DISTRICT’S ANNUAL MEETING & DINNER - NOVEMBER 7

Be sure and mark your calendar for the district’s 65th Annual Dinner on Wednesday, November 7 at the McMinnville Community Center. The featured speaker from Oregon State University (OSU) will focus on Climate Change and how it impacts the local region. It should be a very relevant topic and guests will be encouraged to ask questions.

The evening will begin with a social hour and silent auction followed by a delicious dinner buffet of fresh, local cuisine prepared by The Rogue Gourmet Catering Company. The buffet style meal provides options for dietary restricted selections.

The program also includes presentations of awards to local leaders involved in natural resource conservation. The cost is $20 per person with advanced ticket purchase by October 31 and $25 at the door.

RUN THE WOODS! MILLER WOODS 10K TRAIL RACE OCTOBER 13

Miller Woods is partnering with The Give a Little Foundation for the second annual Run the Woods 10K Trail Race on Saturday, October 13. The proceeds will be divided between Miller Woods and the Give a Little Foundation.

The race is a mix of single track and wider grass pathways over rolling hills. The highest elevation on the property is 600 feet. Details of the run:

- **When:** October 13, 9 am - 12 noon; Race starts at 9:30 am
- **Online Registration** through October 11 - $40
- **Parking Passes** Available - $5 (Limit of 60 passes)
- **Race Day Registration** will be available for $45 plus a $5 parking pass if applicable.
- **Entry Fee includes t-shirt and one raffle ticket. Need not be present to win.**
- **Kids Camp** from 9 am to Noon, ages 5-12 with Outdoor Education Adventures - $10.

Register online at yamhillswcd.org or contact Sonya Wilkerson at 503-866-6164.
SAM SWEENEY PRESENTED DIAMOND PIONEER AWARD ON OCTOBER 3

Sam Sweeney was recognized by the College of Agricultural Sciences at Oregon State University (OSU) with the prestigious Diamond Pioneer Award at a luncheon on October 3 at OSU. The award recognizes people who have significantly impacted agriculture, natural resources, the people of Oregon and/or Oregon State University, with lifetime involvement. Especially “pioneered in some area, or have made innovative changes or performed public service that has helped make Oregon a better place to live.”

This award provided the opportunity to publicly recognize Sam and his accomplishments and for selflessly contributing to agriculture and natural resources.

Sam has been a Director in Zone 5, the Dayton area, for nearly 30 years. In this position he is responsible for and works to improve the natural resources in his zone. As a director on the district’s board, he also helps make the appropriate decisions on natural resource opportunities and issues within the county. He also serves as chair of the Local Advisory Committee for the Ag Water Quality Program in the Yamhill Basin. The committee’s responsibility is to protect and improve water quality within the basin which can be impacted by farm and rural land operations.

His interests are in long term conservation of the county’s natural resources that will benefit the county’s citizens now and in the future.

Congratulations, Sam. You deserve this award!

GRAIN STATION RAISES FUNDS FOR MILLER WOODS RESTROOM FACILITY

When district staff asked Joe D’Aboy, Grain Station Brew Master, about creating a special beer to raise funds for the new restroom project at Miller Woods, he was all in! Volunteers collected Douglas fir tips from Miller Woods and “Doug” beer was born! They allowed the district to host an event on their patio where Miller Woods shirts and hats were sold and attendees were able to donate above and beyond the proceeds from beer sales. A huge group was in attendance and spent the evening enjoying the Grain Station’s great food, “Doug” beer and watching the OSU Beavers win the National College Baseball Championship!

The event raised $700 and the district received an additional $500 donation by the Grain Station for a percentage of “Doug” beer sold.

A big thank you to Grain Station owner, Jeff Glodt, for supporting the community and Miller Woods. We are getting closer to building the restroom facility. If you would like to donate, you can make an online donation by clicking on the donation button on the home page of the district website at www.yamhillswcd.org.
District Board Director, Dave Cruickshank, welcomed kids and families to the 2018 Earth Day at Miller Woods on April 21. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful weather and a day packed full of fun, food, hikes, and critters. The great selection of family fun activities was made possible by many wonderful volunteers: Rony Lucas and other Yamhill County Head Start Staff greeted guests and provided information; Laura McMaster, Dave Hanson, and Theresa Crain led nature hikes; Tom Brewster, Ron Hutchison, and Nancy Carl helped kids build bird boxes; Jenn Scott and Mary Johnson from Talk About Trees taught kids how to make paper which they used to create "Earth" coasters; Neyssa Hays and Tristan Shell-Spurling, from Outdoor Education Adventures, brought critters to touch, feel and hold at the Wildlife Center & Pond Exploration Station, and Jeanie Taylor's presentation on Native Bees rounded out the day where guests enjoyed learning about the many pollinator bees native to our area.

Thank you also to Connie Hutchison for helping with the food and sale items where guests purchased native plants, bird boxes, t-shirts, hats, and books; and to Brad Smith and James Riedman for attending to parking; and several Chemeketa students were a huge help at all the stations or as needed.

A special thanks to Scott Moore for being our official "photographer" and capturing so many wonderful photographs to remember this perfect day. You can go online to see more 2018 Earth Day Photos at https://yamhillswcd.org/2018/04/ and click the link at the bottom of the 2018 Earth Day blog post.

CRUICKSHANK WOODLAND TOUR ATTRACTS YAMHILL COUNTY 5TH GRADE STUDENTS

The 57th Annual Cruickshank Woodland Tour was held May 16 & 17 and welcomed 587 fifth grade students to nice weather in a natural outdoor classroom forest setting. The woodland is owned by Dave and Doris Cruickshank, and provided a beautiful and serene backdrop for students as they visited six educational stations:

- **Soil and Watersheds**: Thomas Hoskins of Natural Resources Conservation Service
- **Plants and Wildlife**: Neyssa Hayes of Outdoor Education Adventures
- **Forest Harvest and Product**: Mary Johnson and Jenn Scott of Talk About Trees
- **Forest Management**: OSU Extension Foresters, Hal and Elin Hagglund and Dennis Werth.
- **Fire Prevention & Safety**: Members of the McMinnville Fire Department; Cindy Martin, Nancy Law, Steve Candela and Debbie McDermott and Oregon Department of Forestry Kevin McLaughlin and Andrew Blanco
- **Outdoor Behavior and Safety**: Yamhill County Sheriff’s Department, Kent Stuart and Roy Harrel and Oregon State Police Trooper Taylor Gerome

Thank you to the volunteers and staff who worked together to create a successful experience for the kids. The district offers a special thank you to Dave and Doris Cruickshank for preparing the trails and allowing students to learn about respecting nature and being safe in this beautiful environment.
BENEFICIAL INSECT FIELD DAY
VERY POPULAR

Thank you to Michael & Dan O’Loughlin for hosting a very successful Beneficial Insect Field Day at their farm on June 20. Highlights included presentations by Entomologists from Oregon State University (OSU) Extension Service, Xerces Society and the Oregon Bee Project. Attendees obtained considerable hands-on identification experience and came away with a better understanding of incorporating beneficial insects into the landscape.

The event was sponsored by:

Yamhill SWCD  OSU Extension Services
Oregon Bee Project  Marion SWCD
Polk SWCD  Clackamas County SWCD

“FRIENDS OF MILLER WOODS” - NEW SIGN-UP ONLINE

Natural Connections, the membership opportunity that supports Miller Woods, has been renamed to Friends of Miller Woods. This name better defines the role which members support for Miller Woods, allowing the community to enjoy the natural beauty and wildlife of this property for years to come.

Annual memberships start at $45 for an individual and $90 for a family membership and provide:

- Access to Miller Woods in lieu of making the $5 day-use donation at the kiosk
- Maintenance of hiking trails and property improvements
- Support for outdoor educational programs

Members are able to sign up and pay for memberships online at yamhillswcd.org/friendsofmillerwoods. Emails will automatically be sent to member two weeks prior to your membership expiration. The new online program provides members the option to sign up for automatic renewals. Members will still be able to sign up with a hard copy application available at the Miller Woods kiosk or at yamhillswcd.org. Questions? Contact Mary at 503-472-6403.

DISTRICT BEGINS
NEW FISCAL YEAR
2018-2019

The district completed the 2017 - 2018 fiscal year on June 30, 2018, and began the new 2018 - 2019 fiscal year on July 1, 2018. The new budget was approved by the budget committee and the district board.

The district ended their fiscal year with a balance of $2,242,145. The district is preparing for their annual audit and their fifth year with CPA Firm, Grove, Mueller & Swank, P.C. The 2017 - 2018 financial audit report will be available at the annual dinner in November. It will also be included in the District’s 2017-2018 Annual Report and the December issue of Conservation Notes.

A copy of the 2018 - 2019 budget is available online. Visit www.yamhillswcd.org/who-we-are/district-documents

SAVE THE DATE!
2019 Native Plant Sale
Proceeds Benefit Miller Woods

March 1 & 2
Friday and Saturday Only

Great Selection - Low Prices - Good Quality
You will enjoy our amazing collection of over 50 species of native trees, shrubs, and understory plants
Bare Root and Container Plants will be offered.

Location: Yamhill Valley Heritage Center
11275 Durham Lane - McMinnville
(Hwy 18 at Durham Lane West of McMinnville)

ORDER FORMS AVAILABLE JANUARY 1, 2019

C O N S E R V A T I O N  N O T E S
The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Yamhill County offers some great cost-share funding opportunities to farmers and forest landowners within specific service areas. The map to the right highlights the covered areas.

The following practices are part of the “cost-share” program:

- Irrigation conversion from sprinkler to drip
- Implementing “Fire Safe” practices on forest lands
- Establishing Cover Crops
- Erosion control along your county road ditch

Now is the time to apply for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Conservation Funding. Applications for NRCS Environmental Quality Incentive Programs (EQIP) are due by mid-November 2018. EQIP is a voluntary conservation program that helps agricultural producers in a manner that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible goals.

If you have interest, and/or want to confirm your property boundaries, and inquire about any program opportunities, contact our office at 503-472-1474. Sergio or myself can help answer your questions and/or assist with program information.

The NRCS is an equal opportunity employer, and provider.

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**Local Work Group Meeting**

**December 12, 2018**

The 2018 Local Workgroup (LWG) Meeting will be held following the Yamhill SWCD (District) Board Meeting.

**Wednesday, December 12, 2018**

10:00 am – Noon

Following the District Board Meeting

**Miller Woods Conference Center**

15580 NW Orchard View Rd  McMinnville

Refreshments will be served

The purpose of the LWG is to gather public input on local conservation priorities. These priorities will be considered for implementation of future conservation practices.

Questions? Please contact Thomas Hoskins or Sergio Villaseñor at the McMinnville NRCS Field Office at 503-472-1474.

The NRCS is an equal opportunity employer, and provider.
Septic and Well Management Class

OCTOBER 23
Two Locations - Same Date - Registration is not required

Presentation By

CHRISSY LUCAS, OSU Extension Service
Small Farms/Ground Water Quality Outreach Program Coordinator

Two Locations in Yamhill County

Tuesday, October 23

1 - 3 PM
West Valley Community Campus
266 SE Washington St
Willamina, Oregon 97396

6 - 8 PM
Chemeketa Community College
McMinnville Campus
288 NE Norton Lane,
McMinnville, OR 97128

- Classes will focus on basics for rural well water and septic maintenance.
- FREE Nitrate Screening: If you would like your water tested, bring a clean jar of water (before any softeners or treatment).

Questions? Contact Heather Stoven
heather.stoven@oregonstate.edu or
503-434-7517
Weed Watch
Knotweed

Weed Watch is part of the District’s effort to raise awareness about noxious weeds and their impact on natural resources and the local economy.

Description
Knotweed is a dense growing shrub reaching up to 10 feet tall. The semi-woody stem is hollow with enlarged nodes. It is recognized by its dense growth form, often occurring in large monoculture thickets and by large, alternate, dark green leaves, and panicles of minute white flowers. This invasive weed commonly disturbs areas with high light, such as road sides and stream banks. Reproduction occurs both by vegetative cuttings and seeds, making this plant extremely hard to eradicate. The dense patches shade and displace other plant life and reduce wildlife habitat. Japanese knotweed is native to eastern Asia and was first introduced into America in the 19th Century.

Manual Controls
Control of knotweed relies on the death of the extensive rhizome system, which is an intensive project. Cut at least every 4-6 weeks through the summer until the plant loses its leaves in the fall. The multiple cuttings will reduce the plant’s ability to send reserves to its roots for the winter months. This plant will initially re-sprout quickly after the first cutting. However, continued frequent cutting of all stems at ground level for several years will weaken the rhizomes and eventually kill the plant. Do not throw the stems into a waterway or compost pile.

Mechanical Controls
Mowing alone is not an effective control for knotweed. Cutting only removes the aboveground portion and serves to stimulate the belowground rhizome.

Cultural
You can prevent establishment of new plants by maintaining a strong, competitive vegetative cover and eliminating potential seed sources. Be careful when using machinery or hand tools to minimize soil disturbance to avoid ‘planting’ a new stand of knotweed.

Chemical
Identifying new small stands and treating it both manually and with chemicals, before it has a chance to dominate an area, is the best method of control. There are recommended herbicide applications for managing knotweed infestations. Foliar treatments and use of injection tools are effective in combination when using systemic herbicides. When applying herbicides remember to follow label instructions. Use caution to avoid and prevent off-target drift and be aware of restrictions regarding livestock grazing. Find more information for herbicide products at http://pnwhandbooks.org/weed/.

For more information on noxious weeds, go to yamhillswcd.org/weeds.

Welcome
Justin Cooley
Invasive Species Program Coordinator

Justin Cooley came to the district from Metro’s Parks and Nature Department in May. The district was able to hire him utilizing a grant from the Oregon State Weed board and Yamhill County Public Works. His primary responsibility is to implement an integrated noxious weed management program for Yamhill County.

Justin has been working with a team of volunteers and interns to survey and inventory noxious weeds along county roads. This project has been possible with the assistance of the Oregon State Weed Board, the Greater Yamhill Watershed Council, and Yamhill County Public Works. This data will be used to develop integrated management plans targeting the highest priority noxious weed species invading Yamhill County. To date over 700 road miles have been inventoried and county-wide control efforts targeting garlic mustard and knotweed are underway.

Stopping noxious weeds is only possible if everyone in Yamhill County does their part. State agencies, local governments, private property owners and occupants are all crucial to control and prevent the spread of state and county listed noxious weeds.

Justin is available to provide technical support on prevention, control and containment of noxious weeds throughout Yamhill County. He can be reached at 503-376-7620 or by email at justin@yamhillswcd.org.
You are invited to attend the Yamhill SWCD 2018 Annual Meeting & Dinner

Guest Speaker will present the latest information on climate change and how it impacts the local region

Wednesday, November 7, 2018
5:30 - 8:30 PM

Social Hour and Silent Auction begin at 5:30 PM - Dinner at 6:00 pm
McMinnville Community Center
600 NE Evans Street - McMinnville, OR 97128

Conservation Award Winners - Silent Auction

$20 per Person with Paid Reservations
$25 at the Door

RSVP by October 31 - Register online at www.yamhillswcd.org, call 503-472-6403, or email info@yamhillswcd.org