



News & Updates

August 2026

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Rachel's Remarks

Every time I travel around the region, I see our shared vision in action. Road improvements, wildfire response, back to school fairs... North Central Washington continues to reach for a better future for all.

Thanks to your input, the results from our spring community visioning process now clearly map out our shared values and future opportunities. As we continue to develop the 2027–31 Action Plan, explore the ways you can get involved below!

Ready, Set, Action Plan



COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT

Our Valley Our Future has released our Community Outreach Report! In it, we share the results from the "community visioning" process during Spring 2026 to develop the 2027-31 Action Plan.

As with the previous two Action Plans, OVOF engaged residents of Chelan and Douglas Counties for their assessment of the region and ideas on how to improve the quality of life for all.

[Read the Report](#)

The "community visioning" process, coupled with quantitative data and a trends analysis, is foundational in developing the new Action Plan and serves as a resource for other planning efforts across the region.

Before the 2027-31 Action Plan releases in early 2027, we'll be coming back to **you** for feedback. Right now, six Action Teams are hard at work, analyzing and vetting information shared by residents to develop action items and game changer initiatives. This Fall, another community survey will open to get final input for the Action Plan, which will release in early 2027.

[Join Us](#)



Symbiosis Summit

Sept. 17 | 9:30am-2pm
Wenatchee Valley College

Connect, learn, and build momentum for industrial symbiosis - an innovative approach to infrastructure and development that will maximize resource efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and stimulate economic growth.

[Tickets](#)



[Apply Now](#)

Join the OVOF Board

Our Valley Our Future (OVOF) is seeking collaborative, community-centric leaders to join their Board of Directors. For more information about the opportunity, including a full description of the role and the application, please visit ourvalleyourfuture.org.

Get Involved



Residential Damage

The Washington State Emergency Management Division has opened a [residential damage survey](#) for those who have experienced loss due to wildfire this season.

Data collected through this survey will be shared with FEMA, other state & federal



Food Insecurity Feedback

The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) recently released findings from its [WAFOOD6](#) survey on food security and food access across Washington State.

Thriving Together NCW is collecting local perspectives to ensure the experiences

agencies, and non-profit partners to identify recovery resources for survivors. Completing a survey does not guarantee monetary assistance from the counties, Washington State, FEMA, non-profit partners, or voluntary donations.

[Survey](#)



Trails Conference

The [2026 Washington State Trails Conference](#) is coming up on Oct. 7-9 at the Wenatchee Convention Center in Wenatchee!

This multi-day event brings together trail enthusiasts from around the state to network, celebrate successes, and learn about the current issues facing trails.

[Conference Info](#)

and needs of North Central Washington communities are accurately represented.

Share your perspective by August 21.

[Feedback Form](#)



Wildfire Response Efforts

The Community Foundation of North Central Washington has over ten years of experience working closely with community partners to assist in the recovery efforts for survivors of wildfires.

Check out their website for organizations offering immediate assistance and how to support long-term recovery.

[Learn More](#)

Steve's Reading Recommendations

- [‘This year is different’: The water reality Idaho can no longer ignore](#) (Idaho Capital Sun)
- [WA child welfare deaths continue to drop after spiking last year](#) (Washington State Standard)
- [Family orchards are forced to sell in Central Washington in latest land grab](#) (Seattle Times)
- [Visualizing the wildfires in Washington and Oregon, in maps and satellite imagery](#) (CNN)
- [As federal protections fade, disabled Americans fear a return to institutions](#) (Stateline)

- [Rising tension in central WA as farmland is eyed for energy and data center projects](#) (Washington State Standard)
- [New Clatskanie sawmill gets \\$30 million in government-backed loans](#) (The Oregonian)

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