



## **BIOCHAR INNOVATIONS**

**Biochar**, a charcoal-like material high in carbon, is developed by burning organic material at high heat in a low-oxygen environment. The process has been used for thousands of years but is becoming more popular with landowners as an alternative method to pile burning and chipping. With a **smaller footprint** and the capability to **process around five times the biomass**, biochar also **produces less smoke** and **fewer emissions**. Plus, the resulting product serves as a free soil amendment for drought resistance.

### **WATCH THE WEBINAR**



WAFAC welcomed two guests to share more about how small landowners can take advantage of biochar and those pioneering its use in Washington, Korina Stark ([Biochar on Site](#) and [Circular Spring](#)) and Robert Walters ([Whatcom Conservation District](#)).

In Washington, there are several organizations working to make biochar more accessible to small landowners by offering demos and educational opportunities. [Skagit and Whatcom Conservation Districts](#), in partnership with [Kulshan Carbon Trust](#), are leading the way. You can read more about their accomplishments so far and plans for the future in this [Story Map](#) produced by Skagit Conservation District.

**LOCAL INITIATIVES ARE BRINGING BIOCHAR TO SMALL LANDOWNERS IN WASHINGTON, AIMING TO REDUCE FUEL LOADS SIGNIFICANTLY.**

There is still a ways to go for biochar to be more widely accepted as a method of fuel load management on forested lands in Washington, primarily due to a general lack of familiarity with the process and its benefits as a tool for reducing wildfire risk, improving forest and soil health, and sequestering carbon. For more information, check out:

- [Mobile Biochar Production by Flame Carbonization: Reducing Wildfire Risk and Improving Forest Resilience](#) (United States Forest Service)
- [BiocharOnSite.org](#)



## **MORE RESOURCES**

### **Ring of Fire Biochar Kiln**

An example of the type of kiln being used in biochar demos across Washington.

### **Optimizing biochar production**

A video depicting the process of creating biochar.

### **Factsheet: Flame Cap Kilns**

From Biochar On Site, a factsheet describing how flame cap kilns function.

### **Natural Solutions Webinar**

A WAFAC webinar from 2020 featuring a presentation from San Juan Island Conservation District's staff member, Kai Hoffman-Krull