

Even One Oak Matters...

If you have oak on your property, you have something special. Oak Woodlands are increasingly rare in the Willamette Valley. Since 1850, only 10% of oak habitats remain and 96% of remaining oak woodlands are on private land.



photo credit Donald Owen, California Dept of Forestry and Fire Protection, Bugwood

The Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District is contacting landowners in the areas where oak woodlands are known to occur to find out if there is interest in a program to help conserve and enhance oak habitat.

Why conserve oak on your property?

Fire Hazard Reduction

- ✿ No tree is fireproof, but Oregon white oak have characteristics that make them safer in the wildland/urban interface.* Oak wood and leaves contain less flammable resin than Douglas fir or other conifers and are less likely to carry a fire.

Drought Resistance

- ✿ After established, oak trees are drought-tolerant and thrive without supplemental summer watering.**

Farm Uses

- ✿ The next time you pass a field with an oak tree on a hot day notice where you see the livestock. Other than blocking sun, the water transpiration through the leaves creates a cooling effect for animals.
- ✿ Well-spaced oaks encourage better forage utilization by dispersing livestock and provide hunting perches for predatory birds that provide free pest control of rodents.



Benefits to Wildlife

- ✿ Over 200 species of native wildlife use oak savannas and woodlands; however, even one oak in your backyard provides great benefits such as perches for raptors and cavities for nesting and roosting birds and animals.
- ✿ Acorns provide a high calorie food source for many birds and animals.

Maintain Native Biodiversity

- ✿ Nature is stronger and healthier when many different species live together and Oregon white oak are important contributors to this diversity. White oaks support a unique community of native plants and animals that are not found in other habitats.



If you are interested in help with the oak habitat on your property, give us a call, or send an e-mail.

...and many oaks are a wonderful thing!



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* [A Land Owners Guide for Restoring and Managing Oregon White Oak Habitats](#) - Bureau of Land Management

** [Conserving Oregon White Oak in Urban and Suburban Landscapes](#) - Mark Griswold Wilson and Ted Labbe