



MONROE CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Bill No. 19-120

SUBJECT:	<i>Presentation: Snohomish Conservation District - Conservation Leader of the Year Award, Vince Bertrand</i>
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DATE:	DEPT:	CONTACT:	PRESENTER:	ITEM:
05/21/2019	Public Works	Vince Bertrand	Monte Marti Kate Riley	Announcements/ Presentations #3

Discussion: 05/21/2019
Attachments: 1. Letter of Recognition

REQUESTED ACTION: None; informational only.

DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND:

The Snohomish Conservation District has been working with farmers, city residents, rural and suburban landowners on a voluntary basis since 1941. They operate with a diverse staff ranging from engineers, resource planners, community conservation staff, restoration specialists, a field crew, outreach specialists and administrative staff.

The District is dedicated to celebrating local contributors who are making an impact on the ground by publicly recognizing the positive ecological impact their work has within Snohomish County, and in this case specifically, within the City of Monroe. The District's Board of Supervisors chose Vince Bertrand, City of Monroe Stormwater Compliance Coordinator, as the Conservation Leader of the Year because of his involvement in multiple projects such as enhancing the Monroe Wetlands; Lord Lake Restoration Project; and Earth Day events.



Vince Bertrand
City of Monroe
806 W Main Street
Monroe, WA 98272

March 6, 2019

Dear Vince,

We are pleased to announce that you are one of two who have been selected as the **2018 Conservation Leader of the Year –Business/Corporation/Organization** award winner by Snohomish Conservation District. The District staff and supervisors would like to congratulate you, and invite you to our Better Ground celebration on Thursday, April 25, 2019 at the Brightwater Center, 22505 State Route 9 SE, Woodinville, WA 98072. See details below.

Snohomish Conservation District's Board of Supervisors and staff selected you based on the following input from our staff:

Vince has been a part of several projects that SCD has partnered on with the City of Monroe. In all of these projects, he's been right in the middle doing everything he can to help them succeed. Without Vince, much of what we've accomplished would not have happened.

- 1) Vince has coordinated with SCD on the Monroe Wetland Restoration project all the way back since 2014 when we were beginning to think about applying for a DOE grant. He's helped tremendously as a partner, representing the City of Monroe, to cut through the red tape to make this happen. Vince also assisted with the planning of the Lords Lake restoration planting in 2017. He assisted with navigating the city's critical area codes so we could expedite the buffer planting to do an Earth Day event. Vince has also coordinated with our Youth Ed team to allow us greater access to teach storm water education lessons in the Monroe School District.
- 2) "Vince coordinates the city of Monroe's involvement in our efforts to bring stormwater education into school classrooms. He often goes above and beyond to support the students and community of Monroe. For example, this past fall Vince invited me and one other member of our education team to tag along on his water quality sampling route so that we could see him in action and learn about the process that real scientists go through to protect our waterways. This kind of partnership helps us to better communicate with students about real-world applications of science, the ways humans interact with the environment, and also to make connections to career skills that they could someday use." - Lily For Monroe Wetland, there have been several parts of this project that have been more challenging than were initially anticipated, both on the City and DOE sides. If Vince did not have the drive and passion to help SCD through many of these processes, we would not be on the track that we are to complete all of the



deliverables. He's gone out of his way many times to get us the approval we've needed in order to continue and expand the project.

"We've found that Vince takes an exceptionally supportive and proactive approach to education, particularly for someone who is not in an education/outreach role. He always is enthusiastic and supportive of public education/outreach efforts and goes out of his way to provide information, training and resources to support our efforts. I never get off the phone with him feeling anything but positively supported and energized!" - Laura Goff

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We sincerely hope that you and your invited guests will be able to join us to accept your award in person at the:

## **Better Ground Showcase**

**April 25, 2019 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. (5:00 mingling, 6 - 8 PM program)  
Brightwater Center, 22505 State Route 9 SE, Woodinville, WA 98072**

**A tour of this unique facility will be held from 4 – 5 PM**

**Light refreshments will be served at 5 PM**

**Please RSVP for the tour and awards event at: <https://snocd.org/bgaward19>**

Congratulations and thank you for your dedication to, and support for, programs and projects that benefit the natural environment and this place we call home!

Sincerely,

Monte Marti  
District Manager