

Agriculture and Water Quality Advisory Committee

Meeting #5



Ten Key Changes to Ecology's Watershed Evaluation Process

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Key Themes

- Better upfront communication.
- Engage Producer Groups.
- More specificity in communications.
- Increased clarity around nonpoint pollution problems
- Promote consistency between regions.

Upfront education and outreach

- **Key Change #1:** Ecology will increase education and outreach efforts in watersheds where we work.
- **Key Change #2:** Increase communication efforts with willing conservation districts.
- **Key Change #3:** Ecology will increase engagement with producer groups when conducting education and outreach.

Contacting Landowners

- **Key Change #4:** Letters will include specific information on the pollution problem observed at the site.
- **Key Change #5:** Letters will include a clear timeline for producers to contact Ecology (see below “Timeline for Action”).
- **Key Change #6:** Letters will include an offer for the producer to access the documentation related to their operation and an offer for Ecology staff to make a site visit.

Timelines for Action

- **Key Change #7:** Ecology will send within sixty days of observing the site.
- **Key Change #8:** Ecology will provide 30 days for individuals to contact Ecology and/or set up a site visit.
- **Key Change #9:** After 30 days Ecology will send second letters to producers who fail to contact Ecology and/or set up a site visit.

Lessee/Landowner

- **Key Change #10:** Ecology will send the first communication to the lessee if we can verify that the land is being leased.



Questions?