



Luckiamute Watershed Council

www.LuckiamuteLWC.org

LWC Mission:

To engage and assist landowners and communities in the voluntary protection, restoration and enhancement of the Luckiamute and Ash Creek watersheds.

What we are:

The Luckiamute Watershed Council is a volunteer, nongovernmental, advisory group composed of stakeholders living or working in the Luckiamute and Ash Creek watersheds.

Council meetings:

Held the second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m., Visit our website at: www.LuckiamuteLWC.org for location and details. Please join us!

Events:

Join us on **July 11** at Monmouth Burgerville from 5 to 8pm, for a [Partnership Night](#) event!



SAVE THE DATE! Join the LWC on **October 7** at the River Gallery for a Local Waters Benefit and Celebration!

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Help keep trash out of our streams! Join us on Independence Day as a Grand Parade Volunteer!

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Ethnobotany Workshop Teaches Traditional Uses of Plants



Co-presenter B.G. Barton demonstrates cordage techniques to workshop participants.

— by Suzanne Teller, Outreach Coordinator

Nestled among hundreds of acres of forest, grasslands, oak savanna and wetlands, the Oregon 4-H Center in Salem turned out to be the perfect setting for a journey into Native American history and traditional knowledge. Together with the Rickreall Watershed Council and Polk, Marion and Yamhill Soil & Water Conservation Districts, the LWC teamed up with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde to co-present a four-hour workshop on Native American Ethnobotany of Western Oregon.

Ethnobotany, or the study of the interactions between a culture and the plants in its environment, is a window into the traditional ecological knowledge that roots indigenous people to their ancestral lands. The wisdom and lore about the many uses of native plants passed down through generations of Tribal members is an important source of knowledge about how particular plants can be used to benefit modern

communities, and can also improve our efforts to protect and restore habitat.

LWC and its partners knew that this workshop would be popular, and decided to set the registration fee low in order to make the workshop affordable to as many as possible. The response from the community was incredible—within a week of opening registration in March, all 30 tickets were snapped up!

On June 3, as workshop participants arrived at the 4-H Center's Clark Hall, they were greeted by displays of traditional Native materials used for basketry, weaving, painting and woodworking. Grand Ronde member Greg Archuleta opened the workshop with an overview of the history of the Tribes of our region—including the Chinook, Molalla, Kalapuya, Tillamook, Umpqua, Takelma and Shasta peoples—and introduced many of the plants we would soon come to know on a more intimate level.

Taking a walk with Greg down one of the trails behind the dining hall showed us a new way of looking at the plants all around us, especially those that we may have overlooked as commonplace or even a nuisance. Take the stinging nettle for instance. These plants grow in abundance in sun-spotted openings within Northwest forests, and are typically avoided. But armed with the knowledge that their

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leaves, when cooked, are a delicious substitute for spinach suddenly transforms this plant from burden to blessing! Along the trail, we also learned about the many kinds of native berries that are rarely seen in our stores or farmer's markets — including thimbleberries, salmonberries, huckleberries, serviceberries, elderberry, salal and Oregon grape. As we reflected on the incredible bounty of edible fruit found in our forests, the Northwest's fame as the "berry capital of the world" was given new significance.

In addition to getting better acquainted with our native plants, we also had the opportunity to learn more about traditional lore and craft techniques from co-presenters B.G. Barton and Devon Robinson—members of the Umpqua-Rogue River Tribes and the Chinook Nation.

Long ago in a village not far away, when animals and people could still speak to one another as brothers...

As we listened to B.G. tell the story of Brother Dragonfly who saved a village from starvation by sacrificing himself to fill the rivers with salmon, the beautiful carvings on display came alive with meaning. Each piece was decorated with the symbols and icons of the Chinook tradition — notched oars, salmon, dragonfly, beaver, and geometric shapes arranged in patterns of three and five. We learned how these many symbols connect the Tribes to their history, their culture, and their connection to the living landscape around us. From Devon, we heard how the wood he chooses for his artwork is not just a material — it is his partner. By etching the wood with the symbols of his tradition, he elevates the status of that wood just as it elevates his own status as a respected woodworker. Again and again, we were introduced to the ways that the natural world and its inhabitants can be viewed as members of our larger community — as worthy of respect and care as our human neighbors are.

If you are sorry you missed this workshop, don't worry! We are planning to offer another Native American Ethnobotany workshop next Spring. Make sure you get on our mailing list to be notified of all of our upcoming "Love Your Watershed" series of workshops starting this Fall, at www.luckiamutelwc.org/lwc-science-series.html



Participants Ed and Gael Miller admire some of the beautiful baskets on display.



Workshop participants try grinding pigments the traditional way!



Greg Archuleta stops during the Ethnobotany Walk to talk about the many uses of the native plants by the Tribes of the region.

Head to our website to see more photos from this workshop at www.luckiamutelwc.org/workshop-archives.html!

Join us at Burgerville on July 11!

Come out and support local agriculture, a home-grown Oregon business, and your watershed all at once! On **July 11**, join us between **5pm to 8pm** at the **Monmouth Burgerville** for some delicious and locally-sourced fare. Burgerville will donate 10% of all sales to support the work of the Luckiamute Watershed Council. Plus you will have an opportunity to participate in a raffle for fun prizes!

Hope to see you there!

LOCAL WATERS
A Watershed Benefit and Celebration!

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 7
5 ~ 8:00PM
River
GALLERY
184 S. MAIN ST
INDEPENDENCE

Calling BOTH artists and volunteers!



For all of you artists out there, River Gallery in Independence is now accepting submissions for Local Waters, a juried show of two and three dimensional artwork that expresses the diversity of the streams and wetlands of our watershed. Details at www.luckiamutelwc.org/local-waters-2017.html

Or, if you are interested in joining this event as a volunteer, we have a variety of ways your help would be very much appreciated! A full list of volunteer needs for Local Waters can be found at www.luckiamutelwc.org/local-waters-volunteer.html.

ONETREEPLANTED

We want to recognize one of our wonderful partners and supporters, One Tree Planted, for donating over \$2,300 to purchase native trees and shrubs that were planted at Luckiamute State Natural Area and throughout the upper Luckiamute Watershed over the past year. One Tree Planted is a 501(c)3 charity focused on global reforestation, and plants one tree for every \$1 that is donated to them. Thank you, One Tree Planted, for helping to restore our forests!

About the LWC

Upcoming Council Meetings

The Luckiamute Watershed Council is comprised of volunteer watershed residents who care about the health of the watershed. Current members represent interests ranging from farming and forestry to education and water resources.

The Council is recruiting new board members and seeks individuals who work, live, or play in the watershed—you are a watershed stakeholder! Click [here](#) for details.

We also welcome donations to support the work of the Council. All charitable donations will be used towards building the organizational resources needed to address our goals of water quality enhancement, habitat restoration and community education.

To donate, go to www.LuckiamuteLWC.org/donate or you can send a check to: **226 S. Main St. Suite L, Independence, OR 97351**

Thank you to our supporters!

Join us for Council Monthly Meetings, held the second Thursday of each month from 7 — 9 p.m. Our meetings are always open to the public and discussion topics include local watershed issues and actions. For details, please visit our web site at www.LuckiamuteLWC.org.

July 27, 2017: Pedee Women’s Club**

****Please note that this specially scheduled meeting is taking place in lieu of our regularly scheduled second Thursday meetings in July and August.**

Sept. 14, 2017: Location TBD

Oct. 12, 2017: Location TBD

**Your contribution may be tax-deductible. The Luckiamute Watershed Council will provide a letter of documentation in January 2018, following your donation.*

Be a part of the Monmouth-Independence Grand Parade!



Help keep trash out of our streams by volunteering to be a part of the "rear detachment" during the annual Rotary Club Grand Parade. Your mission will include riding or walking beside our truck as part of the Independence Day parade, holding up signs, and helping to collect trash along the parade route.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to keep our waterways clean, and interact with the cheering public as part of a well-loved Independence Day tradition!

Visit www.LuckiamuteLWC.org/grand-parade-volunteer.html for details.

Beneficial Insects Field Day



Thursday July 20th 2017
9 AM to 5 PM

Registration is required,
CALL 503-623-9680 X 101
ONLINE at www.polkswcd.com/bugs.html

US Plant Materials Center
3415 NE Granger Ave
Corvallis OR 97330



Made possible by USDA Risk Management Education Partnerships Program Agreement # RM16RMEPP522C025
Reduce Farm Risk through Integrated Biological Pest Management Education



Your Land. Your Rivers. Your Community. Your Watershed.

Luckiamute Watershed Council

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