



### April showers bring May...weeds?



Last year we discovered an unexpected invader: orange hawkweed. It produces attractive orange-yellow flowers that resemble a marigold. It is so easy to grow that even folks with thumbs that aren't green can grow orange hawkweed. But it is not a native plant. It reproduces so quickly it can cover a landscape. Orange hawkweed displaces plants that our native creatures depend upon. It is a noxious weed...a Class "A" weed, according to the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

Visit <http://conservationdistrict.org> and search for the word "weeds" to learn more about what April showers may bring us in May!

### Why help people learn?

When you boil down the work we do to help people learn about the importance of healthy, vibrant natural resources, you find that a fundamental purpose is to change behaviors.

The District cannot "do it all" for everyone. Since the formation of soil and water conservation districts after the Dust Bowl era, districts have been engaged in a long-term effort to empower people with the knowledge they need to better manage natural resources.

Why? Because people who are connected to a piece of land are the very ones whose actions directly impact natural resources every day.

We do not follow the model of enforcing laws and rules against egregious actions that harm other people, creatures or natural resources. Instead, we work to create understanding that will support voluntary conservation actions by individuals.

A voluntary model can cause behaviors to change, and those behaviors are then passed along to the next generation of land managers. And although many of the steps a landowner can take are small, easy, and inexpensive, when many landowners do those things, the collective impact can be substantial...and very positive.

We believe in our non-regulatory, voluntary approach to conservation. We believe this is a way most people prefer to be helped by government. And we believe this is an effective model to achieve positive results.

We hope you'll enjoy one of our workshops, videos, or personal visits this year!

### Coming up...

**May 2:** Budget Committee meeting

**May 4:** Oregon Envirothon

**May 4-7:** River Network National Conference, Portland

**May 5-6:** OSU Spring Garden Fair, Canby

**May 12:** DIY Healthy Yards, Healthy Streams workshop

**May 15:** Clackamas SWCD budget hearing and Board meeting

**May 19:** Alternative to Lawns workshop, at the Oregon City Home Depot

**July 25:** Oregon Soil and Water Conservation Commission meeting, Salem

# Projects

Here you'll find highlights of some of our larger initiatives. Typically, these address multiple conservation needs, making them more complex to plan and implement.

## 3D Water Quality Project

*Overview: Our "3D" project is funded through a grant from the Oregon Department of Agriculture. Two years of water quality sampling in Deep, Doane, and Dolan creeks revealed some specific water quality problems, mainly involving nutrients, bacteria, and pesticides. Currently, we are reaching out to streamside landowners to establish filtering buffers to keep soil out of these streams. We are actively partnering with the Clackamas River Basin Council. Their Shade Our Streams program meshes well with our project. Cleaner, cooler water and better habitat conditions are our goals.*

As weather improved in April, we continued to conduct site visits in the Doane, Dolan and North Fork Deep Creek area with our project partner, the Clackamas River Basin Council.

The issue of pesticides in surface water is emerging as we learn that the Environmental Protection Agency is in the process of placing a number of Clackamas River tributaries on a "303d" list for pesticides. Pesticides are attached to soil particles and are entering streams because soil is eroding from fields. Part of our role in the 3D project is focused on reducing soil erosion. The Clackamas River Basin Council's part of the project seeks to increase streamside shade to help keep streams cooler.

Unfortunately, we are not seeing much interest by landowners. We will continue to work cooperatively with landowners to reduce erosion and increase streamside vegetation.

A draft newsletter was crafted in April and we are waiting for various approvals before we publish it.



Primary benefit: **Water quality**

All benefits:  Water quality  Water quantity  Wildlife habitat  Weed control  Watershed health  Weather impacts  
 Working lands  Working together  Workshops, education, outreach  Workplace functions, accountability

## Milk Creek Instream and Riparian Habitat Enhancement Project

*Overview: Eroding streambanks, a scoured channel, and lack of habitat for fish are the focal points for our Milk Creek project. Funding is being provided by a variety of partners. This is a complex project because it involves working in the stream bed, reshaping a streambank, and restoring appropriate native vegetation. Cleaner water and better habitat conditions are the primary benefits planned for this work.*

Last month, we reported on the submission of permits to the Oregon Department of State Lands and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In April, we continued to work through the permitting process by meeting with various state and local officials to discuss permit requirements and gain their support.

District staff are sourcing "large wood" which really means whole trees, including the roots. If you picture what a large tree looks like when it has blown over in a storm, with the roots still attached to the tree trunk, that's what we mean by large wood.

Our work window is July 15 through September 30. This time period is designed to minimize impacts to water quality and fish. We are gearing up now to get critical work done this summer!

Primary benefit: **Wildlife habitat**

All benefits:  Water quality  Water quantity  Wildlife habitat  Weed control  Watershed health  Weather impacts  
 Working lands  Working together  Workshops, education, outreach  Workplace functions, accountability

## Prairie View Soil and Water Conservation Project

*Overview: Put a golf course, commercial nurseries, industrial land uses, and a housing development shoulder-to-shoulder, and that describes the setting for our Prairie View project. Picture a small watershed as if it was a bathtub, and rain falling into the bathtub all heads for the drain...which passes through the backyards of many residential homeowners. This is a complex situation with a wide range of landowner needs and desires. We are working with a professional facilitator to meet with affected groups of landowners, while simultaneously assisting individual landowners. Cleaner water, saving some of the best soil in Clackamas County, and a balanced approach to water use and handling that is accepted by the affected community are our goals for this work.*

No field work was completed in April. Instead, District staff worked on developing productive approaches to working with residential landowners in the project area. We continued to explore options that may be available to the commercial nurseries in the project area.

Nurseries have been impacted by the depressed economic conditions of the last few years. They sell products for landscaping, so their sales decline when new construction slows down and family incomes are strained. Our customers in the nursery trade are challenged to invest in conservation practices at the present time. We hope the economic recovery continues so we can help these customers implement more water and soil-saving practices!

Primary benefit: **Water quantity**

All benefits:  Water quality  Water quantity  Wildlife habitat  Weed control  Watershed health  Weather impacts  
 Working lands  Working together  Workshops, education, outreach  Workplace functions, accountability

## Newell Creek Canyon Project

*Overview: Build apartments, retail stores, and other businesses at the top of a very small watershed. Don't forget to include lots of pavement and a highway! Now try to keep the water in Newell Creek cool enough for the juvenile salmon that use this stream to hide in while they grow larger and stronger. Fortunately, the area immediately around Newell Creek is densely forested. Most of the work in this project is centered on controlling invasive weeds so we can restore native plants alongside and near the stream. Much of the land is owned by Metro, but we can leverage their work by working with private landowners in a halo around the project area.*

District staff continued to monitor water quality in Newell Creek using the Hobo-brand thermometers that we placed in the stream. Staff also continued to plan for weed treatments in the project area.

Fish – including salmon – use streams for reproduction and shelter. Salmon spawn in Abernethy Creek. Newell Creek is a small tributary to Abernethy Creek, and the value it provides is rearing habitat and safe places to hide from predators. Having cool, clean water is important for salmon, and it is even more important to young fish.

Metro says, "Located within Oregon City, Newell Creek originates near Clackamas Community College and winds north to its confluence with Abernethy Creek, a tributary of the Willamette River. Newell Creek supports significant native populations of fish, including coho salmon, cutthroat trout and steelhead. The presence of these native fish and the relatively large size of the bordering undeveloped land make the canyon biologically notable. The property includes a native forest of red cedar, Douglas fir, big-leaf maple and red alder with an understory of fern, snowberry and salmonberry. A portion of a former rail alignment has potential for a future trail." For more information about Metro's goals for this area, visit their website at <http://www.oregonmetro.gov/> and search for Newell.

The Greater Oregon City Watershed Council is the local lead on this project, and we are happy to be helping.

Primary benefit: **Wildlife habitat**

All benefits:  Water quality  Water quantity  Wildlife habitat  Weed control  Watershed health  Weather impacts  
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# Water ~ Weeds ~ Wildlife

**WATER QUALITY and QUANTITY = Protecting and restoring the quality of surface and ground water, and assuring future supplies of water for people, plants, and animals.** *District programs include water quality monitoring and many conservation practices. Rain gardens and bioswales help clean water before it infiltrates into ground water. Rainwater harvesting and irrigation system improvements are good examples of water quantity practices.*

## Technical assistance to landowners and land managers

We have been meeting with a horse boarding facility in Lake Oswego, helping them deal with horse manure. Currently, they are paying a disposal company to haul the manure away. In April, our discussions revolved around improving their manure storage facility and turn out areas. Our conservation planners are developing plans for the turn outs. We'll bring an engineer to the site for some technical help on manure storage options.

Staff also visited a horse boarding facility in Oregon City to look at footing improvements and removing excess water in the paddocks. Excess water and mud affect animal health and water quality.

## Water quality sampling

This month staff conducted regular sampling in tributaries of the Clackamas River. A pond was also sampled to help determine best steps for aquatic weed control.

Primary benefit: **Water quality**

All benefits:  Water quality  Water quantity  Wildlife habitat  Weed control  Watershed health  Weather impacts  
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**WEEDS = Detecting, controlling, and eradicating invasive plants.** *Invaders affect wildlife and crop production. In some cases they pose health risks to people and animals.*

## Sunshine brings in the phone calls

When the sun comes out our phones begin ringing off the hook! Folks are seeing weeds popping up all over. We have received numerous calls for technical assistance, primarily about: Lesser celandine (*Ranunculus ficaria*), Shining geranium (*Geranium lucidum*), Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), and Spurge laurel (*Daphne laureola*). To report weeds, visit our website at <http://conservationdistrict.org/how/report-weeds>

## A Spurge laurel purge!

District staff visited a Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program project site in the Springwater area to check for Spurge laurel. The riparian buffer plantings are growing well, but a few populations of Spurge laurel were found. Crews treated and removed the weeds the following day.

The Early Detection and Rapid Response program treated Spurge laurel and Garlic mustard on six sites, and conducted additional surveys at numerous sites.

Primary benefit: **Weed control**

All benefits:  Water quality  Water quantity  Wildlife habitat  Weed control  Watershed health  Weather impacts  
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## Planning, coordinating, educating

### Transition on the Sandy

Staff met with several organizations from both Multnomah and Clackamas counties to coordinate a transition of weed control work previously done by The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Several large-scale weed control efforts along the Sandy River are being phased out as a result of TNC restructuring their programs. The District is working to preserve the advances made in controlling invasives and to find ways to continue the good work done by TNC.

### Integrating factsheets

Staff completed the first draft of our Urban Integrated Pest Management factsheets in partnership with the Four County Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA).

What is Integrated Pest Management? The US EPA says: "*Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to pest management that relies on a combination of common-sense practices. IPM programs use current, comprehensive information on the life cycles of pests and their interaction with the environment. This information, in combination with available pest control methods, is used to manage pest damage by the most economical means, and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment.*"

We participated in the Four County CWMA general meeting to review updates to the technical plant list, finalize language recommendations for home and curbside recycling of yard debris, and begin planning the CWMA's Annual Field Day. This kind of coordination is important to deliver effective weed control across our region.

### Database improved

We secured additional data for all iMapInvasives submissions in the Clackamas County area, greatly expanding the District's weed database. This will help the District become even more responsive to weed reports, and also allow us to more easily see emerging patterns of weed invasions.

### Presentations

Early Detection and Rapid Response presentations were delivered to the Sandy Garden Club, Hunter Heights Homeowners Association, and to various agencies (Clackamas County Roads, Clackamas County Parks, Water Environments Services, and Vector Control).

Primary benefit: **Weed control**

All benefits:  Water quality  Water quantity  Wildlife habitat  Weed control  Watershed health  Weather impacts  
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**WILDLIFE = Developing habitat conditions to enhance the life cycle of wild creatures.** *CREP and riparian restoration activities are focused on habitat but offer additional benefits.*

## South Creek Abernethy

The South Creek Abernethy riparian restoration project is progressing well, funded by an OWEB small grant and by District cost-share funds. We recently received payment of \$8,659 from OWEB for grant-funded work we've completed this year.

## DIY Healthy Yards, Healthy Streams

Staff have been working on a do-it-yourself workshop called "DIY: Healthy Yards, Healthy Streams" to be presented in mid-May in the Mt. Scott/Kellogg Creek area. This is a collaborative effort by our conservationists who specialize in urban, riparian, and invasive plant issues. Invitations have been sent out and we have already received responses from several homeowners. The workshop will be held at the Presbyterian Church in Milwaukie.



## Dams and fish

### Woodcock Creek dam



Staff invited Megan Walther (State Hydraulic Engineer, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service) and Danette Faucera (Assistant District Fish Biologist, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife) to a site on Woodcock Creek to see how a small dam may be affecting salmon.

The small, two-foot-tall dam restricts salmon fry and smolt from moving freely in the stream. The landowner is interested in helping the fish use the stream more effectively, but the best way to accomplish this has not yet been determined.

There is a potential Clackamas County project upstream from this site which could impact stream flow rates and affect the solution for the fish passage issue. We will continue to work closely with this multiagency, multifaceted team while we wait for information regarding the upstream project.

### Corral Creek dam

We also took Megan and Danette to review a site on Corral Creek, a tributary to the Willamette River. A very old concrete dam that was once used for irrigation is creating a barrier to fish during periods of low stream flow, and preventing sediment transport in the stream.

Our landowners are very interested in a project to address the fish passage problem, so we will be looking at opportunities for this site. Check out the cutthroat trout we found at the site!



### Rinearson Natural Area dam

Staff attended a public forum on management alternatives for the Rinearson Natural Area in Gladstone. Current options include keeping the dam, removing the dam, or modifying the dam to allow for fish passage. The meeting included a lively discussion on beaver dams and their impact on water temperature.

Primary benefit: **Wildlife habitat**

All benefits:  Water quality  Water quantity  Wildlife habitat  Weed control  Watershed health  Weather impacts  Working lands  Working together  Workshops, education, outreach  Workplace functions, accountability

## Wildlife in your backyard, even at your school

### Backyard conservation program

Staff met with an Oregon City resident regarding our new backyard conservation program and provided recommendations on lawn alternatives. This landowner is also interested in a rain garden and will be talking to her neighbors about a possible rain garden cluster project in their neighborhood.

### Wetland enhancement is elementary

As part of an ongoing discussion about wetland enhancement at a local primary school, staff met with the landscape architect who designed the school grounds. It was a very useful discussion that will help us determine how students can engage in the wetland enhancement project.

Primary benefit: **Wildlife habitat**

All benefits:  Water quality  Water quantity  Wildlife habitat  Weed control  Watershed health  Weather impacts  Working lands  Working together  Workshops, education, outreach  Workplace functions, accountability

## Oregon Wildlife Habitat Program

Our staff members continue to assist landowners in developing Wildlife Habitat plans and Riparian Lands Tax Incentive Program plans. For more information about the Riparian Lands Tax Incentive Program, please visit the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife website at [http://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/tax\\_overview.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/tax_overview.asp)

As part of this work, staff assisted a landowner in developing agreements with Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and Portland General Electric (PGE) that will satisfy the standards required by ODFW.

Primary benefit: **Wildlife habitat**

All benefits:  Water quality  Water quantity  Wildlife habitat  Weed control  Watershed health  Weather impacts  
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## Our Other Important W's

**WATERSHEDS = Working toward stronger, more resilient watershed conditions.**

### Clackamas Local Advisory Committee meets

In March, the Clackamas Local Advisory Committee (LAC) held its first meeting to conduct a required biennial review of the Clackamas Sub-basin Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan. In April, the LAC convened two more times to finish reviewing the Area Plan and making needed modifications.

The District serves as the Local Management Agency (LMA) for the Clackamas LAC. We're working on finishing the minutes from the last two meetings. When edits to the Area Plan are finalized, we'll post a copy on our website.

**WEATHER = Developing responses to our changing climate, and to floods and droughts.**

*Increasing the amount of weather data collected locally is a baseline strategy to help us deal with weather-induced changes.*

### Keep in mind the weather when planting and harvesting

The District continues to consider how weather affects our people and natural resources. A recent article in the Journal of Soil and Water Conservation explored conservation practices that help during drought and during excessive water events. As weather patterns change over time, the time for planting and harvesting may need to change. This will be particularly important to people who make their living from their land. We continue to follow this emerging topic so we can best advise our urban and rural constituents.

### Try a tuna can to measure how much water you apply to your lawn

For our urban customers: have you considered using a simple rain gauge or even a tuna can to measure how much water you are using when you water your lawn? Using too much water costs extra and is not good for your lawn. Using too little is also not good for your lawn. Visit <http://www.fairwaylawns.com/watering/> for information about using a tuna can to measure how much water you are using!

**WILDLANDS = Working to improve and protect wildlands, including prairies and forests.** *One way we address wildland issues is by working with the Clackamas Stewardship Partners. Encouraging fire breaks and fire-resistant native plants around buildings also helps protect wildlands.*

We continue to participate in the rich, diverse discussions facilitated by the Clackamas Stewardship Partners.

## WORKING LANDS = Providing service to help keep agricultural lands healthy and productive.

*Our work with nurseries, Christmas tree farms, crop and food producers, and farmers markets all fit in this category.*

### Food production

#### Dairy is first recipient of a Grant+Loan from District



We don't have many working dairies left in Clackamas County, so we are delighted to be able to assist one in obtaining an important piece of equipment for their pond.

Dairy waste goes to a pond to be stored until pasture grass begins to grow. Then just the right amount of the pond contents are sprayed on the grass to help the grass grow. This is called agronomic application of nutrients. If you apply too much, the plants can't use it all and some washes away. If you apply too little, pasture grass doesn't grow as well as it could.

What is the important piece of equipment for the pond? This operation needs an agitator to stir up the pond so the contents can be piped and applied to fields at a rate – not too much, not too little, but just right – that supports optimum plant growth and protects water quality.

Our USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service partners brought this opportunity to our attention. The landowners are concerned about cash flow because their margins are thin while they are trying to increase their herd. They need an agitator, but our traditional cost-sharing arrangement is not a good fit.

We've been talking for months about how to produce water quality benefits using loans, and the solution we came up with for these landowners is a grant plus a loan, which we are calling a "Grant+Loan."

With a Grant+Loan, the District will pay the equipment vendor 100% of the cost and the cooperators will repay us his 25% share (the same percentage as our cost-share program) over time, at a low interest rate. We have negotiated a repayment schedule with the landowners. They are happy with this arrangement because they get the agitator in time to use this spring, relieving some of their cash flow concern.

We're happy with this arrangement because we can support local agriculture and help protect water quality at the same time! Over time, we hope to be able to provide more loans, and eventually, those loaned funds will come back to us so we can loan them out again...and again...and again.

#### Community Supported Agriculture

Staff provided technical assistance regarding soil testing to some folks who are starting a new Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) operation. Determining the kinds and quantities of nutrients needed for optimum plant growth can save money and protect water quality, while also generating the greatest harvest possible. Other conservation actions including rainwater harvesting are being considered.

#### Honey

A Colton honey company has been the site for new riparian plantings. The planting plan included plants that not only protect and shade the stream, but also provide nectar-producing flowers for the honeybees. The project was funded through an Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board small grant and a District cost-share award.

#### Blueberries

Staff consulted with a grower of organic blueberries on applying micronutrients and controlling fungal infections. Watering inappropriately can create conditions that support fungal growth and impact water quality. Conversely, by applying just the right amount of water at the right time benefits the grower by producing better berries at lower cost, while also helping to protect water quality by minimizing runoff.

Primary benefit: **Water quality**

All benefits:  Water quality  Water quantity  Wildlife habitat  Weed control  Watershed health  Weather impacts  
 Working lands  Working together  Workshops, education, outreach  Workplace functions, accountability



## Nursery

Staff inspected a new nursery drip irrigation system that replaces an old overhead system. More than half of the new system has been installed and is functional. The nursery operator is waiting on parts to finish the installation.

Primary benefit: **Water quantity**

All benefits:  Water quality  Water quantity  Wildlife habitat  Weed control  Watershed health  Weather impacts  
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## WORKSHOPS, OUTREACH, EDUCATION = Reaching and teaching citizens, agencies, partners, and others.

### Fair and festivals

#### County Fair

It's not too early to start developing our fair booth for this year! Vector Control is going to return to their original booth site in the vendor section. The District is going to stay out on the main lawn. We are working with Cooperative Extension to possibly move to another spot on the lawn. Several watershed councils have expressed interest in assisting with our fair booth. Stay tuned for more fair happenings!

#### Earth Day: we were there!

An Earth Day Celebration was held in Wilsonville on April 24 at the city library...and we were there. Our display featured pollinator habitat and conservation.

#### Clackamas County Lavender Festival

We'll have a booth again this year at the Clackamas County Lavender Festival, June 30 and July 1. Ask us about rainwater harvesting and pollinators when we see you there!

### Workshops and presentations

#### Manure Field Day

The District partnered with Oregon Department of Agriculture to host a Manure Management Field day on April 30. The District sponsored morning coffee break. We also had our a District display set up for viewing. The morning session was held at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center and the afternoon field sessions were held at several dairies in the area.

#### Sandy River Restoration Expo: we were there!

Our staff participated in the Sandy River Restoration Expo by participating in two panel discussions about funding opportunities available to landowners. The District also had displays about weeds and about our services. One landowner expressed interest in receiving help with restoring streambanks and improving wildlife habitat.

Last year, a participant recognized a photograph of a pretty little orange-yellow flower in our weed displays as a plant in her yard. This resulted in our discovery of a significant infestation of orange hawkweed. Our Early Detection and Rapid Response program shifted into high gear to control this invader.

## Cooking ACRES of compost

Agricultural Composting Resources and Education Series (ACRES) training with OSU Extension was a successful endeavor yet again with 35 attendees. Compost piles were designed and built on the first day and then analyzed a week later to see how different materials and styles of piles worked. The hands-on nature of the class was very effective in helping the attendees understand the classroom training.



## Best rain garden workshop of the year

Partnering with Home Depot and the Clackamas River Water Providers, we held our most successful rain garden workshop of the year on April 14! Eight very enthusiastic participants engaged in an hour-and-a-half conversation on the planning, design and construction of urban rain gardens. One of the participants is an instructor at a local Christian school and has asked for our assistance in determining if a rain garden would be appropriate on their site.

## Rain gardens in schools

Staff gave a presentation on rain gardens and native plant gardens to about forty 5th-8th grade students at Springwater Environmental School. These young people were very engaged and asked many great questions. We'll return to the school in a few weeks to lead a rain garden design workshop. During the workshop, students will break into small teams and create their own rain garden designs. Following a friendly competition, a winning design will be selected and hopefully implemented at the school next fall!

## Publications

### Brochure for North Clackamas Urban Watersheds Council

A final draft of the North Clackamas Urban Watersheds Council brochure has been sent to the watershed council board for review. Funding to the District through Water Environment Services (WES) helps us assist this new watershed council in reaching out to urban landowners who manage riparian zones.

### Rain Garden Fact Sheet

Stay tuned for a new fact sheet from us about rain gardens, due to be published in May!

### We advertise, too

You'll find an ad by the District in the Home and Garden insert in the Canby, Molalla, Wilsonville and Woodburn newspaper.

The District also had the lead article in the *Going Beyond Green* publication produced by the Clackamas County Sustainability Department. This publication is sent to many Clackamas County residents and is also available online.

## More education-related actions

### Small farms school?

We began working with OSU Small Farms Extension on developing an event similar to Tree School, but focused on small farms. It is modeled after "living on the land" educational events occurring in Central Oregon this summer. We plan to deliver this event at Clackamas Community College and will feature classes geared for small acreage farmers.

### Scholarships

The District's Scholarship Committee received 10 applications this year. Six of those applications were received on time and five were complete and therefore eligible. This is a great improvement over participation last year. The Committee will meet on May 2, 2012 to review applications.

Primary benefit: **Workshops, education, and outreach**

All benefits:  Water quality  Water quantity  Wildlife habitat  Weed control  Watershed health  Weather impacts  
 Working lands  Working together  Workshops, education, outreach  Workplace functions, accountability

## WORKING TOGETHER = Developing and nurturing key partnerships to help achieve our conservation mission. *Captured here are actions that help us build and maintain important conservation relationships.*

### Rain...

#### Regional rain garden campaign

Staff met with local partners – including municipalities, other soil and water conservation districts, and Extension offices – to discuss the feasibility of a regional rain garden promotional campaign, similar to the 12,000 Rain Gardens campaign in Puget Sound (see <http://www.12000raingardens.org>). Differences in approach at the state level in Oregon and Washington may limit an exact replica of the Puget Sound program, but there is interest on the Oregon side and we're excited to part of this effort.

#### Stormwater guide

We continue working with local partners on improvements to a new operations and maintenance field guide for stormwater facilities. The guide will help landowners and contractors maintain these facilities, meaning the facilities will provide water quality protection for many years.

### Something old, something new



We are concerned about cultural resources in almost all of our on-the-ground conservation projects. The relatively mild climate and rich natural resource base in and around the Willamette Valley mean this land has been used for many thousands of years. It is not uncommon to find evidence of previous use on a project site.

To some, the mention of cultural resources brings to mind things like arrowheads and stone flakes. In the context of the first people to dwell in this region, it is more than just things. Cultural resources can include spiritually significant sites and even native plant communities with traditional uses.

Staff visited the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO, pronounced "ship-oh") in Salem to talk about how to follow state law as we proceed with our on-the-ground conservation work. Our planners are developing a simple reporting tool to make it easier for us to notify SHPO before we initiate conservation actions, and easier for them to make a determination about whether more investigation needs to be done before we can proceed.

Primary benefit: **Working together**

All benefits:  Water quality  Water quantity  Wildlife habitat  Weed control  Watershed health  Weather impacts  
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## WORKPLACE = Assuring accountability and the sound delivery of services.

### Staff training

#### Grant writing

Eann Rains attended a webinar titled "How to make your grant proposal stand out from the pack." It provided good information that could also be helpful to our watershed council partners. Here's a link to the recorded presentation: [http://charityhowto.com/webinar\\_info.php?vid=338](http://charityhowto.com/webinar_info.php?vid=338)

#### Low-impact development

Erik Carr attended two low-impact development workshops at the WSU Extension Research Station in Puyallup, WA. The first addressed bioretention facilities and the second featured permeable pavement. Each two-day workshop focused on siting and design, water quality and flow control standards, hydrologic modeling, and operations and maintenance. Instructors included staff from WSU Extension, Seattle Public Utilities and two engineering firms.

## Riparian restoration

Jenne Reische attended training on HEC-RAS this month. HEC-RAS is short for Hydrologic Engineering Centers River Analysis System. The program is very useful for showing water depth at a variety of flood stages and for predicting changes in hydrology when replacing culverts or adding large wood for habitat.

The District's investment in riparian restoration training places us in a leading position for scientific, well-planned, and safe riparian restoration work in the future.

## Finance and Budget

### Budget work

The Budget Committee had its first meeting on April 4. The District proposed a simplified budget structure that was well received by the Committee. Staff have responded to the Committee's requests for information. The second meeting of the Committee will be on May 2.

Primary benefit: **Workplace functions, accountability**

All benefits:  Water quality  Water quantity  Wildlife habitat  Weed control  Watershed health  Weather impacts  
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## OUR PEOPLE

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## COMMON ABBREVIATIONS

<p>APHIS – USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service</p> <p>ARCSA – American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association</p> <p>BLM – Bureau of Land Management</p> <p>BMP – Best Management Practice</p> <p>BOLI – Bureau of Labor and Industries</p> <p>CCC – Clackamas Community College</p> <p>CCE – Common Computing Environment</p> <p>CCSWCD – Clackamas County Soil and Water Conservation District</p> <p>CEDARS – Clackamas Early Detection and Reporting System</p> <p>CIG – Conservation Innovation Grant</p> <p>CRBC – Clackamas River Basin Council</p> <p>CSP – Clackamas Stewardship Partners</p> <p>CSP – Conservation Stewardship Program - NRCS Cost Share Program</p> <p>CWMA – Cooperative Weed Management Area</p> <p>DEQ – Oregon Department of Environmental Quality</p> <p>DOG – Dollars On the Ground (CCSWCD cost-share program)</p> <p>EDRR – Early Detection and Rapid Response</p> <p>EQIP – Environmental Quality Incentives Program - NRCS Cost Share Program</p> <p>ESA – Endangered Species Act.</p> <p>FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency</p> <p>FSA – Farm Service Agency</p> <p>GIS – Geographic Information Systems (Mapping Software)</p> <p>GOCWC – Greater Oregon City Watershed Council</p> <p>IPM – Integrated Pest Management</p> <p>ITB – Invitation to bid</p> <p>LGIP – Local Government Investment Pool</p> <p>LID – Low Impact Development</p> <p>MOA – Memorandum of agreement (aka MOU)</p>	<p>MOU – Memorandum of understanding (aka MOA)</p> <p>NCPRD – North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District</p> <p>NCUWC – North Clackamas Urban Watersheds Council</p> <p>NOAA – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration</p> <p>NPDES - National Pollution Discharge Elimination System</p> <p>NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service</p> <p>OACD – Oregon Association of Conservation Districts</p> <p>OAN – Oregon Association of Nurseries</p> <p>OCEAN – Oregon Conservation Employees Association Network</p> <p>ODA – Oregon Department of Agriculture</p> <p>OAN – Oregon Association of Nurseries</p> <p>OSU – Oregon State University</p> <p>OTAC – Oregon Technical Advisory Committee</p> <p>OWEB – Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board</p> <p>OWHCOMP – Oregon Wildlife Habitat Conservation and Mgt. Program</p> <p>PGE – Portland General Electric</p> <p>PRWC – Pudding River Watershed Council</p> <p>RAC – Resource Advisory Committee</p> <p>RC&amp;D – Resource, Conservation and Development</p> <p>RWH – Rainwater Harvesting</p> <p>RFP – Request for proposal</p> <p>RUSLE – Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation</p> <p>SDAO – Special Districts Association</p> <p>SHPO – State Historic Preservation Office</p> <p>SWCD – Soil and water conservation district</p> <p>UERC – Urban Ecosystem Research Consortium</p> <p>USDA – United States Department of Agriculture</p> <p>USFS – United State Forest Service</p> <p>USGS – United States Geological Survey</p> <p>WES – Water Environment Services</p>
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