

COAST FORK WILLAMETTE WATERSHED COUNCIL

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2024 YOUTH CONSERVATION CREW MAKES A HUGE SPLASH

Here's this year's Youth Conservation Crew enjoying a fun day exploring Sweet Creek Falls, right outside of Mapleton, as a reward for all their hard work throughout the season! They say not to go chasing waterfalls but they sure had a blast!

By Nayla Keller

Work hard, Play Hard!



Our dedicated youth crew was hard at work this season, focusing on the removal of invasive plant species that threaten the health of our local ecosystems. Here are some highlights of their recent efforts:

Youth Crew Activities: Invasive Species Management

1. **Tansy Ragwort (Senecio jacobaea)**: This perennial plant, known for its bright yellow flowers, poses a significant threat to pastures and native plants. Tansy contains alkaloids that can be toxic to animals and local ecosystems. Tansy ragwort can spread rapidly, outcompeting native plants and reducing biodiversity. The youth crew has been diligently removing Tansy from our watershed areas, ensuring that its spread is curtailed and that native flora can thrive.



2. **Himalayan Blackberry (Rubus armeniacus)**: This aggressive bramble is notorious for its thorny canes and ability to shade out native vegetation. Himalayan blackberry can form dense thickets that hinder wildlife movement and create novel ecosystems of blackberry monoculture. Our youth crew has been tackling these invasive patches, using both manual removal with weed wrenches, and targeted cutting techniques with hand loppers to restore balance to our local

3. **English Ivy (Hedera helix)**: A common ornamental plant, English ivy can quickly become a problem in natural areas, smothering trees and outcompeting ground cover plants. Its ability to climb and spread rapidly makes it a formidable adversary. The youth crew has been actively removing English ivy from key areas, promoting the growth of native species and improving the overall health of our watershed.





4. Parrotfeather (Myriophyllum aquaticum) is an aquatic invasive plant that can cause significant issues in water ecosystems. This plant is characterized by its feathery, bright green foliage and its ability to form dense mats in water bodies. These mats can impede water flow, disrupt native aquatic plant communities, and create habitats for pests like mosquitoes. $\cancel{\not}$





What an incredible season with our youth crew! We accomplished so much together, from restoring habitats to learning about our local ecosystems. The dedication and hard work of our crew made a real impact, and it was truly awesome to see everyone grow and develop new skills. Thank you to everyone who participated and supported us along the way. Here's to many more successful seasons ahead!

Wanna join our crew next year? We put out the call for applications each spring so watch this space!

Photo Credit: Nayla Keller

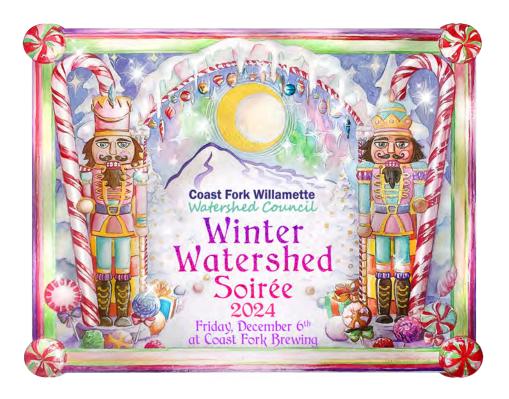
EVENTS

WINTER WATERSHED SOIRÉE TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Mark your calendars because Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council's biggest event of the year, our Winter Soirée will be here before you know it and tickets are on sale NOW!

This year will mark our 14th Annual Winter Soirée which will be held the evening of Friday, December 6th at Coast Fork Brewing in Cottage Grove. Tickets always go fast so act now to enjoy special early bird rates through the end of September!

Use Discount Code: EarlyBird



PURCHASE TICKETS NOW!

SEPTEMBER SCIENCE ON TAP

Join us September 24th at THE AXE & FIDDLE from 5-7pm



Join us on September 24th at the Axe & Fiddle for this month's Science on Tap! Have a pint with the watershed council and the people we work with while enjoying great food, trivia, and more! Free to enter, and 10% of all sales benefit the CFWWC.

UPDATES

PROJECT UPDATE: MOSBY CREEK

ADDITIONAL FUNDING SECURED! \$330K FROM NOAA FISHERIES



Mosby Creek is a large free-flowing tributary of the Coast Fork Willamette River comprising a drainage basin of 97 square miles. It contributes approximately 30% of the flow of the Row River and about 15% of the flow of the Coast Fork Willamette River.



The Mosby Creek Project will support wildlife, hydrology, and fisheries resources. It will support the recruitment of native turtles, increase stream flow into shaded floodplain side channels that will provide habitat for salmonids and create winter storm and summer thermal refugia for aquatic organisms.

PARTNER'S HIRING CORNER

LOCAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES - SEE WHO'S HIRING

Long Tom Watershed Council

Restorations & Fire Projects Manager (RFPM)

This new position is responsible for leading all aspects of coordination, planning, and implementation of oak, prairie, and wetland habitat restoration projects and provides coordination and leadership in planning and implementing burns as part of restoration projects. Excellent time management and multitasking skills are a requirement. The RFPM is expected to maintain prescribed burn qualifications through either NWCG (FFT2, FFT1, etc.) or the Oregon Certified Burn Manager program. The RFPM must be comfortable navigating the complex partnership and regulatory landscape inherent to prescribed fire, and will have excellent communication and interpersonal skills. This position works closely with the four other LTWC staff members that comprise the Rural Projects Team.

More Information and How to Apply Here

BECOME A MEMBER

SUPPORT RESTORATION, MONITORING, EDUCATION, AND STEWARDSHIP IN THE COAST FORK WILLAMETTE WATERSHED!

Become a Member of Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council Today!



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