DISTRICT’S ANNUAL MEETING & DINNER - NOVEMBER 6

You are invited to attend the District’s 66th Annual Meeting & Dinner on Wednesday, November 6, from 5 – 8:30 PM, at the McMinnville Community Center. We look forward to celebrating another year of conservation efforts with you!

The evening includes an hour to socialize and a chance to bid on an exciting variety of silent auction items, followed by a delicious dinner buffet of fresh, local cuisine prepared by Rogue Gourmet Catering. Following dinner is a special presentation by featured speaker, Bobby Cochran.

Mr. Cochran is the Executive Director of Willamette Partnership and a Senior Fellow, of Community Resilience & Innovation. He will be sharing his innovation for building healthy communities.

At the conclusion of the evening, the district will present awards to recognize local leaders in conservation. (See page 8 for more details about the 2019 Annual Meeting).

NEW EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AT MILLER WOODS

This summer, Miller Woods introduced six educational interpretive signs to compliment the newly created Discovery Loop Trail. The trail, a short one-third mile loop, was made to increase the educational and recreational opportunities at Miller Woods. Visitors can gain insight to the diverse habitat of Yamhill County.

Each sign has corresponding educational activities for visitors that can conveniently be found on the district’s website with a QR code.

Thank you to the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund, whose generous grant made this wonderful enhancement possible. Miller Woods wishes to acknowledge our incredible volunteers: Rick Thomas, who wrote the grant and created the designs, and Theresa Crain and Neyssa Hays of Outdoor Education Adventures, who created the educational content. Thank you!
The district completed its 2018-2019 fiscal year on June 30, 2019 and began operations on July 1, 2019 under the new annual budget approved by the budget committee. The district’s budget committee consists of 14 members, comprised of seven appointed community members and the seven elected district board members. The function of the budget committee is to review the annual budget, hear public comment, make changes to the budget categories as needed, and approve the final budget for presentation at the district’s budget hearing.

The public budget process provides an opportunity for community input. Both the budget committee meeting and the budget hearing are open to the public and help provide public comment. Notices are published in the News Register and on the district’s website. Please look for our notices next April and May if you are interested in attending the meeting and/or hearing.

**Budget Overview**

Yamhill County voters approved a property tax measure in 1986 authorizing the district to levy a property tax rate. The limit is 0.0354 / $1000 of assessed land value within the district boundaries. The tax rate generated $302,140 in fiscal year 2018-2019. The district secures many grants each year to supplement local resources and fund conservation work. Local tax revenue helps fund the match requirement for state and federal grants, and other cooperative agreements, allowing the district to strengthen local leverage investment. The district has also been successful in securing donations of land, equipment, and funding, to support various conservation and land protection activities over the years.

A significant amount of the district’s balance sheet is comprised of dedicated funds that have been secured through grants and donations; these funds must be kept in reserve (similar to an endowment), to fund long-term stewardship of district-owned conservation lands. Grants and dedicated stewardship funds contributed heavily to the ending fund balance of $2,294,939, effective June 30, 2019.

As a public entity, the district is required to conduct an annual fiscal audit performed by a qualified certified accounting firm. The accounting firm, Grove, Mueller and Swank is conducting the 2018-2019 audit.

The **2018-2019 budget is available on the district’s website at:**

www.yamhillswcd.org/district-documents

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**Save the Date**

2020 Native Plant Sale: March 6 & 7
CELEBRATING EARTH DAY AT MILLER WOODS - A BEAUTIFUL DAY

Guests enjoyed beautiful spring weather, which was perfect for celebrating the 2019 Earth Day at Miller Woods. On Saturday, April 27, over 350 guests participated in nature hikes, catching bugs, pond & critter exploration, papermaking, building bird boxes, and snacks and a hosted lunch sponsored by Head Start of Yamhill County.

There were some extra-special guests this year; Alina Blankenship of PERCH presented her live birds of prey, allowing guests to see the beautiful, working birds up-close and learning about their “Super Powers”, touting their likeness to super heroes! This made for a fun activity for the kids while their parents enjoyed learning about the amazing foul-feathered friends.

Visitors of all ages enjoyed meaningful experiences while discovering an appreciation for learning about the outdoors, and the protection and care of our environment and its habitat. Thank you to the volunteers and business sponsors, listed below, who helped create another memorable Earth Day at Miller Woods.

Sponsors
Head Start of Yamhill County
Outdoor Education Adventures (Neyssa Hays & Theresa Crain)
Talk About Trees (Jenn Scott)

Volunteers*:
PERCH Alina Blankenship
Lyne Breault
Tom Brewster
Nancy Carl
Charlie Coates
Ron & Connie Hutchison

Volunteers (cont.):
Courtney & Avery Johnson
Wendell Kringen
Ron Massey
Steve, James & Dave Riedman
Debbie Smith
Luke Westphal

2019 CRUICKSHANK WOODLAND TOUR:
58 YEARS OF GETTING STUDENTS OUTDOORS

Students got to breathe in the fresh forest air while learning about a variety of outdoor and science subjects. The Cruickshank Woodlands, owned by Dave & Doris Cruickshank, has been home to the Woodland Tour for 58 years. On May 15 & 16, 400 fifth-grade students got the opportunity to learn at six education stations: Soil and Watersheds; Plants & Wildlife; Forest Harvest & Products; Forest Management; Fire Prevention, and Outdoor Behavior & Safety. Thank you to the many volunteers* and partners who make this wonderful experience at the Cruickshank Woodlands possible.

Barbara Boyer
Dave Cruickshank
Pat Fitzgerald
Maggie Kreder
Leo Krick
Jim LeTourneux
Gloria Lutz
Ximena Orrego

Ken Nygren
Sergio Villasenor
Dennis Werth
McMinville Fire Department:
Lori Martinez, Cindy Martin, Nancy Law
Oregon Department of Forestry:
Kevin McLaughlin

Oregon State Police:
Deputy Roy Harrell and Sgt Todd Whitlow
OSU Extension:
Forrester Hal & Elin Haggland
Outdoor Education Adventures:
Neyssa Hays & Theresa Crain
Talk About Trees: Jenn Scott
USDA/NRCS: Thomas Hoskins

*We made every effort to capture volunteer names but if anyone was omitted please accept our apologies. We appreciate you and your help! If you would like to volunteer next year, call Jessica at 503-472-6403 or email jessica@yamhillswcd.org.
THIRD ANNUAL MILLER WOODS 5K & 10K TRAIL RACE - OCTOBER 12

Registration is open for our 3rd Annual Miller Woods Trail Race! Both 5k and 10k courses are difficult. There is significant elevation gain (1000 feet gain for 10k and TBD for the 5k) on this mix of single track and wider dirt roads. The course runs through a mix of forested woods and grassy meadows. Race proceeds support the Miller Woods Restroom Project Fund.

- **Chip Timing** is provided by Eclectic Edge Events, LLC
- **Online Registration** is open through October 10 for $40.
- **Parking Passes** will be $5 (Limit of 60 passes, no passes will be mailed. There will be a check-in list for parking)
- **Race Day Registration** will be available for $45 plus a $5 parking pass if applicable
- **Entry Fee** includes a t-shirt and one raffle ticket. *You do not need to be present to win.*
- **Kid’s Camp** is from 8:45 AM to Noon for ages 5-12, operated by Outdoor Education Adventures. The cost is $10 per child. You MUST pre-register for this activity.
- **Questions?** Contact Sonya at 503-866-6164 or email yswcd.millerwoods@gmail.com.

Top Male and Female in the Following Categories:

- Under 12
- 13 to 17
- 18+
- Masters (40+)

Awards will be available for pickup once results are posted.

October 12, 2019 | 10k Start: 9 AM | 5k Start: 10:15 AM

HOW TO REQUEST FIELD OR FACILITY USE AT MILLER WOODS

Groups of ten (10) or larger or those interested in facility rental must submit a Use Request Form to get approval for their visit to Miller Woods. The property may be used by conservation education groups and non-profit groups. The general public may use the property for activities such as hiking, trail running, and quiet enjoyment of nature.

**Examples of Allowable Uses:** small picnics, bird watching, painting nature scenes, and meetings of non-profit or government groups whose mission focuses on natural resources.

**Examples of Inappropriate Uses:** weddings, birthday parties, and all commercial activities. *Commercial use is defined by activities that produces profit intended for the user.*

Access the Field or Facility Use Request Form Online: www.yamhillswcd.org/miller-woods/visit-us/
With the new grant, district staff will assist farmers and ranchers develop Carbon Farm Plans. Building on work that is happening in California, the plans will focus on implementing climate beneficial practices.

This effort has been driven in California by state emission reduction goals and incentive-based programs that assist growers with implementation. Large scale brands, such as Annie’s and Organic Valley, are working with local government, state, and federal partners to support growers in efforts to mitigate climate change and apply climate smart farming practices.

There is a lot to learn from our California neighbors. Our district is excited to partner with nonprofits, like the Carbon Cycle Institute, and California Resource Conservation Districts to explore how we may offer this service to Yamhill County farmers interested in on farm carbon sequestration.

Additional information on Carbon Farm Planning:
https://www.fibershed.com/
https://www.carboncycle.org/

WATER RIGHTS BOOT CAMP

Join Yamhill Soil & Water Conservation District for a Water Rights Boot Camp with a special presentation by Laura Schroeder of Schroeder Law Offices, P.C. Ms. Schroeder has over 27 years of experience in water law rights and education. A question and answer time will follow the presentation.

Topics will include:

- Dissecting your water right
- Transfers
- Losing a water use or right
- Protecting existing water rights
- Title issues
- Rights water code

Cost: $50 per person.

Registration and pre-payment are required and is limited to the first 35 participants. Lunch and refreshments included.

For more information and registration, visit: www.yamhillswcd.org or call 503-472-6403

Thursday, November 14
9 am - 4 pm
Chemeketa Community Collage
Yamhill Valley Campus
288 NE Norton LN | McMinnville
DISTRICT OFFERS CONSERVATION HAZELNUT CONTRACT BONUS!

BY MARIE VICKSTA | CONSERVATION PLANNER

In partnership with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the district is offering an additional financial bonus to Environmental Quality Implementation Program (EQIP) contracts. The focus for this incentive program is on hazelnut orchard erosion prevention and will start in 2020.

Once in contract with NRCS hazelnut growers can opt-in for cost share bonus dollars from the district. The following practices will be covered:

- **Conservation Cover** to establish permanent vegetation between rows
- **Cover Crop** for winter erosion prevention
- **Mulching** for winter erosion prevention
- **Field Border** to better filter surface water at field edges
- **Critical Area Planting** to repair gully erosion and establish vegetation

Contact Marie for details at 503-376-7606 or email marie@yamhillswcd.org.

RAINY SEASON

With summer coming to an end, many people are dreading the long rainy season that Oregon promises during the fall and winter months. Our rainy Oregon seasons actually provide a vital life source!

Did you know that the Earth’s surface is 71% water but only 2.5% of this water comes from fresh water sources?

Rainfall is the primary source of fresh water across most of the globe.

A two day rainstorm can provide over 1.8 million gallons of water and the Yamhill Valley averages 40 inches of rainfall every year. That’s a lot of fresh water!

NOW YOU KNOW!

No-Till Drill Rental Program

The Yamhill Soil and Water Conservation District purchased a 2016 Land Pride 606 No-Till Compact Drill. It is now available for rent to Yamhill County residents.

Rental Rates Schedule

**Weekday Rate** (24-hour period):

$250/day - Includes delivery/pick up to your property and brief orientation to the equipment

**Weekend Rate** (Friday afternoon – Monday morning):

$250/weekend - Includes delivery/pick up to your property and brief orientation to the equipment

Interested in renting the drill?

Call 503-472-6403 or visit www.yamhillswcd.org/equipment-rental
Joel Donnelly has joined the District as the new Invasive Species Program Manager. Welcome to the team!

Joel is responsible for managing invasive weed control projects across Yamhill County, a county roadside vegetation inventory project, and associated Geographic Information System data. His work with the county, landowners, and contractors aims to prevent and reduce the economic, environmental, and social impacts of noxious weeds throughout the county. Currently, Joel is focusing his control efforts on the following high priority noxious weeds: knotweed, garlic mustard, mouse-ear hawkweed, knapweed, purple loosestrife, and garden yellow loosestrife.

Joel received his Bachelor of Science in Conservation & Resource Studies from University of California, Berkeley in 2008 and his Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Science from Oregon State University in 2019. Before joining the district, Joel worked for Parks & Open Space at the City of Eugene where he conducted riparian tree inventory mapping. Joel also interned as a GIS Technician with Lane Council of Governments (LCOG). He assisted the LCOG Natural Resources Planning Team with a wetland delineation spatial data.

Contact Joel About: Invasive and Noxious Weed Management.
Phone: 503-376-7614
Email: joel@yamhillswcd.org

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**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. For more information about knotweed and other invasive weeds visit www.yamhillswcd.org/weeds.

**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. It 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.

The 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 a compost pile.

**Mechanical Controls**
Mowing alone is not an effective control for Japanese 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 Japanese knotweed infestations. Foliar treatments and use of injection tools are effective in combination when using systemic herbicides.

For specific recommendations visit “Weed Watch” at www.yamhillswcd.org.

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/.

Contact Information: 503-472-6403 or www.yamhillswcd.org/weeds
Providing Natural Resource Leadership

If you prefer email or would like to be removed from the newsletter mailing list, please contact Julie at 503-472-6403 or email info@yamhill.org.

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 9</td>
<td>Board Meeting - 7:30 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Miller Woods Conference Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 12</td>
<td>Miller Woods 5k &amp; 10k Trail Race</td>
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<td>10k Start: 9 AM, 5k Start: 10:15 AM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Miller Woods</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 18 &amp; 19</td>
<td>Tualatin SWCD: Biochar Workshop</td>
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<td>Two day workshop - see website for details.</td>
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<td>November 6</td>
<td>2019 Annual Meeting &amp; Dinner</td>
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<td>5:00 PM - 8:30 PM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>McMinnville Community Center</td>
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<td>600 NE Evans Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 6</td>
<td>Marion SWCD: Soil Fertility Workshop</td>
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<td>12:30 PM - 5:00 PM</td>
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<td>Chemeketa Eola Campus</td>
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For more details, visit www.yamhillswcd.org

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**Annual Meeting & Dinner**

**November 6, 5 PM - 8:30 PM**

Social Hour & Silent Auction begin at 5:00 PM - Dinner at 6:30 PM

**McMinnville Community Center**

600 NE Evans Street | McMinnville, OR

Enjoy fresh local cuisine from Rogue Gourmet Catering.

Special Presentation by

Bobby Cochran, Executive Director of Willamette Partnership. Bobby is a Senior Fellow, of Community Resilience & Innovation.

Make your reservation online at www.yamhillswcd.org, call 503-472-6403 or email admin@yamhillswcd.org

Silent Auction • Conservation Awards • Delicious Dinner

$20 Per Person with Paid Registration, $25 at the Door