



Tualatin SWCD Annual Report



July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

Message from the Chair

It has been a good year for the business of the District. The ECREP and VEGBACC projects under way, as they have been in the past, are and continue to be the major tasks performed by our staff. The scheduled work, the systematic planting and maintenance of native trees and grasses, is being done in the usual timely manner.

This year the District contracted with NRCS to work on our largest project, the 352 acre Hutchinson Wetland Restoration Project, located along Hwy. 47 south of Forest Grove. The plantings there will go on for some time to come; when completed we hope it will be a Wetland Restoration Project all others are measured by.

Our usual outreach projects were scattered throughout the year. Workshops were held on invasive weeds, and displays were present at the Hillsboro Farmers Market and Washington County Fair. Many on-site visits were performed for landowners with conservation concerns.

We also hosted a two day strategic planning session and invited many of our partners in the natural resources community. There was some intense brain storming going on, and many new solutions to local concerns were discussed. What came out of those meetings will go a long way in deciding what the priorities are for conservation and how to deal with them.

On a personal note, at the end of this year, I will be retiring as a director of the District. I came on to the board in 2000, and I figure 10 years is enough for anybody. It's been work, but it's also been a lot of fun. I've enjoyed working with all the directors and staff that we've had over the years. I applaud each and every one of them for their commitment, professionalism, and dedication to the Districts causes. The District was in

good shape when I first joined the board; I feel that it is even stronger now. I hope that whoever fills my vacancy will feel that they have made it even better yet at the time of their leaving.

Thank you all very much. It's been a good ride.

Terry Peters

Inside this issue:

Message from the Chair	1
2010 Awards	2
Enhanced CREP Update	3
2009-2010 Financial Report	4
District Highlights from July 1, 2009- June 30, 2010	5
2009-2010 Tualatin SWCD Annual Work Plan	6-7



District booth at the 2009 Washington County Fair



Autumn Bryant in front of part of the Egger Farm Enhanced Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

Tualatin SWCD Directors

Terry Peters, Chair—Zone 3
 Dan Logan, Vice Chair—Zone 5
 Jerry Ward, Secretary/Treasurer— Zone 1
 Eldon Jossi—Zone 2
 George Marsh—At Large 1
 John McDonald—Zone 4
 Judy Olsen— At Large 2

Tualatin SWCD Directors Emeritus

Kathy Clair
 Gary Clark
 Ralph Duyck
 Lyell Gardner
 Steve Huffman
 Dick Kover

Tualatin SWCD Associate**Directors**

Sally Krahmer
 Anthony Mills

Tualatin SWCD Staff

Autumn Bryant, Landowner Incentive Program Specialist
 Judy Marsh, District Coordinator
 Lacey Townsend, Resource Technician

USDA-NRCS Staff

Nathan Adelman, Soil Conservationist
 Dean Moberg, District Conservationist & SWCD Liaison

**Tualatin SWCD Office**

1080 SW Baseline, Suite B-2
 Hillsboro, OR 97123

503-648-3174 ext. 5

www.swcd.net

Max M. Reeher Award

The District would like to recognize Eldon Jossi who has provided outstanding assistance to the Tualatin River Basin in meeting the District's goals in improving water quality.

Eldon manages Gales Creek Farms, raising seed and grain crops, hay and corn. Most of their land is in the Gales Creek watershed.

Gales Creek Farms has been a leader in conservation for many years, implementing a variety of conservation practices through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, including no-till seeding, tree and shrub establishment, filter strips, nutrient management and pest management.

Eldon has also helped with field work on wetland restoration projects. He has helped control weeds and seeded native grasses at the Hutchinson Wetland Reserve Program project south of Forest Grove. This year he combined part of the wetland prairie grasses, providing seed worth over \$10,000. Over the past three years, we estimate that his contributions at this project have saved the federal government over \$75,000 while restoring rare habitat, protecting water quality and reducing greenhouse gases.

2010 Cooperator of the Year Award

The District is honored to recognize Grace Dinsdale of Dinsdale Farm for her leadership in the agriculture community for soil and water stewardship. Grace Dinsdale was born and raised on this farm, which was then a dairy farm. As a young adult, she worked for her brother Peter on his farm. She started a produce business for him, growing the vegetables and retailing through a farm stand and wholesaling to the Salem market. After that, she went to work in assorted nursery businesses and then started Blooming Nursery in 1982.

Grace also operates Greenfeathers, another nursery business that provides modular green roof components which are completely pre-vegetated prior to installation on an eco-roof.

Grace Dinsdale and Dinsdale Farms enrolled 34 acres into the USDA Wetland Reserve Program to restore native wetland plant communities in the Tualatin River floodplain. This land was difficult to farm, flooded frequently during the winter and was subject to erosion. It is now planted back to native trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants and provides habitat for waterfowl, songbirds, frogs, turtles and fish.

Grace also enrolled land into the Environmental Quality Incentives Program to manage nutrients, irrigation and pests and plant cover crops and hedgerows.

Recently, Grace installed a solar thermal project to heat their largest greenhouse and completed a full lighting review and upgrade and changed weather-stripping and energy curtains.

Special Awards

Dan Logan and Terry Peters have completed their tenure as directors of the district. Dan served 18 years, and Terry served 10. The district is grateful for their service to the district and to Washington County. Their experience, skills, and knowledge were important and valuable to the achievements the district made during their terms. It will take many years to replicate their institutional memory of what qualities helped projects be successful. Terry and Dan brought many relationships with individuals and organizations with whom they interacted personally or as delegates of the district into partnering efforts with the district.

Dan's and Terry's personal experience with farming and forestry added a perspective to reviewing contracts and proposals for conservation work and making policies and plans directing activities to protect our natural resources.

Equally important to their technical knowledge was their abilities to help the board function smoothly. They were easy to get along with and helped the board maintain a culture that allowed differences of opinion while respecting the rights of others to disagree. The district greatly benefited from their personal values: dedication to district's vision and mission, working tirelessly, valuing families and the community, and balancing interests of ecology with economy with community life.

Stream Restoration Program Continue to Grow

The Enhanced Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (ECREP) and the Vegetated Buffer Areas for Conservation and Commerce (VEGBACC) are a few of the first temperature trading programs in the country. They were developed from a unique partnership between federal, state, and local agencies in Washington County, Oregon. These programs assist Clean Water Services, the local wastewater treatment provider, to obtain temperature credits used to meet DEQ water quality requirements and assist farmers in meeting federal Clean Water Act standards, particularly SB1010. By planting riparian buffers, these two programs protect environmentally sensitive land, reduce erosion, restore wildlife habitat, and safeguard ground and surface water in the Tualatin Basin.

The Landowner Incentive Programs involve several partner agencies including Clean Water Services (CWS), the Farm Service Agency (FSA), the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), Oregon Water Trust (OWT), Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), and the Tualatin and West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs).

Year	Landowners Enrolled	Stream Feet Enrolled	Acres Enrolled	Total Trees and Shrubs Planted
2005	1	4,430	6	4,030
2006	8	30,015	94	85,154
2007	14	46,770	155	193,823
2008	6	15,510	28	48,792
2009	3	10,500	44	53,650
TOTAL	32	108,230	327	385,449



Dilley Creek 2007



Dilley Creek 2010

2009-2010 Financial Report

2009 - 2010 Financial Report

Beginning Cash on Hand as of July 1, 2009 **\$149,975**

Revenues

Clean Water Services	345,049	
US Department of Agriculture-Farm Services Agency	108,524	¹
Oregon Department of Agriculture	61,499	
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board	38,270	¹
Natural Resources Conservation Service	43,849	
Other Sources	65,249	

Total Revenues **662,440**

Expenditures

Expenditures During Fiscal Year

Landowner Incentives and Cost Share	314,102	
Personnel and Recruitment Costs	152,327	¹
Cost Share/Matching Pass-through	135,893	
Legal, Accounting and Insurance	27,220	
Community Education/Other Program Costs	10,179	
General Operating Costs	8,393	

Subtotal, Expenditures During Fiscal Year **648,114**

Payment of June 30, 2009 Payroll Tax Liabilities in July 2009 2,651

Less June 30, 2010 Payroll Taxes Not Paid Until July 2010 (3,238)

Plus Reduction in Funded Reserve for Paid Leaves as of June 30, 2009 1,127

Total Expenditures **648,654**

Ending Cash on Hand as of June 30, 2010 **\$163,761**

¹ Federal and state matching funds for the Enhanced CREP program are provided through the US Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, respectively. Initial costs are funded by Clean Water Services. The District provides a "pass-through" by reporting the federal and state matching as revenues, then reports the payments to Clean Water Services as expenditures. The district does not receive any administrative fee; the difference between these revenues and expenditure items is amounts paid to Clean Water Services after June 30, 2010..

District Highlights from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010

To provide education and outreach, District staff and directors:

- distributed fact sheets relating to the *Tualatin River Subbasin Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan* at various locations around the Basin.
- updated the District's website monthly to provide information on District programs and water quality issues.
- distributed the District's Annual Report to interested landowners and organizations.
- distributed fall, winter and spring/summer editions of the District's newsletter (Conservation Connection) to 500 landowners.
- participated on the Tualatin River Watershed Council, Farm Bureau, and Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve Board, among many other local groups.
- presented at local organization meetings.
- set up displays at local events, including the Washington County Fair and the Hillsboro Farmers Market.
- held the SWCD's Fourth Annual Barbeque and Tour to promote District activities.
- held an annual business meeting.
- attended the NW Agriculture Show to assist with the "Conservation Booth".
- hosted a Tualatin Basin Weed Watchers Workshop using funds from a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant the District received this year.
- distributed about 970 fact sheets and "Tips" guides to interested citizens.
- utilized a tracking database to record customer contacts.



The District's 2009 BBQ and Tour.

To provide technical assistance to landowners, District staff:

- conducted 22 site visits, completed resource inventories, and developed alternatives for landowners to include in Voluntary Water Quality Farm Plans.
- produced 48 designs/specifications for planned conservation practices.
- assisted 75 customers with general soil questions and information on management area plan practices.
- completed seven Voluntary Water Quality Farm Plans, covering 537 acres.
- loaned weed wrench tool to interested landowners and provided information on invasive weeds.
- participated in Lower Willamette West OWEB small grant team.
- utilized the District Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for plan maps and analysis projects.



Autumn Bryant explaining the Enhanced Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program on Egger's farm.

2010-2011 Tualatin SWCD Annual Work Plan

I. GOAL: Surface water in the Tualatin Basin meets water quality standards defined by the *Tualatin River Subbasin Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan*, the US Environmental Protection Agency, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, and 4(d) requirements as defined by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries.

- A. OBJECTIVE -** Implement the *Tualatin River Subbasin Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan*.
1. Prepare and approve voluntary water quality conservation plans or revisions of current plans according to contract obligations.
 2. Implement voluntary water quality conservation plans by providing landowners with designs, specifications, certification of practices, and other technical assistance. Includes writing funding proposals for conservation projects.
 3. Inventory Resources
 - a. Identify sites and contact landowners to offer assistance.
 - b. Identify in the GIS: small acreage sites with animals, vineyards, and near-stream areas. Update and maintain District GIS with current data. Map progress of completed and future farm plans. Identify areas of water quality concerns/violations. Provide assistance with GIS to District staff. Provide GIS analyses, maps, mailing lists, and data to field office staff and District directors as requested.
 - c. Utilize an Access project tracking database for resource identification and reporting.
 4. Review progress of the Tualatin River Subbasin Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan. This meeting will serve to discuss issues related to the plan, new concerns, related projects, and progress of involved organizations in implementing the plan. Provide information to committee members and propose modified rules as necessary.
- B. OBJECTIVE -** Advise Washington County Land Use and Transportation on suitability of agriculture fill operations permits with respect to agricultural operations.
- C. OBJECTIVE -** Implement the Enhanced Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program and Vegetated Buffer Areas for Conservation and Commerce Program according to contractual obligations, in cooperation with Clean Water Services, Farm Service Agency, Natural Resource Conservation Service and Oregon Department of Forestry.

II. GOAL: The public is aware of and active in water quality efforts.

- A. OBJECTIVE -** Inform the public about Conservation and Water Quality Programs.
1. Publish a district newsletter. This will include securing business sponsorships, staff time, production and distribution.

2. Deliver soil and water quality presentations to specific interest groups.
3. Provide materials and develop education programs with the public through community events, news releases, direct mailings, handouts, and agricultural supply and feed stores. Includes writing funding proposals.
4. Hold an outreach event highlighting District programs.
5. Maintain a Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District website, www.swcd.net.
6. Target outreach to minority agricultural landowners and traditionally under-served population.
7. Participate in farmer's markets and Washington County Fair.
8. Target outreach to small acreage livestock owners.

III. GOAL: The District will have effective collaborative relationships with partners in the Tualatin River Watershed.

- A. OBJECTIVE -** Collaborate with partners in the Watershed and serve on boards and committees.

IV. GOAL: District operations will be effective, economical, efficient, and responsive to legal requirements, funders, and public needs.

- A. OBJECTIVE -** Complete the items listed below by June 30, 2010.

1. Directors receive training quarterly on issues of concern to the District.
2. Recruit directors, associate directors, and directors of emeritus.
3. Recruit volunteers in Earth Team Program.
4. Maintain the District's Business Plan.
5. District staff attend the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts Convention.
6. District staff attend conservation planning, skill development, practice implementation, GIS, conferences, and other training.
7. Publish and distribute the annual report.
8. Hold an annual meeting.
9. Complete the annual audit.
10. Prepare an annual budget.
11. Develop an annual work plan based on a workload analysis.
12. Conduct board meetings, work sessions, and special meetings.
13. Participate in monthly staff meetings.
14. Provide general District support.
15. Provide monthly accounting. Provide quarterly reporting to ODA and other funding sources.

Tualatin Soil and Water
 Conservation District
 1080 SW Baseline, Suite B-2
 Hillsboro, OR 97123

Our Mission

In order to conserve, protect, and enhance the natural resources in the Tualatin Basin, the mission of the Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District is to:

- **Assess watershed conditions, identify resource concerns, and select strategies to help natural resources meet standards and all beneficial uses;**
- **Provide technical assistance to help private landowners install conservation practices to meet natural resource goals and their own objectives;**
- **Increase the public's knowledge of and involvement in natural resource issues and solutions; and**
- **Deliver conservation programs and services to individuals, groups, and other governments.**

Board of Directors

Terry Peters, Chair
 Dan Logan, Vice Chair
 Jerry Ward, Secretary/Treasurer
 Eldon Jossi
 George Marsh
 John McDonald
 Judy Olsen

Directors Emeritus

Kathy Clair
 Gary Clark
 Ralph Duyck
 Lyell Gardner
 Steve Huffman
 Dick Kover

Associate Director

Sally Kraemer
 Anthony Mills

Employees

Lacey Townsend, Resource Technician
 Autumn Bryant, Landowner Incentive Program Manager
 Judy Marsh, District Coordinator

The Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity employer, providing services to the public without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status.