



Approved June 20, 2023

Clackamas SWCD Board Meeting Minutes for May 16, 2023

PRESENT	Directors:	Jeff Becker (Chair), Roger Fantz (Treasurer), Don Guttridge (Secretary) Via Zoom: Jesse Nelson (Vice Chair), Joan Zuber
	Associate Directors:	PK Melethil
	Directors Emeritus:	
	Staff:	Drew Donahue, Jason Faucera, Tami Guttridge, Lisa Kilders, Monte Mattson, Cathy McQueeney, Heather Nielsen, Jenne Reische, Nathan Tucker
	Partners:	Kim Galland (Natural Resources Conservation Service)
	Guest:	Joe Matteo (Beavercreek Hamlet)
NOT PRESENT:		

1 – CALL TO ORDER and ACCEPT AGENDA / PUBLIC COMMENT / DIRECTOR REPORTS / MANAGER’S REPORT ON COMMITTEES

- A. **Call to order** – Chair Becker called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 4:10 p.m., May 16, 2023, in the Clackamas SWCD conference room at 22055 S Beavercreek Rd, Beavercreek, Oregon.
 Chair Becker asked if there were any additions or changes to be made to the agenda. No changes were requested.
- B. **Public Comment** – There were no public comments made.
- C. **Director reports** –
 - Director Fantz is mowing his growing grass and working on his beach house.
 - Director Guttridge reported the Springwater Grange Strawberry Social is scheduled for June 10, 2023. He is thankful for the warmer weather and is busy with weed control.

- D. Partner reports** – Kim Galland with Natural Resources Conservation Service reported that two new employees should be coming to work in July. An urban planner should be here at the beginning of July, and the Soil Conservationist by late July/early August. District Conservationists will be meeting on May 17, 2023, to discuss implementing practices funded from the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). IRA funding is for climate change projects.

Associate Director Melethil reported on his attendance at a “Wetlands Delineation” workshop. He had several slides outlining how to assess a wetland, definitions, and a map of different types of wetlands. Please see attached slides.

- E. Manager’s report on committees** – Staff Kilders reported that the Budget Committee held their second meeting on May 2, 2023, and the Eagle Creek Community Forest Advisory Committee met on May 4, 2023.

2 – MINUTES

- A. May 2, 2023, Budget Committee Meeting minutes** – The Budget Committee meeting minutes were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Director Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to approve the May 2, 2023, Budget Committee meeting minutes as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. April 18, 2023, Regular Board Meeting minutes** – The minutes of the April 18, 2023, Board Meeting were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Directors Fantz/Guttridge moved/seconded to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2023, Board Meeting minutes as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

3 – FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Review and accept financial reports** – Staff Tucker presented the financial reports for April 30, 2023. Total assets were \$12.1 million, total liabilities of \$6.5 million, with net assets at \$5.6 million. Income for April was \$32,176.42, with 19,808.88 from tax income, and \$11,087.54 from interest. Total expenses were \$340,791.07, with capital outlay of \$51,096 for a new tractor, \$56,991 for a new fleet pickup, and \$11,226 for office equipment.

Director Fantz/Guttridge moved/seconded to approve April 30, 2023, Financial Reports as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Disbursements** – Staff Tucker reviewed the Automatic Clearing House payments for May 2023. The total payments were \$95,573.95.

Tucker then presented the disbursement list for May 2023. Checks were numbered 101423 through 101465. There were no breaks in the sequence, but two checks were voided due to a misprint. The disbursements totaled \$90,573.95 with \$51,287.41 from the conservation fund.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to approve the May 2023 disbursements as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

4 – OTHER FINANCIALS

- A. **Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget** – Staff Tucker reviewed the 2023/2024 budget and noted that there had been no public comment during the public hearing. No changes have been made to the budget since the May 2, 2023, Budget Committee meeting. Tucker asked if the Board had comments or requests for any changes. Associate Director Melethil noted that the census data in the Budget message should be updated from the 2018 numbers.
- B. **Resolution # 2023-002 to adopt the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year Budget** – Staff Tucker presented Resolution # 2023-002 to adopt the budget. Two motions were made. One motion was to adopt the budget and the other to approve the tax rate.

Director Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded adopt the 2023/2024 Fiscal year Budget in the total amount of \$7,816,517 as presented in Resolution # 2023-002. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

Directors Fantz/Guttridge moved/seconded to adopt the 2023/2024 ad valorem property tax at the rate of 5.0 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value for permanent rate tax as presented in Resolution # 2023-002. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. **Loan payments for the Conservation Resource Center, Eagle Creek Community Forest, and Department of Environmental Quality** – Staff Tucker reported that loan payments to Zions Bank and the Department of Environment Quality (DEQ) will be due at the beginning of June 2023. These payments will be made by electronic transfer to DEQ from the Local Government Investment pool, and to Zions Bank from the Wells Fargo account. Tucker asked the Board to approve making these payments at the beginning of June 2023.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to approve transfers to pay the Department of Environmental Quality and Zions Bank in early June 2023. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

5 – PROJECTS, PROGRAMS

- A. **Equity Committee** – Staff McQueeney reported that the Equity Team would be meeting on Wednesday, May 17 at 2:00 p.m. and everyone was invited to attend. Yee Won Chong will be attending the meeting to speak about the decision-making tool and the district value statements. McQueeney attended the Intertwine Summit and reported that the focus was on Equity. There were many ideas exchanged regarding outreach and marginalized communities.

McQueeney noted that a new bio for Director Zuber has been posted on the website.

At the request of Director Fantz, McQueeney presented slides regarding demographics within Clackamas County. Please see the slides attached to this report.

- B. District Newsletter** – Staff Kilders asked if the Board would like to receive the monthly newsletter that the District distributes via email. Board members attending the meeting asked Staff McQueeney to sign them up for the newsletter.
- C. Septic Grant Program** – Staff Nielsen reported that the Septic Grant program is up and running as of May 3, 2023. The District has a fully executed contract with the Department of Environmental Quality, and the first application is in process. Nielsen presented a copy of a letter sent to 750 households in areas of known aging septic systems in Clackamas County. She has so far received 33 contacts, has 3 active applications, and has mailed out approximately 15 additional applications. The District has 1 year to commit the \$800,000 in grant funds.

6 – PERSONNEL – No reports

7 – BOARD AND MANAGER REPORTS

- A. Approve Board Duties and Responsibilities Manual** – Staff Kilders asked the Board if they had reviewed the latest draft of the board manual. Board members discussed one passage in the manual that had a suggested edit and decided it was appropriate. They also asked to change in one paragraph regarding the financial reporting. It should say that task has been delegated to the Fiscal Administrator.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to approve the Board Duties and Responsibilities Manual as revised. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Management Reports

- **WeedWise** – Staff Mattsson gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding his first weeks on the job with District. He had a good start with previous experience providing technical advice and managing Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) species. The prioritizing control of new species to get a handle on them before they become a problem is part of the EDRR system. Mattsson is excited to be part of the WeedWise Program. Please see the PowerPoint slides and the WeedWise report that are a part of these minutes.
- **Education & Outreach** – Staff Kilders presentation gave a peek behind the curtain of the small but mighty outreach program. Kilders reviewed what this program had worked on in the past, upcoming workshops, and all types of outreach the District offers. Please see the slides and the Outreach report that are a part of these minutes.

8 – PROPERTY, PLANNING

- A. Strategic Planning** – Staff Kilders reported that the District is approaching the end of the Strategic Planning process, and staff are holding cross-programmatic meetings. The goal is to produce an action plan and then staff work plans.
- B. Shop Office Retrofit Project** – Staff Faucera reported that the bid packet for the shop build-out has been prepared. The request for bids will be sent out on Tuesday, May 23, and be open until June 28, 2023. Faucera hopes to have a contractor selected sometime in July. There will be a site visit opportunity and a scope of work document for the interior finishes is available. There is a request for

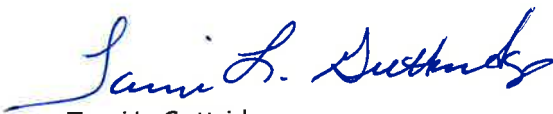
an alternative bid with the decking for the upper storage being moved. The bid will be advertised in the Daily Journal of Commerce, as well as on our website. Director Guttridge asked the Board's permission to be part of the Bid review committee, there were no objections.

9 – OTHER REPORTS – There were no other reports

ADJOURN AND NEXT MEETING

- The next regular meeting will be on June 20, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.
- There being no further business, Chair Becker adjourned the meeting at 6:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tami L. Guttridge
Office Administrator



Demographics

Clackamas County, May 2023



The most recent census information is from 2021.

Clackamas County, OR

County in: [Oregon, United States](#)

422,537

Population

1,870.7 square miles

225.9 people per square mile

Census data: ACS 2021 1-year unless noted



Age

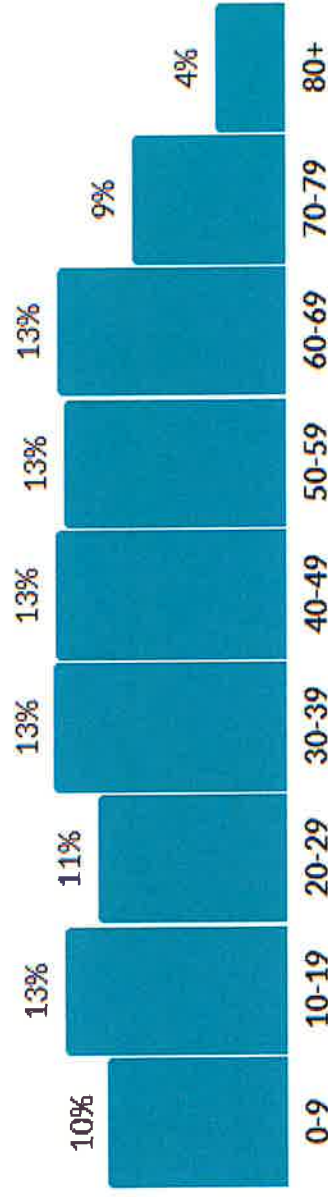
41.9

Median age

a little higher than the figure in Oregon: 40.1

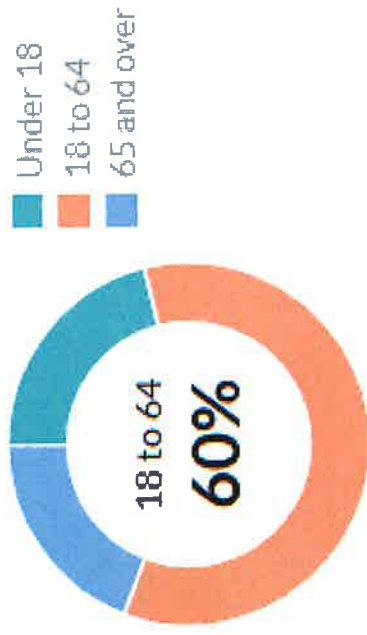
about 10 percent higher than the figure in United States: 38.8

Population by age range



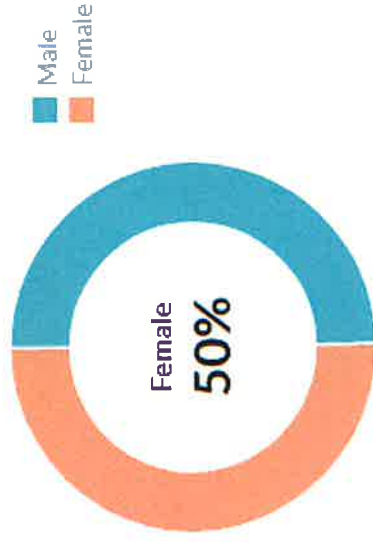
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Population by age category



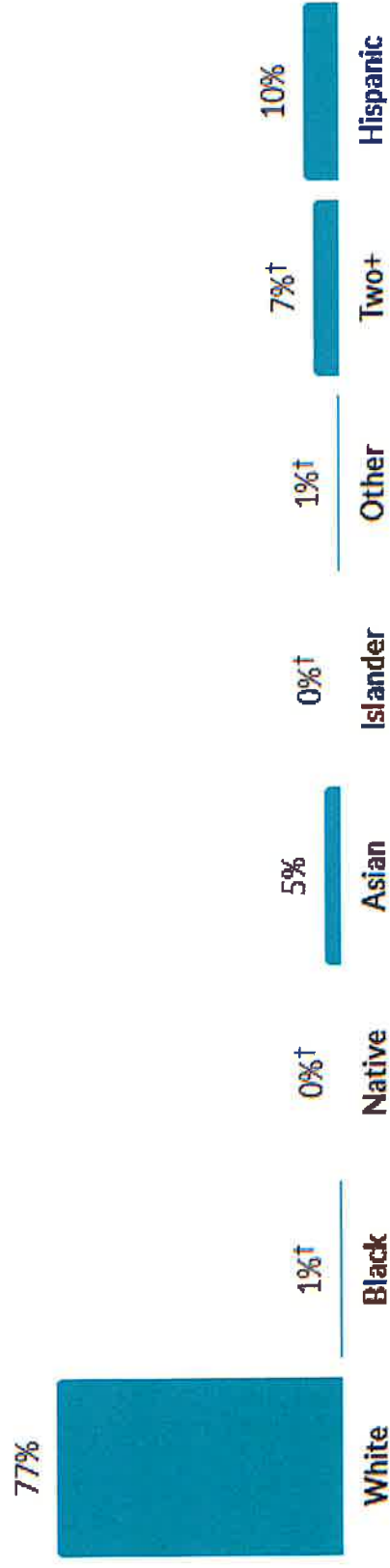
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Sex



[Show data / Embed](#)

Race & Ethnicity



* Hispanic includes respondents of any race. Other categories are non-Hispanic.

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Income

\$45,342

Per capita income

about 20 percent higher than the amount in Oregon: \$38,975

about 20 percent higher than the amount in United States: \$38,332

\$91,329

Median household income

about 1.3 times the amount in Oregon: \$71,562

about 1.3 times the amount in United States: \$69,717

Household income



[Show data / Embed](#)

Poverty

8.3%

Persons below poverty line

about two-thirds of the rate in Oregon: 12.2%

about two-thirds of the rate in United States:
12.8%

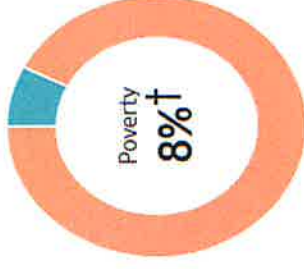
Children (Under 18)



Poverty
Non-poverty

[Show data](#) / [Embed](#)

Seniors (65 and over)



Poverty
Non-poverty

[Show data](#) / [Embed](#)

Geographical mobility

11.6%

Moved since previous year

about **80 percent** of the rate in Oregon: 14.4%

about **90 percent** of the rate in United States:
12.8%

Population migration since previous year

88%



Same house year ago

From same county

From different county

From different state

From abroad

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Educational attainment

95%

High school grad or higher

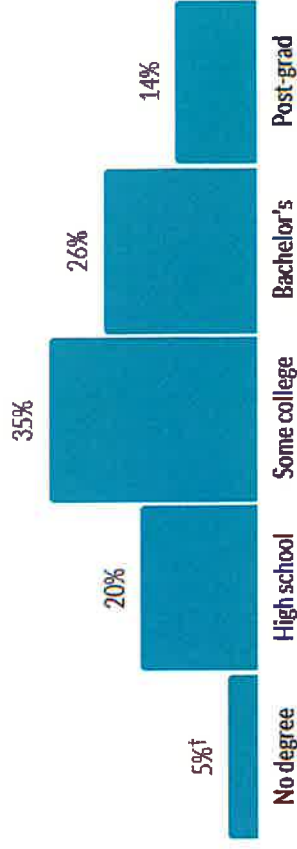
a little higher than the rate in Oregon: 91.9%
a little higher than the rate in United States: 89.4%

40%

Bachelor's degree or higher

about 10 percent higher than the rate in Oregon: 36.3%
about 10 percent higher than the rate in United States: 35%

Population by highest level of education



* Universe: Population 25 years and over

[Show data](#) / [Embed](#)

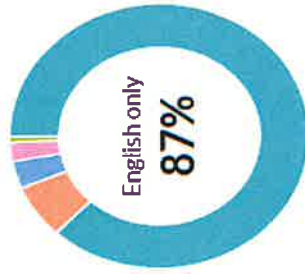
Language

N/A

Persons with language other than English spoken at home

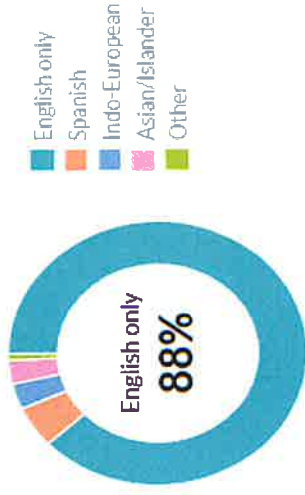
* ACS 2021 5-year data

Language at home, children 5-17



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Language at home, adults 18+



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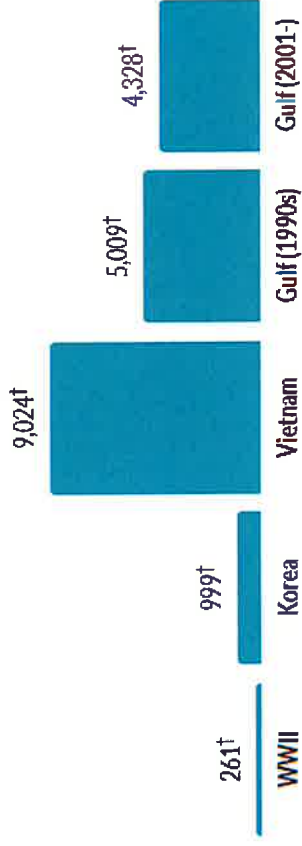
Veteran status

6.9%

Population with veteran status

about 90 percent of the rate in Oregon: 7.7%
about 10 percent higher than the rate in United States: 6.4%

Veterans by wartime service



22,929 Total veterans
20,970 Male
1,959 Female

† Civilian veterans who served during wartime only

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Hover for margins of error and contextual data.

Clackamas County Environmental Scan

ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN:

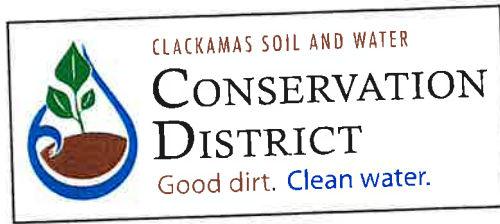
Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Experiences, Community Organizations, and Government Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Efforts within Clackamas County

NOVEMBER 2020



Coalition of
Communities of
Color





The Latest from the Education and Outreach Program

May 2023

Web Posts

Since last we met, we have posted 14 articles on our website:

- [Raptors and Beneficial Insects – Alternative Pest Control](#)
- [Budget Committee Approves FY 2023-2024 Budget](#)
- [May Invasive Weed of the Month: Orange Hawkweed](#)
- [Domestic Well and Septic System Workshop](#)
- [Soil Health Principles that Improve Farm Operations Workshop](#)
- [Residential Septic System Repair and Replacement Grant Program](#)
- [It's the 2023 Spring Garden Fair!](#)
- [Focus on Staff: Bee Sinichko, WeedWise Specialist](#)
- [Focus on Staff: Monte Mattsson, WeedWise Specialist](#)
- [District Supports 2023 Farmers Markets](#)
- [April Invasive Weed of the Month: Garlic Mustard](#)
- [Budget Committee Meeting, May 2, 2023](#)
- [Proposed Budget and Budget Message Released for FY 2023-2024](#)
- [District Offers Interest-Free Septic Loan Program](#)

We're on Facebook



Facebook Posts

Since our last report we have published 38 posts on Facebook.

The District has 1,370 followers and many more partners that share our posts. In other words, when our partners share our posts they are basically telling their Facebook friends that they like that our post and their followers should check it out.

This is just one way we connect with the folks of Clackamas County...and beyond!

Hot-Button Topic

Septic systems may not be high on your list of conversation topics, but when your system is failing, it becomes a HOT TOPIC!

Luckily we have a **hot-topic button on the website for our Septic Repair Grant!** Through newspapers, Facebook, association newsletters, and direct letters the residents of Clackamas County are hearing about our new grant program that assists low income homeowners to repair or replace their septic systems or connect to sewer where available.

For those who do not qualify for the grant, we have a zero interest loan!



We are working hard to help county residents AND protect water quality.

Out and About

If you are wondering whether we are present at community events, the answer is **YES!**

While we cannot cover every event in Clackamas County in person, we try to be present at the most well attended happenings and for the other events we try to set up "unstaffed" displays.

in the last two months we have either attended or tabled at:

- West Linn Earth Day event
- OSU Spring Garden Fair
- Tree School
- Oregon City Spring Resource Fair
- Beavercreek Hamlet Meeting
- Clackamas County Wellness and Sustainability Fair



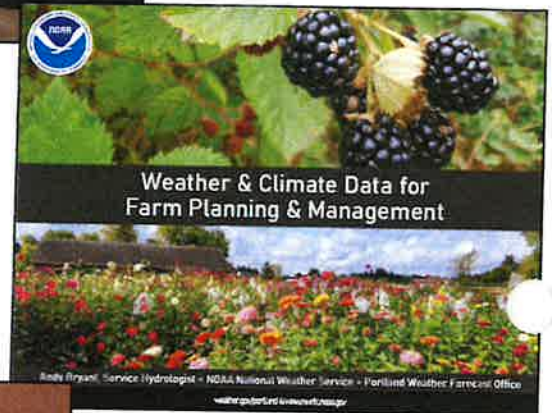
Upcoming Events:

- Beavercreek 10 O'Clock Church Earth Festival - May 20
- Village at the Falls Art and Garden Tour - June 10 (2 locations)
- North Clackamas Parks & Recreation District Pollination Celebration - June 24

As far as education goes, we are now offering in person and hybrid workshops.

in the last two months we have offered or partnered to present:

- Farm Succession Planning Workshop
- Domestic Well and Septic System Workshop
- Weather and Climate Data for Farm Management Workshop - check out the [video](#)



Upcoming Workshops/Events:

- Raptors and Beneficial Insects - Alternative Pest Control May 18
- Soil Health Principles that Improve Farm Operations and Rainfall Simulator Demonstration June 1
- Cover Crop Field Day - June 8

Free event

Soil Health Principles that Improve Farm Operations

June 1, 2023 1:00 to 3:30 pm
In-person only
Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District
22055 S. Beavercreek Rd.
Beavercreek, OR 97004

You do not want to miss out! Get this on your calendar today!

Learn the conservation practices that will improve your soil and help address extreme weather conditions. Joe Williams and Nick Sirovatka, USDA Soil Health Specialists, will discuss and show how and why management decisions can lead to improved soil conditions that benefit agricultural producers across a variety of production systems. The rainfall simulator demonstration, comparing different vegetation covers and the resulting water infiltration and runoff, will be outdoors so dress for the weather.

Free event but registration is appreciated.

Register using the QR code or go to <https://bit.ly/41llhGg>
Questions? Call 503-210-6000



CLACKAMAS CONSERVATION DISTRICT
East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District
USDA United States Department of Agriculture
OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

There is still time to attend our upcoming workshops!

Go to our website to register!

**From the small but mighty
Education and Outreach Program,
Happy Memorial Day!**





May 13, 2023

WEEDWISE UPDATE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS (APRIL-MAY)

RE: WeedWise Program Update



Orange Hawkweed: Weed of the Month

The WeedWise program is highlighting orange hawkweed as our May Weed-of-the-Month. May is a great time of year to focus on orange hawkweed. This is the month when we typically see orange hawkweed starting to bloom at lower elevations and it is a great time for county residents to keep their eyes open for the orange dandelion-like flowers.

Orange hawkweed is a high priority Class A noxious weed in Oregon. It is known to spread quickly once it becomes established, especially in open grasslands where it can quickly become the dominate species. The WeedWise program is currently working to control this species throughout Clackamas County. We are also partnering with the Oregon Department of Agriculture, the Mt Hood National Forest, Portland Water Bureau, and Bonneville Power Administration to treat the largest known orange hawkweed infestation in the state.

You can learn more about orange hawkweed and by checking out our [orange hawkweed brochure](#) available to help raise awareness about this priority noxious weed.



Oregon Invasive Weed Awareness Week.

May 14-20 is *Oregon Weed Awareness Week*. This is the week that we are focused on outreach and education activities to encourage folks to take action at their homes and in their neighborhoods to control invasive weeds.

This year we are once again encouraging Oregonians to consider these top **10 ways you can celebrate Oregon Invasive Weed Awareness Week!**

1. **Learn more about invasive weeds in our area.** Check out the [WeedWise program's weed list](#). Learn to recognize some of our common invaders and keep an eye out for signs of new ones. Walk around your property or neighborhood and learn about the invasive plants growing all around you. Finding an infestation early on is crucial to stopping its spread!
2. **Join the effort.** Oregon Invasive Weed Awareness Week is the perfect time to commit yourself to participating in a volunteer weed pull or restoration event in your community. There are many [volunteer opportunities](#) occurring across the state, so find one in your neighborhood.
3. **Become a Weed Watcher.** One of the best strategies for combating invasive weeds is to identify new infestations before they have a chance to spread. You can learn how to identify and report new infestations by attending a remotely held weed watcher training. Check the [Pacific Northwest Invasive Plant Council](#) web page for an upcoming webinar training.
4. **Visit a natural area.** Spend an afternoon at a local park, garden, or natural area and familiarize yourself with the flora in your area.
5. **Read a book.** There are countless field guides about invasive species. But for a quick introduction, we recommend that you download a free copy of [Field Guide to Weeds of the Willamette Valley](#) If you want to get really serious you can download a copy of one of the most influential weed guides ever made, [Weeds of the West](#).
6. **Consider a donation.** Our watershed councils and many local nonprofits are actively working to control invasive weeds. They rely upon grants and donations to support their efforts. Learn more about local organizations working to control invasive weeds and consider donating your time or resources.
7. **Start a garden.** Replace your invasive landscape plants with native alternatives. Our partners at the [Backyard Habitat Certification Program](#) have resources available to help you manage your home landscape for invasive weeds, and plant hardy native plants to benefit wildlife in our area.

8. **Help make policy.** Oregon Invasive Weed Awareness Week is the perfect time to share your thoughts with policymakers. Write a letter to your [local lawmakers](#). Express your opinions and concerns about the impact of invasive weeds on our communities and natural resources.
9. **Pledge to give invasive weeds the brush off!** One of the primary ways that invasive weeds spread is through dirty boots and equipment. Join others in [pledging](#) to clean boots, shoes, and tires before and after recreating in an area.
10. **Spread awareness.** Tell your friends, family, neighbors, and others about invasive weeds. Pick at least three people to talk to this week to raise awareness about invasive weeds. Encourage them to get involved with Oregon Invasive Weed Awareness Week in their own way!



Spring Treatments and Surveys

The WeedWise team has been taking full advantage of the sunny days to treat priority weeds across the county. Over the last month, the WeedWise program staff has been out in the field, carrying out phenology checks, surveying sites, treating a suite of invasive weeds including Italian thistle, garlic mustard, false brome, Scotch broom, shining geranium, milk thistle, oblong spurge, spurge laurel, goatsrue, giant hogweed, and sulphur cinquefoil. So far this spring, the WeedWise program has logged **121 noxious weed treatments on over 180 acres and documented 301 new weed observations**. This is a great start to the season!

Justin has been busy treating garlic mustard in the middle Willamette for high priority infestations in Wilsonville, as well as infestations in Lake Oswego and West Linn. In addition, Justin is coordinating other high priority weed control efforts including Italian thistle, and oblong surge in support of our Oregon State Weed Board Grant.

Work has also been progressing within the Beachie Creek burn area, to target shining geranium, scotch broom, and other prioritized noxious weeds. Monte and Bee were able to pitch in one day to assist Justin and get an orientation to work within the burn areas.

In the Clackamas Basin, Monte has hit the ground running and is working on an impressive number of sites in the Clackamas for his first spring of implementation. He is working with multiple crews, focusing

primarily on garlic mustard, but is also targeting several priority weeds including sulphur cinquefoil, goatsrue, giant hogweed, and spurge laurel. Monte has been spending a significant amount of time visiting sites to gain familiarity, and has identified several new infestations, as well as a new population of Japanese butterbur (*Petasites japonica*) Giant knotweed (*Reynoutria sachalinensis*). While Japanese and Bohemian knotweed are widespread, a pure stand of Giant knotweed is rare within the county.

Monte has also been coordinating with CRISP partners to implement CRISP approved projects in the Clackamas. CRISP approved 13 projects in the Clackamas this season, and Monte has been coordinating efforts to ensure their completion.

Monte has also been coordinating with staff from the Mt Hood National Forest, and he is spearheading control work within the burn area of the Riverside Fire. One project area was prioritized for noxious weed treatments ahead of a planned rafting event. Monte coordinated the work with Forest Service staff, and Justin assisted with the power sprayer for a day of treatments to treat shining geranium among other weeds.

Bee has also kicked off her field season and is coordinating several garlic mustard sites including a large garlic mustard infestation near Hackett Creek. The Sandy River garlic mustard patches are outside our core locations in the county and are a high priority for control and containment.

Bee has also been coordinating partners for our upcoming Lolo Pass hawkweed control project. This large-scale project involves many partners and many moving parts. Bee has been coordinating with our partners at ODA and is demonstrating an acumen for the planning effort.

With two new staff members coming on board this season, there was certainly concern about capacity this season. It is great to see that Monte and Bee are doing great acclimating to the work. Sam and Justin have been helping to bring folks up to speed.

Views from the Field



Beachie Creek Fire: A view of the recovering landscape within the Beachie Creek Burn Area



Contract crews treating a growing population of Scotch broom in the Beachie Creek burn area.



Contract crews gridding for garlic mustard on steep terrain.



Garlic mustard rosettes treated prior to flowering.



Contract crews preparing to target an Italian thistle infestation located near Willamette Falls, in Oregon City.



Gridding for garlic mustard at a high priority location in Wilsonville.



A garlic mustard seedling being targeted for control.



A large infestation of Japanese butterbur submitted through iNaturalist, and verified in the field.



An infestation of Giant hogweed emerging.



A newly discovered infestation of giant knotweed identified on the Clackamas River.



New WeedWise staff on the Clair Klock County Conservation tour with a visit to one of our favorite cooperators!



A large patch of our native giant white fawn lily. Another one of the Clackamas County residents we serve.



Justin assisting Monte with shining geranium control in the Riverside Burn area.



A newly discovered population of lesser celandine was identified and treated on the Mt Hood National Forest.



Chainsaw Trainings

The WeedWise Program Specialists recently completed chainsaw trainings to both enhance their skills and to improve their safety when working in remote locations, especially within the wildfire impacted areas of the county.

The WeedWise program has staff and contractors working within the burn areas of the Riverside, Beachie Creek, and Bull Complex fires. Within these areas, the risk of trees falling across roads, blocking access out is a real threat. The chain saw trainings are intended to increase awareness and to ensure that staff can safely extricate themselves while working in remote locations.

The chainsaw trainings offer a range of benefits, including:

Increased knowledge and skills: The chainsaw trainings provide a comprehensive understanding of chainsaw safety and operation techniques. This knowledge can help identify potential hazards, avoid accidents, and operate chainsaws safely and effectively.

Improved safety practices: Chainsaw certification courses emphasize the importance of safety practices such as using proper personal protective equipment (PPE), maintaining equipment, and following established procedures. Staff are able to learn and practice these safety measures and help reduce the risk of accidents and injuries while operating chainsaws.

Increased confidence: Chainsaw certification can help staff to feel more confident in their abilities to operate chainsaws safely and effectively. This increased confidence can help reduce stress and anxiety associated with chainsaw operation. It also helps us to understand practices and procedures employed by our contractors.

We are happy to report that Justin, Bee, and Monte all passed their certification courses and had a great time participating in the class.



Backyard Habitat Certification Program

The WeedWise program has been working with our Conservation Planning and Education and Outreach departments to continue our support of the Backyard Habitat Certification Program's in Clackamas County. Sam and Nicole have been coordinating with Columbia Land Trust and (*the organization formerly known as*) Portland Audubon to develop a scope of work.

This year we are excited to be supporting the Backyard Habitat Certification Program at historic levels, which allows us to fully implement this program and promote it as needed. We will also be looking at a potential expansion to eligible properties outside the Portland Metro Urban Growth Boundary to allow for participation in some of our other urban and suburban areas.

In preparation for the year ahead, we are also taking stock of the work undertaken over the last year and since expansion into Clackamas County. Below are some preliminary results from the current year.

Urban Areas in Clackamas County	FY22-23		Since FY17-18	
	Initial Site Visits	Certification Visits	Initial Site Visits	Certification Visits
Gladstone	6	3	27	6
Happy Valley	5	2	45	8
Lake Oswego	40	10	278	109
Milwaukie	20	3	172	24
Oregon City	7	3	75	14
Portland	0	0	4	0
Rivergrove	0	0	5	2
Tualatin	1	1	10	6
Unincorporated	45	4	381	80
West Linn	25	4	175	38
Wilsonville	11	2	78	13
Totals	160	32	1,250	300



New additions to the Weed Equipment Lending Library

The WeedWise program recently invested in several new tools from our Weed Equipment Lending Library. Specifically, we invested in two newly designed Weed Wrenches™, a replacement standard Uprooter™, and new Uprooter™ mini. We also purchased a newly designed Extractigator™.

These tools are great at pulling up weedy trees and shrubs of varying sizes. In addition, we invested in two new Lake Rakes to help address aquatic weeds in ponds. The Lake Rakes have multiple configurations using a double length handle, or a rope to toss and retrieve the rake. Both rakes can be configured to float or sink depending on the vegetation being targeted.

This now brings our Weed Equipment Lending Library tools up to seventeen, including seven Weed Wrenches™ (1- mini, 4-light, 1 medium, 1-heavy), two Extractigators™ (2-standard w/ big foot attachments), two Lake Rakes (2-standard), two Shrub Busters™ (1-light, 1-heavy), two PullerBears™ (1-light, 1-heavy), and two Uprooters™ (1-standard, 1-mini).

We want to give a big shout out to Tami that has largely been managing the library since the start of the COVID pandemic. She has been our customer point of contact for this program and has helped to keep this valuable program initiative in place. Tami also does a great job of showing off our new tools. So, thank you Tami!

These tools couldn't come at a better time. The spring months are when our equipment tends to get the most use. Peak demand for the program tends to coincide with the blooming of Scotch broom.

Learn more about our [Weed Equipment Lending Library on the WeedWise website](https://www.weedwise.org/weed-equipment-lending-library).

Happy Pulling!



Technical Assistance

The WeedWise program is launching into our season of peak interest in weeds. This is the time of year when weeds are blooming, and people are getting outside to enjoy the sunny conditions. This translates into a steady increase of technical assistance requests generated from phone and emails to the District, as well as reports and observations submitted to the [Oregon Invasive Species Hotline](#), and through [iNaturalist](#).

Within the program Sam typically spearheads the technical assistance requests in an effort to free up field time for our WeedWise Specialists to focus on our Early Detection and Rapid Response management efforts.

Most recently, the WeedWise program has been responding to requests and reports related to Scotch broom, Italian arum, garlic mustard, common horsetail, spurge laurel, lesser celandine, and creeping buttercup, among others.

In particular, our iNaturalist project has continued to prove fruitful, with priority weed observations demonstrating a 42% increase in observations since last year, including 4 new priority weed species. This has proven to be a valuable tool for monitoring. Very recently, WeedWise monitoring of iNaturalist lead to the potential discovery of [Japanese Cedar Long-horned Beetle \(*Callidiellum rufipenne*\)](#). This new beetle is known only from the Northeastern US. The WeedWise program was responsible for submitting this observation to ODA, ODF, and APHIS for verification.



[This potential Japanese Cedar Long-horned Beetle was observed in Milwaukie in late April. Efforts are underway to verify the observation.](#)

Although the technical assistance this time of year can be taxing, it is great to see the interest of our residents in invasive species weed issues.



Grants and Agreements

The WeedWise Program has been busy working through a number of grants and agreements. The WeedWise Program is grateful for our new Conservation Investments Coordinator, Heather Nielsen, for her efforts in helping to draft and edit grants and agreements. In recent weeks, Sam and Heather have teamed up to submit a grant request of **\$540,000** to Portland General Electric's Clackamas River Hydroelectric Project Mitigation and Enhancement Fund (Clackamas Habitat Fund). This proposal was developed to support the work of CRISP through 2029. If awarded this will be the third round of funding for CRISP and will build upon the **\$689,442** that we have received under our prior agreements.

In addition to the CRISP agreement, Sam and Heather prepared a proposal for BLM Title II (RAC) funds to support ongoing weed control efforts primarily in the Molalla and Sandy Watershed. We are requesting **\$60,000** over two years. This request is complimentary to a prior award sunsetting this spring. We are hopeful for some funding, but the funds available to Clackamas County are limited.

Sam has also continued working on Forest Service agreements and submitted two contracts with the Forest Service. One agreement for **\$792,000** will support infrastructure work underway on the Mt Hood National Forest. This agreement will fund additional WeedWise staff over the next 5 years. A second agreement for **\$250,000** will support noxious weed control efforts associated with the Riverside Fire.

We recently learned that the Mt Hood National Forest has been designated as a National Priority Landscape. This designation will bring a significant commitment to fuels reduction and fire resiliency to the forest. We are certain that noxious weeds will play a pivotal role in this approach.

The WeedWise program has also finalized an agreement modification with BLM to add funding to our Wildfire agreement. The additional funding will allow us to sustain management efforts for an additional year.

We are grateful for the support of our partners and look forward to continuing our efforts across Clackamas County.



4 COUNTY Cooperative Weed Management Area



4-County CWMA

Website development

The 4-County Cooperative Weed Management Area has been moving forward with the redevelopment of its website to better serve CWMA partner organizations. A mockup of the new website has been developed by [Redblind Media](#) and is currently being reviewed by the website committee. Efforts are underway across all of our committees to support his effort. We are nearing the end of the primary design work and are shifting to content development and refinement of the design. We are excited about this new resource.

Mapping and Data Templates

The mapping and data committee for the 4-County CWMA released a new data collection template for use by CWMA partners, and recently gave a demonstration for partners across Oregon. The template takes advantage of the ESRI ArcGIS Online system and empowers our CWMA partners with an online tool for collecting data.

4-County CWMA Field Day Planning

Planning is underway for a summer field day to be hosted by our partners in Clark County, Washington. We are excited to hear about some of the activities underway. Bee is currently coordinating logistics with an *ad hoc* planning committee in Clark County.

Columbia Gorge CWMA

Columbia Gorge General Meeting

The Columbia Gorge CWMA hosted its first hybrid general meeting this past month. This was the first in person CWMA meeting since the onset of COVID pandemic. The hybrid meeting was held at the OSU Extension Experiment Station in Hood River. The meeting focused on targeted grazing, partner project highlights, small grant projects, and planning for our annual field day. It was great to see people in person and have them welcome our new CWMA Coordinator Bee!



The 2023 Invasive Species and Exotic Pest was well attended and was a welcome return to in person meeting.

Invasive Species and Exotic Pest Workshop

The Columbia Gorge CWMA was finally able to hold our Invasive Species and Exotic Pest (ISEP) Workshop. This in-person event was held on April 13th, 2023, in Stevenson, WA. The vent was well attended and included presentations about:

- Tree of heaven and spotted lanternfly
- Drone Spraying
- Sudden Oak Death prevention
- Drone survey and treatment efforts
- Pesticide Treatment Tips
- and the Weed Quiz

Columbia Gorge CWMA Small Grant Program

The Columbia Gorge CWMA recently announced the last of its small grants to Hood River Soil and Water Conservation District to support puncturevine control efforts, landowner outreach, and volunteer events in Hood River. We were excited to award this project and are excited to see the impact of these funds.

CWMA Field Day

The Columbia Gorge CWMA is preparing for our upcoming Field Day. This year we will be taking a tour to favorite sites of retiring Klickitat County Noxious Weed Coordinator, Marty Hudson. The field day will take us to the Klickitat trailhead, Crawford Oaks, Horsethief Lake, Dancing Rock, Dalles Mountain Ranch, to see some of Marty's long-term management efforts.

Voucher Approval List

5/3/2023

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment
5/3/2023	101423	AFLAC	Acct: LGF14 05/2023	\$ 1,040.37
5/3/2023	101424	Clackamas ESD	CSWCD: AR 530 NIS [SIP] 03/2023	\$ 896.63
5/3/2023	101425	Covenant Systems LLC	CSWCD: Site Svcs [Security] 05/2023	\$ 11,550.00
5/3/2023	101426	Coverall North America, Inc	Acct: 157-6800 CRC 05/2023	\$ 1,569.00
5/3/2023	101427	Garmin Services, Inc	Acct: DL627537 04/2023	\$ 70.30
5/3/2023	101428	MassMutual Life Insurance Company	Acct: 76453 GRP 05/2023	\$ 649.50
5/3/2023	101429	Pacific Office Automation	Acct: 900-0266949-000 [100-0417] 02/2023	\$ 221.51
5/3/2023	101430	PGE	Acct: 9606754531 04/2023	\$ 972.45
5/3/2023	101431	Spire Technologies, Inc	Acct: 02208 05/2023	\$ 2,224.12
5/3/2023	101432	US Bank Voyager Fleet Systems	Acct: 869284679 04/2023	\$ 289.42
Subtotal:				\$ 19,483.30

5/16/2023

5/15/2023	101433	American Heating Inc	CSWCD: Site Svcs [HVAC Maint] 04/2023	\$ 1,710.00	
5/15/2023	101434	Amy Stork Consulting LLC	CSWCD: Consulting [Planning] 04/2023	\$ 4,895.00	
5/15/2023	101435	Ash Creek Forest Management, LLC	WW-2022-01 Training 03/2023	\$ 645.00	CF
5/15/2023	101436	Jeff Becker	CSWCD: Stipend 04/2023	\$ 100.00	
5/15/2023	101437	Biohabitats, Inc	LM-2022-01 [Sidey] Fuels Reduction Project 04/2023	\$ 11,783.55	CF
5/15/2023	101438	Buel's Impressions Printing	CSWCD: Printing 05/2023	\$ 562.50	
5/15/2023	101439	Clackamas River Water	Acct: 032327-00 [CRC/FIRE] 05/2023	\$ 526.88	
5/15/2023	101440	E & A Systems Incorporated	CSWCD: SRG-7901 Install [50%] 05/2023	\$ 8,900.00	CF
5/15/2023	101441	E & A Systems Incorporated	CSWCD: SRG-7901 Test Pit 05/2023	\$ 1,600.00	CF
5/15/2023	101442	E & A Systems Incorporated	CSWCD: SRG-7902 Install [50%] 05/2023	\$ 5,400.00	CF
5/15/2023	101443	E & A Systems Incorporated	CSWCD: SRL-7021 FINAL 05/2023	\$ 10,050.00	CF
5/15/2023	101444	Scott Eden	Reimbursement: Mileage 04/2023	\$ 59.61	
5/15/2023	101445	Education & Outreach Company	CSWCD: Farm Tip Booklet 04/2023	\$ 1,560.00	
5/15/2023	101446	Geosyntec Consulting Inc	PNW0494 SIA Monitoring 03/2023	\$ 5,992.71	CF
5/15/2023	101447	Donald Guttridge	CSWCD: Stipend 04/2023	\$ 100.00	
5/15/2023	101448	James Johnson	CSWCD: Stipend 04/2023	\$ 100.00	
5/15/2023	101449	Clair Klock	Reimbursement: Mileage/Training 03/2023	\$ 203.71	
5/15/2023	101450	Kuznetsov Thinning Company	WW-2022-07 [LM-2023-JC-ECCF] 04/2023	\$ 2,999.25	CF
5/15/2023	101451	Jan Lee	CSWCD: Stipend/Mileage 04/2023	\$ 181.22	
5/15/2023	101452	Monte Mattsson	Reimbursement: Supplies 04/2023	\$ 123.71	
5/15/2023	101453	Padmanabhan K Melethil	Reimbursement: Mileage 04/2023	\$ 161.38	
5/15/2023	101454	Heather Nielsen	Reimbursement: Mileage/Filing 05/2023	\$ 19.64	
5/15/2023	101455	North West Landscape Care Inc	CSWCD: Site Svcs [FARM] 05/2023	\$ 4,785.00	
5/15/2023	101456	Pacific Office Automation	Acct: 900-0266949-000 [100-0417] 03/2023	\$ 210.95	
5/15/2023	101457	Pamplin Media Group	Acct: 341 Molalla Publication 04/2023	\$ 204.00	
5/15/2023	101458	Redland Grange #796	CSWCD: Partner Grant [FmrMkt] 04/2023	\$ 750.00	
5/15/2023	101459	Rebecca Sinichko	Reimbursement: Mileage/Supplies 04/2023	\$ 254.05	
5/15/2023	101460	Sound Native Plants Inc	WW-2022-11 [CRISP-MM-2023-09] Training 04/2023	\$ 3,916.90	CF
5/15/2023	101461	T-MOBILE	Acct: 961602090/989231057 04/2023	\$ 609.48	
5/15/2023	101462	Wilbur-Ellis Company LLC	Acct: 2266434 [Fert-FARM] 04/2023	\$ 2,757.36	
5/15/2023	101463	Joan Zuber	CSWCD: Stipend/Mileage 04/2023	\$ 89.30	
5/15/2023	101464	VOID 	MISPRINT	\$ -	
5/15/2023	101465	VOID	MISPRINT	\$ -	

Subtotal: \$ 71,251.20

Total: \$ 90,734.50

Total Conservation Fund \$ 51,287.41

CF


Board Chair


Board Secretary


Treasurer