





ABOUT FCA

To understand the evolution of Farmers Conservation Alliance (FCA), it is essential to understand the evolution of the Farmers Screen...

Farmers need water to grow crops. To get this water, farmers must maintain a water delivery system that can transport water from a river or lake to their farm. Farmers and agencies have spent decades trying to develop solutions to keep fish, sticks, and leaves from coming into the canals, clogging the system, and preventing the flow of water. While maintaining these systems is costly for farmers, it has proven to be an equally large problem for fish.

In search of a way to reduce cost, protect fish and keep their canals free of debris, the Farmers Irrigation District in Hood River, Oregon spent ten years developing the Farmers Screen. In 2005, to honor the collaborative effort of farmers, agencies and nonprofits that supported the screen's success, the technology was licensed to FCA with the condition that profits be used for the united benefit of fish, farms and families.

With more than 150,000 unscreened diversions in the Northwest alone, the Farmers Screen is an exciting opportunity to protect millions of fish and save farmers millions of dollars in reduced operation and maintenance cost.

Due to this amazing opportunity, FCA works to develop resource solutions for rural communities. Specifically, FCA addresses the evolving energy and water needs of Pacific Northwest rural communities. Therefore, FCA focuses on green technologies, education programs and community solutions that result in saving people money, conserving resources and maintaining quality of life.

WHY IS FCA FOCUSED ON ENERGY AND WATER ISSUES?

After decades of abundant fuel and sophisticated distribution systems, Americans are accustomed to a very high standard of living. Now, as the 21st century dawns, the United States is facing the challenge of waning and unstable energy sources. As we begin to understand the drawbacks of our mass consumption, a demand is growing to address our rising cost of living through new technologies and systems that are affordable, reduce our impact on our environment and improve quality of life.

Since no two issues will affect our standard of living more than energy and water supplies, it is essential to have the necessary leadership, businesses, technologies and capital that will ensure sustainable communities. The result of these efforts is much more than a cost of living issue; it means more businesses, more jobs, an increased local tax base, a new generation of leaders and a healthier environment.

FCA sees its role in this changing economy as supporting rural communities in addressing their energy and water needs whether through green technologies, education campaigns or building a vast network of partnerships. By bridging the interest of both agricultural and environmental needs, two of the main entities of rural America, FCA focuses on solutions that create a balance between resource demands and conservation. This balance is essential for today's thriving economy, but even more important for the sustainable economy of tomorrow.

To learn more about FCA, go to our website at www.fcasolutions.org