Grant County was organized in 1909 and was formerly part of Douglas County. It was named after President Ulysses S. Grant. It is located in the east central part of the state and is bounded on the west by the Grand Coulee and the Columbia River. In the late nineteenth century, the county was traversed by railroads: the Great Northern; the Northern Pacific; and the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul. The railroads brought settlers into the county, attracted by its rich soil and agricultural potential. The Columbia Basin Irrigation Project of the 1930s also made a significant impact on the county while the completion of the Grand Coulee Dam (the largest all concrete structure on earth) opened lands for farming and furnished electric power for industry. Today the county is a major bean and pea producer and food-processing center.

**Bounded by:** Douglas County (N), Lincoln and Adams counties (E), Franklin, Benton and Yakima counties (S), and Kittitas County (W)

**County Seat:** Ephrata

**Chambers of Commerce:**
- Coulee City Chamber of Commerce, 405 W Main St., PO Box 896, Coulee City, WA 99115-0896. Phone 509-632-5043.
- Ephrata Chamber of Commerce, 90 Alder NW, PO Box 275, Ephrata, WA 98823. Phone 509-754-4656. Fax 509-754-5788.
- George Visitor Center, PO Box 5205, George, Wa 98824. Phone 509-785-3831.
- Mattawa Area Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 1446, Mattawa, WA 99349. Phone 509-932-5015.
- Quincy Valley Chamber of Commerce, 119 F St SE, PO Box 668, Quincy, WA 98848. Phone 509-787-2140. Fax 509-787-4500.
- Royal City Chamber of Commerce, 405 Camellia Suite B, PO Box 131, Royal City, WA 99357. Phone 509-346-9264.
- Soap Lake Chamber of Commerce, 300 Beach E, PO Box 433, Soap Lake, WA 98851. Phone 509-246-1821. Fax 509-246-0571.

**Courthouse:** C St NW, PO Box 37, Ephrata, WA 98823. Courthouse hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm

**Assessor:** Room 206. Phone 509-754-2011 ext. 310. Fax 509-754-2011 ext. 352. Copies of original plats, parcel cards (1970’s) and atlases are readily available in our office. Other items are in storage.
**Auditor**: Room 201. Phone 509-754-2011 ext. 333. Fax 509-754-6071. Need names of both parties to the transaction and approximate dates of the transactions. If prior to 1965, need to know the type of transaction being searched.

**Clerk**: Room 218, 2nd Floor, Law and Justice Center, PO Box 37, Ephrata, WA 98823. Phone 509-754-2011 ext. 318. Fax 509-754-5638. The following fees are in effect: $2.00 for the 1st page, $1 for each additional page. Research fee, per name, per hour, is $10.00. No personal checks. Please send letter of request containing the following information: complete names of all parties, approximate date of event, and research/copying fees.

**Treasurer**: Room 204. Phone 509-754-2011 ext. 353. Fax 509-2011 ext. 352.

**Genealogical Society**: Grant County Genealogical Society, 45 Alder St, NW, Ephrata, WA 98823-1663. Membership available. Library collection housed at the Ephrata Public Library.

**Health Department / District**: Grant County Health District, Grant County Courthouse, PO Box 37, Ephrata, WA 98823. Phone 509-754-2011, ext. 372. FAX 509-754-0941. Satellite office: 903 W 3rd, Moses Lake, WA 98837. Phone 509-766-7960. Fax 509-766-7827.

**Historical Society**: Grant County Historical Society, 742 Basin Street N, P O Box 1141, Ephrata, WA 98823. Membership available. Operates the Grant County Village and Museum.

**Libraries - Academic**: Big Bend Community College Library, 7662 Chanute, Moses Lake, WA 98837-3299. Phone 509-762-6247. Fax 509-762-2402. Small collection of Pacific Northwest history monographs and small, mostly uncataloged, archival collection.

**Libraries - Public**: North Central Regional Library, 238 Olds Station Rd, Wenatchee, WA 98801-8103. Phone 509-663-1117. Fax 509-662-8060. The following are part of this regional library system:

- Coulee City Community Library, 502 Industrial, Box 387, Coulee City, WA 99115-0387. Phone 509-632-8751. Fax 509-632-8751.
- Ephrata Community Library, 45 Alder NW, Ephrata, WA 98823-1663. Phone 509-754-3971. Fax 509-754-3971. Grant County Genealogical Society has a small collection housed here.
- Quincy Community Library, 108 B St SW, Quincy, WA 98858-1203. Phone 509-787-2359. Fax 509-787-2359.
Royal City Community Library, 365 Camellia, Box 548, Royal City, WA 99357-0548. Phone 509-346-9281. Fax 509-346-9281.

Soap Lake Community Library, 32 Main, Box 86, Soap Lake, WA 98851-0086. Phone 509-246-1313. Fax 509-246-1313.

Warden Community Library, 305 S Main, Box 813, Warden, WA 98857-0813. Phone 509-349-2226. Fax 509-349-2226.

Libraries - Special:
Ephrata Family History Center, 1301 E Division, Ephrata, WA. Phone 509-754-4762.

Grant County Genealogical Society Library, 45 Alder St, NW, Ephrata, WA 98823-1663. Has a room in the Ephrata Public Library with a small reference collection, vertical file of local interest items, an obituary file from local newspapers, scrapbooks of articles, index to homesteaders, genealogical journals, the Big Bend Register newspaper, and census of Douglas County.

Grant County Law Library, PO Box 37, Ephrata, WA 98223. Phone 509-754-2011, ext. 357.

Moses Lake Family History Center, 1515 S Division, Moses Lake, WA. Phone 509-765-8711.

Quincy Family History Center, 1102 Second Ave SE, Quincy, WA. Phone 509-787-2521.

Museums and Historical Sites:

Dry Falls Interpretative Center, Sun Lakes State Park, 34875 Park Lake Rd, NE, Coulee City, WA 99115. Phone 509-632-5583. Fax 509-632-5971.

Grant County Village & Museum, 742 N Basin St, NW, Box 1141, Ephrata, WA 98823. Phone 509-754-3334. Membership available. Village has 28 buildings with artifacts displaying life in the early 1900’s. The Museum has exhibits highlighting the prehistoric period, local Indians, the stockmen and homesteaders, and the Columbia Basin Project. Large collection of photographs, school pictures, newspaper clippings, and histories of Grant County schools.

Schiffner Museum, 4840 Westshore Dr, Moses Lake, WA. Phone 509-765-6374.

Wanapum Dam Heritage Center, (Hwy 243, Beverly, WA 98823), Box 878, Ephrata, WA 98823. Phone 509-754-3541. Fax 509-766-2522. Collection includes photographs of Wanapum Indians, agriculture of the area, and the construction of Wanapum and Priest Rapids Dams. Exhibits "portray the history of the mid-section of the Columbia River; from the Indian wars, the search for gold, ranching and agriculture to the building of the dams".

State Archive Branch:
Central Region (Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Franklin, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat, Okanogan and Yakima counties) Bledsoe-Washington Archives Building, Central Washington University MS 7547, Ellensburg, WA 98926-7547. Phone: 509-963-2136. Fax 509-963-1753. E-mail: archives@cwu.edu. Research Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon and 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
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- Powers of attorney, dates unknown

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- Civil case files, dates unknown
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