



Long Tom Watershed Council

March 2013 newsletter and meeting notice

*Action
Through
Understanding*



Voluntary & proactive urban stormwater project at Davis Commercial Properties. Converting landscapes to filter stormwater through swales & rain gardens helps to reduce toxics & other pollutants before urban runoff enters Amazon Creek.

Public Meeting Invitation

Tuesday, March 19, 6:00 p.m.

Amazon Community Center, Eugene

Improving Amazon Creek Water Quality: Great New Techniques

Jason Schmidt, Amazon Creek Initiative Manager

- Overview of LTWC's Amazon Creek Initiative program and goals
- Recent stormwater project on commercial property beautifies the landscape and benefits the creek
- The growing partnership among LTWC, the City, funders, and local businesses, and what you can do
- Learn about "Trout Friendly Landscapes" and how to participate

Melisa Nicol, In Shape Athletic Club

- How and why local business became involved in urban stormwater project

Therese Walch, City of Eugene Water Resources Manager

- Role and goals of City of Eugene's Stormwater Program and its partners
- Data from the latest water quality trends

Holde Fink, Native & Urban Gardens

- How homeowners & commercial landscapers can maintain a healthy landscape

Meeting Hosts:

**Therese Walch & Sue Kacskos,
LTWC Board members**

Open to all, free with light refreshments

**For more info, Rob: 338-7060
or operations@longtom.org**

The Long Tom Watershed Council serves to improve water quality and watershed condition in the Long Tom River basin through education, coordination, consultation, and cooperation among all interests, using the collective wisdom and voluntary action of our community members.

751 S. Danebo Ave., Eugene, OR 97402

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www.longtom.org



Introducing LTWC's Trout Friendly Landscape Program

LTWC can assist commercial and industrial property owners in making their landscapes "trout friendly." By installing a Trout Friendly Landscape, participating property owners will help improve water quality in Amazon Creek, beautify the property, and make a safer and less-toxic landscape for all to enjoy.

Trout Friendly Landscapes focuses on three simple principles: conserving water, reducing chemical use and/or finding alternatives, and using native and drought-tolerant plants where appropriate. These three core actions help to reduce runoff from urban properties that can carry pesticides, metals, and other toxins to our local waterways. Qualifying properties that pledge to follow these recommendations will receive a sign identifying it as a "Trout Friendly Landscape." These signs are displayed prominently in high traffic areas to spread word of the program to a business' customers and potential customers.

For more information, contact Jason Schmidt, Amazon Creek Initiative Manager, at 541-338-7042 or jschmidt@longtom.org.



Help local businesses earn this sign

www.amazoncreek.org



Facebook

2013 Fundraising Campaign:

Thank you!

Lead Gifts: Art & Anita Johnson, Mountain Rose Herbs

Major Donors: Scot & Francine Berryman, Huntons' Family Farm,

Jim & Chris Pendergrass, Dave & Suzanne Turner

Supporters: Mike Brinkley, Rich & Jenny Coleman, Hummingbird Wholesale, Sue Kacskos, Beth Krisko, David Ponder, Chad Stroda

To Donate: use
the enclosed
contribution form
or visit
www.longtom.org
and click on
"Support Us"

Things you can do this month:

Spring is a great time of year to look for invasive weeds on your property. Many invasive plants are flowering now and are easier to identify. The **Field Guide to Weeds of the Willamette Valley** is an excellent quick reference guide available online: <http://appliedeco.org/invasive-species-resources/weed-guides>. Contact OSU Extension (541-344-5859) or the Upper Willamette Soil & Water Conservation District (541-465-6443 ext. 5) if you have questions about removing invasives on your property.

With plants in bloom and on the landscape, it's also a good time to arrange for one of our staff to visit your land and see if your property could be a priority for restoration assistance and/or funding. Contact Jed Kaul at 541-338-7058 or Katie MacKendrick at 541-338-7033 for more information.



Call LTWC to learn your property is a good fit for a site visit.

Community Announcements

Come visit LTWC at our booth!
Walkin' & Rollin' through the Wetlands
Sat, May 11, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Learn about the Council, local fish & wildlife, and things you can do to help improve Amazon Creek.



Willamette Resources & Educational Network Events

For more info: 541-338-7047 or info@wewetlands.org

Wetland Wanders (9—10:30 a.m.)

- Tues, March 12 at Meadowlark Prairie
- Tues, April 9 at Stewart Pond
- Tues, May 9 at Wild Iris Ridge

Family Exploration Days (10 a.m.—2 p.m.)

- Sat, March 16 at Meadowlark Prairie
- Sat, April 13 at Stewart Pond
- Sat, May 18 at Golden Gardens Ponds

Like LTWC on
Facebook!

The Long Tom Watershed Council, a local nonprofit, counts on participation from many people and organizations. The local office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) donates postage for our mailings. They have a requirement to include the following disclaimer, which is now standard procedure for all BLM partnerships.

BLM Disclaimer: "The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the opinions or policies of the U.S. Government. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute their endorsement by the U.S. Government." The Long Tom Watershed Council is still a local nonprofit (since 1998) with no government authority. We partner with local people, businesses, and agencies in the interest of finding local solutions and bringing grant funding from private and public sources to do restoration, education, and monitoring work in the Long Tom River basin. We're thankful for the donation of postage expenses!

LTWC Board of Directors	
Lower Long Tom Jason Hunton Jim Pendergrass, <i>Chair</i> Chad Stroda, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Upper Long Tom Cary Hart Sue Kacskos Charles Ruff
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Council Staff Contacts
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Katie MacKendrick, Restoration Ecologist: 338-7033
Jason Schmidt, Urban Watershed Restoration Specialist: 338-7042
Rob Hoshaw, Operations Manager: 338-7060
Amanda Wilson, Fiscal Manager: 338-7055



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e-mail: coordinator at longtom.org
www.longtom.org

Upcoming Event

March 19 Public Meeting

“Improving Amazon Creek Water Quality: Great New Techniques”

Tuesday, March 19, 6:00 p.m.

Amazon Community Center

2700 Hilyard St., Eugene

Help us spot invasive Garlic Mustard!

Description—Garlic mustard is an invasive flowering plant. Leaves are heart or kidney-shaped with slightly-toothed or scalloped edges. It typically flowers in second year, with these plants being much taller than first-year plants. Flowering begins in March, and the white flowers have four petals that form clusters.

Garlic mustard will out-compete native vegetation and releases chemicals that suppress soil fungi that are beneficial to the growth and survival of native plants. Please help prevent the spreading of garlic mustard by cleaning shoes, clothing, and vehicles that can carry seeds.

If you believe you have found garlic mustard, please report it at www.oregoninvasiveshotline.org

Visit www.longtom.org/stewardship-resources/invasive-species/ or westerninvasives.network.org for more info about garlic mustard and other invaders.



1st-year Garlic Mustard. Notice the slightly-toothed or scalloped edges on heart-shaped leaves.

Photo: Glenn Miller, ODA



2nd-year Garlic Mustard. Flowering form is much taller. Notice the clusters of white flowers at the top of the stem.

Photo: Glenn Miller, ODA