



The Clackamas

CURRENT NEWS

CLACKAMAS RIVER BASIN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Summer 2019

- 1 - Be Pesticide Wise
Down the River Clean Up
- 2 - Living with Wildlife
Summer Interns
- 3 - Headwaters of the Clackamas
Sieben Creek Confluence
- 4 - Get Involved

Thank You River Heros!

This summer a number of citizen volunteers have taken the initiative to float the Clackamas River and pick up trash and debris.

You are amazing and we are grateful for your efforts.

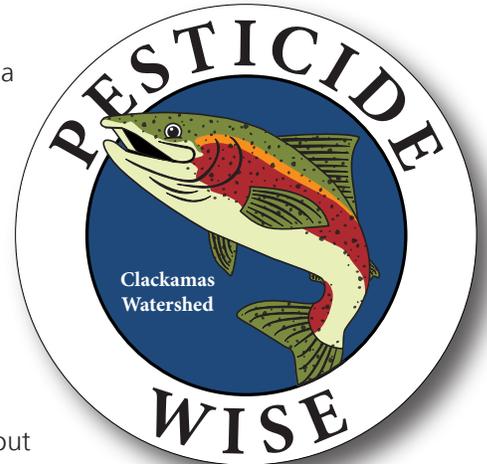
Be Pesticide Wise

If you live in the Clackamas Watershed, you can take a pledge to earn a free Pesticide Wise or Pesticide Free sign to display in your yard.

The Clackamas River Basin Council has partnered with the Clackamas River Water Providers to offer free educational fact sheets and outreach to raise awareness of the dangers of inappropriately applied pesticides in our environment and especially in our drinking water.

The program encourages residents to learn about how best to use pesticides, how to read the label on pesticide containers and what alternatives there are to using chemical pesticides.

Want to help get the word out? You can volunteer with CRBC and attend farmer's markets and other targeted events where we can connect area residents with our Parting with Pesticides program. To volunteer, contact pat@clackamasriver.org.



Get your FREE Yard Sign!
<http://www.clackamasriver.org/pesticidepledge>

The 17th Down the River Clean Up is Sunday, September 8

The Clackamas River Basin Council, in partnership with We Love Clean Rivers, will host the 17th Annual Down the River Clean Up on Oregon's Clackamas River, Sunday, September 8th, 2019. You can volunteer to participate on-land or on-water.

Registration is now open! When you register, you will choose one of these five parks for your volunteer role - Milo McIver State Park, Barton County Park, Carver Park, Riverside Park or Clackamette Park. The morning of the cleanup, go directly to the park you registered at to check-in. Register at www.welovecleanrivers.org

If you register as a boater/floater, diver or garbage scow volunteer, make sure to arrange YOUR OWN TAKE-OUT SHUTTLE VEHICLE. Life vests are required for all volunteers on-water. We recommend carpooling as parking is limited. Parking is free at each of the parks for volunteers. Parking passes will be distributed via email the week prior to the event, so register early.

On the day of the event, please eat a hearty breakfast, bring lots of snacks, and a water bottle! We also recommend bringing GLOVES, sunscreen, sunglasses, a light rain jacket, a warm layer, hat, fast-drying/wicking clothes, adequate river shoes, a dry bag and a first aid kit.

An amazing BBQ will be provided for FREE for all volunteers after the cleanup.

See you there!



Living with Wildlife Class Draws Avid Students

A recent class on the Clackamas River basins local wildlife drew enthusiastic attendees to the riverside property of Shade our Streams participants Buck and Mary Kay Baker. The property, Chrysalis Farms, has been a great location for many Clackamas River Basin Council classes and field trips.

On Saturday, August 7, our Stewardship and Communications Manager, Suzi Cloutier shared her expertise and excitement about the unique and wonderful roles that our wildlife plays in the health of our system. She soon had the class engaged in seeing our local wildlife (from bugs and slugs to birds and mammal) through a different and exciting lens.

The Living With Wildlife class looks at major factors affecting wildlife including how humans can positively or negatively impact their natural habitats as well as how we really CAN all live in harmony. It also considers human perceptions of wildlife, and our emotional reactions to creatures who may be predators, prey, beautiful or ugly, big or small.



CRBC staff member, Suzi Cloutier, leads the class on a nature walk.



Participants got a close up look at a banana slug.

The class explores a variety of mammals, birds and reptile species that live in the Clackamas watershed and their needs for survival as well as their roll in this delicate thing we call the web of life. Suzi points out some lesser-known superpowers of certain species and dispels long-held misunderstandings of others. In the long run, Cloutier hopes to help humans see all wildlife with a sense of wonder and respect.

The class culminated with a discovery hike, where participants were encouraged to 'see the natural world through a new set of eyes'. This class was documented by a videographer from Clackamas County TV. It will be posted on the CRBC website once completed.

CRBC Hosts High School Students as Summer Interns

The Clackamas River Basin Council partnered with the West Linn-Wilsonville School District to provide internship opportunities for three high school students this summer.



Digital Marketing Intern,
Ally Finkbeiner

A Digital Marketing intern position gave Ally Finkbeiner, a student at Wilsonville High School, an opportunity to craft a social media campaign to educate and engage the public in protecting the Clackamas River. Ally was able to bring insights from a younger demographic to create campaign messages and identify images that would

connect with river users. Ally was invited to present her work at the August council meeting.

Two students from West Linn High School, Camden Saks and Gavin Harvey, joined CRBC as Water Quality Monitoring

interns. They received training from the DEQ on how to collect accurate water quality samples. Both interns then accompanied staff in the field and helped to accurately collect and record water samples, water chemistry, and physical habitat data as well as collect aquatic macroinvertebrate samples.

This study and samples will provide important information about the health of the river and the success of CRBC's



Water Monitoring interns, Gavin Harvey and Camden Saks

restoration efforts. CRBC is dedicated to providing youth with insightful and participatory internships that provide real-world experience in environmental stewardship roles.

Clackamas Stewardship Partners Tour the Headwaters of the Clackamas

In early August, a caravan of Clackamas River advocates and agency partners drove up Highway 224 and along gravel roads to reach the headwaters of the Clackamas River. The headwaters are located at the outlet of Head Lake which is just north of Olallie Lake.



The CSP Tour galthered at Olallie Lake near the headwaters of the Clackamas River.

The outing was one of a series of exceptional tours of the watershed organized by the Clackamas Stewardship Partners. This tour was an exploration of various features of the river from it's headwaters to North Fork Reservoir.

The uppermost reaches of the Clackamas have intermittent flow, and the streambed was dry when we visited. The perennial river begins several miles below where thousands of small springs feed the river year round.

The group stopped for lunch at the site of a new river channel that was created during the 1996 flood. The recent nature of the channel was visible in the raw down

cut banks. Fallen trees are already creating structure in this slowly maturing channel.

Several miles down the road, the group observed where the river channel had been rerouted through human intervention to create a straighter stretch of highway. The segments of historic channel are now acting wetland alcoves and provide habitat for reptiles and other wildlife.

At the Oak Grove crossing, a tributary has been reborn. Water, formerly diverted from the stream to the Three Lynx power station, is now providing habitat to anadromous fish below the waterfall.

The final stop was at Carter Falls, a popular whitewater recreation area. The Forest Service is partnering with Portland General Electric to provide upgrades to the area, including handicap access to viewing platform for the annual Whitewater Festival. Safer parking and protection for riparian areas are also planned.



A handicap accessible viewing platform is planned for Carter Falls.

Sieben Creek Confluence Project Starts with a Picnic and Stream Walk



Residents of all ages explored the creek to learn about stream health.

Clackamas River Basin Council has received two grants to improve riparian habitat at the confluence of Sieben Creek and the Clackamas River. CRBC is partnering with the landowner Clackamas River Community Cooperative on the project to engage residents in the restoration project and to act as stewards of the land to ensure it is maintained and protected into the future.

A kick-off event included a potluck picnic at the site, and a naturalist led stream walk along Sieben Creek. Partners on the project include Metro, Clackamas County Water Environment Services and Oregon Water Enhancement Board.



CoOp members gathered to share food and hear about the proposed project.



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Get Involved

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. Council meetings are open to the public - we'd love to hear from YOU!

Next meeting is scheduled for:

Thursday, September 19, 2019
9339 SE Causey Ave, Happy Valley, OR 97086

Sign Up for Fall Classes!

Get Involved with CRBC this Fall

WHAT'S IN MY STREAM? Class is September 21 | 10 AM TO 12 PM | Oregon City

HEALTHY STREAMS & FORESTS Class is October 26 | 9 AM TO 12 PM | Estacada

Registration is FREE

More information on classes and volunteer events can be found on the "EVENTS" page at clackamasriver.org/events

Curious about other ways to support our work?

Visit clackamasriver.org/donate for more details.