

Winter
2019 - 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 or work within the Luckiamute and Ash Creek watersheds.

WHO WE ARE:

Patrick Melendy, *President Independence*

Wendy Hudson, *Vice President Monmouth*

Karin Stutzman, *Secretary Monmouth*

Dave Ehlers
Kings Valley/Hoskins

Dan Farnworth
Monmouth

Kathy Farnworth
Monmouth

George Grosch
Kings Valley/Hoskins

COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Typically held the second Thursday of every month from 6:30 — 8:30 pm at locations around the watershed. For details, visit our website at: www.LuckiamuteLWC.org

When Planting is for the Birds



© F. Kolwicz



© F. Kolwicz

False dandelion or hawksbeard (*Crepis* spp.) provides an abundant source of protein-rich seeds for Lesser Goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*), pictured on the left. The acorn woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*), pictured on the right, uses dead tree snags as 'granaries' to store hundreds of acorns. © F. Kolwicz, photography used with permission.

— by Cheryl Gaston, LWC Education and Outreach Committee Member

With or without us, nature knows what to do. But since we are all part of nature, there are so many ways for humans to be a participating species. Using native plantings, we invite native birds and insects to thrive in the environment they have adapted to inhabit. When we get involved in both the native plants and the birds they welcome, we become an integral part of the critical conservation of our surroundings.

The National Wildlife Federation's Garden for Wildlife webpage (nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/about/native-plants) points out that native plants offer the most sustainable habitat because they have formed symbiotic relationships with native wildlife over thousands of years. A plant is considered native if it has occurred naturally in a particular region, ecosystem, or habitat without human introduction.

Understanding the relationships among plants and animals is key to maintaining sustainability. It's no surprise that all living things need food, water, and shelter. Plants are no exception. However, in general, native plants often thrive without added fertilizers and require less water. Likewise, native foliage attracts many kinds of insects to the flowers, leaves and fruits, which provide pollination services and help keep destructive non-native insects away. In addition, these insects provide protein for birds. Reducing the use of pesticides also means less toxic runoff into the watershed.

When it comes to making birds feel at home, neatness doesn't always

Planting for Birds, continued from page 1

count. "In general, overly tidy gardeners are poor bird gardeners," Steve Kress writes in *The Audubon Guide To Attracting Birds*.

While it might be hard for some to give up their lush, manicured lawns, there are good reasons to let at least some of it go. Less lawn and more wild areas provides nesting habitat and shelter for birds as well as food in the form of seeds and insects. Environmentally, it also means less greenhouse gases from power mowers; less noise pollution; and less water, fertilizer and pesticide use to keep lawns green.

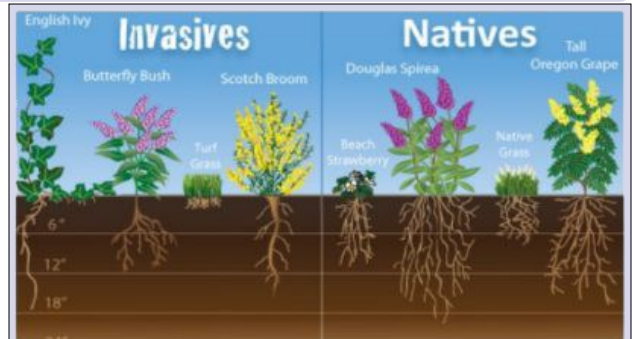
A native landscape to attract birds would ideally include wooded areas, ground cover, a log pile, shrubs, roosting boxes, and a source of water. Those not lucky enough to have a stream or pond can put out a birdbath or two, or use a mister attachment for a garden hose.

When planning to plant for birds, consider the variety of foods that attract different species of birds. Native plants and trees provide foliage, nectar, pollen, berries, seeds and nuts, as well as the many types of insects they attract. Choose shrub varieties to provide fruit through all the seasons, and flowers that keep their seeds through the fall and winter. For help getting started, take a look at the resources for native plantings following this article.

An important function of the LWC is identification and removal of invasive species from the watershed as well as providing educational programs to help people recognize invasive plants. While some non-native species provide beauty and wildlife benefit, the difference between these ornamental plants and non-native invasive species is that the latter are destructive to both native species and the environment in general. They clog streams and rivers, and replace native vegetation birds need for food, shelter and nesting. They also may be unpalatable or even toxic to our native insects, which negatively affects birds and other wildlife. Aside from on-the-ground restoration projects that target invasive species within our extensive watershed, the LWC can direct people to resources to help them identify and get rid of invasive plants.

Learning about native, non-native and invasive planting can also help birders find certain species of birds. Knowing which birds eat which type of berries, seeds, nuts and/or insects helps birders follow the food sources among native plants to find them.

Sustaining native environments is one critical way of assuring the balance continues in favor of all species. An amazing diversity of birds will accept your invitation to enjoy the feast of native planting!



Native trees and shrubs not only provide better habitat for native wildlife, they also help conserve water and prevent soil erosion.

Native Planting for Birds Resources

- Some great Oregon State University Extension resources about attracting specific kinds of birds to your garden can be found here: <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/topic/gardening/wildlife>
- Attracting birds to your garden: <https://pamplinmedia.com/sl/158765-how-to-attract-birds-to-your-garden>
- Native Plant Society of Oregon: <http://www.npsoregon.org/>
- Sign up for Audubon Society's Native Plant database: <https://www.audubon.org/native-plants>
- East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District's Native Plant database: <https://emswcd.org/native-plants/native-plant-database/>
- A sample wildlife garden design from Benton Soil & Water Conservation District: <https://www.bentonswcd.org/wildlife-garden-design/>

Soil & Water Conservation District Native Plant Sales coming soon!

Key Dates	Benton SWCD	Marion SWCD	Polk SWCD	Yamhill SWCD
Pre-order Deadline	<i>Order now for the best selection!</i>	N/A	<i>Order now for the best selection!</i>	Early January
Order Pick-up Day	February 1 9am—2pm Benton County Fairgrounds Livestock Building	No pre-orders! All plants can be picked up at the Native Plant Sale on March 14	February 6 & 7 8am—4:30pm 580 Main St., Suite A Dallas	March 6: 9am—6pm March 7: 9am—4pm Yamhill Valley Heritage Center
Native Plant Sale (Overstock Sale)	N/A Order online or call (541) 753-7208	March 14 9am—4pm Bauman Farms, Gervais	N/A Order online or call (503) 623-9680	March 6: 9am—6pm March 7: 9am—4pm Yamhill Valley Heritage Center
For More Information	Teresa Matteson (541) 753-7208	Jenny Miesel (503) 391-9927 x312	Patti Gray (503) 623-9680 x108	Julie Lorenzen (503) 376-7600
Link to Native Plant Sale Information	www.bentonswcd.org/programs/plant-sale	www.marionswcd.net	www.polkswcd.com/native-bare-root-sale	www.yamhillswcd.org



LOVE YOUR WATERSHED Upcoming Events

Get the details and RSVP at
LuckiamuteLWC.org/LoveYourWatershed!

Sips 'n' Science: Worm Bin Composting
Wed. January 22 @ 6:30 - 8:00pm
Pressed Coffee & Wine Bar, Dallas

Community Drinking Water Forum
Sat. January 25 @ 1:00 - 3:00pm
Monmouth Senior Center, Monmouth

Sips 'n' Science: Life Cycle of the Steelhead
Wed. February 12 @ 6:30—8:00pm
Valkyrie Wine Tavern, Independence

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

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.

January 9 @ 6 - 8pm: Monmouth Volunteer Hall

February 13 @ 6 - 8pm: Monmouth Volunteer Hall

March 12 @ 6 - 8pm: Monmouth Volunteer Hall

To donate, go to 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 MOST RECENT DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS!

We are so grateful to the following donors and volunteers who have contributed their hard-earned dollars and their time and energy to our conservation goals from October through December 2019. *THANK YOU!* Our supporters are at the heart of what we do and why, and we cannot achieve results without their contributions and hard work. View a complete list of our 2019 donors and volunteers at LuckiamuteLWC.org/donors-2019.

October - December 2019 Donors

John & Regina Auer	Chris & Kathy Jensen
Michael Baltzley	Paige Jenkins
Judy Beebe	Jenny Lupton
Bonneville Environmental Foundation	Judy Maule
Brew Coffee & Tap House	Patrick & Andrea Melendy
Emmylou Boyle	Becca & Russell Meskridge
Donald & Frances Brostrom	Stacy & Peter Moore
Dave & Sarah Ehlers	Sally Morris
Dan & Kathy Farnworth <i>(in honor of Mr. Barkley)</i>	Terry Murphy
Miriam & Tom Forney	Gail Oberst & Michael Cairns
Hollis Fishelson-Holstine & Charles Holstine	Will Oberst
Cheryl Gaston	One Tree Planted
Golden Valley Farms	Suzanne Ortiz
Bootsie Grakal	Kathy Patterson
George Grosch & Ann Bowen	Jerry & Judith Paul
Nadine & Steve Grubb	Bill Pearcy
Ken & Paula Hale	John & Sandra Potter
Michael & Kimberly Heggen	Jack & Grace Rye
Mark Henkels & Marcella Dupler Henkels	Sharon Safina
Thomas Hewes & Audrey Perkins	Linda Samuels
Linda & Joe Hillesum	David & Heidi Schmidt
Stephen & Ava Howard	Cynthia Spencer
Wendy Hudson	Suzanne & Jay Teller
Danny & Renee Jaffer	Trillium Forests, LLC
Chris & Lisa Jaramillo	Sarah Uebel & Brett Reistad
Becky Jay	Gerald Weisensee
	Nan Willis
	<i>Anonymous Donors</i>

October - December 2019 Volunteers

Ahmed Alhashmi	Ivan Kosovan
Judy Beebe	Phil Larsen
Marc Bell	Pat Melendy
Zoey Boisen	Terry Murphy
Erin Burns	Mary Beth Nicholson
Rob Burns	Gail Oberst
Heidi Christensen	David Olson
Elise Clote	Margaret Olson
Raymundo De La Torre	Joelle Perez
Scott Donaldson	Amanda Robinson
David Ehlers	Sharon Safina
Dan Farnworth	Heather Schrock
Kathy Farnworth	Chris Seal
Douglass Fitting	Tony Spitzack
Cheryl Gaston	Karin Stutzman
George Grosch	Jean-Paul Zagarola
Karen Haberman	
Karen Hans	<i>With special thanks to:</i>
Hailey Hardcastle	<i>Oregon State University GEO</i>
Mark Hazelton	<i>300 students</i>
Wendy Hudson	<i>Bonneville Environmental</i>
Stephanie Juarez	<i>Foundation</i>



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

Luckiamute Watershed Council

165 D Street
Independence, Oregon 97351

Phone: 503-837-0237

LuckiamuteLWC.org

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