



the Clackamas

CURRENT NEWS

CLACKAMAS RIVER BASIN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Boat & Bike the Clackamas

Fall 2015 Issue

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Thank You Donors!

Our work was supported by the following individual donors this year to-date: Frank Heiple Jr., Susan Owings & Carol Donnell, Terry King, and Dave Kleinke. View more at: www.clackamasriver.org/donate/thank-you-donors

Down the River Clean Up - Sept 13: Come float and fill the boat at the 13th Annual Down the River Clean Up on Sunday, September 13th, 2015. For the first time in 12 years, the event will include Milo McIver State Park as an official boat launch for floaters joining the effort to keep the Clackamas River clean - extending this year's trash sweep to a **20+ mile stretch** of the Clackamas River from Estacada to the confluence with the Willamette River in Oregon City.

Join the Clackamas River Basin Council, We Love Clean Rivers, and a flotilla of over 350 volunteers in rafts, kayaks, SCUBA gear, and on-land to scour the Clackamas River's streambed and banks for trash. Everyone is encouraged to join the event. All non-motorized paddle crafts may participate and launch at one of four parks: **Milo McIver State Park - Lower Boat Ramp, Barton Park, Carver Boat Ramp, and Riverside Park**. A free BBQ and raffle prizes will follow the event. Pre-registration is required at: www.welovecleanrivers.org.

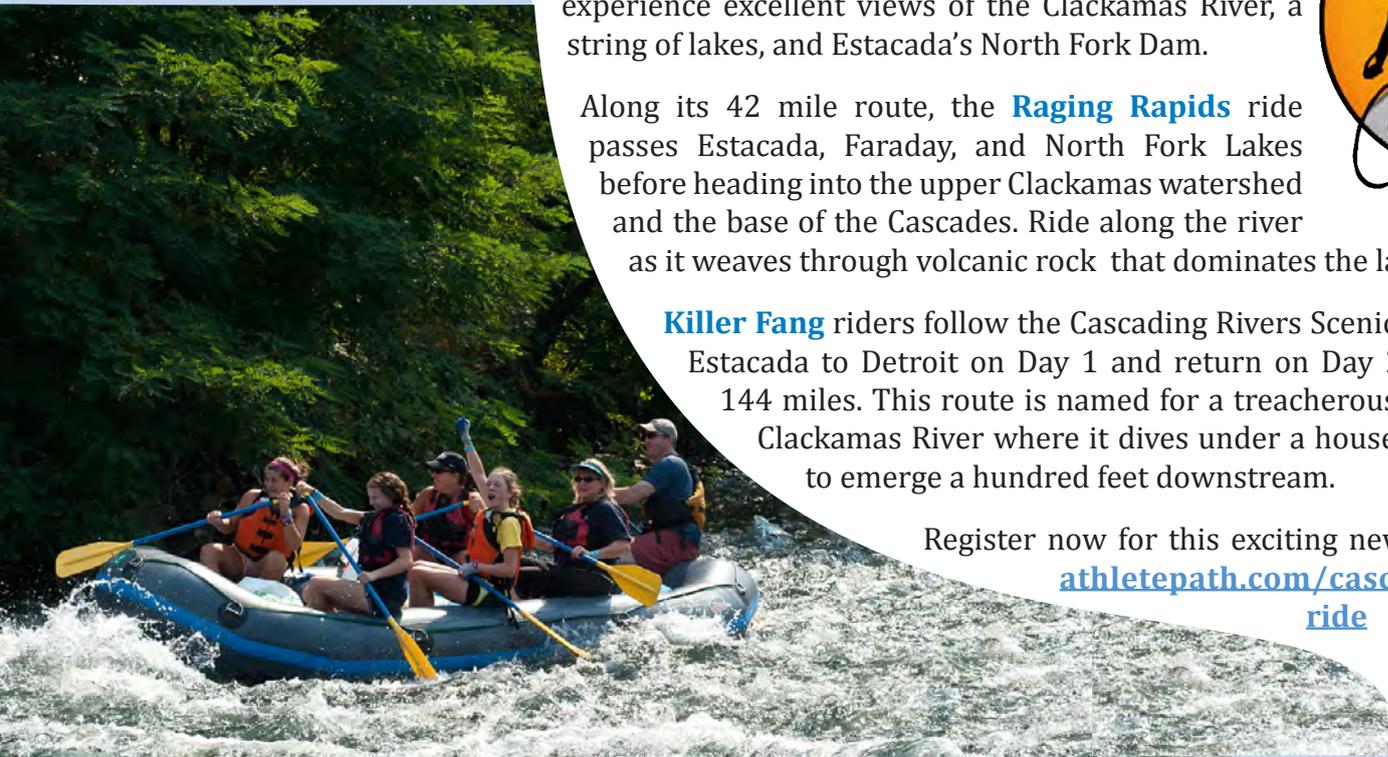
Cascading Rivers Ride - Sept 19-20: Don't miss the inaugural ride of Oregon's newest scenic bikeway, featuring beautiful views of the Clackamas River. There are options for any skill level, choose the ride that's right for you.

The 12 mile **Little Riffles** ride is on a gated access road, making it perfect for the whole family. They'll experience excellent views of the Clackamas River, a string of lakes, and Estacada's North Fork Dam.

Along its 42 mile route, the **Raging Rapids** ride passes Estacada, Faraday, and North Fork Lakes before heading into the upper Clackamas watershed and the base of the Cascades. Ride along the river as it weaves through volcanic rock that dominates the landscape.

Killer Fang riders follow the Cascading Rivers Scenic Bikeway from Estacada to Detroit on Day 1 and return on Day 2 for a total of 144 miles. This route is named for a treacherous section of the Clackamas River where it dives under a house-sized boulder to emerge a hundred feet downstream.

Register now for this exciting new event! www.athletpath.com/cascading-rivers-ride



Where in the Watershed

Along the Clackamas River: Fishers Bend & River Island South



You may have noticed recent construction in the Clackamas watershed, the result of two restoration projects that will soon be enhancing salmon habitat, providing floodplain connection, and improving water quality through native tree and shrub plantings.

About 2 miles west of Barton just off Hwy 224, is **Fishers Bend**, an alcove (side channel) of nearly 1,000

feet that is now reconnected to the mainstem of the Clackamas River. Fortunately for fish and other aquatic and wildlife species, this means rearing and resting waters with new large wood structures that provide protection from predators, attract insects for food, and create deep pools for young salmon to hide and grow in. By re-establishing a connection to the floodplain, the river now has an outlet for fast flowing flood-stage waters to slow, reducing streambank erosion and impacts downstream. Initial construction work was completed this past July with native tree and shrub planting still to come.

The Fisher's Bend project is made possible with funding from Oregon Wildlife Foundation, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, and the US Forest Service. Partner support includes Chrysalis Farms, Clackamas County Parks, Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation District, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.



Excavated side channel at Fishers Bend with erosion control mat



Upstream of Fishers Bend and on the opposite side of the Clackamas River off Eden Road, is the **River Island South** project, just completed at the end of August. This restoration site will nudge nature to restore an area on the south bank of the river to return to a more natural state after removing a failing roadbed and culvert, re-connecting an alcove for improved floodplain function, and installing large wood structures that attract fish and wildlife for spawning, rearing, and resting. Removing invasive weeds and replanting with native trees and shrubs within the surrounding 8 acres will follow in 2016-2018.

Project partners include Metro, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, US Forest Service, along with other local agencies and landowners providing input for the technical design.

Stay tuned for more updates on both these projects and get involved at a future volunteer work party!

Shade Our Streams

Shading Our Streams, Protecting Our Salmon

The Clackamas River connects us all. Water that falls on the ground in the watershed eventually flows into the Clackamas, so the temperature of each stream, big and small, contributes to the river's temperature. This is especially true during summer months, when stream flows are lower and sunlight is stronger. Salmon are highly sensitive to changes in temperature and can't survive in warm water.



Landowner Robyn Beisell standing among her new plants

With salmon deaths in the Clackamas River this summer from warm water temperatures, the need for shading our streams has never been more apparent. While everyone can make a difference by conserving water in their everyday lives, streamside landowners have an additional opportunity to affect stream temperatures by planting along streams, thereby restoring streamside forests.

By taking part in [Shade Our Streams](#), streamside landowners are contributing to a long-term solution for healthy salmon. Shade Our Streams has planted over a **quarter million trees and shrubs** along streams and rivers in the Clackamas watershed so far. These plants will grow up to provide shade over the creeks and streams flowing into our Clackamas River, cooling the water and providing habitat for wildlife.

If you live on a stream that is lacking in shade, contact us to see if Shade Our Streams is a good fit for your property. Call Chelsea at (503)303-4372 x105 or email chelsea@clackamasriver.org.

Don't live on a stream but want to help? See back page for upcoming volunteer work parties.

Support Our Work

[Make A Donation](#)

All donations are greatly appreciated, and are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Donate online via PayPal — just head to our website and click the “[donate](#)” button. Our tax identification number is 91-1838169. Thank you for your contribution!

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Search for us by name or non-profit #89223.

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Online shoppers can go to smile.amazon.com, then click on your account and select CRBC as your charity of choice in order for us to receive donations from a portion of your purchase price, at no cost to you.

Learn More

[New Watershed Videos](#)

Learn about the Clackamas watershed, water quality issues, and Council activities in these videos brought to you by Clackamas County:

[Council Overview](#) - [Challenges Facing the Clackamas Watershed](#) - [Shade Our Streams Program](#) - [Shade Our Streams Sites](#) - [The Impact of Invasive Species](#)

Available on our website at: <http://clackamasriver.org/community/newsletter>

[Pesticide Application Tips](#)

Do you have or know of non-English speaking field workers in the agriculture industry that may benefit from a fact sheet on pesticide application tips near waterways?

Download our handy [Pictorial Fact Sheet](#) or visit our website at: <http://clackamasriver.org/community/fact-sheets>



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Email info@clackamasriver.org to be added to our **E-blast** for the latest news and upcoming events.



Find us on **Twitter** at [ClackamasRiver](https://twitter.com/ClackamasRiver).
Search for our **Facebook** page at "[Clackamas River Basin Council](https://www.facebook.com/ClackamasRiverBasinCouncil)."

Get Involved

If you're looking for a reason to get out in the Clackamas watershed this fall, look no further! Contact Morgan Parks at morgan@clackamasriver.org about how to get involved. Volunteer opportunities are also listed on our website at www.clackamasriver.org.

Council Meetings

CRBC meets on the third Thursday of each month from 6-8:30 pm at the Mt. Scott Fire Station in Happy Valley. These meetings are open to the public. Check our website for information about that month's featured presentation.

Boat & Bike the Clackamas

September 13 - Down the River Clean Up (Milo McIver State Park, Barton Park, Carver Boat Ramp, and Riverside Park)

Sept 19-20 - Cascading Rivers Scenic Bike Ride (3 ride options starting from Estacada)

Restoration Work Parties

Volunteering is a great way to enjoy the outdoors, work those muscles, and meet new people, all while helping our waterways. Tools, gloves, and water are provided. Please dress for the weather. All events start at 9 am and end at noon.

2015

October 17 - Christmas tree placement at Fishers Bend in Damascus

November 7 - Education stations at Discover Rock Creek in Happy Valley

December 5 - Tree planting at Pfeifer Ridge in Happy Valley

2016

March 12 - Rock Creek Watershed Wide Event at Pendarvis Farm in Happy Valley

Also check out [Watershed Works](#), a partner newsletter of Watershed Councils and Soil & Water Conservation Districts in the region, available on our website.



Welcome new staff!
Evan Gammon, Field Specialist
Katherine Cory, Accounting & Administration Specialist