

# Luckiamute Watershed Council

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



## LWC Mission:

Working together to help people help their watersheds.

**What we are:** The Luckiamute Watershed Council is a volunteer, non-governmental, advisory group composed of stakeholders living or working in the Luckiamute and Ash Creek watersheds.

## Council meetings:

Held the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m., often at Volunteer Hall in Monmouth at 144 S. Warren St. Meetings are open to the public. Please join us!

## Events:

LWC Fundraiser! Join us from 5-8 p.m. on Tuesday, April 2 at the Burgerville in Monmouth on 99W (615 Main St. E) - 10% of ALL sales will go to support the work of the LWC.

## Successful Grant Application to Expand Japanese Knotweed Control Work in the Luckiamute Watershed

The Luckiamute Watershed Council (LWC) applied in October to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) for funds to expand our ongoing efforts to eradicate Japanese knotweed along the Luckiamute and Little Luckiamute Rivers (expansion areas shown in orange). This proposal was recommended for funding by the technical review team and on March 18, was officially awarded by the Board.

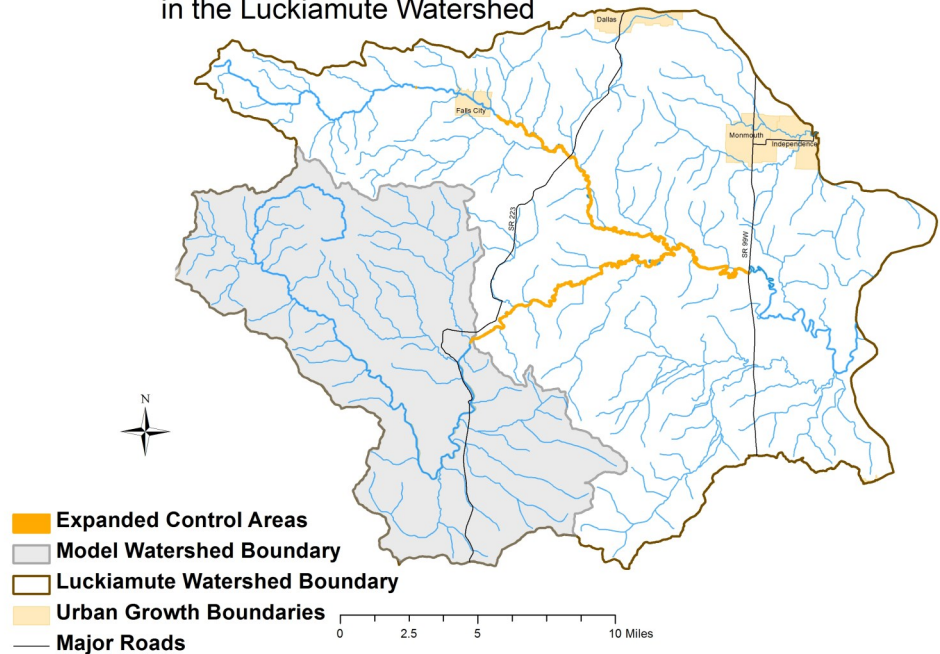
This is a four-year grant that will provide support to the LWC to reach out to landowners so we can work with people who wish to participate in this project, upgrade our web site to building a communication network, hold public workshops, and hire crews to treat the knotweed. We are seeking additional funding to

support more revegetation with native species in place of the invasive knotweed.

The LWC has conducted two full seasons of knotweed control with willing landowners through the Model Watershed Program along the upper Luckiamute River (shown in gray below) and will continue to do so with funding from that program.

Japanese knotweed is a noxious, invasive weed that creates dense thickets, outcompetes native vegetation and dominates streamside areas, reducing habitat and shade along the river (see page 4 for more information). Help us knock out knotweed! Call or email today to find out more and stay tuned for upcoming landowner workshops.

Expansion of Japanese Knotweed Control in the Luckiamute Watershed



## LWC and BLM Partner to Add Large Wood in Upper Maxfield Creek



Columbia Helicopters place a log in Maxfield Creek on BLM land  
*(Photo: Kristen Larson)*

On February 14, the Luckiamute Watershed Council, in partnership with the BLM, added 25 pieces of large wood to supplement existing and create new structures in Upper Maxfield Creek on BLM land. Large wood adds needed complexity to creeks, but due to past land use activities, much of the riparian areas along streams no longer have large trees ready to fall into the stream bed to become the large wood the stream and fish need. Wood and other features in streams such as gravel bars and boulders change flow patterns and velocities, which create different types of habitat such as pools and riffles for fish and the aquatic insects they eat.

With funding through Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 and coordination from the BLM, helicopter crews completed the work in about 2 hours on a beautiful February day. The LWC will periodically monitor the stream to detect changes over time as a result of this work.

Check our February 15 Facebook post for a video of the helicopter placing a log. There is also a beautiful video made by Freshwaters Illustrated about a large wood project on the McKenzie River. It shows wonderful underwater images and describes the role of large wood in streams and rivers: [Click Here!](#)

### Luckiamute Watershed Council 2013 Planting Season

In February of 2013, professional reforestation crews hired by the LWC installed about 230,000 native trees and shrubs in the Luckiamute watershed. About 170,000 of those plants were used on 107 acres at the Luckiamute State Natural Area (LSNA) on Buena Vista Road. Nearly 60,000 were planted with participating landowners along the Luckiamute River in the



Planting crews at the LSNA

upper Luckiamute watershed. Thank you to the participating landowners for improving the health of the watershed with projects on your land. These stewards of the land and rivers are the long-term caretakers of our watershed. We also thank OWEB, BPA and the Meyer Memorial Trust for the funding that supports this work.



Upper Luckiamute River  
*(Photo: Kristen Larson)*

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 representatives across the watershed from the following:

- Education
- Commerce and Industry
- Agriculture
- Environment
- Water Resources
- Recreation
- Local Government
- At-large

If you are interested please join us at the Council meetings held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month or call 503-837-0237. Visit our web site: [www.luckiamutelwc.org](http://www.luckiamutelwc.org)

We also welcome donations to support the work of the council, an Oregon non-profit organization. Send checks to: [226 S. Main St. , Suite L Independence, OR 97351](#)

**Thank you!**

## ***Polk County—Household Hazardous Waste Collections Event***

From 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 11, take advantage of a FREE household hazardous waste collection event for all Polk County residents. The event will be held at Polk County Public Works, 820 SW Ash St., Dallas OR.

Household hazardous waste comes in many forms and is best disposed of at these collection events, instead of storing it or sending it to a landfill. Hazardous waste stored on our properties can be a risk to people or animals, can accidentally spill causing contamination, or get caught in floods potentially causing serious damage to our water and wildlife.

Please keep items in their original containers if possible and do not mix any products. A list of accepted items are provided on the following web site, but common things include paint, pesticides, and strong cleaning chemicals.

For more information, call 503-623-9237 or see: <http://www.co.polk.or.us/cd/eh/hhw/household-hazardous-waste-event-0>



Examples of typical household hazardous waste items  
(Photo: Washington County, OR web site)

The event will *not* collect: sharp containers, explosives, or radioactive waste.

### ***Upcoming Council Meetings and Speakers***

Join us in 2013 for Council Monthly Meetings, held the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Meetings are often at Volunteer Hall, 144 S. Warren St., Monmouth, but we're going to try to move around this summer! See our web site for details.

**April 11, 2013, Volunteer Hall, Monmouth:** Council member Karin Nembach will give a brief summary of the workshop "Wildlife in Managed Forests", held by the Marys River chapter of the Society of American Foresters.

**May 9, 2013, Pedee Women's Club, Kings Valley Highway:** Nathan Slaven, council coordinator of the Glenn-Gibson Watershed Council is tentatively scheduled to present about their management of the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). We will also provide a brief overview of the expanded Japanese knotweed control project for interested landowners.

**June 13, 2013, Falls City (pending)** Location TBD: No speaker is confirmed, but information will be provided on the expanded Japanese knotweed control project for interested landowners.

### ***LWC to Participate in Burgerville Partnership Fundraiser***

Enjoy a delicious cheeseburger, fruit shake, order of onion rings, or any other delicious Burgerville menu item—all in the name of supporting the work of the Luckiamute Watershed Council. Between **5:00 and 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 2**, 10% of all sales—including drive-thru—will go directly to the LWC.

Our work is supported largely by grant dollars, which can come from private foundations or state grants (often made up of lottery dollars), and donations from fundraising or private donors. These fundraising and donated funds are extremely valuable, no matter how much the amount, because they demonstrate the community's support of our work and help us continue to achieve our mission—Helping people help their watersheds.

We hope to see you Tuesday, April 2!



### *Coordinator's Corner: The LWC Seeks Your Input*

Watershed councils are local organizations comprised of volunteer members. These organizations have no regulatory role or authority, but work with willing participants in a voluntary fashion to improve watershed health and offer opportunities for people who live, work, or play in a watershed to learn about that watershed and the plants, animals, and processes that make up the area.

Watershed councils must represent "a balance of interested and affected persons within the watershed" and should assure a high level of involvement in the development and implementation of our programs. I've been the Council Coordinator for six months (already!) and I'm feeling more oriented in our current project activities and funding systems. I certainly have a lot to learn ahead of me, but am very interested in hearing from our watershed residents (you!) regarding your concerns, interests, and ideas for projects, tours, speakers, and other opportunities you'd like the LWC to facilitate. One Kings Valley resident told me he's interested in learning more about steelhead and why we're working so hard to help them. Does this interest you as well? What would you like to read about in our quarterly

newsletter? Is there an invasive weed in your area you and your neighbors recognize as a problem and would like assistance coordinating a control effort? Please take a moment to email ([info@luckiamutelwc.org](mailto:info@luckiamutelwc.org)) or call the office, 503-837-0237, and let me know your thoughts.

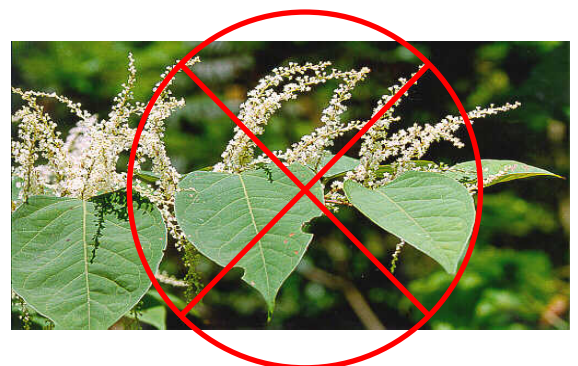


Kristen Larson, LWC Coordinator, and Luke Westphal, Executive Director of the Greater Yamhill Watershed Council, presented together at the Watershed Station for the Polk SWCD Outdoor School for Talmadge Middle School on March 13. (Photo: JL Liddane)

### *Do you have Japanese knotweed? Monitor, Report, and Control*



Japanese knotweed (pictured) is a noxious species that grows in dense thickets, takes over stream banks and outcompetes native vegetation. Take time to check your streamside area and monitor for the presence of knotweed. New growth begins in early spring. Contact the LWC to report it, get more information, and to participate in our knotweed control program. Help us knock out knotweed!



***Helping people help their watersheds***

**[www.luckiamutelwc.org](http://www.luckiamutelwc.org)**

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