

## Public Meeting Invitation

### “Trout Friendly Landscapes: Voluntary Stormwater Projects for Urban Watershed Health”

Tues, March 29, 6 - 7:45 p.m.

Hilyard Community Center, 2580 Hilyard St, Eugene



Far Left: A series of cascading rain gardens within a naturalistic landscape manage stormwater from the roof at Essex General Construction, Inc.

Left: This native planting area at Joe's Garage helps to filter pollutants from runoff before it enters the creek.

### Topics

- Latest results from current pesticide sampling data
- How those results compare among the diverse land use areas within the Amazon Creek basin and what the trends indicate from past five years
- What these results mean, and what is being done to improve our urban watershed
- Learn about the voluntary action of local businesses to upgrade their stormwater management in ways that make sense for both water quality and their business

*More on next page*

### Presenters:

- **Jodi Sommers, Essex General Construction, Inc.**
- **Darin David, Joe's Garage**
- **Sarah Whiney, LTWC Urban Habitats & Stormwater Specialist**

Free, and open to all

Refreshments provided

For more info, Rob: 338-7055 or  
operations@longtom.org

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

[www.longtom.org](http://www.longtom.org)



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# “Trout Friendly Landscapes: Voluntary Stormwater Projects for Urban Watershed Health”

Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 - 7:45 p.m.

Hilyard Community Center (directions on back page)

LTWC is starting its sixth year of monitoring for pesticides in Amazon Creek as part of a collaborative effort to identify and reduce pesticides and other toxins in the creek and broader upper Willamette River Basin. At March 29<sup>th</sup>'s public meeting, we'll share the latest results from the pesticide data collected and also discuss what LTWC, its partners, and local businesses are doing to improve watershed health through voluntary action.

Each spring and fall since 2011, LTWC collects water samples from five locations in Amazon Creek—sites that represent the diversity of land use types (residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural). We recently received the 2015 results, which are analyzed by the Oregon DEQ laboratory. Earlier this month, our partners at SureCrop Farm Service hosted an information sharing meeting with local farmers, who represented about 40,000 acres of agricultural land in the watershed. The purpose of the meeting was to share these latest results and learn from each other. We're continuing to share the data and trends with the community in the spirit of helping every sector of the community take care of their part for clean water and healthy habitat in voluntary ways — the council never does any finger pointing!

Watershed learning and technical assistance is central to the goals of LTWC, and through our Trout Friendly Landscapes Program, we work with interested business owners to upgrade their stormwater management in order to improve habitat and water health. LTWC has the know-how to give businesses the knowledge and options to create a healthy, multi-functional landscape that's the right fit for both their business and habitat. Essex General Construction, Inc., and Joe's Garage are two of the growing list of businesses who've voluntarily improved their landscapes with our help. Owner Darin David of Joe's Garage and Jodi Sommers of Essex will talk about their experience working with LTWC and the incentives for doing an urban stormwater project. They'll share photos of the business site before, during, and after the project was implemented and describe how the process worked for them. We hope you'll join us on March 29<sup>th</sup>!



**Above:** Trout Friendly Landscape at Essex General Construction, Inc. also incorporates raised garden beds used by employees. **Below:** Roof water runs through the soil and native plants of the rain garden at Essex to clean, cool and infiltrate the rainwater.



**Above:** Mallard ducks using the rain garden at Gibson Steel Basins.

**Right:** Volunteer Justin White collects water samples for pesticide monitoring program.



Businesses like Joe's Garage that take part in the Trout Friendly Landscapes program are given marketing support through signage, tours, and are credited on Facebook, LTWC's website, and public events.

# Spring Campaign: Join us in making Amazon Creek Trout Friendly!

LTWC is excited to launch its spring campaign in support of the ongoing successes toward water quality and habitat enhancement in the urban landscape! After four years of success working to improve Amazon Creek water quality through voluntary low impact development with commercial partners, we see a community willing to take the next toward a trout friendly Amazon Creek. Amazon creek is home to heron, otter, amphibians, insects, native fish like sculpins, and about 157,000 Eugenians, but where are the trout? When the seasonal flows are right, native cutthroat trout are knocking at the door of Amazon Creek where it meets Fern Ridge Reservoir and the Long Tom River. But the creek isn't quite ready yet. The trout are the most sensitive aquatic members of our potential urban creek community and The Long Tom Watershed Council wants to make them feel welcome with a cleaner Amazon Creek. Will you join us in making Amazon Creek Trout Friendly? Visit [longtom.org/donate](http://longtom.org/donate) to be a part of this important vision for Amazon Creek.



## Recent Gifts - Thank You for Your Support!

**Business League:** Hunttons' Family Farm, Mountain Rose Herbs

**Individual & Business Donors:** Gary & Sally Crum, Allen Dong, Hummingbird Wholesale, Shirley LaBrecque, Lochmead Farms, Michael Mattick, Shelly Miller, Network for Good, Kevin Peterson, Charles Ruff

**Taste the Watershed Events:** Hot Mama's Wings, Ninkasi Brewing Company, Wildcraft Cider Works



## Simple Ways to Give to LTWC:

1. **Credit card:** visit [www.longtom.org/donate](http://www.longtom.org/donate) to use our simple web form.
2. **Mail a check:** LTWC, 751 S. Danebo Ave., Eugene, OR 97402

Questions? Call Rob: 541-338-7055

## 2016 Winter Tree Planting Accomplishments

LTWC has wrapped up another successful planting season! For the past two months, LTWC has planted nearly 90,000 native trees and shrubs on more than 10 sites. This included work at three brand new project sites as well as revisiting several others projects from prior years to replace a few trees and fill in some added habitat complexity. Contractor crews are hired to plant mostly bare root trees by hand. LTWC's project managers design a planting plan for each project, and species are selected based on the soil, moisture, and sunlight conditions of that particular site. The purpose of the plantings is to improve the habitat quality and diversity along our streams and the Willamette River. Many of the sites lack sufficient canopy cover on the stream, which causes temperatures to rise to unhealthy levels for native fish and other aquatic species during the summer. These plantings are also important for improving the riparian habitat utilized by native wildlife.



*Left: Crews planted 30,000 trees and shrubs, 13,500 willow stakes, and nearly 7,000 plugs of sedges and rushes just at the Snag Boat Bend unit of the Finley Wildlife Refuge along the Willamette River. Including next year's expected planting, over 100 acres will be planted along the Willamette River alone! Right: The crew gets started early under a colorful sunrise at Snag Boat Bend.*

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## Farewell to Kathryn Rifenburg and Update for Latino Outreach



We'd like to thank Kathryn Rifenburg, who worked as our Outreach Specialist this past year. Kathryn assisted in piloting our Business League and Employee Stewardship programs, and helped coordinate our outreach efforts to Spanish-speakers in the yard care and landscape businesses. This is an important program in the Eugene/Springfield area that provides bilingual outreach specific to pesticide and stormwater education. We ran into an unexpected lack of funding with the contract for this program, which was a great lesson learned in the relative uncertainty of federal contract funding versus grant funding.

We're encouraged by the strong potential for this program moving forward. After the contract funding ended abruptly, LTWC and 14 community partners pitched in to cover the costs of a key partner meeting and to deliver outcomes for an additional three months. This provided a smooth "pause" before we find the funding to continue, and provided time for Kathryn to land wonderfully at a position with the City of Springfield's Public Works Department. Further, these partners are standing by to continue this great work, and we're excited to find that this program aligns well with the funding priorities of a few private foundations. Thank you, and best wishes, Kathryn!

# Welcome, Melanie Giangreco!



We're excited to welcome Melanie Giangreco as our Operations & Database Assistant! This part-time, temporary role is in collaboration with the McKenzie Watershed Council. She'll be helping with operational and administrative capacity, and she brings past experience with databases,

websites, and office administration. Melanie graduated from the University of Oregon and also has a permaculture design certificate through Quail Springs Permaculture. Prior to joining LTWC, she enjoyed volunteering and working for local nonprofits and small businesses. She is also a practicing reflexologist. When not at work, she enjoys spending as much time as possible outdoors. She and her husband live on a small farm in the Long Tom Watershed where they raise livestock and a variety of fruits and vegetables. Melanie is excited to be contributing to LTWC's efforts!

## OSU Extension Opportunity for Lane County

Oregon State University Extension Service has been a helpful partner in educating and engaging the watershed community by using research-based knowledge and doing educational presentations. There is an opportunity for citizens to consider new funding for OSU Extension. For more information visit: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/lane/SupportAndFunding>

## Next Public Meeting

**Tues, April 26, (Gather at 5:45 p.m., Tour Leaves at 6 p.m. sharp)** Tour of a Coyote Creek basin project that improved fish passage on both private and public lands.

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 use the following disclaimer, 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

Steve Horning, *Vice-Chair*  
Jim Pendergrass, *Past Chair*  
John Reerslev

### Upper Long Tom

Cary Hart  
Lindsay Reaves  
Charles Ruff, *Chair*

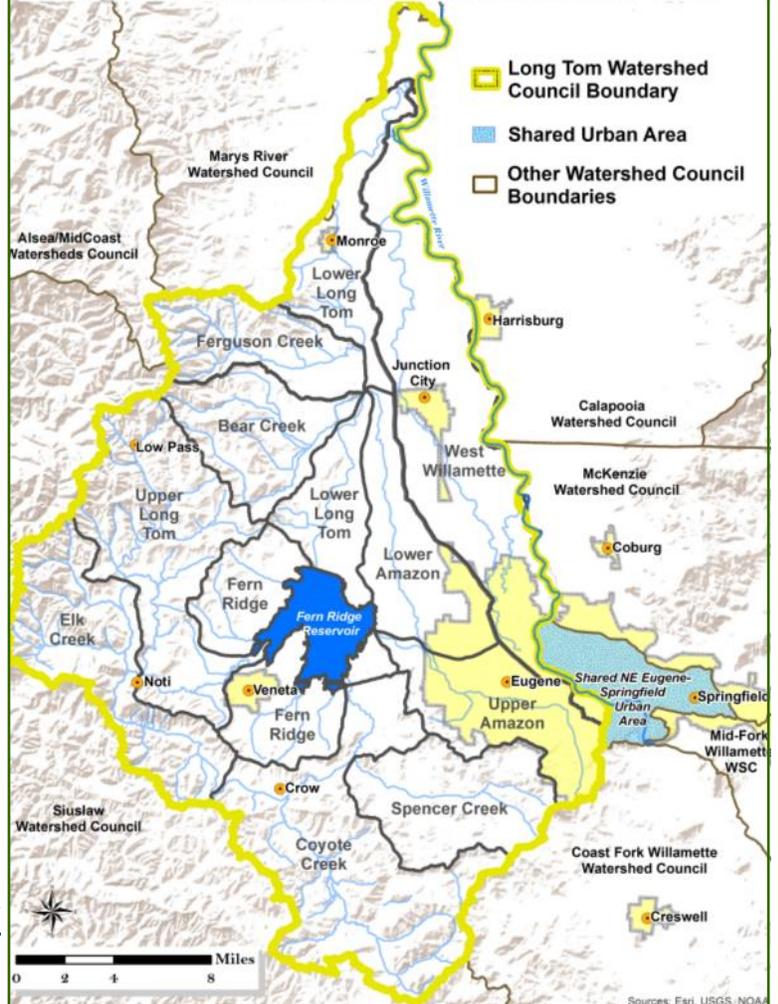
### At Large

Mike Brinkley, *Treasurer*  
Deborah Saunders Evans, *Vice-Chair*  
David Turner, *Vice-Chair*

### Amazon

Alan Dickman  
Shelly Miller

## Long Tom Watershed Sub-basins & Area of Work



## Council Staff Contacts

- Dana Dedrick, Watershed Coordinator/E.D.:** 541-338-7055
- Rob Hoshaw, Operations Director:** 338-7055
- Clinton Begley, Development & Communications:** 654-8965
- Jed Kaul, Fish Biologist:** 338-7058
- Katie MacKendrick, Ecologist:** 338-7033
- Sarah Whitney, Urban Habitat & Stormwater:** 654-8965
- Heidi Heisler, Fiscal Manager:** 338-7042
- Christer LaBrecque, Stewardship Technician:** 338-7045



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## Public Meeting Invitation

All welcome!

### **“Trout Friendly Landscapes: Voluntary Stormwater Projects for Urban Watershed Health”**

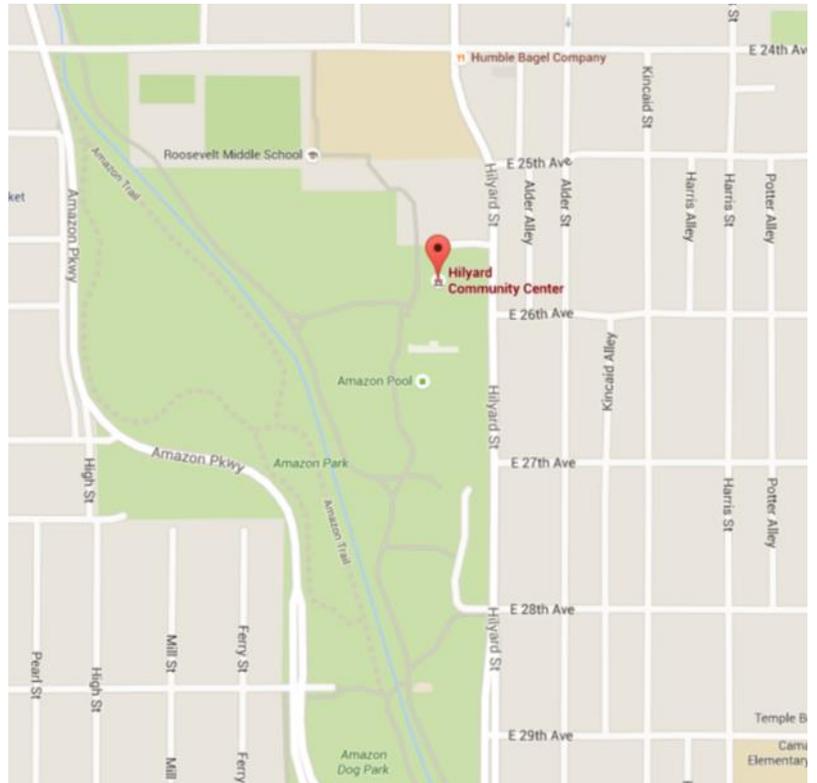
**Tues, March 29, 6 - 7:45 p.m.**

### **Hilyard Community Center**

2580 Hilyard St, Eugene

Directions: Just north of Amazon Pool near the intersection of Hilyard and 26<sup>th</sup> Ave.

[Google Maps Link](#)



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## Help Stop the Spread of Invasive Lesser Celandine

Lesser celandine (*Ficaria verna*) is an invasive perennial plant that forms spreading mats over the ground. Heart-shaped leaves are dark green and shiny. Leaves will appear as early as late January, and the plant will die back by late spring. Since it isn't visible for 3/4 of the year, **now is the perfect time to spot lesser celandine**. The yellow flowers have 5-8 petals and rise from a single stalk above the leaves. **Flowers should be visible now**. This weed out-competes native plants that don't start growing until spring and can cause local elimination of native plants and the insects and fungi that depend on those native species.

Please help stop the spread of invasive species by choosing not to plant non-native ornamentals, and by cleaning shoes, clothing, and vehicles that can carry seeds. If you believe you have found lesser celandine, please report it at [www.oregoninvasiveshotline.org](http://www.oregoninvasiveshotline.org) Visit [www.longtom.org/stewardship-resources/invasive-species](http://www.longtom.org/stewardship-resources/invasive-species) for more information.



Far left: Yellow flowers bloom in spring on a single stem above dark green, heart-shaped leaves.

Left: Lesser celandine along the riparian area of a stream.

Photos: Bruce Newhouse