

Fall  
2020

# LWC Meanderings

Watershed News & Reflections



## LWC MISSION:

To engage and assist land-owners 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 501(c)3 non-profit comprised of stakeholders who live, work or recreate within the Luckiamute and Ash Creek watersheds.

## WHO WE ARE:

Wendy Hudson, *President Monmouth*

Karin Stutzman, *Secretary Monmouth*

George Grosch, *Treasurer Kings Valley/Hoskins*

Dave Ehlers  
*Kings Valley/Hoskins*

Dan Farnworth  
*Monmouth*

Jackson Stalley  
*Dallas*

Scott Youngblood  
*American Bottom/Buena Vista*

## COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Typically held the second Thursday of every month from 6 — 8 pm.

Due to COVID-19, we are now conducting all our monthly meetings over Zoom. Details and links will be posted at: [www.LuckiamuteLWC.org](http://www.LuckiamuteLWC.org)

## Celebrating A Milestone Together



**CONGRATULATIONS! 1,000,000 NATIVE PLANTS**

PLANTED IN THE LUCKIAMUTE & ASH CREEK WATERSHEDS SINCE 2001!



**Left:** LWC's One Million Plants banner hangs at the entrance to Riverview Park in Independence. It will stay here for two weeks until it is moved to its next destination in front of Kings Valley Community Center, starting October 14! **Center:** Landowners Cliff and Gay Hall stand among thriving native trees and shrubs in a 7-year old LWC project site near the confluence of Maxfield Creek and the Luckiamute River. **Right:** This replanted streamside area along the Luckiamute river shows a remarkable transformation from 2011 (top photo) to 2020 (bottom photo).

— by Suzanne Teller, LWC Outreach Coordinator

Just when we were beginning to peek our heads out of COVID-19 quarantine and think about holding some outdoor events, raging wildfires swept through the state, threatening many of our communities and shrouding our area with a smoky haze. Although the Luckiamute and Ash Creek watersheds were not in the direct line of fire, many of our family, friends and neighbors were. And hazardous air quality kept us all on edge and trapped indoors.

As we emerge from this stressful and scary few weeks, we are encouraged by glimpses of the brighter future that we are in the process of building together. In this spirit of hope and gratitude, this

month we celebrate **one million** native trees and shrubs planted in the Luckiamute and Ash Creek watersheds!

Our celebration is not just about marking this singular achievement of the LWC and its partners—though we are certainly proud of the success of our restoration projects. Nor are we only thinking about progress being made towards clean water and healthy habitat, though these goals are incredibly important.

Rather, our celebration this month is for our strong partnerships, dedicated staff, hard-working contractors, committed volunteers, generous supporters and resilient communities. **It's about YOU** and our entire watershed community.

## Celebrating a Milestone Together (continued from Page 1)

Thank you to each and every one of you for your role in making our watershed an even better place to live, both now and for generations to come!

Though we can't raise a celebratory toast in person this year, we will be marking this occasion in several ways over the next several months. On October 22, we will be planting an Oregon white oak at Luckiamute State Natural Area (LSNA)'s South Unit as a symbolic marker of this milestone. We look forward to honoring your role in this achievement at a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the oak tree planting site next year, which also happens to coincide with the LWC's 20th Anniversary! Stay tuned for more information in the coming months.

For now, we will be sharing photos of our restoration projects, including some beautiful shots of remote parts of our watershed, and "before and after" photos of our planting sites. If you have a planting site on your property that we can feature as part of our celebration slideshow, please head to our webpage at <https://www.LuckiamuteLWC.org/one-million-plants.html> to find out how to submit photographs. Don't forget to include your own smiling face, as well as any family members, partners, co-workers and beloved pets you wish to include. After all, YOU - our landowners and land managers - are the reason we have been able to achieve this momentous milestone! If you have any questions, feel free to email Outreach@LuckiamuteLWC.org or leave us a voicemail at 503-837-0237.



Fig. 1: Wildwood Bridge (2011) Fig. 2: Wildwood Bridge (2020) Fig. 3: D. Franco crewmember at LSNA Fig. 4: Our past... and our future!

**Fig. 1 & 2:** Spanning the Luckiamute River, Wildwood Bridge has undergone a major transformation thanks to several years of invasive knotweed control and native tree and shrub plantings. **Fig. 3:** Our restoration crews have hand-planted the vast majority of the 1,000,000 plants we are celebrating this month — over half of them at LSNA! **Fig. 4:** LWC Monitoring Coordinator Caleb Price strikes a pose next to an enormous western hemlock he and Assistant Project Manager Aubrey Cloud encountered last month along South Fork Pedee Creek!

## Thank you to our Love Your Watershed supporters!

Thanks to all of our donors, we met our fundraising goal for our **Love Your Watershed** education and outreach program a week before our official August 31 end date! Your support will allow us to continue connecting our communities to their watershed with experiences that are safe, enjoyable, and educational!

See the back page for a full list of all of our Love Your Watershed campaign supporters!

**We've reached our goal!  
THANK YOU, everyone!!!**





## Love Your Watershed A (Virtual) Sips 'n' Science Event



We are excited to announce that we will be holding our very first virtual Sips 'n' Science series, starting in October! More details and registration information for upcoming pub talks in our fall/winter series are available at <https://www.luckiamutelwc.org/loveyourwatershed.html>



### Sips 'n' Science: What Birds Reveal About Floodplain Function

**When:** Tuesday, October 13 @ 6:30—8pm

**Where:** via Zoom (**Click on the link below to register!**)

Grab your favorite beverage and tune into this evening presentation by USGS forest ecologist, Joan Hagar, from the comfort of your own home! Joan will introduce her research into bird diversity at Luckiamute State Natural Area, and how different species use the floodplain forest habitat that is a focus of one of our long term restoration projects. **More details and registration information are posted at <https://www.luckiamutelwc.org/sips-and-science-lsna-birds.html>**



### Sips 'n' Science: Native Plant Nurseries and Watershed Restoration

**When:** Wednesday, November 18 @ 6:30—8pm

**Where:** via Zoom (registration information will be posted soon!)

From seed to sale, native plant nurseries are the first stewards of the hundreds of thousands of trees and shrubs that go into restoration planting sites each year. Stay tuned for more details about this evening presentation by George Kral, Forester & Project Developer for Ash Creek Forest Management, and owner of Scholl's Valley Native Nursery. **More information coming soon!**

### Join the *FRIENDS OF THE LWC!*

#### What does it mean to be a *FRIEND OF THE LWC?*

- ◆ Regular "Behind the Scenes" Bulletins
- ◆ Early access to event registration
- ◆ Discounts on workshops
- ◆ **Knowing that you are helping improve the health of your watershed!**

**Ready to Join?**

Find out how at

[LuckiamuteLWC.org/Friends](https://www.luckiamutelwc.org/Friends)

We 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.

\*Your contribution may be tax-deductible. The LWC will provide a letter of documentation in January 2021, following your donation.

### Upcoming Council Meetings

Join us for our LWC Monthly Meetings, typically held the second Thursday of each month. **Please note that the time for our upcoming meetings has been changed to 6:00 - 8:00pm.** Our meetings are always open to the public and discussion topics include local watershed issues and actions. Details are at [LuckiamuteLWC.org](https://www.luckiamutelwc.org).

**October 8 @ 6 - 8pm:** Zoom link and agenda available at [LuckiamuteLWC.org/monthly-meeting-details](https://www.luckiamutelwc.org/monthly-meeting-details)

**November 12 @ 6 - 8pm:** via Zoom

**December 10 @ 6 - 8pm:** via Zoom

To donate, go to [LuckiamuteLWC.org/donate](https://www.luckiamutelwc.org/donate) or you can send a check to: **165 D Street, Independence, OR 97351**

**Thank you to our supporters!**

**THANK YOU TO OUR LOVE YOUR WATERSHED DONORS!**

We are so grateful to the following donors who contributed to our **Love Your Watershed** campaign this year, and helped us reach our fundraising goal of \$18,000! Your support is helping us connect our communities to their watershed, and inspire individuals to take action for watershed health!

**2020 Love Your Watershed Campaign Donors**

Anonymous Donors (8)	Brooke Getty	Terry Murphy	Starker Forests, Inc.
Albany Animal Hospital	Sean & Shari Hathaway	Patty Nevue & John McArdle	Norman Stone
Tremaine & Gail Arkley	David Hibbs & Sarah Karr	Jerry & Judith Paul	Karin & Terry Stutzman <i>In memory of Dorothy James</i>
John Barlow	Wendy Hudson	Laura Peterson	Nancy Sullivan
Clinton Begley	Danny & Renee Jaffer <i>In memory of Maduddin (Mo) Jaffer</i>	Amy Pinkley-Wernz & Martin Wernz	Suzanne & Jay Teller <i>In memory of Gisela Zanelli</i>
Judy Champlin	Chris and Lisa Jaramillo	Stephen & Anne Scheck	Willamette Habitat Restoration Fund
Ron & Ingrid Cooper	Rebecca Jay <i>In memory of Maduddin (Mo) Jaffer</i>	Holly Shutta	Nannette Willis
Suzanne Dufner	Chris & Kathy Jensen	Pat & Ken Simila	
Dave & Sarah Ehlers	Kristen Larson & Tom Wilson	Spiritopia	
Larry Endicott	Charles Maughan	<i>And a special thank you goes to Benton Soil &amp; Water Conservation District for a \$2500 grant that supports our Love Your Watershed series!</i>	
Dan & Kathy Farnworth <i>In memory of Sally</i>	Judy Maule		
Hollis Fishelson-Holstine & Charles Holstine	Pat & Andrea Melendy		
Kathi Foisie	Elizabeth Monticue		

**July - September 2020 Volunteers**

Thank you to our volunteers who donate their time to support the mission of the LWC, and help us work towards our goal of a health watershed for all!

Judy Beebe	Wendy Hudson
Marc Bell	Phil Larsen
Heidi Christensen	Matt Malinowski
Dave Ehlers	Terry Murphy
Dan Farnworth	Gail Oberst
Kathy Farnworth	Amy Pinkley-Wernz
Douglass Fitting	Chris Seal
George Grosch	Tyler Simmer
Karen Haberman	Jackson Stalley
Karen Hans	Karin Stutzman
Linda Hillesum	Scott Youngblood

***Special Recognition to our Recurring Monthly Donors***

A special shout-out goes to our donors who have opted to make automatic monthly contributions to the Luckiamute Watershed Council! Recurring donations are a predictable source of funding that we can count on every month to help support our organization and advance our mission. Find out how you can set up a recurring monthly donation at [www.luckiamutelwc.org/donate/](http://www.luckiamutelwc.org/donate/)!

Judy Beebe	Danny & Renee Jaffer
Hollis Fishelson-Holstine & Charles Holstine	Becca & Russell Meskridge
Jeremy Gordon	Terry Murphy
George Grosch & Ann Bowen	Gail Oberst & Michael Cairns
Stephen & Ava Howard	Scott Youngblood



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

**Luckiamute Watershed Council**

165 D Street  
Independence, Oregon 97351

Phone: 503-837-0237

[LuckiamuteLWC.org](http://LuckiamuteLWC.org)

Executive Director: [Kristen Larson](#)  
 Outreach Coordinator: [Suzanne Teller](#)  
 Monitoring Coordinator: [Caleb Price](#)  
 Assistant Project Manager: [Aubrey Cloud](#)  
 Project Manager: [Jean-Paul Zagarola](#)