

Groundwater Supply Around the Tri-Cities - Adaptation to Change

Led by Kevin A. Lindsey, Principal Hydrogeologist, GeoEngineers, Inc.

Date/Time: Sunday, March 17/ 12-5pm

Cost: \$65

Limit: 50 people

Stop One - Benton Conservation District

Over the past 2 decades, irrigated ag land has been transitioning to low to moderate density residential where the primary water supply is shallow groundwater sourced by irrigation water seepage. As this transition has occurred, the need for greater irrigation efficiency has led to less seepage, with an associated increase in shallow groundwater nitrate levels. Representatives of the Benton Conservation District and the local irrigation district will talk about these changing groundwater conditions as this landscape changes from irrigated ag to rural residential.

Stop Two - West Richland

In recent years, West Richland has dealt with a number of water woes. For this stop, we will talk about their recent experiences which include replacing old degraded deep basalt wells, and the effects of nearby faults on water quality, methane occurrence, and well productivity. This on-going work has also been driven by long-term water level declines which has led them to begin investigating ASR. Access to the oh so close, but oh so far away, Columbia River via a water system intertie with the City of Richland figures into this ASR discussion.

Stop Three - Terra Blanca Winery and Estate Vineyard

This 1.5 hour tour will give attendees a behind the scene look at how Terra Blanca sustainably grows and crafts their amazing selection of Estate produced wines. Along with a tour that includes a visit to the vineyard, production facilities and wine barrel caves, indulge in an educational wine tasting experience complete with six pours and a charcuterie platter.