



**Adams County** was organized in 1883 from parts of Whitman County. It is named after President John Adams and is located in the southeastern part of the state. It was first visited by European fur traders in 1811 and early travelers first passed through the county on the Colville Road in 1826. The county was first settled in 1869 and later attracted a large number of hardy Russian-German immigrants. The county's economy is primarily agricultural with wheat the most important crop. Barley, oats, beans and peas are also grown.

**Bounded by:** Lincoln County (N), Whitman County (E), Franklin County (S) and Grant County (W).

**County Seat:** Ritzville

**Chambers of Commerce:**

Greater Othello Chamber of Commerce ([www.othello-wa.com](http://www.othello-wa.com)), 33 E Larch, Othello, WA 99344-1335. Phone 509-488-2683. Fax 488-3123. Email [othello@othello-wa.com](mailto:othello@othello-wa.com)

Ritzville Area Chamber of Commerce, ([www.ritzville.com/chamber](http://www.ritzville.com/chamber)) PO Box 122, 111 N Washington St, Ritzville, WA 99169-0122. Phone 509-659-1936. Fax 509-659-0142. Email [chamber@ritzville.com](mailto:chamber@ritzville.com)

**County Government:** ([www.co.adams.wa.us](http://www.co.adams.wa.us))

210 W Broadway, Ritzville, WA 99169. Courthouse hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm.

**Assessor.** Phone 509-659-3203. Fax 509-659-3206.

**Auditor.** Phone 509-659-3247. 509-659-3254

**Clerk.** PO Box 187. Phone 509-659-3257. Fax 509-659-0118.

**Treasurer.** Phone 509-659-3227. Fax 509-659-3229.

**Genealogical Society:**

**Health Department:** (<http://www.co.adams.wa.us/departments/default.asp?DeptID=10>)

Adams County Health District, 108 W Main, Ritzville, WA 99169. Phone 509-659-3315. Fax 509-659-4109.

**Historical Society:**

**Libraries - Academic:**

**Libraries - Public:**

Mid-Columbia Library [Service center - not open to the public] ([www.mcl-lib.org](http://www.mcl-lib.org)), 4101 E Lattin Rd, West Richland, WA 99353. Phone 509-627-0285. Fax 509-545-2054. *The following is a branch of this library system:*

Othello Library, 101 E Main St, Othello, WA 99344. Phone 509-488-9683. Fax 509-488-5321.

Ritzville Public Library, (<http://www.ritcom.net/ritzlib/>) 302 W Main St, Ritzville, WA 99169-1482. Phone 509-659-1222. Fax 509-659-0253. Email [ritzlib@ritzcom.net](mailto:ritzlib@ritzcom.net)

**Libraries - Special:**

Adams County Law Library, PO Box 126, Adams County Courthouse, Ritzville, WA 99169. Phone 509-659-0090. Fax 509-659-0119.

Othello Family History Center Library, 12<sup>th</sup> & Rainer, Othello, WA 99344. Phone 509-488-6412.

Ritzville Family History Center Library, 506 S Weber Rd, Ritzville, WA 99169. Phone 509-659-0932.

**Museums and Historical Sites:**

Adams County Historical Society Museum, PO Box 526, First St, Lind, WA 99341. Phone 509-677-3393. Email [galeirma@ritzcom.net](mailto:galeirma@ritzcom.net).

Burroughs Historic Home, PO Box 106, Ritzville, WA 99169. Phone 509-659-0274.

Othello Community Museum, PO Box 121, 3<sup>rd</sup> and Larch, Othello, WA 99344. Phone 509-488-2420.

**State Archives Branch:**

Eastern Regional Archives Branch, ([www.ewu.edu/era](http://www.ewu.edu/era)) Eastern Washington University, 211 Tawanka, Cheney, WA 98004-2423. Phone 509-359-6900. Fax 509-359-6286. Email [era@secstate.wa.gov](mailto:era@secstate.wa.gov).