



CHELAN COUNTY LIVING

*A LOCAL LAND AND
RESOURCE GUIDE*

WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD!

The quality of life in Chelan County is unsurpassed, evident by a steadily increasing population and a strong, diverse economy. The area's natural beauty and abundance of recreational opportunities are two of the many reasons people come to Chelan County. It's a place characterized by sparkling clear rivers and lakes, clean air, flowered hillsides, expansive views, spectacular mountains, brilliant skies, and productive orchards and farms.

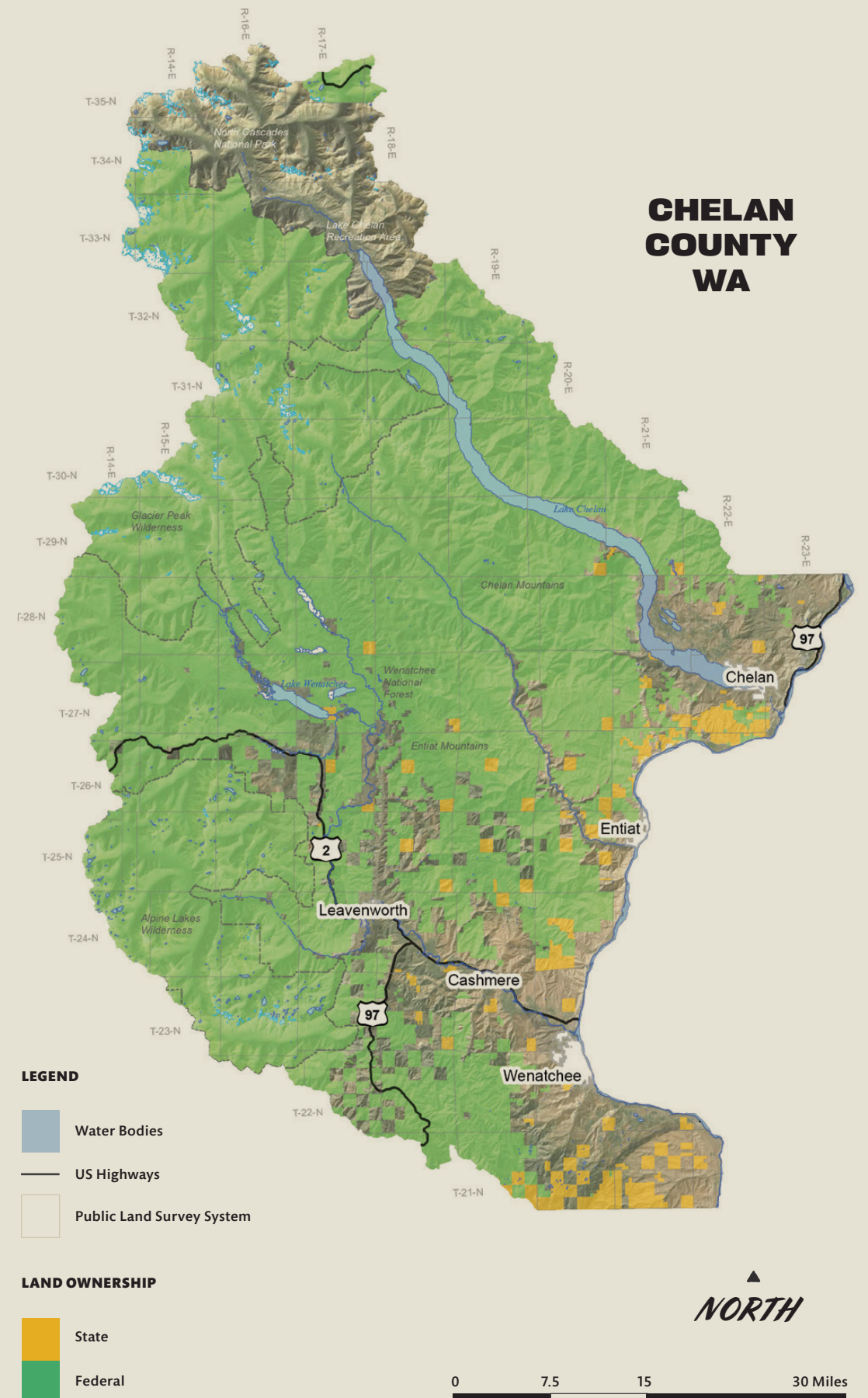
Whether you are new to the area or a long-time resident, one thing is apparent to all—Chelan County is growing. In part, this is due to increased awareness of the high quality of life available to those who choose to live and play in Chelan County. For several years Wenatchee has been ranked by *Forbes Magazine* as one of the '25 Best Places to Retire' in the country.

Today, the natural heritage that greatly contributes to our high quality of life and economic vitality is in danger due to rapid growth. As the area continues to grow, we all need to take steps to protect the qualities that either brought us here or that preserve the things we have always loved.

Chelan County Living is a publication of Visit Chelan County, and is a collaborative community effort to provide information on how we can each do our part in keeping this a special place to live.

A NOTE ABOUT LINKS

Original website links are used whenever possible throughout *Chelan County Living*. However, some links are too long to be included in the layout and can't be efficiently typed into a browser when reading a printed copy. For this reason, prohibitively long links have been shortened with the following format: ccliving.link/pagename





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1 HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Chelan is an Interior Salish word meaning “deep water” that refers to the 55-mile-long Lake Chelan, the third deepest lake in the country at 1,486 feet. Interior Salish is the language spoken by the tribes that traditionally inhabited Chelan County: Chelan, Entiat and Wenatchi-P’Squosa. These first residents were proud stewards of the bountiful natural resources in the area, gathering roots and berries and fishing the rivers and lakes that are now named after them.

Situated in the heart of Central Washington, Chelan County is bordered by the Columbia River to the east and Cascade Mountains to the west, and stretches from Lake Chelan to the north and Mission Ridge Ski & Snowboard resort to the south. Its geographic location and unique surrounding topography makes Chelan County one of the most climatically diverse counties in the Country.

Though it was visited by fur traders in the early nineteenth century, the first white settlers did not arrive in the area until the 1870s. Initially, settlers and travelers reached the area via steamboat on the Columbia River or by horse and wagon over the Colockum Pass. The area was forever changed with the introduction of the railroad in 1892, providing easier transport of people and goods. Chelan County was established in March of 1899 after being partitioned from parts of Okanogan and Kittitas Counties.

With abundant water from the nearby Columbia and over 300 days of sunshine annually, people discovered that Chelan County had much to offer in the way of agricultural opportunity and industry. In the decades following its settlement, the population jumped from 3,931 in 1899 to 15,104 by 1910 and 20,906 by 1920.

Today, Chelan County is home to almost 80,000 residents. Chelan continues to draw tourists with the beauty of its lake, Cashmere produces its unique Aplets and Cotlets candy, Leavenworth has marketed itself since the 1960s as a slice of Bavaria, and the agriculture industry within Chelan County is still very present and accounts for a large portion of the local economy.

2 ENJOYING THE OUTDOORS

Outdoor enthusiasts consider Chelan County to be the recreational hub of the state—and for good reason. Access is plentiful (over 80% of our land is in public ownership), our geology is unique, and our seasons are distinct. The result is a staggering array of beautiful, rugged landscapes and diverse recreational opportunities. With so much to see and do, here are a few of the best recreation resources to begin exploring all that Chelan County has to offer.

2.1 RECREATION RESOURCES

Chelan-Douglas Land Trust cdlandtrust.org

The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust is a great resource to learn about trails and other natural resource issues in our area. Trails provide entry into the special places that make our area so spectacular; places that provide space for wildlife to live and people to spend time outside.

TREAD-Central Washington tread-cw.com

TREAD is a local nonprofit dedicated to enhancing outdoor recreation for all who live, work and play in our communities. They lead 50+ partners and countless volunteers in Chelan and Douglas Counties to find sustainable, equitable solutions for trails, conservation and development.

Wenatchee Outdoors wenatcheeoutdoors.org

A comprehensive information source dedicated to human-powered outdoor sports within an hour's drive of the Wenatchee Valley. Outdoor enthusiasts will find guidebook information, articles, updates, topographic maps, condition reports, photo galleries, and more.

Leavenworth Area leavenworth.org/recreation

Lake Chelan Area lakechelan.com/play

Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest fs.usda.gov/recmain/okawen

Washington State Hikes stateofwatourism.com/tread-map-app

Hunting & Fishing wdfw.wa.gov



CHELAN COUNTY

**2,994 SQUARE MILES
OF LAND AND
73 SQUARE MILES
OF WATER**

**1.5 MILLION ACRES OF
PUBLIC LANDS**

**OVER 800 MILES OF
FOREST SERVICE
HIKING TRAILS**



**EXPLORE AND ENGAGE
AT TREAD-CW.COM**

2.2 RECREATION APPS



Multi-Sport Recreation
ccliving.link/tread



Hiking
ccliving.link/alltrails



Climbing
ccliving.link/mtnproject



Biking
ccliving.link/mtbproject



Biking
ccliving.link/trailforks



Paddling
ccliving.link/riverapp



Fishing
ccliving.link/fishwa



Camping & More
ccliving.link/camp

2.3 CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

CLIMBING

Leavenworth Mountain Association
Riverfront Rock Gym

leavenworthma.org
riverfrontrockgym.com

BIKING

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
Wenatchee Valley Velo Club

evergreenmtb.org
wenatcheevalleyvelo.com

SKIING AND SNOWSHOEING

Leavenworth Winter Sports Club
Lake Chelan Nordic Ski Club

skileavenworth.com
lakechelannordic.org

WHITE WATER PADDLING

Wenatchee Row & Paddle Club

wenatcheerowpaddleclub.org

HUNTING AND FISHING

Wenatchee Sportsmen’s Association
Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers

wsassoc.org
wenatcheevalleyflyfishers.com

WILDFLOWERS

Native Plant Society

wnps.org

BIRDING

North Central Washington Audubon Society

ncwaudubon.org

CONSERVATION AND TRAILS

Chelan-Douglas Land Trust
TREAD-Central Washington

cdlandtrust.org
tread-cw.com

2.4 PARKS IN CHELAN COUNTY

Cashmere
Chelan
Entiat
Leavenworth
Wenatchee
Chelan County PUD Parks
Washington State Parks

cityofcashmere.org
cityofchelan.us
entiatwa.us
leavenworth.org
wenatcheewa.gov
chelanpud.org
parks.state.wa.us

SNOWSHOE the One-Two Divide in Wenatchee, Tronsen Meadows on Blewett Pass, Icicle River Road in Leavenworth, Squilchuck State Park in Wenatchee, and Upper Echo Trailhead in Chelan

FAT TIRE BIKE at Echo Ridge Recreation Area or Squilchuck State Park

ALPINE SKI at Mission Ridge or Stevens Pass

NORDIC SKI at Ski Hill in Leavenworth, Echo Ridge in Chelan, Plain Valley Ski Trail in Plain or Lake Wenatchee

SNOWSHOE to Clara Lake near Mission Ridge

NORDIC SKI at the Stevens Pass Nordic Center

MOUNTAIN BIKE
Horse Lake Road

HIKE Old Pipeline (Penstock) Trail in Tumwater Canyon

RUN Saddle Rock Traverse

HIKE up Mount David, Poet Ridge, or Asgard Pass

BIKE & LOOK FOR SALMON on Wenatchee River Rd and White River Rd

MOUNTAIN BIKE Devil's Tie in Wenatchee, Devil's Gulch in Cashmere, and Devil's Backbone in Chelan

HIKE Saddle Rock from the Jacobson Preserve in Wenatchee

BACKCOUNTRY SKI Mission Ridge or Stevens Pass

MOUNTAIN BIKE in Wenatchee's Sage Hills or Leavenworth's Ski Hill trail system

HIKE to see spring wildflowers using the TREAD Map App

ROCK CLIMB at Peshastin Pinnacles or Castle Rock

RAFT OR KAYAK high water on the Wenatchee River

HIKE Tronsen Ridge or Nason Ridge

PADDLE BOARD on the Upper Wenatchee River

CANOE the Wenatchee Confluence

CLIMB Seven Finger Jack or Mt. Maude

CANOE OR KAYAK the White River near Lake Wenatchee

HIKE Icicle Gorge or Icicle Ridge near Leavenworth

HIKE to Silver Falls near Entiat

**A YEAR
OUTSIDE
IS A YEAR
WELL
SPENT.**

FEB

MAR

APR

MAY

JUN

JUL

AUG

SEP

OCT

NOV

DEC

JAN

2.6 LEAVE NO TRACE

No matter where your favorite activities take you, Leave No Trace principles provide a framework for making good decisions about enjoying the outdoors responsibly. If all outdoor enthusiasts stop and think about the potential impacts and associated consequences of a particular action, it can go a long way towards ensuring protection of our shared spaces.

Educate yourself on the principles of Leave No Trace at [LNT.org](https://lnt.org).

2.7 SOCIAL MEDIA & RECREATION

By posting pictures, videos, and descriptions of the places we love to visit, we are inspiring others to get out and enjoy these places for themselves. The unfortunate consequence is that some places are being loved to death, or in certain cases, purposely harmed.

Tag thoughtfully (or not at all) – avoid geo-tagging specific locations. Instead, tag a general location such as a state or region, or better yet, completely forego geo-tagging to keep your favorite places a little harder to find.

Be mindful of what your images portray – give some thought to what your images might encourage others to do, and the level of skill, safety and stewardship you are demonstrating.

Give back to places you love – learn about volunteer opportunities and get involved in the protection of our shared lands.

SKILLS. SAFETY. STEWARDSHIP.

#PONDERTHATPOST

3 LIVING WITH WILDFIRE

Lightning-caused wildfires have always played a vital role in shaping the landscape in North Central Washington. As residents of an area that is fire-prone, it is important that we acknowledge the dangers that exist around us, and take the appropriate actions to protect ourselves well before a wildfire starts. Together, we can prepare our homes and communities for living more safely with wildfire.

3.1 OUR FIRE-PRONE ECOSYSTEM

Historical Role of Fire on the Landscape

Periodic low-intensity wildfires historically thinned the forests and sage lands by clearing out undergrowth and brush. These low-intensity fires were frequent in nature and low in severity. Fire historically was used as a management tool by Native Americans to encourage a mosaic of healthy forests, lowlands, and floodplains utilized for hunting, gathering, or travel. Fire is a natural part of the landscape and our forests and watersheds are dependent on periodic fire to thrive.

Current Conditions

For decades, fire exclusion has been a guiding methodology. This meant that any fire, ignited by any means, was suppressed and put out as quickly as possible. (Think of it as the opposite of “including” fire on the landscape.) As a result, we now have an unnaturally dense landscape of trees, shrubs, and undergrowth. In addition, climate change has led to drier summers, causing stress and increased outbreaks of beetle infestation. The resulting forest conditions are more flammable, and when ignited, burn with an intensity that is much more difficult to control.

Recent Fires in Chelan County

Wildfire is common here, and many homes in Chelan County have been threatened in recent years. In late July 2018, the 41,400-acre Cougar Fire put homes in the Entiat Valley, Lake Wenatchee and Plain areas at risk, though thankfully no homes were lost. Earlier that month the 3,386-acre Rocky Reach Fire and 1,842-acre Chelan Hills Fire both threatened homes prompting evacuation alerts, with three homes sustaining damage. The Sleepy Hollow fire was a devastating 3000-acre arson-caused fire that burned in June 2015. Over 30 homes in the Broadview subdivision and several businesses burned. This was a devastating blow and painful wake-up call to Wenatchee area residents.

Wildfire in NCW from 1985-2021

ccliving.link/ncwfires

We urge you to educate yourself on recent fire history in North Central Washington. This story map from students at the UW School of Environmental and Forest Sciences shows acres burned, burn severity and forest impacts from 1985 to 2021. It is best viewed on a desktop monitor.

**“ THIS IS A SOCIAL PROBLEM
AND WE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER
TO BRING ABOUT THE NEEDED
CHANGE. IN THE END, WE CAN
LEARN TO LIVE WITH WILDFIRES IN
A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT WAY. ”**

– DR. PAUL HESSBURG

Dr. Paul Hessburg’s groundbreaking TEDxBend talk “The Era of Megafires” is shaping a new understanding of wildfire in Washington.

WATCH 

ccliving.link/megafires

3.2 CREATING DEFENSIBLE SPACE

Creating defensible space with a well-designed landscape is one of the most important actions a homeowner can take to prevent loss due to wildfire.

Maintaining a defensible landscape protects your home, as well as the homes around you, and helps create safe ingress and egress for firefighters who may be called to your property in the event of a wildfire. Have an expert assess your risk of wildfire damage to home and property and help you develop a plan to reduce those risks, including addressing hazardous fuels.

Cascadia Conservation District

cascadiacd.org

Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition

chumstickcoalition.org

Chelan County Fire District 1 in Wenatchee

chelancountyfire.com

Chelan County Fire District 3 in Leavenworth

chelanfd3.org

Chelan County Fire District 7 in Chelan

chelan7.com

Lake Wenatchee Fire and Rescue

lwfr.org

Understanding the Home Ignition Zone

The home ignition zone is the area from the home out to one-two hundred feet, depending on the characteristic of the land. Keeping the home ignition zone lean, clean and green is important to reduce risk of loss. However, it's important to understand that all vegetation is potential fuel for a fire—all plants will burn if the conditions are right. There are, however, plants that are fire-prone, and those that are fire-resistant.

Learn more about the three sub-zones within the Home Ignition Zone on the following page, and incorporate fire-resistant plants and xeriscaping in your defensible space approach.

Fire Resistant Plants for Chelan County

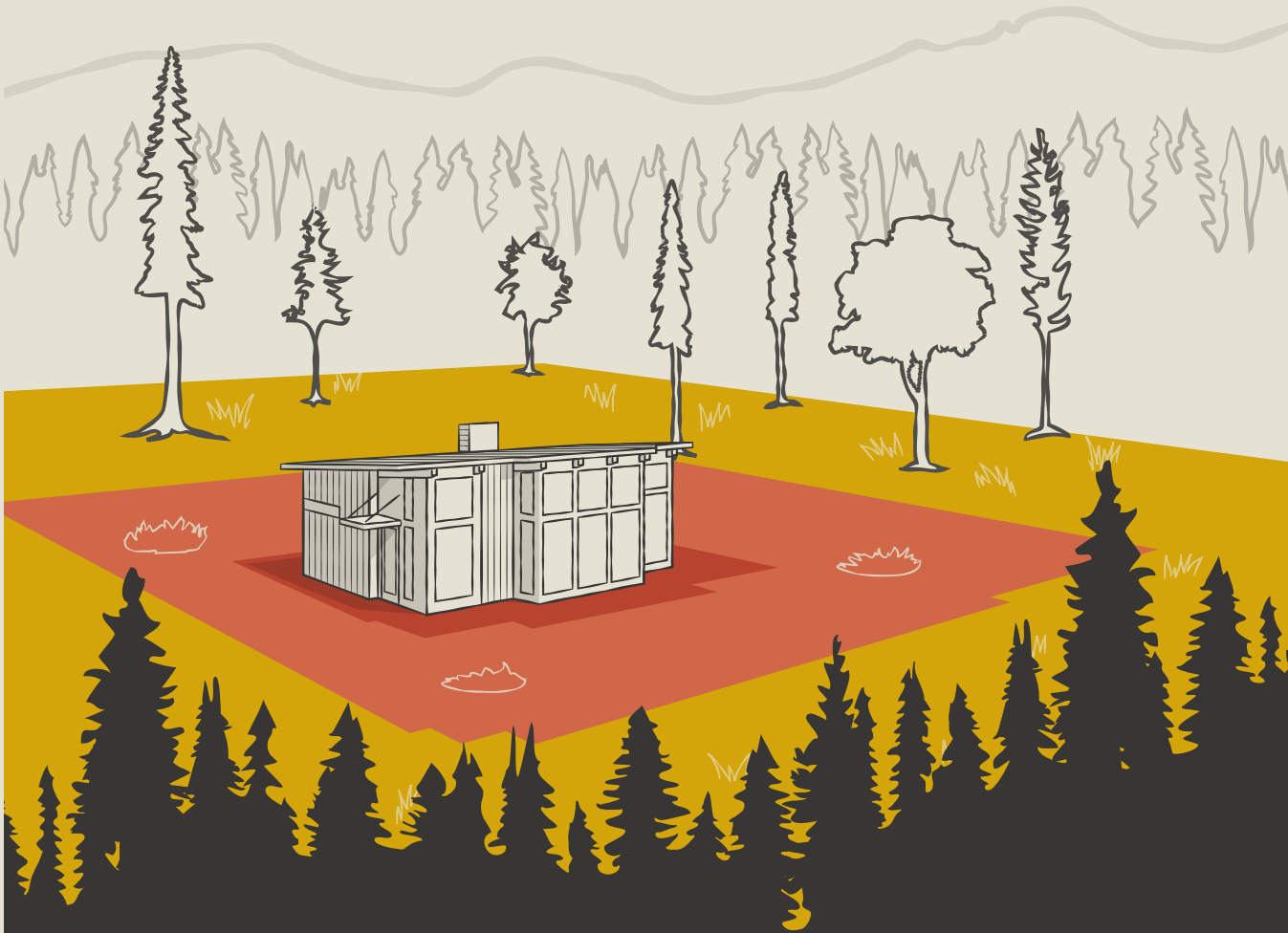
ccliving.link/fireplants

A local step-by-step landscaping guide for choosing the right plants, for the right place, with the goal of creating defensible space and minimizing water use.

Xeriscape Landscaping in Chelan County

ccliving.link/xeriscape

Xeriscape is attractive, low-water-use landscaping that can reduce typical outdoor watering by 20-80%, save considerable time and energy, and significantly lower the risk of ignition.



ZONE 1

0-5 ft around your home

Use hard surfaces such as concrete or noncombustible rock.
Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles.
Store firewood and other combustible materials away from this zone.
Trim back touching or over-hanging branches.
Replace or repair any loose shingles and tiles.

ZONE 2

5-30 ft around your home

Use non-wood, low-growing vegetation.
Create vegetation "islands" to break up fuel ladders.
Keep grass mowed under 4 inches tall.
Rake all leaf and needle debris.

ZONE 3

30-200 ft around your home

Trim trees to keep branch a minimum of 10-feet from other trees.
Remove all dead trees and shrubs.
Remove ladder fuels to create a separation between low-level vegetation and tree branches to keep fire from climbing trees.

3.3 WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS

Cascadia Conservation District

cascadiacd.org

Community Wildfire Protection Planning and free wildfire risk assessments to help you take steps to prepare for wildfire on your property, and make it safer for firefighters to defend your home.

Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition

chumstickcoalition.org

Comprehensive resources for before, during and after the fire—including a helpful video at ccliving.link/afterfire. CWSC also provides bilingual evacuation checklists and evacuation level guides.

Chelan County Citizen Notification System

ccliving.link/alerts

Chelan County offers a Citizen Notification System self-enrollment service to provide emergency alerts via text message, email, pager or voice mail.

Air Quality Updates During Wildfires

wasmoke.blogspot.com

Air quality information for Washington communities affected by wildfire smoke.

3.4 PRESCRIBED FIRE & FUELS REDUCTION

Understanding Prescribed Fire

waprescribedfire.org

Prescribed fire is the planned, professional application of fire in the right place, at the right time. It is a time-tested, cost-effective tool for reducing hazardous fuels and decreasing our chance of catastrophic wildfire and prolonged smoke exposure.

Forest Service Prescribed Fire Updates

ccliving.link/rxfiremap

In addition to the interactive map, people can track real-time smoke and fire updates on the Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest by calling 509-996-4040, visiting facebook.com/OkaWenNF, or following [@OkaWenNF](https://twitter.com/OkaWenNF) on Twitter.

3.5 OUTDOOR & RESIDENTIAL BURNING

Before lighting any fire, please check with local authorities for any burn restrictions, allowances, conditions, seasonal restrictions or permit requirements.

Chelan County Fire District 1

ccliving.link/burninfo

WA State Department of Natural Resources

ccliving.link/dnrburn



EDUCATE YOURSELF AND TAKE ACTION.

WATCH 

ccliving.link/homeowner

4 NOXIOUS WEEDS

Noxious weeds in Central Washington are serious business—and a serious problem. These weeds displace native plants, reduce habitat for native animals, and threaten the diversity of wildlands. They spoil pastures and rangelands, alter soil fertility, dry up water supplies, poison animals, decrease agricultural production, clog rivers, and reduce the recreational value of wildlands.

PREVENT THE SPREAD OF NOXIOUS WEEDS

- For noxious weeds in bloom or with exposed seeds, gently pull the plant out by the root and place in a secure bag. Dispose of via hot composting or contained burning.
- Control weeds on your property by removing and replanting.
- Avoid driving through areas with noxious weeds and check vehicles for plant material.
- Avoid unestablished trails and check your boots/clothes for plant material.
- Using only certified weed-free seeds for crops or gardens.
- Keep pets and pack animals out of patches of weeds/brush them to avoid transport.
- Feed animals processed pellets in the backcountry to avoid spreading seed in feces
- Check trailers and watercraft for aquatic weeds.

MANAGING WEEDS ON YOR PROPERTY

Managing weeds on your property is an important part of being a good neighbor in Chelan County. Here are some resources to help you get started:

Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board	nwcb.wa.gov
Chelan County Noxious Weed Control Board	ccliving.link/noxious
Center for Invasive Species & Ecosystem Health	invasive.org
WA Dept of Fish and Wildlife - Aquatic Species	ccliving.link/aquatic
WSU Weed Identification Service	ccliving.link/wsu
WSU Master Gardeners Clinic - Plant Identification	509-667-6540



1 Bulbous Bluegrass



2 Cereal Wild Rye



3 Cheatgrass



4 Dalmatian Toadflax



5 Diffuse Knapweed



6 Field Bindweed



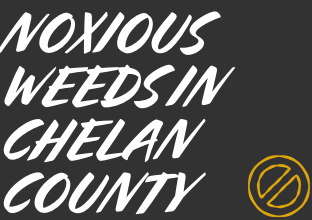
7 Russian Knapweed



8 Russian Thistle



9 Salsify



10 Tall Tumble Mustard



11 Whitetop

5 LIVING WITH WILDLIFE

We share Chelan County with abundant wildlife, and their presence is vital to the unique character of our region. Some common local species can pose challenges for people, but most conflicts are easily avoided. Chelan County is also home to several State and Federally listed sensitive, threatened, and endangered wildlife species.



MULE DEER in Chelan County typically summer in the Cascades and winter at low elevations near the Columbia. The most common conflicts involve damage to plants/crops and vehicle collisions. Fencing and deer-resistant landscaping can help prevent damage to plants. Safe driving habits, especially around dawn/dusk and in areas where deer activity is indicated, can help prevent vehicle collisions.



BLACK BEARS are common in Chelan County, yet are seen only on occasion and human attacks are rare. A majority of conflicts involve bears that become habituated to human food sources. Prevent bear from accessing human food sources by securing garbage, pet/bird food, and other food-smelling items.



MOUNTAIN LIONS, or cougars, are common in Chelan County, but human attacks are rare. The most common conflicts occur at the wildland-urban interface and involve a cougar that targets livestock or pets as prey sources. Protect domestic animals using appropriate enclosures. Feed pets indoors. Secure garbage and other sources of food for small mammals and deer that are cougar prey.



NORTH AMERICAN BEAVERS are native to Chelan County and create habitats benefitting a multitude of fish and wildlife species. The most common conflicts occur when beavers cut desired trees or when a beaver dam raises the level of a pond. Fencing protects trees while flow devices maintain desired pond levels. Beaver can also be relocated or lethally removed by authorized personnel.

MINIMIZE CONFLICTS

ccliving.link/wildlife



KNOW PRIORITY HABITATS + SPECIES

ccliving.link/phs

NORTHERN PACIFIC RATTLESNAKES are also known as western rattlesnakes, and are the only poisonous snakes in Chelan County. Rattlesnakes hunt mostly at night for lizards and small mammals, are not aggressive and want to avoid humans. If you encounter a rattlesnake, just move away. If a rattlesnake feels cornered it will coil and rattle, striking only as a last resort. Although a rattlesnake bite is generally not fatal, you should seek medical attention immediately.



WESTERN BLACK WIDOWS are poisonous, jet-black, and the underside of the adult female usually shows a reddish, hourglass shaped marking. Black widows are shy and bite only when harassed. While typically not fatal, you should seek medical attention immediately following a black widow bite.



HOBO SPIDERS are poisonous, medium-sized, brown, and have a multiple chevron pattern on their abdomen. This spider builds funnel webs in dark, moist areas and sits in the mouth of the funnel waiting for prey. Hobo spiders may bite with little provocation. While typically not fatal, you should seek medical attention immediately following a bite from a hobo spider.



TICKS are common throughout Chelan County, although there are very few reports of tick-related disease in this area. When hiking or working outdoors you can protect yourself from ticks by wearing long-sleeved shirts, pants, and close-toed shoes. Insect repellants may help deter ticks. Examine yourself and pets regularly, especially after spending time in underbrush or wooded areas.



6 SALMON IN YOUR BACKYARD

Salmon are an icon of the Pacific Northwest, representing important social and recreational values for humans. Salmon have been an integral part of cultural heritage of North Americans for millennia.

Yet over the past century, numerous salmon runs in the Columbia River Basin, including those in Chelan County’s primary watersheds, have been listed as threatened or endangered. Reversing the decline of salmon in the Columbia River is an important challenge facing communities in the Pacific Northwest.

Without any action, salmon runs will continue to disappear along with the cultural values they embody.

WHY DO SALMON MATTER TO US?

Watch "The Way Home" at ccliving.link/wayhome



6.1 SEEING SALMON

When & Where to See Salmon ucsrb.org/outreach/seeingsalmon

The guide to seeing salmon from UCSRB features a map with recommended viewing areas from Leavenworth to Okanogan, as well as best practices for viewing and more information on local species.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Summer Chinook												
Spring Chinook												
Steelhead												
Sockeye												
Coho												
Bull Trout												

NO USE SOME SPAWNING PEAK SPAWNING

6.2 PROTECTING HABITAT

In order to thrive, salmon, trout and other native fish need habitat that represents the four “C”s:

COLD Salmon have evolved to live in cold water and prefer temperatures between 45-53 degrees F. If streams become too warm, fish health will decline. Learn more about why cold water is so key by watching "Cold Water Refuges" at ccliving.link/cold.

CLEAN Salmon need water that is free from excessive fine sediment that can smother eggs, and chemical pollutants that can harm their health.

COMPLEX Salmon use a variety of habitats that vary during their lifetime. Important habitats include small rocks and boulders, deep pools, tangles of tree roots along riverbanks, downed trees, and log jams. Salmon use these habitats in main channels, side channels, as well as wetlands and ponds.

CONNECTED For salmon to access the variety of habitats needed during different seasons and life stages, they need to be connected at all streamflow levels.

6.3 SHORELINE PROTECTION & PERMITS

Critical Areas Development ccliving.link/criticalareas

Do you own property in shoreline in Chelan County? Shoreline development, construction in streams, rivers or lakes, or in a designated critical area in Washington State is regulated, which means any work in these areas may require one or more permits from local, state and federal agencies.

Contact the Chelan County Community Development Department to learn about the Shoreline regulations that apply to all developments, uses, or activities in any shoreline environment in Chelan County.

ORIA Permit Support ccliving.link/oria

The ORIA Information Center provides free permit support for Washington residents.

6.4 WATERSHED RESTORATION

Salmon restoration has been a priority in Washington State since the species was listed under the Endangered Species Act in the late 1990s. Human activities acting in concert with natural occurrences (such as drought, floods, landslides, fires, and variable ocean cycles) have impacted the abundance, productivity, spatial structure, and diversity of Upper Columbia spring Chinook salmon and steelhead.

Watershed and habitat restoration is a team effort that often involves federal, tribal, state, county, and city governments, local landowners, nonprofits, and consultants.



Large Wood Installation



Culvert Renovation & Fish Passage Barriers



Floodplain & Side Channel Reconnection

*COMMON TYPES
OF LOCAL
HABITAT
RESTORATION*

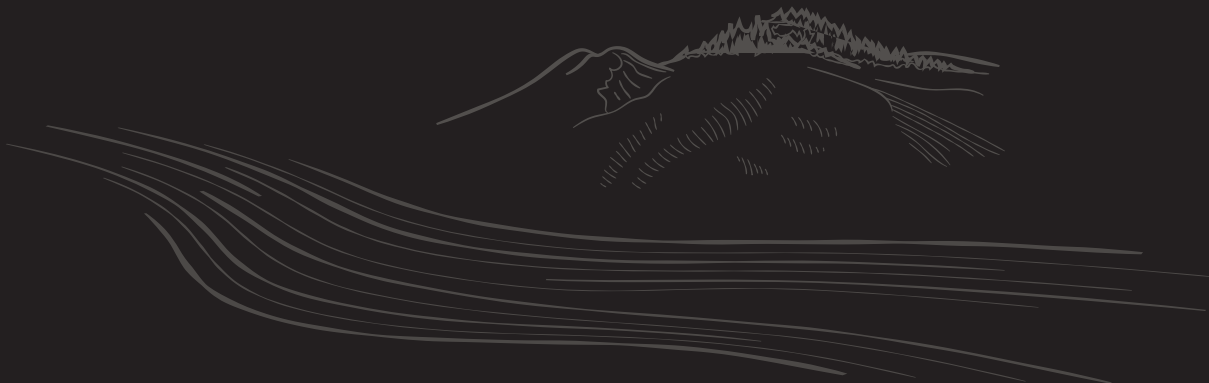
Photos © Interfluve & Chelan County
Natural Resources Department



Riparian Plantings



Instream Flow



LEARN MORE AT UCSRB.ORG

7 COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE

Orchards have been an integral part of life here for over a century. Lush and abundant apple, pear, and cherry orchards line our valley's floors. Set against the snow-capped peaks of the Cascade Mountains, local orchards not only create the breathtaking panorama our area is known for, they are bustling workplaces that fundamentally shape our local food, culture and economy. Most of our local tree fruit continues to be grown on small, multi-generational farms. Thanks to these skilled orchardists and our unique microclimates (featuring hot summer days, cool nights and advantageous soil types) Chelan County grows some of the highest quality tree fruit in the world.

7.1 GROWING REGIONS

Upper Valley The Western portion of North Central Washington is comprised primarily of pear orchards. As the number one producer of organic pears in the nation, the Upper Wenatchee Valley has growing conditions and a unique climate that mimics very closely the regional conditions of France, the country of origin for pear varieties including the D'Anjou. As you drive from Leavenworth to Cashmere along Highway 2, the majority of orchards you see will be pears.

Wenatchee The true heart of apple country and the traditional "Apple Capital of the World." Waterfront orchards along the Columbia and Wenatchee Rivers produce apples of every flavor and color, including classics like Gala and newer hits such as Cosmic Crisp. In surrounding areas of the Wenatchee Valley, you will also find cherry orchards, especially in the higher altitude zones.

Lake Chelan Home to one of the deepest lakes in the world, the Chelan region has a unique temperate microclimate exceptionally well-suited to apples. Orchards in Chelan and Manson line the lake and extend into the foothills. Neighboring communities in Entiat and Pateros produce multiple apple varieties, as well.

7.2 HOMEGROWN PRODUCE

Backyard Fruit Trees

treefruit.wsu.edu/backyard-fruit-trees

Just as apples, pears, sweet cherries and other stone fruit are successfully grown here for commercial markets, they can also be grown in local backyards. Homeowners are legally responsible for controlling insects, pests and diseases in fruit trees on their property. Consult the WSU Treefruit site to determine if a fruit tree is right for you.

Gardening

ccliving.link/garden

Get a comprehensive primer on gardening in NCW with specific information and guidance on a variety of topics, and access to WSU Master Gardener Volunteers.



**OUR FOOD.
OUR CULTURE.
OUR ECONOMY.**



LOCALS KEEP IT FRESH

ORCHARDS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

WHAT NEIGHBORS CAN EXPECT

JAN The Cascade Mountains and surrounding foothills receive snow accumulation that supply our region's cold, clean water throughout the year. Orchardists stay busy maintaining equipment and planning for the year.

FEB Workers prune trees throughout their dormant phase as weather allows, using loppers and power pruners.

MAR As buds develop, they often require protection from frost and nighttime lows with wind machines. These machines can sound like helicopters flying overhead in the middle of the night.

APR Now that irrigation canals are open, expect to see workers changing water twice a day until irrigation is complete in the fall. Systems get ongoing maintenance to maximize crop yield and conserve water.

APR Trees begin to bloom, starting with cherries, then apples and pears. Beekeepers bring in hives to pollinate the blooms that will develop into young fruit within weeks.

Activity in local orchards picks up as the growing season kicks into high gear. Expect an increase in farm related traffic as tractors travel along our rural roadways.

MAY With trees in bloom throughout the valley, Wenatchee hosts the Apple Blossom Festival. Crops begin to set and orchardists get a glimpse of the size and quality of fruit they will have.

JUNE The first sweet cherries are harvested and begin arriving at local fruit stands, in addition to being packed and shipped around the world. Harvest begins for other stonefruit, including peaches, nectarines and apricots, and continues through September.

Some varieties of apples and pears require fruit to be thinned to reach their optimum quality and size. You may see workers picking these excess immature fruits and tossing them on the ground to compost.

JULY Grass and cover crops planted beneath trees get tidied with large field mowers. Kaolin clay may be applied to trees to protect them from predators.

AUG This is the busiest time of year, with heightened activity continuing until October. Expect more traffic near orchards, including early-morning worker arrivals and large bin trucks heading to local packing sheds.

SEPT Each apple and pear is carefully hand picked then loaded into bins to be transported to our local packing sheds. From there, they are either put into controlled cold storage or shipped to domestic and international markets.

OCT Trees shed their leaves and enter a dormant phase.

NOV Winter pears go into cold storage to finish their maturation.

7.4 FARMS + PRODUCE STANDS

LEAVENWORTH

Maverick Farm	maverickfarmleavenworth.com
Prey's Fruit Barn	preysfruitbarn.org
Roots Produce & Flowers	rootsberries.com
Snowgrass Farm	snowgrassfarm.com

PESHASTIN

Nicholson Orchards	nicholsonorchards.com
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CASHMERE

Campo Farm & Kitchen	campofarmandkitchen.com
Green Valley Dairy	facebook.com/greenvalleydairywa

WENATCHEE

Easley Farms	easleyfarmsllc.com
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EAST WENATCHEE

Annie's Fun Farm	facebook.com/annies.funfarm
Feil Pioneer Fruit Stand	visitwenatchee.org/listing/feil-pioneer-fruit-stand

MALAGA

Radix Farm	radixfarm.com
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ENTIAT

Tumbleroot Ranch	tumblerootranch.com
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7.5 FARMERS MARKETS

Plain Farmers Market	plainhardware.com/plain-farmers-market
Plain Hardware, Plain	

Leavenworth Community Farmers Market	cascademarkets.org
330 Evans St, Leavenworth	

Cashmere Community Farmers Market	cascademarkets.org
Cashmere Museum, Cashmere	

Wenatchee Valley Farmers Market	wenatcheefarmersmarket.com
Pybus Public Market, Wenatchee	

Manson Farmers Market	facebook.com/MansonFarmersMarket
Manson Grange, Manson	

Chelan Farmers Market	chelanfarmersmarket.org
218 S Emerson St, Chelan	

7.6 FOOD BANKS + GLEANING

Food Banks	cdcac.org/food-pantry-schedule
Hours and locations for a variety of food banks across Chelan County.	

Gleaning	uvmend.org/gleaning
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Learn more about produce gleaning and volunteer to glean to help stock local food banks with nutritious and delicious produce.



8 WATER CONSERVATION

In Chelan County, the Entiat and Wenatchee watersheds extend from the snowfields, glaciers, and steep forested mountains of the Cascades, through orchards in the valley foothills, to the shrub-steppe, and to the confluence with the Columbia River. Many of our population centers are found along these rivers and their tributaries.

Our Snow, Our Water

In North Central Washington, our snow is our water. Areas east of the Cascades average about only 8" of rain per year. Our ridgetops and high elevation forests are largely pristine and intact, and are the primary source of snowpack that provides water to our rivers, especially during summer months.

Conservation is Critical

With a growing population and warming climate, pressures on our water supply continue to grow. Chelan County residents are urged to think critically about their water use, and employ conservation methods whenever possible, including:

<i>INSTALL</i>	Low flow toilets and low flow shower heads
<i>RUN</i>	Dishwasher/washing machine only when full
<i>USE</i>	Reusable water bottles
<i>FIX</i>	Leaky faucets and pipes
<i>WATER</i>	Lawns and gardens in the early morning
<i>REPLACE</i>	Lawns and gardens with drought-tolerant landscaping

Water Rights

It is important as a homeowner to know where your drinking and irrigation water comes from. At the most basic level, a water right is a right to use water, not own water, and different rules apply to surface water and groundwater rights. Water rights are handled by the Washington State Department of Ecology and are governed by their own set of laws.

Search your water rights at the Department of Ecology site found at ccliving.link/water.

Get a thorough overview of water rights in Washington by reading "The Landowner's Guide to Washington Water Rights" found at ccliving.link/landowner.



OUR WATER HAS REAL LIMITS.

CALCULATE YOUR WATER USE

ccliving.link/calculator

9 RECYCLING & WASTE MANAGEMENT

We can have a major impact on the amount of garbage produced in Chelan County by becoming aware of how much we throw out, and changing some of our habits about buying and using things.

Recycling conserves natural resources such as timber, water and minerals, saves energy, and decreases greenhouse gases that contribute to global climate change.

Before you buy, use or discard an item, ask yourself:

- REDUCE* Can I buy this product with less packaging?
- REUSE* Can I or someone else use this again?
- RECYCLE* Can I recycle this item after I use it?
- BUY RECYCLED* Can I get this item with recycled content?

Recycling in Chelan County sustainablencw.org/wastewizard

Recycling is a complex industry, but if we strive to live a lower impact lifestyle, we can significantly reduce our domestic waste stream. Resident curbside recycling is available through Waste Management, and there are several drop off locations within Chelan County for specific items such as glass (in Chelan and Leavenworth), styrofoam and household hazardous waste. You can learn what goes where by visiting the Waste Wizard link above.

Composting Programs wintonmfg.com

Opportunities for composting food and commercially compostable materials are growing with the addition of Winton Mfg Compost Works in Plain. You can also compost food waste at your own home and use the new soil in your garden and landscaping. The EPA has a comprehensive guide to home composting at epa.gov/recycle/composting-home.

Waste Loop wasteloop.org

In Leavenworth, community members are banding around a nonprofit organization called Waste Loop to address excess waste and work to create sustainable resources out of waste.

Sustainable NCW sustainablencw.org

This organization provides classes, workshops and hosts events to educate community members about relevant environmental issues and solutions.



LEARN WHAT GOES WHERE.

SUSTAINABLENCW.ORG/WASTEWIZARD



10 COMMUTING IN CHELAN COUNTY

An average one-way commute in the Wenatchee Valley is less than 20 minutes. While our commutes may be short relative to large cities, the Wenatchee Valley Transportation Council is predicting severe congestion on Wenatchee’s main streets by 2025. Because of the geographic constraints of the Columbia River, Wenatchee River, and western foothills, there is no room to add more streets or widen roads to accommodate more traffic. Local officials say having fewer cars on the roads is the only long-term solution to traffic woes in the valley. While most commuters drive their own cars, others are working to reduce congestion by carpooling, utilizing the Link Transit bus system, or biking to work.

Commute by Bike bikewenatcheevalley.org

For detailed information on bike commuting in the county check out the Bike Commuting Guide at Wenatchee Outdoors.

Commute by Bus linktransit.com

Link Transit is the local bus system for Chelan and Douglas Counties. They provide fixed route bus service and also door-to-door service for residents with disabilities. All Link Transit buses and trolleys are equipped with bike racks to make it easy to take your bike with you.

Commute by Carpool – Park and Ride Locations

Leavenworth	Big Y Park and Ride	SR 2 & SR 97
	Leavenworth Park and Ride	SR 2 near USFS
	Wilkommen Park and Ride	Behind Leavenworth Safeway
Wenatchee	Columbia Station	Kittitas St. & South Columbia St
	Easy Street	SR 2 and SR 97
	Olds Station Park and Ride	Penny Road & Euclid Ave
	South Wenatchee	S. Mission Street & Stevens St
Entiat	Entiat Park and Ride	SR 97 Alt & Entiat Way
Chelan	Chelan Park and Ride	SR 97 Alt & N East Center St
More Locations	ccliving.link/parkride	

 **NEED TO CHARGE AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE?**
Visit pluginnw.org

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CHELANCOUNTYLIVING.ORG