



COAST FORK WILLAMETTE WATERSHED COUNCIL

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Your Watershed

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HELP SUPPORT OUR WORK:

Invest in our efforts of habitat restoration, monitoring, stewardship, and education!

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WATERSHED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Invasive Plant Management at the Swinging Bridge - Progress Made!



We want to extend a huge thank you to all the amazing volunteers who joined us to tackle some of the invasive plants growing along the Coast Fork Willamette at the J. Polk Currin Swinging Bridge on Saturday, April 19th.

Your hard work resulted in a huge pile of invasive blackberry, English ivy, and native but nasty poison oak, and helped to create a better habitat for our native riparian plants to thrive.

So much of the work we do is 'behind the scenes' - happening in areas of our watershed not seen by the majority of the public. These projects make big impacts, but they're less obvious to see. It's always exciting to be able to bring attention to areas of restoration work have an immediate impact on people's ability to enjoy our natural resources.

Want to get in on the action and have a great time doing something good for your community and your watershed?

We'll be back at the Swinging Bridge to continue invasive plant management on Saturday May 24th from 10am-2pm.

Thank you again for supporting your local ecosystem!

Garden Lake Park Pollinator Garden Gets New Sign



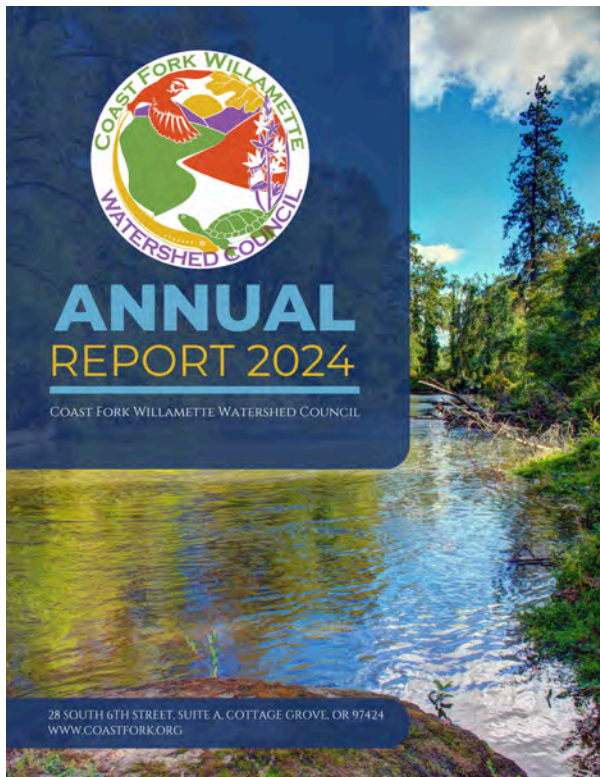
Creswell's Garden Lake Park has come such a long way, and we're so proud that we've been able to be a part of that journey.

Not too long ago, Garden Lake Park was a blackberry infested rock pit. Over the past 2 decades, the City of Creswell and a handful of partners including CFWWC have completed multiple projects that have turned it into the beautiful, green nature park it is today.

But the work is never done. Just this past month, our own Reilly Newman was part of the committee who, along the City of Creswell, worked with Hayward

Creative to create this beautiful new interpretive sign that now adorns Garden Lake Park's Pollinator Garden.

CFWWC 2024 Annual Report is Here!



While 2024 was not without its challenges, we are excited to share with you our successes and ongoing stewardship endeavors.

This past year Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council (CFWWC) completed an instream project replacing multiple undersized culverts with bridges, restoring historic fish passages, continued oak prairie and upland habitat restorations, and undertook new and continuing riparian restorations at numerous project sites within our watershed. Public outreach and education continued to grow throughout 2024.

The last year also saw us work to sustain and increase a project portfolio utilizing diverse funding partners, making CFWWC more resilient and adaptable in an ever-changing funding landscape.

[Read the Full
CFWWC 2024 Annual Report](#)

MAY EVENTS

Bikes to Blooms is May 10th

Bikes to Blooms Wildflower Event is coming up **soon** at Bake Stewart Park!

We're looking forward to seeing you on May 10th for a fantastic spring day of native wildflowers, birding with Grace of the Coast Fork Birders, and celebrating the glorious natural beauty we're so fortunate to have at our fingertips.



Bikes to Blooms is hosted in partnership with the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Land Management, Walama Restoration Project, Native Plant Society of Oregon, Eugene Chapter of the North American Butterfly Association, and Kennedy High School – Youth Conservation Corps.

May Bird Walk at Bake Stewart Park

May 10th

**Come out to Bikes and Blooms
by
8am, Saturday May 10th
to get in on the birding action!**



Please contact Grace Fowler-Gore
at 817-975-4936
or GraceLovesBirds1@gmail.com

to RSVP,
or with any questions.

The **Cornell** Lab
of Ornithology



Date: May 10th, 2025

(Saturday)

Start: 8 a.m.

Location: Bake Stewart Park

The park contains upland prairie and oak habitats that are vital for wildflowers, native grasses and other species such as monarch butterflies. Because of the ongoing habitat restoration, it's a great place to explore. The trails around the park allow hikers and bikers to take in the beauty of the different habitats around the Row River and Dorena reservoir. Information signs are located around the park at most trail junctions.

Park amenities include a small parking area, vault toilets, picnic tables (some covered), hiking and biking trails, and fishing opportunities. Dogs must remain on leashes at all times.

Coast Fork Volunteer Event

May 24th

You're invited to our next Volunteer Event at Cottage Grove's historic Swinging Bridge!



Join us on Saturday, May 24th, from 10 AM to 2 PM as we continue to work to remove a variety of invasive plant species around the bridge and along the riverbank.



Enjoy refreshments while you help lend a hand to Mother Nature and enhance the environment for our native species. Come be a part of the fun and good work!

Science On Tap

May 27th



The poster features a colorful illustration of a landscape with a large green tree, a house, and mountains. In the foreground, there are two orange and white striped cups. The text 'SCIENCE ON TAP!' is written in a stylized font. The event details are listed on the right side, and the date 'MAY 27 5-7 PM' is prominently displayed in an orange box. At the bottom, there is a dark blue banner with social media links.

SCIENCE ON TAP!

OPTIMAL TREE PLANTING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

With Erik Burke, Eugene Director of Friends of Trees

4th TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
5PM – 7PM

AXE & FIDDLE PUBLIC HOUSE – 657 E Main St, Cottage Grove

FREE ENTRY – 10% of food & drink sales to benefit the CFWWC!

MAY 27 5-7 PM

www.coastfork.org 541-767-9717 Facebook.com/coastfork
Instagram.com/coastfork Youtube.com/@CFWWC

We host these family-friendly events on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 5-7pm at the Axe & Fiddle, 657 E. Main St. in Cottage Grove.

Events begin with informal socializing, trivia, and updates about the watershed and watershed council. The Science on Tap presentation begins at 6pm.

The event is free to the public, with a \$5 donation suggested.

NEWS CORNER

What's Blooming?

Looking at Some of Our Favorite Native Spring Wildflowers



Camas

Oregon is home to over 65 percent of the named species of camas, whose blue-purple flowers form spectacular displays from April to June in wetlands, grasslands, and oak savannas in the Pacific Northwest.

The Kalapuya people of the Willamette Valley were reliant on the bulbs of the *Camassia quamash* and *Camassia leichtlinii* species, for food and sustenance.

Checker Lily

This highly variable lily species, also known as the chocolate lily, is native to western North America, and flowers in spring with blooms ranging from mottled green and brown to yellow and purple. Checker Lily habitat in the Willamette Valley includes oak and pine scrub as well as open woods and thickets in low to mid-elevations. It can be found in shade or part shade, and prefers soil with good drainage for dry summer dormancy.





Oregon Iris

When mature, Oregon Iris grows into low mounds of hardy, lance-shaped foliage which eventually flaunt many stalks of vibrant and long-lasting blooms in late spring and early summer. The flowers are typically lavender-blue to purple. Oregon iris rhizomes spread slowly, so it has the appearance of a tight bunchgrass when not in bloom.

Columbian Larkspur

Native to Washington, Oregon, and northern California, this wildflower can grow to over 3 feet in height. It has large, shiny, deeply lobed leaves and flowers of deep brilliant blue to dark royal purple. The upper two petals may be milky white. This plant is toxic, particularly to livestock, which is why it is also often called poison delphinium.



Henderson's Shooting Star

Also known as mosquito bills and sailor caps, these wildflowers bloom from April to June, producing unique displays of nodding, vibrant magenta flowers with thrusting stamens and bent back sepals. They are summer deciduous, going dormant after spring rains have ended. The shooting star relies on

“buzz pollination” from native bumblebees and solitary bee species for successful pollination.

YOUR WATERSHED

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

Become a Member of Coast Fork Willamette
Watershed Council Today!

