

# SIUSLAW WATERSHED COUNCIL NEWS

APRIL 2005

www.siuslaw.org  
watershed@siuslaw.org

P.O. Box 422 • Mapleton, Oregon 97453 • 541-268-3044

• *Community* • *Economy* • *Environment*

## Message from the Coordinator

April 22 was Earth Day. I am almost reticent to mention this fact for several reasons: **1)** As far as holidays or special events goes, Earth Day has lost a bit of its luster, seeming to be a bit more of a nostalgic anniversary for that day in 1970 when public consciousness about our environment was rising. Now it appears best suited for a theme for schools or civic groups to hold activities and for interest groups to staff informational booths. It even serves as a day for personal undertakings – I had a friend who vowed to produce zero waste one Earth Day. I am not certain if that included bodily functions, and I cared not to ask. **2)** For many of us, especially members of the watershed council, the cliché “every day is Earth Day” holds true. Bumper stickers promote it is true for farmers and others relying on natural resources for their livelihood. This is especially true in the Siuslaw watershed, where consciousness and efforts on forestry, agriculture, and fishery practices have become such an issue that it has become difficult, if not impossible, to not think about our actions in terms of the effects on the landscape and stream systems. **3)** Earth Day probably is most effective for urbanites, for whom a reminder that the world consists of more than asphalt and concrete, that food and water don’t derive from cans and bottles on grocery store shelves, and that their waste does not evaporate in garbage bins and drain pipes, is necessary so that they don’t forget about the natural world altogether. Few, if any, Siuslaw basin residents need such a reminder.

Yet there the date is on my calendar, and I am stuck on the theme for this month’s coordinator’s message. Looking back over the course of 25 years, I think we are fortunate for the evolution of concepts such as watershed councils. Through this vehicle, we are able to harness the

collective will of a community to pursue a common goal. While landowners manage their lands with individual goals of productivity and sustainability in mind, there is often little a single person can do alone to ensure that the natural resources they rely upon (the water, the streams, the healthy forests) remain intact through the future. But through determining the issues that have the greatest impact on the watershed (fish passage, wetland loss, or stream shading, for example) and how individuals can independently and voluntarily address them, the council empowers the community. Most importantly, I believe, is the continuing forum for how to continue living with the land, using the natural resources, and avoiding conflict.

Through various collaborative efforts and projects with individuals, the watershed council embodies a spirit of mutual respect. Our prioritization projects aim to identify the best opportunities for watershed stewardship and enhancement by working with interested landowners and cooperative communities where the benefit to the watershed is high. Our landowner programs, on the other hand, provide assistance, such as free native riparian plants, to folks interested in doing anything they can to help. Council members are not here to turn the entire landscape into a wilderness area or to give up ways of life. They are here because they care, and they care to do it right. Now that’s an Earth Day notion I can celebrate.

**Todd Miller**



**Siuslaw Watershed  
Council**

Tel: 541-268-3044

Fax 268-3045

**Staff**

**Coordinator:** *Todd Miller*

coordinator@siuslaw.org

**Administrative Assistant::**

*Robin Combest*

watershed@siuslaw.org

**AmeriCorp Volunteer:**

*Shiloh Sundstrom*

outreach@siuslaw.org

**Monitoring Coordinator:**

*Liz Vollmer-Buhl*

monitoring@siuslaw.org

**2005 Executive Committee**

**Chair:** Paula Crowder

**Vice Chair:** Steve Elliot

**Secretary:** William Fleenor

**Treasurer:** Nancy Nichols

**Representatives:**

Barbara Beers

Howard Crombie

Dave Eisler

Jim Grano

Noland Huntington

## Estuary Landowner Meetings for Tidal Wetland Discussions

We are hosting three meetings in late May and early June for community discussion regarding our estuarine wetlands assessment project. Community input and knowledge, especially from the landowners who know and care so much about the Siuslaw River estuary, are considered the most valuable part of this assessment. Estuary landowners are highly encouraged to attend and participate, which is why we are offering three possible dates for your convenience.

Each meeting will include a presentation about the significance of and general assessment of tidal wetlands in the Siuslaw estuary (including the North Fork) by Laura Brophy, the consultant hired by the council through a funding agreement with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. The Siuslaw Watershed Council seeks community knowledge to reinforce our understanding of the best areas to assist landowners interested in restoring or enhancing estuarine wetlands.

The project, including all research and community input, will culminate in a prioritization report in accord with Oregon state wetland evaluation protocols (which are currently under development). The report will help guide landowners, agencies, developers, and conservation groups on land use planning and stewardship decisions in the future. Please help be a part of this important project and participate in one of the following meetings:

- Wednesday, May 18, Florence (North Fork Grange Hall, North Fork Road)—PENDING confirmation of space, please call the Council office, 268-3044, or check the Siuslaw News for confirmation.
- Monday, May 23, 7:00 pm, Mapleton (Mapleton Grange Hall, East Mapleton Road)
- Wednesday, June 1, 7:00 pm, Duncan Island residence, Please call the Council office, 268-3044, for directions.

## Good News for Wood Ducks!

Thank you to Steve Elliot who volunteered to wade through wetlands and climb trees to install three wood duck boxes at Karnowsky Creek. Also, thank you to Dave Rankin and Siuslaw National Forest for providing the wood duck boxes.

## Curious about the Health of the Watershed?

We have fascinating volunteer opportunities available! Join the volunteers of the Water Quality Monitoring Program--spend a few hours one day a month (usually the last Wednesday of the month) collecting water samples, processing samples in the lab, or helping with related tasks! We'll provide you with training. If you are interested in volunteering, or have any questions, please contact, Liz Vollmer-Buhl, Water Quality Monitoring Volunteer Coordinator, at [monitoring@siuslaw.org](mailto:monitoring@siuslaw.org), or leave a telephone message at the SWC office, 541-268-3044.

## MORE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

The Siuslaw Watershed Council Riparian Planting Project continued through March. After our planned distribution in February we received over 3,000 additional plants for distribution to area landowners. Thank you to Balance Restoration Nursery, Doak Creek Nursery and Eugene BLM. Also thanks to Cricket Crowder, Shiloh Sundstrom and Tom Steinberg for help distributing these additional gifts.

## COASTAL INITIATIVE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Cascade Pacific RC&D (CPRCD) is accepting proposals for Coastal Initiative projects located in the Siuslaw Watershed and Coastal Lakes area. Projects need to support and promote watershed and community health. Up to \$295,000 is available from the Siuslaw Stewardship Fund through the USFS Siuslaw National Forest. Projects can be awarded up to \$75,000, although larger proposals will be reviewed. Time frame for projects is approximately two years, beginning in January 2006. Projects need be completed by September 30, 2008. **Proposals must be in accordance with the project guidelines** (available on line at [www.siuslaw.org](http://www.siuslaw.org)—click on Links/Stewardship Group). The Coastal Initiative Proposal Form is available on the website: <http://stewardship.siuslaw.org>, on the link above, or by contacting Cascade Pacific RC&D. Full stewardship packets are available at the Council office. **Completed proposals must be at the Cascade Pacific RC&D office, by 5:00 PM June 1, 2005.** Electronic proposals will not be accepted.

### 2005 Siuslaw Watershed Council

#### Leadership Board Representatives

##### Area Representatives:

North Fork Siuslaw: Noland Huntington

Upper Siuslaw: Steve Elliot

Lower Siuslaw: David Rankin

Indian Creek: Barbara Beers/Dick Beers

Wildcat: David Eisler/Steve Kriegh & Linda Redmon

Deadwood: Nancy Nichols/Bill Cirino

Lake Creek: Tony Humphreys

Wolf Creek: \_\_\_\_\_

At Large: Andrew Morohl

##### Interest Group Representatives:

###### Academic/Scientific:

Paul Burns/Tom Steinberg

Commercial Fishing: \_\_\_\_\_

###### Federal Land Management:

Karen Geary, BLM/Johan Hogervorst, USFS

City of Florence: (appointed) Dianne Burch

Lane Co. Government: (appointed) \_\_\_\_\_

Resource Recreation: Lynn Hood

###### Public Education:

Jim Grano/Cricket Crowder

###### Small Woodlot:

Vernon VanCurler

###### Tribes CTCLUS:

Howard Crombie/ JR Herbst

SWCD: Ray Kinney/Johnny Sundstrom

Agriculture/Ranching: Bill Cirino

###### Industrial Timber:

Paul Chapman, Campbell Group

Environmental: William Fleenor

Port of Siuslaw: (appointed) Ken Miller

State Government: John Spangler, ODF&W

Ecosystem Workforce: Lori Robertson

**Blank Line represents present vacancy**



## **FREE Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Event**

Do you have oil-based paint, weed killers, household cleaners, or other hazardous materials in your garage or cabinets that you plan not to use? If so then round'em up and bring them to Florence's FREE Household Hazardous Waste Disposal event. Mark your calendars for Friday, April 29 12pm - 5pm and Saturday, April 30 8 am - 2pm, when Lane County's Special Waste Team will be accepting household hazardous waste from all Western Lane County and Western Douglas County residents at the Florence Recycling Station at 2820 Rhododendron Drive next to the Humane Society.

Hazardous wastes like fluorescent light bulbs, mercury thermometers, cleaners, paint thinners, camera, hearing aid, cell phone and power tool batteries, fertilizers, auto fluids and many more items contain metals and chemicals that can end up in our drinking water, rivers and lakes if buried, flushed down the drain or poured onto the ground or into storm drains. Many common household products contribute to air pollution in the home as well. Look on labels for words like "warning", "danger", "poison", or "caution". Those items do not belong in Lane County's land fill or in the Siuslaw watershed. Bring them to this free event for disposal.

### These items are not hazardous:

- paint cans that are empty or the paint is dry (dispose in garbage)
- empty aerosol cans (remove nozzle & recycle curbside or at the transfer station)
- household alkaline batteries newer than 1997 (dispose in garbage)
- latex paint (add kitty litter, stir, dispose in garbage when hardened)

### These items are not accepted at local events or at the Florence Transfer Station:

- explosives
- radioactive materials
- asbestos

The Florence Transfer Station will also be accepting electronic waste, for reuse or recycling, on these dates. There is a small fee for this service

Businesses wanting to participate need to pre-register with Lane County Waste Management Division at 682-4120. Most businesses can save money by using this program, rather than hiring a contractor on their own.

For more information contact Wendy Farley at the City of Florence, Community Development Department, 997-8237 or [wendy.farley@ci.florence.or.us](mailto:wendy.farley@ci.florence.or.us).

# No Ivy Day

Please join us on Saturday, May 7, 9:00 am at Archie Knowles Campground (off Highway 126, 4 miles east of Mapleton) for an English Ivy demonstration and volunteer work party. A free participant appreciation picnic will follow at 12:00 noon.

Learn how to appropriately deal with English ivy that is threatening trees. Skills and knowledge gained through hands-on demonstration to release trees at Archie Knowles Campground can be applied to trees on your property.

Tools will be provided, but please bring any loppers, pruners, and gloves you may have.

A picnic lunch will include drinks, sandwiches or hot dogs and hamburgers (to be determined), and other picnic treats. Pot luck additions are welcomed!

To learn more about No Ivy Day or about English Ivy, check out the website [noivyleague.com](http://noivyleague.com).



## Schedule of Events

**April 27—Siuslaw Watershed Council General Meeting: 6:30 pm, Mapleton Grange, E. Mapleton Road.**

**May 2—Siuslaw SWCD Board Meeting: 7:30 pm, Meeting Room, Florence Business Center, 1525 12th Street, Florence.**

**May 5—SWC Technical Team Meeting: 9:30 am, Upper Compound, Mapleton.**

**May 5—Siuslaw Stewardship Group Meeting: 1-3 pm, Upper Compound, Mapleton.**

**May 7—No Ivy Day: Ivy Removal and Picnic: 9 am-4 pm, Archie Knowles Campground (see article above for more information)**

**May 11— SWC Executive Committee Meeting: 5:30 pm., Upper Compound, Mapleton.**

**May 18 , May 23 and June 1—Estuary Landowner Meetings for Tidal Wetland Discussions: see page 2 for more information.**

**May 25—Siuslaw Watershed Council General Meeting: 6:30 pm, Mapleton Grange, E. Mapleton Road.**

**Siuslaw Watershed Council  
General Meeting Agenda  
April 27, 2005  
Mapleton Grange Hall  
6:30 p.m.**

- 6:00-6:30**    **Open for set-up**
- 6:30– 6:35**    **Welcome and Introductions**
- 6:35-7:05**    **Presentation:** *Watershed Council Projects Update: Todd Miller will present information on several of the larger projects the council is involved in this year. Projects include the Watershed Initiative, TMDL Temperature Monitoring, Estuarine Wetlands Prioritization, and Culvert Assessment, Mapping, and Replacement.*
- 7:05-7:15**    **Presentation:** *Northwest Forest Plan : A brief overview of a conference that Shiloh Sundstrom, AmeriCorps Volunteer, recently attended.*
- 7:15-7:25**    **Presentation:** *Ivy Removal: Shiloh and Todd will give a brief overview of the importance of removing this invasive plant in preparation for the No-Ivy Day on May 7.*
- 7:25-7:45**    **Break and Refreshments**
- 7:45-8:05**    **Coordinator Report  
Executive Committee Report  
Tech Team Report**
- 8:05-8:20**    **Open Mic**    *(3-5 speakers, 3-5 minutes each)*
- 8:20-8:30**    **Announcements and Raffle Drawing**
- 8:30**         **Adjourn**

**Monthly Raffle**

To help raise funds for the Council, we are holding a raffle of donated items at each General Council meeting. Tickets are a suggested donation of \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The winner will get to choose from available items.

## **June Meeting in Triangle Lake**

We are planning to hold our June General Council Meeting at the Triangle Lake Grange on June 29 at 6:30 pm. We are hoping to meet more of our upper watershed neighbors and hope that our regular attendees can make it too. Bring a potluck dish and a friend. We can also try to arrange carpooling if you are interested.

# Treasurer's Report

*Nancy Nichols, Council Treasurer*

March 2005

	MARCH	YEAR TO DATE
<b>Beginning Cash</b>	\$72,972.19	
<b>INCOME</b>		
Dues	\$190.00	\$820.00
Federal Grants		
State Grants	\$2,970.35	\$25,426.84
Private Grants	\$500.00	\$2,383.33
Interest	\$133.96	\$385.10
Donations & Misc.	\$1,201.00	\$1,541.00
Administrative Funds	\$655.60	\$13,404.75
Reimbursements		
Other		
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$5,650.91</b>	<b>\$43,961.02</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Grant Expenses	\$8,105.25	\$59,176.90
Other	\$1,051.85	\$2,221.85
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$9,157.10</b>	<b>\$61,398.75</b>
<b>Ending Cash</b>	<b>\$69,466.00</b>	

The Siuslaw Watershed Council is a non-profit , 501c3, organization .

All donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

## Siuslaw Watershed Council Membership Form

### Type of Membership:

Landowner \_\_\_\_\_ Community Member \_\_\_\_\_ Industry \_\_\_\_\_

Government Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Tribal: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please choose any of the following:

- Tax-deductible membership enclosed(\$10 regular, \$0 students).
- Additional tax-deductible donation enclosed. Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I am interested in volunteer opportunities with the Siuslaw Watershed Council

April 2005

# www.siuslaw.org

If you've never been to the Council's website, you're missing out. Check it out occasionally. There you can find newsletter archives, documents, project information, news updates, maps, photos, and a whole lot more. You can also link to other sites that contain useful information such as the Siuslaw River Gauge, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Stewardship Group, Water Resources Department, Ecotrust, McKenzie River Trust, USDA PLANTS database, Natural Resources Conservation Service and more. Let us know what you think and let us know of any links that we should include on our site. Look for new information coming to the web soon.

## Siuslaw Watershed Council Mission Statement

*The Siuslaw Watershed Council supports sound economic, social and environmental uses of natural and human resources in the Siuslaw River Basin. The Council encourages cooperation among public and private watershed entities to promote awareness and understanding of watershed functions by adopting and implementing a total watershed approach to natural resource management and production.*



P.O. Box 422 • Mapleton, Oregon 97453 • 541-268-3044

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

[watershed@siuslaw.org](mailto:watershed@siuslaw.org)

*What's Happening In Your Watershed?*