Prosser .... 509/786-9275

Agricultural Investigations
Enforces Commission Merchants Act, licenses commission merchants, dealers, brokers and cash buyers, and conducts investigations in support of other WSDA regulatory programs.
Vacant, Program Manager ............................................
Customer Service ...................................................... 360/902-1822

Weights and Measures Inspection
Inspects and tests commercial weighing & measuring devices; licenses public weighmasters/weighters; responds to consumer complaints; monitors motor fuel quality.
Vacant, Program Manager ............................................
Tim Elliott ................................................................. 360/902-1874
Kelsey Lindstrom, Customer Service ............................. 360/902-1822
Leslie Gorman, Metrologist ......................................... 360/753-5042

WASHINGTON AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
Office of USDA collects and publishes data relating to production, price, and utilization of crops, livestock and other Ag products.
Chris Mertz, State Director .......................................... 360/890-3300
PO Box 609 - Olympia, WA 98507