



**LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL**  
**Bimonthly watershed news and meeting notice**  
**JULY 2009**

Action  
Through  
Understanding

**RESTORATION PROJECT TOUR**  
**OWENS CREEK STREAM & RIPARIAN ENHANCEMENT**



**Tuesday, July 28, 2009**

**6:00—7:45 pm**

**Joe McFadden's Property**

**25282 High Pass Road, Junction City (Directions on Page 12)**

**AGENDA**

- 5:15** Meet at the Council office if carpooling  
**6:00** Welcome and Introductions  
**6:15** **Project Tour**  
**Joe McFadden, Landowner**  
**Cindy Thieman, Restoration Director**  
**Karen Hans, Or. Fish & Wildlife (invited)**  
**James Reismiller, Abundant Solar (invited)**  
**7:15** **Council Announcements**  
**Fish Passage Project Update**  
**Steering Committee Nominations**

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Long Tom Watershed Council**  
**12th ANNUAL MEETING & CELEBRATION**  
**Saturday, September 12, 2009**

**See Page 7 for Details and How YOU can help!**

*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 • Phone: (541) 683-6578 • Fax: (541) 683-6993  
[www.longtom.org](http://www.longtom.org)

# COUNCIL MEETING BACKGROUNDER

## OWENS CREEK STREAM & RIPARIAN ENHANCEMENT AT MCFADDEN'S

### PROJECT BACKGROUND

Owens Creek, a major tributary in the Bear Creek sub-watershed, is a priority stream for fish passage, water quality and instream habitat improvement. The Bear Creek sub-watershed provides habitat for both resident cutthroat trout and the larger fluvial cutthroats that migrate to and from the Willamette River. Fish passage barriers and poor water quality conditions threaten the local cutthroat trout population. In particular, high summertime water temperatures in streams on the valley floor combined with impassable culverts or dams can limit their growth and reproduction. Removing these barriers and improving summer water temperatures are important steps to protecting trout. In addition, preventing livestock manure from reaching streams and improving instream habitat and streamside vegetation have been shown to benefit trout and many other native aquatic species.

The stretch of Owens Creek at McFadden's has never been straightened and had mature native trees and shrubs in about half of the riparian area. These features provided an excellent foundation on which to improve trout habitat by excluding livestock from the stream and its banks, eradicating Himalayan blackberry, planting more native trees and shrubs, and adding large wood to the stream to improve trout habitat.



**Before the project:** About half of the riparian area was dominated by blackberry and in places lacked a canopy to provide shade for the stream.



**After the project:** Blackberry has been eradicated from the riparian area and native trees & shrubs have been planted in its place. Fencing to exclude livestock can be seen in the background.

Project Location



### PROJECT FUNDING & SUPPORT

<b>Project Cost:</b>	<b>\$64,104</b>
Streambank Funding:	\$52,553
Landowner Match:	\$11,551

### Partners

Joe McFadden, Landowner  
Streambank (a program of Freshwater Trust)  
Neighboring landowners and volunteers  
Long Tom Watershed Council



# COUNCIL MEETING BACKGROUNDER (CONTINUED)

## RESTORATION TECHNIQUES

Riparian enhancement techniques included mowing blackberry in the riparian area with an excavator, spot spraying regrowth with herbicide, planting 2,500 native trees and shrubs along 3,000 feet of stream, and installing 5,800 feet of 5-strand electric fence to exclude livestock from the riparian area of Owens Creek and a tributary. In addition, two off-channel watering stations were installed to replace former water access to the creek. One of these stations uses a solar-powered pump to draw water from the creek.

Trees and shrubs were tubed to improve growth and protect them from browse. Also, the landowner sprayed out the grass around the trees to eliminate moisture competition. Maintenance for the first two years of plant establishment may include mulching, watering, and re-positioning or removing tubes.

Forty large conifer logs, most with rootwads attached, were placed in Owens Creek. Logs were keyed into existing riparian trees or at bends in the stream. Some of these were dead trees from the project site and others were contributed by neighboring landowners.



**An excavator places logs with rootwads in Owens Creek to provide habitat for cutthroat trout and other native aquatic species.**



**Log jams like this will provide cover and create more pool habitat for cutthroat trout.**

## ENVIRONMENTAL & ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- ♦ Riparian plantings will increase shade in the long-term, leading to cooler water temperature. These trees & shrubs also provide better bank stability than blackberry, and create forage and cover for native birds, mammals and amphibians.
- ♦ Excluding livestock will protect the new trees and shrubs, improve bank stability, and prevent *E.coli* bacteria from contaminating the creek.
- ♦ Logs in stream will create cover and scour pools for trout. As the logs decompose they provide food for aquatic insects, which are the primary food source for trout.
- ♦ Contractors from the surrounding area were used for all phases of the project which contributed to the local economy.

## EFFECTIVENESS MONITORING

- ♦ Annual snorkel & stream surveys to gauge response of fish populations and stream geomorphology to large wood placement.
- ♦ Large wood count to determine fate of placed wood and recruitment of new wood
- ♦ Annual vegetation plot surveys to determine percent cover of blackberry and survival of trees and shrubs.

**What habitats do you have and could you enhance them?**

**What can you do about the health of your stream and riparian area?**

Call our Restoration Team—Cindy at 683-2983 or Jed at 683-6183—to discuss project possibilities

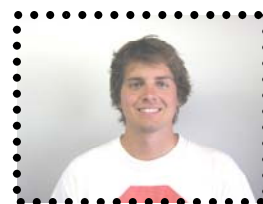
# UPDATE: Fish Passage Assessment Project

## Letting the fish on through

The Long Tom Watershed Council is surveying stream crossings this summer throughout the watershed in order to identify barriers to habitat for native cutthroat trout and other aquatic organisms. The Council received a grant from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) for 2007-2010 to select approximately 150 culverts with unknown passage status for survey and evaluation. In conjunction with private and public landowners, the Technical Team, Lane and Benton Counties, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Council staff and seasonal crew are now surveying and mapping passage status and collecting new data. To date, the crew has surveyed 31 sites, 26 of which are migration barriers for cutthroat trout. OWEB funds will be further used to help assemble and map the collected data and prioritize the sites in terms of level of the barrier and how much habitat would be available if it were fixed. If the local landowner is interested in fixing a priority barrier, the Council's Restoration Team, Cindy and Jed, will pursue funding and technical assistance to get that done.

## Meet the Survey Crew!

Jacob Dyste is a recent graduate from the Environmental Studies program at the University of Oregon. His education has given him an understanding of a broad range of topics from restoration ecology to natural resource management to environmental philosophy. He has completed field study coursework and has backcountry monitoring experience. He enjoys many activities in the mountains, forests, and rivers, and is currently training to hike the Pacific Crest Trail. He is studying this summer to take the Graduate Record Exam and pursue a Masters in Ecological Restoration.



Darren Faulhaber was born and raised in Elmira, OR. He attended Oregon State University after high school, graduating with a BS in Natural Resources with an option in Forest Ecosystems in 2008. Being an Oregon native, Darren is committed to using his education to help the Long Tom Watershed become as sustainable and healthy as possible. In his free time he enjoys riding ATVs, playing with computers, camping, snowboarding, and most recently gardening.

Jasmine Graves was born in the town of Scio, spending her early years in the forest developing an enthusiastic interest in wildlife and conservation. She obtained her BS in Fisheries and Wildlife from Oregon State University in 2008, and was involved in several clubs and leadership positions including Fish & Wildlife outreach coordinator and mentor. As an intern, she has worked for the Oregon Department of Fish and Game as a riparian surveyor, and at the Hatfield Marine Science Center as an educator. After graduation, she worked as a wildlife technician surveying for birds and small mammals. She enjoys many outdoor activities, such as backpacking, kayaking, and bird watching.



Matthew Hovland is a Natural Resource Management Major at Oregon State University and has an Associate of Science degree in Watershed Management from Santa Rosa Junior College. He is an avid outdoor enthusiast with a passion for fiction writing and home brewing. His novels deal with the struggles between human nature and the environment; his home brew deal with the struggle between human thirst and liquid satisfaction.

# WEEDIN PARTNERSHIP NEWS

The 2009 WEEDIN (Willamette Education and Early Detection of Invasives Network) workshop was a great success! Fifty six people took time out of their evenings on June 18th to learn about early detection and rapid response to new invaders. What is next? Please engage the WEEDIN network! Look for a list serve or website SOON where WEEDIN volunteers can share Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) information and ask questions related to invasive species.

- Are you looking for opportunities to apply your new knowledge?
- Do you want to know what you should be looking for in the month of July?
- Do you have an identification question?
- Want to know what other people have been finding?
- Want to know more about management responses to a detection?

The WEEDIN list serve will focus on addressing ideas, concerns, and sharing opportunities related to Prevention, Early Detection, and Rapid Response to invasive plants (for example, see the hawkweed alert below). It will not be shared with any other organizations. For more information, contact:

Tania Siemens, Early Detection Rapid Response Coordinator  
The Nature Conservancy  
tania.siemens@oregonstate.edu  
cell: 541-914-0701

## EDRR ACTION OPPORTUNITY:

Cottage Grove East Regional Park  
Volunteer Work Party & Training

Sun., July 12, 9:00 – 12:00 at East Regional Park, near Row River Rd. weigh station near the BMX track and bike path in Cottage Grove.

Free native plants from being overtaken by weeds in a restoration area. Demonstration/ training of top priority aquatic and terrestrial invasive species by Tania Siemens of OSU Sea Grant. Bring gloves, long pants, and closed-toe shoes. Help us restore this strategic site located at the headwaters of our watershed and home of great blue herons, bald eagles, and western pond turtles.

For information call Gail 942-2385.  
Sponsored by Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council.

Contact: Pam Reber: coordinator@coastfork.org or  
Gail Hemsoth: hemsothg@lanecc.edu  
(541) 517-3470, 942-2385, or 463-4214

## Weed of Month! Common hawkweed alert!

More detections of Common hawkweed, *Hieracium lachenali* are occurring in Oregon. It is widespread in the Columbia Gorge and there are records of this plant in the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed. It is currently in bloom, so now is a good time to look and catch this in the Long Tom Watershed before it spreads! Look for a dandelion-like plant with hairy stems and yellow flowers that occur in clusters (multiple flower heads). This plant is easy to confuse with native hawkweeds, so if you see some please just photograph it and send a report to [www.oregoninvasiveshotline.org](http://www.oregoninvasiveshotline.org).

Here is a link to photos (provided by Vern Holm, Northwest Weed Management Partnership):

- ◆ [http://planthardiness.gc.ca/ph\\_spp\\_links.pl?speciesid=1004081](http://planthardiness.gc.ca/ph_spp_links.pl?speciesid=1004081)





# ABANDONED WELL PROGRAM

## Abandoned Well Grants/Well Owner Assistance in the Linn and Benton County Watersheds



Have an old well or know someone who does?  
Are you worried about your or your neighbor's old  
wells contaminating

Groundwater and surface water?  
**THEN PLEASE CONTACT US FOR SOME  
LOCAL HELP WITH YOUR WELL ISSUES**

Linn-Benton Community College with support from the OSU Institute for Water and Watersheds and Benton County will be locating old, unused water wells that lead to water quality and quantity problems in Linn and Benton County.

This work will begin in June, 2009 and last through May, 2010.

If you are a landowner or someone you know is interested in a free assessment to locate and assess the issues with your abandoned wells on properties in the two counties, please contact:

Adam Stebbins, Water Project Coordinator  
(541) 766-6085 or

email the Student Project Researcher Will Fulton from  
LBCC at [will.fulton@co.benton.or.us](mailto:will.fulton@co.benton.or.us)



**OSU** Oregon State University

Institute for Water and Watersheds

*Linn-Benton*  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Benton County Water Project  
OREGON

# Celebration and Thanks

## SAVE THE DATE!

### Long Tom Watershed Council's 12th ANNUAL MEETING & CELEBRATION

September 12, 2009

1:00 — 4:00 p.m.

Polyrock Ranch  
84402 Territorial Highway

Food, Fun, Tours of the Ranch, Restoration &  
Wildlife Habitat! \*\*Activities for all ages\*\*

You have talents; we have needs! We're looking for help with Sponsorships, Ticket Sales, Advertising, Food, Donations, Music, Awards, Speakers and more.

Please contact Susan, 683-6949, [stewardship@longtom.org](mailto:stewardship@longtom.org).

## In Appreciation

The Long Tom Watershed Council wishes to express since thanks to  
The Bureau of Land Management fisheries biologists

**Russell Chapman and Darrin Neff**

for helping train our Fish Passage Assessment crew and volunteers  
We couldn't have done it without you!

### **Contacts for volunteer opportunities:**

Long Tom Watershed Council: 683-6949  
WREN: 683-6494

Nearby Nature: 687-9699  
City of Eugene, Volunteers in Parks: 682-4845  
City of Eugene, Stream Team: 682-4850

# Council Business

## **“Excellent” ranking puts Council in top tier in statewide funding competition** **Reduced Funding Levels for 2009-2011 Expected**

The Long Tom Watershed Council was ranked in the top tier as “excellent”, earning the highest available scores from the statewide review panel. 60 councils submitted proposals to this competitive grant program which bases awards on accomplishments, involvement and accountability, among other factors. Grant review team members commented they are “*impressed by the breadth and complexity of projects that this council is involved in as well as the strategic nature of its planning,*” and “*with the diversity of funding sources the council has secured in the past and by the mix of cash and in-kind donations.*”

Congratulations to all participants in the Long Tom Watershed Council! So much goes into this kind of result - every detail of citizen commitment, volunteer time, good attitudes, a willingness to engage in constructive criticism and development, and most of all, a willingness to do the work to make this kind of voluntary system function well and have real effect.

The Council anticipates receiving **\$93,750 for two years of work** beginning July 1, 2009. While this is a considerable amount, it is short \$20,000 from last biennium’s funding. Funds from this grant provide for council meetings and tours, stakeholder discussions, partnering on watershed issues, and operations costs. We use them to leverage grants, donations, and volunteer time for education, outreach and stewardship activities. The Council spends over 90% of these funds locally, which helps our economy.

**Please help keep this Council working for all of us and close the \$20,000 gap.** Your contributions are needed to keep us focused on water quality and habitat issues in a proactive and productive manner. Contact Dana Erickson for more information and donation details—683-6578 and see next page.

*Funding for Watershed Council Support comes from the Oregon Lottery as a result of a 1998 citizen initiative, sales of salmon license plates, federal salmon funds, and other sources.*

## **Nominations Open for Steering Committee**

### ***Please consider how you or someone you know could help guide the Council***

Might you, a colleague, or friend be interested in helping to guide the watershed council for a term of 3 years? Between 4 and 6 positions on the Council’s Steering Committee will come open in October. The Nominating Committee is charged with putting together a slate of new committee members that, along with current members, will provide for a diversity of geographic representation and expertise to guide the Council.

If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please send a letter of nomination to the nominating committee to the Council address by August 12. The letter should include at a minimum your name, contact information and a statement of interest.

All those nominated will be included on the ballot for the Steering Committee and given an opportunity to have their statement published in the Council newsletter prior to the Annual Meeting. New Steering Committee members will be elected at the Annual Meeting this September 12.

Please contact Dana Erickson or Tony Stroda for more information: (541) 683-6578.



# Please Support the Council

## Support the work of the Long Tom Watershed Council!

The watershed council model is based on building a shared community approach to solving natural resource issues. The success of this approach depends on community involvement and support. We hope this will include your help. There are many ways to support the Council's work - volunteering, attending meetings and tours, and equally as crucial— donating funds.

The Council has a 11-year history working with watershed residents improve water quality and habitat through learning and action. We just hit a milestone of 30 completed restoration projects. Since most of the land in our watershed is privately owned, much of this education and restoration work involves developing relationships with private landowners and supporting their efforts to be stewards of their land. In addition to the watershed benefits, this work also contributes to our local economy - over 90% of the restoration grant dollars that the Council brings in are spent in this county - on local contractors, suppliers, businesses, and employees.

The Council does more than restoration – we are the only entity that monitors water quality and stream health throughout the basin, and we share watershed information with the community. Council meetings, tours, and discussions stimulate learning and problem-solving. We also partner with local agencies and organizations to address the crucial, big picture issues in our watershed that no one entity can tackle alone.

With your support, we can continue to enhance and restore the ecology of our watershed that sustain our quality of life and create partnerships that cross all boundaries.



Yes, I'd love to help with a tax-deductible donation to the Long Tom Watershed Council to improve water quality and the watershed in my community!

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: The Council will not release your personal information to other organizations.*

☐ Check here if you'd like to receive our newsletter and other announcements via email

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your donation check payable to **Long Tom Watershed Council**. Send completed form and tax-deductible donation to:

Long Tom Watershed Council  
751 S. Danebo Ave.  
Eugene, OR 97402

**THANK YOU!**

Questions?  
Dana Erickson  
Executive Director  
683-6578



# Our Watershed & Council



**Action  
Through  
Understanding**



**Steering  
Committee**

**Lower Long Tom**

Tony Stroda, *Chair*  
Jim Pendergrass,  
*Treasurer*  
Eric Freepons

**Upper Long Tom**

Ric Ingham  
Carl Harrison  
Patti Little,  
*Secretary*

**Amazon**

Peg Boulay  
Brad Taylor,  
*Co-Vice Chair*  
Eric Wold

**At Large**

Kat Beal  
Kim Carson  
Rich Reeves,  
*Co-Vice Chair*



**Contact Us:**

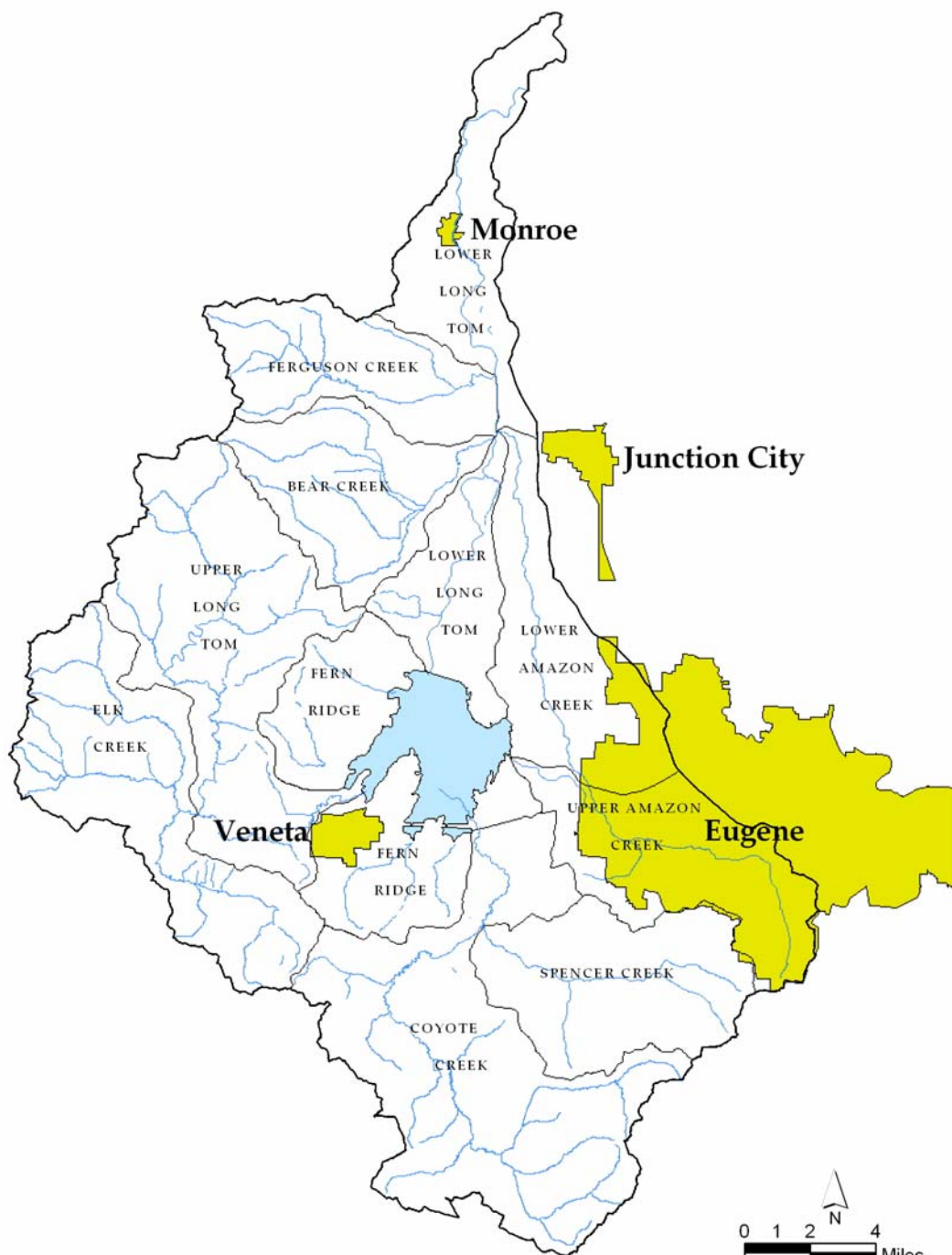
751 S. Danebo Ave.  
Eugene, OR 97402

Phone: (541) 683-6578

Fax: (541) 683-6998

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

## Long Tom Watershed Ten Major Subbasins



Source: Long Tom Watershed Council, Brian Isaac 9/03

### STAFF

**Executive Director**  
Dana Erickson  
683-6578

**Projects & Monitoring**  
Cindy T. or Jed K.  
683-2983/  
683-6183

**Fiscal Manager**  
Amanda Wilson  
683-6949

**Stewardship**  
Susan Oldland  
683-6949

# Watershed Calendar & Opportunities

## Council Events

### Steering Committee Meetings

Thursday, July 23, 2009; 6:00 p.m. &  
Thursday, September 10, 2009; 6:00 p.m.

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### Restoration Project Tour

Tuesday, July 28, 2009; 6:00 p.m.  
Owen's Creek Stream and  
Riparian Enhancement

\*\*\*\*\*

### Annual Celebration!!

Saturday, September 12, 2009;  
1pm — 4pm  
Polyrock Ranch,  
84402 Territorial Rd., Eugene

*Help us make our 2009 Annual Meeting &  
Celebration a success! Join a committee, so-  
licit donations, help sell tickets - we'd love  
your help!*

For more information contact  
Susan Oldland:  
stewardship@longtom.org; 683-6949

## WREN Wetland Wanders and More

August 11

**Wetland Wander at Stewart Pond  
Natural Area**  
9-10 a.m.

August is a great time to see dragonflies and  
damselflies! Meet at the Stewart Pond overlook  
off of Stewart Road for this wander. Wetland  
Wanders are casual walks through various West  
Eugene Wetlands sites each 2nd Tuesday of  
every month. WREN will provide binoculars.

August 15

**Family Exploration Day at Golden Gardens Park**  
9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Explore Golden Gardens Park with your family!  
WREN staff and volunteers will supply bug nets,  
field guides, and binoculars for families to  
explore the area. Families are encouraged to  
bring a picnic lunch and enjoy independent  
discovery. Golden Gardens is a 146-acre natural  
area park located in Eugene's Bethel  
neighborhood, at the intersection of Golden  
Gardens Street and Jessen Drive, north of  
Barger Drive.

For more information, contact Holly McRae at  
hmcrae@wewetlands.org or 683-6494.

***Do you have a dam or culvert on your property that we could survey? There are NO ramifications for any landowner that has a culvert or dam that blocks fish passage. You would have an opportunity to let us work alongside you to address it, bringing in grant funding and technical expertise. We can provide many references of satisfied landowners we have partnered with.***

**Would you like a presentation about the watershed and our Council?  
Would your organization like to talk about ideas for collaboration?**

Please call Dana Erickson at 683-6578



Tuesday July 28, 6:00 pm — Restoration Project Tour  
Owens Creek Stream & Riparian Enhancement Project  
Joe McFadden's Property  
25282 High Pass Road, Junction City



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e-mail: [coordinator@longtom.org](mailto:coordinator@longtom.org)  
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751 S. Danebo Avenue  
Eugene, OR 97402

**Tuesday July 28, 6:00 pm — Restoration Project Tour**  
**Owens Creek Stream & Riparian Enhancement Project**  
**Joe McFadden's Property**  
**25282 High Pass Road, Junction City**

**Directions to Council Office from Eugene:**

Follow W. 11th west toward Florence.

One signal past Beltline Rd. is Danebo Ave. Turn right;

The first driveway on your right after the Hertz dealership and Amazon Creek is the Wetlands Partnership Office (white sign) and leads up a small hill to a red ranch house (Council office).

**To carpool to the project site, meet at the Council office at 5:15 p.m.**

**Directions to the Project Site from the Council office:**

Head north on Belt Line Hwy;

Take exit for Hwy 99 toward Junction City;

Turn left and go 7.2 mi.;

Turn left at Hwy 36 toward Cheshire for 4.2 mi.;

Turn right at Territorial Hwy for 1.8 mi.;

Turn left at High Pass Rd for 4.1 mi.;

Just past the intersection of Lavell Rd., look for the sign to park, turning left off High Pass Rd.