



Ripple Press

Update for Doane, Dolan and North Fork Deep Creeks Landowners



What is going on in my stream?

Over the past two years the Clackamas County Soil and Water Conservation District has sampled water at stream crossings on Doane, Dolan and North Fork Deep Creeks. We have found elevated levels of nitrate (a form of nitrogen commonly found in fertilizer, but also a by-product of septic systems) and some legacy pesticides (pesticides that have been banned, some for many years). We are not sure of the source of the nitrates, but we do know that legacy pesticides are often attached to soil. A good way to keep soil out of our streams is to have native grasses, trees and shrubs on the stream banks to filter runoff and provide shade to the stream. The Clackamas River water is too warm and if we are able to keep the water in the tributary streams cool, it will help reduce the temperature of the Clackamas River!



What can I do?

If you have an eroding stream bank, or a bank that is mostly bare, we can pay for planting native plants that will protect the bank, filter runoff and, create future shade for the stream. If weeds cover your streambank, let us know about that, too. We can remove weeds and replace them with native plants! This service is offered free of charge for all but the most serious erosion issues. Contact the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District at (503) 210-6011 or Clackamas River Basin Council at (503) 303-4372 for more information.

What is a healthy riparian area?

A riparian area is the streamside area that is sometimes flooded and often has grasses and trees that provide good homes for birds and animals. A healthy riparian area has a mixture of native trees, shrubs, and grasses, and is free of weeds like Himalayan blackberry, Reed Canary grass and Scots broom. A healthy riparian area also filters out pollutants such as pesticides, animal waste, and soil from runoff water.



Photo by Terry Spivey USFS



Who is the Clackamas River Basin Council?

The Clackamas River Basin Council is a nonprofit watershed council with the mission of fostering partnerships for clean water and to improve fish and wildlife habitat and the quality of life for those who live, work, and recreate in the watershed. The Council partners with private landowners, agencies, businesses, and volunteers in projects throughout the watershed.

The council was established in 1997.

Who is Clackamas County Soil and Water Conservation District?

The Clackamas County SWCD provides technical assistance to property owners regarding maintenance and improvement of soil and water quality, forest, crops and wildlife habitat. We help solve problems related to natural resource management. Our services are free and voluntary to all county residents.

The District was established in 1958 .

Working together for the protection and enhancement of natural resources.

Do you own property along a stream?
Would you like to improve your streamside?
FREE

Clackamas River Basin Council (CRBC) and Clackamas County Soil and Water Conservation District (CCSWCD) are offering a free and voluntary opportunity for streamside planting and erosion control to landowners in your area. Our goal is to provide shade and streambank vegetation to keep streams cool, clean and healthy for people, fish and wildlife.

Call CRBC at (503) 303-4372 or CCSWCD at (503) 221-2011 to find out more about this opportunity!

