



The Kingfisher



Newsletter of the Yamhill Basin Council
Working to improve our watersheds
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Support the YBC!

Purchase a limited edition Kingfisher print (above), painted by local artist Terry Peasley.

Matted 11x14 cost \$30; 16x20 cost \$50. Framed prints available as well. Visit Hidden Treasures Gallery in McMinnville or call the YBC at (503) 474-1047 to order yours today!

Yamhill Basin Council

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"Celebrate our Watersheds" Event

The 2007 Watershed Celebration was a great success with over 100 people attending at the Grand Ballroom and over \$5000 raised! As per the last two years, the event included music and a silent auction, as well as food and local brews and wines for sale. This year the music was provided by Sneakin' Out, a popular and eccentric trio from Portland who frequent the McMinnville area. Food was provided by Harvest Fresh and Red Fox Bakery and it received many compliments from attendees. Beer, wine, and bartending was donated by Golden Valley Brewery, and other local wine-makers also donated wine for pouring at the event.

This year we had over 70 local businesses, artists, watershed residents, and wine-makers donate to the event. We had silent auction donations ranging from a hot air balloon ride, to massages, art, and select wine assortments. The auction continues to be a popular part of the party and is a great way to connect with the community. Plan ahead and keep your calendar open for the second weekend in November 2008!

Thank you to our generous supporters of "Celebrate our Watersheds"

Benefactor \$1000 +: McMinnville Grand Ballroom, **Patron \$500-\$999:** Pamla Raye/Sentient Journeys, Rydell Engineering, Sneakin' Out, City of McMinnville, Marilyn Higginson, McMinnville Water and Light, **Steward \$100-499:** A to Z Wineworks, Ability Physical Therapy, Amity Vineyards, Anne Amie Vineyards, Arbor Brook Vineyards, Cascade Soaring, Coleman Vineyard, Creative Metalworks, Golden Valley Brewery and Restaurant, Harvest Fresh Grocery and Deli, John Betonte, Lemelson Vineyards, Magpie Glassworks, Natalie's Estate Winery, News Register Publishing Co., Oregon Vineyard Supply, Pacific Liners, Inc., Patricia Farrell, Polk SWCD, Red Fox Bakery, Ronnie LaCroute/Willakenzie Estate Winery, Sokol Blosser Winery, Stag Hollow Wines and Vineyard, Stimson Lumber Company, Stone Wolf Vineyards, Terry Peasley, Vista Balloon Adventures, Walnut City Wineworks, Youngberg Hill Vineyards, **Friend \$10-99:** Michael B. Cole, Oregon Vineyard Supply, Penguin Café, Quercus Wines, LLC, Red Ridge Farm, The Brigittine Monks, Third Street Books, Tina's Restaurant, Totem Shriver, Wayward Winds, Wendy Thompson, Yamhill SWCD, Amanda Lynn, Argyle Winery, Bide-a-Wee Farm, Big Red Barn, Carlton Tasting Room, Coelho Winery, Copy Cats West Salem, Cu-vee, Deborah Topp, Enerchi, Greenwood, Hanson Arts, Henry Kunze, Honest Chocolates, Horseradish, Ilse Perse, Jack of Beads, Jake Rockwood, James Gang BBQ, Jastree, Ken Hale, LaRambla Restaurant & Bar, Methven family Vineyard, and all the volunteers who made "Celebrate our Watersheds" possible!

Coordinated by the Yamhill Watershed Stewardship Fund in support of the Yamhill Basin Council ~ Promoting watershed health for the Yamhill and Chehalem Creek Watersheds



YBC Welcomes Eric Butler, our new Intern!

Eric Butler from Raleigh Hills, Oregon is our LINKS/AmeriCorps Intern this year. Eric is a junior at Linfield College with a double-major in Biology and Environmental Studies.

His career goal is to work as an ecologist. His other interests include reading, creative writing, music, cooking, outdoor recreation, and cycling.

Eric has been active in working with volunteers at Miller Woods and helping with other YBC projects.

Landscaping with Native Plants Workshop

On January 26th from 9am-1pm at the McMinnville Community Center we will have a workshop about using native plants in your landscaping. Participants will learn about the benefits of growing native plants which are better adapted to the local environment and about the species that grow well in Yamhill County.

Please see our website at www.co.yamhill.or.us/ybc or contact Jean at the YBC office for more information: (503) 474-1047.

YBC FROM THE GROUND UP-DATES

Culvert Inventory Project:

The Culvert Inventory has finished field work for this year. Our survey crews completed work in the Willamina watershed, and the Baker Creek, Panther Creek, Turner Creek, and Haskins Creek sub-watersheds of the North Yamhill River. The YBC provided outreach for this project by contacting landowners to explain the project and gain permission to access the culverts. Thank you to all the landowners, Craig Johnson, Liz Dodson, Phoebe and Phil Newton and Sebastian McMasters for your assistance in completing the project. This project was funded by a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation awarded to the Bureau of Land Management, with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, and the YBC as partners.

Carlton Riparian Restoration Project:

This project at Wennerberg Park on the North Yamhill River in Carlton is nearing completion. The native trees and shrubs planted by YBC members and volunteers are growing well thanks to volunteers who watered the plants during the hot summer months. The plants will improve the riparian area along the river by providing habitat for birds and other animals, decreasing erosion, and shading the water (once they grow really big!) to make it more comfortable for native fish that like cold water. This project was made possible by Oregon Lottery funds administered by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB).

Deer Creek County Park Wet Prairie Restoration Project:

The park was mowed this summer and later sprayed to kill the invasive weed species. In the summer of 2008, a large portion of the site will be re-graded to eliminate the ditches, and small check dams will be constructed in some of the swales to intercept groundwater flow. The site will be re-seeding or planted with native wet prairie species in the fall of 2008 and 2009. This project was made possible by Oregon Lottery funds administered by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB).

Water Quality Monitoring:

The data from 2006 water sampling will be posted on our website soon. In October, we removed temperature loggers from 24 sites around the watershed. The daily stream temperature data will be posted on the website when the analysis is completed. Pesticide monitoring samples will be collected during winter/spring run-off.

Upcoming Projects:

We are developing new restoration projects to improve fish habitat and floodplain connectivity at various sites in the watershed. We are also researching new sites to continue with our water quality monitoring.



YBC Membership and Volunteers

We currently have openings for new Council Members representing Small Cities, Utilities, Students, Agriculture, and Watershed Residents. If you are interested in working to improve the Chehalem and Yamhill watersheds through a collaborative, consensus based group, please attend a Council meeting on the second Thursday of each month from 7-8:30pm at the McMinnville Water Reclamation Facility at 3500 NE Clearwater Drive, McMinnville. New Council Member Application forms are available at the YBC office or on our website.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with removing invasive plants, planting native species, mulching and watering plants, cleaning up streams, or doing event planning, fundraising, and office work. Please contact our office at 503.474.1047 and tell us your areas of interest. Thank you!



**Yamhill
Basin
Council**

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Comments, questions, submissions? Wish to be added to or removed from the mailing list?

Contact Jean at (503) 474-1047 or ybc_coordinator@co.yamhill.or.us.