



The Kingfisher

Newsletter of the Yamhill Basin Council
Volume 1, Issue 4

October 2003

YBC Cleans Up Cozine Creek for the 3rd Year



Left: John Westlund removes scrap metal from Cozine Creek.
Right: Pile of garbage collected by volunteers from the creek below the Ford St. railroad trestle. **Story on Page 3.**

Summer Water Quality Monitoring Wraps Up



Above: YBC Member Dave Monson (left) and volunteer Anne Mullan (right) collect a benthic macroinvertebrate sample in Mill Creek (Polk County) as Jeanine Ishii, YBC Water Quality Tech supervises. The YBC has expanded water quality monitoring throughout the basin in the summer of 2003. **Story on Page 2.**

Storm Drain Curb Marker Program Implemented in McMinnville & Dayton



Left: Ken Friday helps son Isaac of Cub Scout Pack 522 place a storm drain curb marker near Grand Haven School in McMinnville. David Cushman and son Tom look on.

YBC Wish List

- First aid kit or supplies
- Technu poison oak skin cleanser
- Insect repellent
- Postage
- Color copying
- Disposable non-latex gloves
- Storage space

If you can help, please contact Jeanine Ishii at jeanine-ishii@or.nacdnet.org.

The YBC has begun to work with groups around the county to place markers on storm drains with the words "No Dumping. Drains to River." in English and Spanish, surrounding a picture of a fish. It is hoped that the markers will discourage people from dumping hazardous materials such as motor oil down storm drains. The project was made possible through a grant from the Spirit Mountain Community Fund. To date, over 200 markers have been placed in McMinnville and Dayton. If you would like to see storm drain curb markers in your town, contact the Council at 472-6403.



251 N.E. Third Street
McMinnville, OR 97128

Phone: (503) 472-5740
www.harvestfresh.com
email: health@harvestfresh.com

Macroinvertebrates Meet Their Match!

During seven long days in September, YBC members, staff and volunteers put on their waders and explored 13 creeks in more detail than ever before. Step one: Plunge hands into cold water, scrub large rocks and kick up substrate to dislodge benthic macroinvertebrates (aquatic insects) and wash them into a net. Step two: Repeat seven times upstream in different riffles. Step three: Transfer sand, leaves and bugs from net into a bucket where small rocks can be removed. Step four: Transfer into labeled bottles and fill with alcohol to preserve. Step five: Go back downstream and measure how wide the stream is and sample the substrate. Step six: Take pictures, measure canopy cover with a densiometer and stream gradient with a clinometer. Step seven: Make sure you've written everything down, pack up and move on to the next site!



Left: YBC Members Dennis Werth and Jim Kreutzbender sample for aquatic insects in Willamina Creek.



Right: Anne Mullan, volunteer uses a densiometer, which measures canopy cover on Mill Creek in Polk County.

The whole process took about three hours per site. Along the way, some fish managed to get themselves caught in the net – but don't worry, we checked constantly and set them free as soon as we could catch them. All of the samples have been picked up for analysis by aquatic biologist, Ann Potcher. Results should be in by November 30th.

Special Thanks to our Monitoring Volunteers!

Terry Peasley	Thomas Way	Darey Shell	John Westlund	Dave Hanson
Anne Mullan	Carolina Hooper	Patricia Farrell	Dennis Werth	Larry Hays
Jim Kreutzbender	Dave Monson	Rich Blaha	Dalena Belden	Jeff Adams
Jack Murphy	TJ Way	Art Thurber	Mike Cole	

A number of raptors (including one osprey!) have been sighted using the osprey poles erected by the YBC in September 2002.



Osprey Pole Update

SWCD/YBC Tour a Success!

It was a beautiful fall day in October—the sun was shining, leaves beginning to turn, and a crisp chill in the air. Thus began the SWCD/YBC Tour of conservation projects in Yamhill County, for the benefit of public officials from the region and other interested parties.

The group visited four sites, including a streamside planting at the Riedman property, on Muddy Creek. The YBC secured a small grant from OWEB for the Riedmans in 2002, which enabled the family to purchase a large number of trees and shrubs for the project. David Riedman spoke to the group about the project and his future plans to maintain the site as a riparian buffer for Muddy Creek.



Above: David Riedman, Muddy Creek landowner and YBC partner, describes his riparian planting project to County Commissioners Kathy George and Mary Stern.

3rd Annual Cozine Creek Clean-up a Success!



October 4, 2003—Over twenty volunteers gathered on a cool Saturday morning to participate in the third annual Cozine Creek Clean-Up, an event first started in October of 2001.

Volunteers included neighbors living along Cozine Creek, Linfield Students for Environmental Awareness, and local citizens. This year, in addition to removing garbage from the creek between the mouth and the Davis Street overpass, one of the crews helped to remove non-native exotics such as English ivy.

Volunteers removed one truckload of garbage and six tires, a major reduction from the twenty five tires pulled out of the creek during the first clean-up. Other types of garbage included bicycles, scrap metal, bottles and cans, food wrappers, old bedding materials, and a vacuum cleaner. The event was filmed for *Valley Views and Voices*, a local cable access show on channel 11. The show aired October 11th - 16th.

Sponsors included Les Schwab Tires, Riverbend Landfill, and Harvest Fresh Grocery, which provided delicious food for the event for the third year in a row. The Yamhill SWCD assisted the Council by providing tools and a vehicle to the council for the event. A special thanks to the Davis/Gunn, Peasley, and Bertram families for their support. Thanks to the sponsors and volunteers for making the project a success!



Above: Rob Tracey picks up garbage near the Ford St. trestle.

Left: Mary Stern removes ivy from an area adjacent to Cozine Creek.

Right: Volunteer crew poses for photo at the Davis/Gunn house, after enjoying snacks donated by Harvest Fresh Grocery.



YBC Barbecue Feeds the Masses

On September 18th, more than 65 people gathered at West Wortman Park for the 2nd annual Yamhill Basin Council Community BBQ. The barbecue provided the public with an opportunity to meet Council members and learn about watershed issues. Thanks to all of the volunteers who made the event possible. Fresh picked corn was provided by the Riedman family and the labor of Jim Kruezbender, Council member. Rick and Cathy Dale donated the use of their grill. Rob Tracey, Council member and Terry Peasley provided door prizes for the barbecue. Safeway donated \$50 in groceries for the event. Volunteers who were instrumental in set-up, cooking and cleaning included Dennis & Sue Werth, Janice and Michael Ishii, Dave Hanson, Chris Ames, Carolina Hooper, and Stan and Mary Christensen, who operated the grill. Thanks again and see you next year!



Above: The Heath Family. L to R: Trish, Mike, Georgie, and Fawna

Left: YBC Members Rob Tracey and Patricia Farrell



Below: State Representative Donna Nelson (left), with Marilyn Reeves of Friends of Yamhill County and local resident David Kluting.



Above: Stan Christensen, YBC Member & Grillmaster

YBC Calendar

October 25

Workshop—Rural Living Basics:
Wells and Septic Tanks Class
10:00 AM—3:00 PM
Yamhill Co. Public Works Auditorium
See ad on this page.

November 6

Yamhill SWCD Annual Dinner
6:00—10:00 PM
McMinnville Grand Ballroom
Dinner: \$15 at door.
For tickets: (503) 472-6403

November 11

Yamhill Basin Council
Monthly Meeting
6:00—8:30 PM
McMinnville Water Rec. Facility

November 22 & December 6

Workshop—Streamside Gardening
OSU Extension—Yamhill County
8:30 AM—4:00 PM (both days)
Yamhill Co. Public Works Auditorium
See ad on this page.

Yamhill Basin Council Mission

Improve watershed conditions and promote awareness and understanding of watershed issues to achieve healthy forest, farm, urban, and riparian communities in the Yamhill Basin.

Dave Hanson	Chair
Jeff Bash	Watershed Coordinator
Jeanine Ishii	Water Quality Technician

Upcoming YBC Workshop!



Rural Living Basics: Wells and Septic Tanks Class

This slide talk covers the basics on how to care for your drinking water well and septic system to protect your health, your investment, and safety of the groundwater. Fee includes water testing for nitrates.

Instruction by **Gail Andrews**, OSU Extension Water Quality Educator

Saturday October 25th, 2003

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Yamhill County Public Works Auditorium

2050 Lafayette Street, McMinnville, Oregon

\$10 with lunch or \$5 without lunch

Call (503) 434-7517 to register. Space is limited.



SPIRIT MOUNTAIN
COMMUNITY FUND

Workshop co-sponsored by the Spirit Mountain Community Fund
and OSU Extension of Yamhill County

Future Workshops

OSU Extension Streamside Gardening Workshop

November 22 & December 6

Sponsors: OSU Extension—Yamhill County, Yamhill SWCD, YBC
Yamhill County Public Works Auditorium, 2050 Lafayette Ave., McMinnville
8:30 AM—4:00 PM (both days)

To register, contact (503) 434-7517 or linda.mcmahan@oregonstate.edu

Fee: \$25 (includes lunch on 11/22)

Support the YBC by purchasing a Kingfisher print (on front page), painted by local artist Terry Peasley. 60% of the proceeds go to the YBC for projects. An unframed matted 8x10 costs only \$15. Framed prints available as well. Call the YBC at (503) 472-6403 to order.

Comments, questions, or submissions? Please contact Jeff Bash, Watershed Coordinator at (503) 472-6403 or via e-mail at jeff-bash@or.nacdn.org. If you would like to receive this newsletter via e-mail (as a pdf file) or would like to be removed from the mailing list, please let us know.

Thanks to the Yamhill SWCD, NRCS, and FSA for use of computers, printers and copy machines.



Yamhill Basin Council

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