

# BENTON COUNTY

1905

COUNTY SEAT: PROSSER

**Named for Thomas Hart Benton, U.S. Senator from Missouri who championed new federal laws in the 1850s and '60s that opened up homesteading in the west**

**Traditional home of Klickitat, Yakama, Wanapum, Umatilla, Nez Perce, Walla Walla, Palouse and Cayuse American Indian people**

Benton County is known for its dry, sunny climate and for one of America's last wild, free-flowing reaches of the mighty Columbia River. In 1943 the U.S. Government chose Benton County as a top-secret site for development of the atomic weapons deployed at the close of World War II. It is also home to the Washington State University Irrigated Agricultural Research and Extension Center.

M I L L I V E L L P I C T U R I N G  
10-28-02



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