



# OACD NEWS

October 2024



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**LAST CHANCE - DON'T MISS OUT!**

## Oregon Association of Conservation Districts Annual Conference

October 14-16, 2024, Hood River, Oregon

We have a varied and pertinent agenda that includes both learning and interactive sessions – discussions with policy makers and each other!

See the agenda and Register at [Eventbrite](#)

Register for your rooms at the Hood River Inn in Beautiful Hood River, Oregon. Don't forget to mention you are with the conference for the discounted room rate. [Hood River Inn](#)



Hello Conservation Partners!

Our Annual Conference is just around the corner—October 14-16 at the Hood River Inn. If you haven't already registered, we are nearing "last chance." In the past some district employees felt the conference was for board members and managers of districts, but we have several sessions on projects districts are implementing that would be of interest to any district staff member, as well as hearing from NRCS and state agencies on updated topics.

This year at the conference we will be honoring our members in memorium who are no longer with us. If you haven't already shared with Andrea anyone to honor from your district, please do so ASAP. We will also feature awards given to districts over the last year at our Annual Membership Meeting (October 14 at 1:00 p.m). Please join us at that meeting and learn about the new potential dues structure, finances for the year and other operational information. And we will be unveiling our new Strategic Plan, outlining planning accomplished at our board retreat to be implemented going forward. See the [agenda](#) and registration for the conference.

The Oregon Legislature will be back in early 2025. You will hear from our Advocacy Committee and key legislators the afternoon of the 14<sup>th</sup> on what issues may be coming in the 2025 session. OACD is sponsoring one piece of legislation, the Bilingual Pesticide and Training Program to be managed at ODA to provide training, safety and equity to Hispanic speaking pesticide applicators. It has been offered as a committee bill from the House Ag Committee and has numerous sponsors, including key agriculture associations, Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers, and many of your districts. If you want to have your district added to the letter of support, please send your district logo to Andrea ASAP. OACD is working with the legislative committee and ODA to start the statewide program to provide this bilingual training opportunity. A special thanks to Kris Schaedel at the Hood River SWCD for bringing this concept forward and for her work in support.

Don't forget to send back your ballot sent September 30 for the OACD board election. Remember that the district's dues must be current for a vote to be submitted.

Looking forward to seeing you in Hood River!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jan".

Jan Lee, OACD President

[janleewater@gmail.com](mailto:janleewater@gmail.com) 503-545-9420 cell



## COMING EVENTS

**Agency Meetings** (all events are hybrid; see details at link to websites)

[Oregon Climate Action Commission](#) – TBD, Virtual

[Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission](#) – October 11, Albany

[OWEB Board](#) - October 22-23, Coos Bay

[Land Conservation and Development Commission](#) – October 28, Salem

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### OACD Board Meeting

District participation and comments are encouraged.

**November 12, 9am-11am.** Zoom link [HERE](#).

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### Conservation Law Forum, COLT, October 3 | 9:00-11:30am

We will be joined by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to talk about [solar siting guidance](#) and fish and wildlife habitat mitigation policy. Participants will also hear from COLT's 2024 summer legal externs about their research on Channel Zone Migration Easements, COLT's land return legal toolkit, and fee to trust research. Register [HERE](#)

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### Agriculture Business Succession Workshop – Oregon Agricultural Trust

**November 19, 9am-3pm, Chemeketa Community College, Salem, OR.**

with Ag Consultant Dick Wittman

This workshop will help farm & ranch business owners work through solutions to common family business management and succession challenges. Workshop participants will gain insight on professionalizing business management or governance practices as well as preventing and reducing conflict in the family business. Dick will work through a two-part case study: Phase I addresses a sample family business transition scenario; Phase II addresses 15 potential family conflict scenarios.

Cost: \$100, Lunch Provided [Register Here](#)

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WILLAMETTE VALLEY OAK & PRAIRIE COOPERATIVE PRESENTS:

## OAK AND PRAIRIE SUMMIT

A GATHERING FOR CONSERVATION PROFESSIONALS



**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25,  
2024**

**9 AM – 4 PM**

Oregon Department of Fish and  
Wildlife Field Office | Salem, OR

This event is FREE & includes lunch

Register by 11/19: <https://beav.es/p7h>

## FUNDING RESOURCES



### Community Green Infrastructure Grants: Apply Now

The Oregon DLCD has published the [Call for Applications](#) for the Community Green Infrastructure Grants. Grants are available for:

- Green infrastructure projects
- Native seed banks and native plant nurseries
- Green infrastructure master plans

The online application portal will open on October 4, 2024 and **will be open until 5:00 p.m. on December 2, 2024**. Download the [Call for Applications](#) for complete information on the grant program. An [Application Template](#) is also available. See our [website](#) for more information.

Look out for future announcements on applicant information sessions and office hours.

Stay informed! This initial announcement is going out to multiple lists. [Sign up](#) for Community Green Infrastructure emails to be sure you receive future announcements. Learn more about the program [HERE](#)

### OCRF Fall 2024 grant cycle is open and accepting project proposals

Applications will be accepted until **October 29th, 2024**.

The OCRF prioritizes projects that:

- **Align with the Oregon Conservation Strategy**, safeguarding our diverse fish and wildlife before threats become critical.
- **Promote outdoor equity**, ensuring everyone has access to the health benefits and joy of nature.
- **Address the impacts of drought**, protecting vital habitats and ensuring resilient wildlife populations.
- **Create new recreational opportunities**, connecting people with the outdoors and fostering appreciation for our natural world.

We offer grants for a range of projects. **Visit our website for application materials and detailed information:** <https://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/OCRF/index.asp>

### Drinking Water Providers Partnership Source Watershed Restoration Funding

**Accepting** project proposals **through January 6, 2025** for **projects that have a federal nexus and address environmental conservation and restoration projects in community/municipal drinking water source areas.**

This is a great opportunity for our watershed partners (SWCDs, Watershed Councils, land trusts, local governments, etc.) to work with our federal partners and public water systems on environmental conservation and restoration projects.

Due to a significant influx of federal BIL and IRA funding, the federal partners have set a **cap of \$150,000 per project**. Since some of the funding this year is linked to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Justice40 communities may be prioritized for part of the funding. The [call for proposals](#) includes more information about eligibility and how to apply. There are also examples of [previously funded projects](#) on the site.

The Drinking Water Provider Partnership members are all available for questions and can assist conservation groups or restoration partners with the application process. DEQ Drinking Water Protection staff can also work with you or with basin partners to help identify source areas and public water systems that would benefit from projects. The DWP partner contacts are listed on page 7-8 of the DWPP [2025 Call Letter](#) and DEQ DWP staff can be found on [DEQ's DWP Contacts](#) webpage.

## Fall 2024 Open Solicitation Grant Offering - OWEB

OWEB is now accepting online applications for the the following grant types:

- [Restoration](#) (25% match is required)
- [Technical Assistance](#) (NEW: 5% match is required; no cap on requests)
- [Engagement](#) (NEW: 5% match is required)

Applicants are encouraged to consider the impacts of this year's extensive wildfires on native fish and wildlife habitat and watershed processes and to contact their regional program representative to discuss potential restoration projects in burned areas. OWEB anticipates making a combined total of over \$12 million available for Restoration, Technical Assistance, and Engagement grants through this solicitation.

**Grant applications are due by 5 pm on Monday, October 28, 2024**, and must be submitted via OWEB's online grant application. The OWEB Board plans to make grant awards at their April 2025 meeting.

Please click on the links to the grant type of interest (above) for application requirements and login information. If you already have an Online Application login, you may [access the application directly](#).

## Private Forest Accord Grant Program

The second round of funding through the Private Forest Accord Grant Program is set to offer another \$10 million to support innovative projects that drive real change!

**Grant applications are accepted through Wednesday, November 13, at 11:59 p.m.**

You can explore the updated and streamlined application now by logging into the [Online Application System](#). Grant Guidelines [HERE](#).

## NEWS and OPPORTUNITIES



### DLCD Notice of Proposed Rulemaking - Farm and Forest Modernization Program

The rulemaking includes proposals for conforming rules to statutory changes, codification of existing common law and definitional clarifications. These rule amendments are proposed as requested by the commission at its January 2024 and April 2024 meetings.

WEBSITE: : <https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/LAR/Pages/FarmForestRule.aspx>

HOW TO COMMENT: You may comment on the proposed rules by sending written comments by **11:55 p.m., October 16, 2024**, to: [Casaria.taylor@dlcd.oregon.gov](mailto:Casaria.taylor@dlcd.oregon.gov)

### DLCD Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for Goal 5 Cultural Areas

The rule promotes greater understanding of cultural resource areas, supports protection of significant sites, and will serve to preserve the state's cultural heritage. Rulemaking for the proposed rule was initiated in November 2023 at the commission's meeting in Medford. This rule will replace OAR chapter 660, division 16 for describing local government processes for complying with Goal 5 for cultural areas.

WEBSITE: <https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/LAR/Pages/Goal5.aspx>

HOW TO COMMENT: You may comment on the proposed rules by sending written comments by **11:55 p.m., October 16, 2024**, to: [Casaria.taylor@dlcd.oregon.gov](mailto:Casaria.taylor@dlcd.oregon.gov)

## **Emerald ash borer (EAB) quarantine expands in response to new detections in Washington, Yamhill, Marion, Clackamas Counties**

The USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA APHIS) has confirmed the detection of Emerald ash borer (EAB) in Yamhill, Marion, and Clackamas counties. This brings the number of counties with EAB populations to four, including Washington County, where APHIS first confirmed EAB in Oregon in June 2022.



This highly destructive wood-boring pest targets ash, white fringe trees, and olive trees. The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) has expanded the quarantine per the Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR 603-052-1075) on ash, white fringe trees, and olive tree material in these counties.

Please read the [EAB Quarantine Alert](#) for more information on quarantine and how to slow the spread of EAB. If you have any questions, please email us at [EAB@oda.oregon.gov](mailto:EAB@oda.oregon.gov). For more

information about EAB, visit [www.OregonEAB.com](http://www.OregonEAB.com).

## **DEQ Initiating Triennial Review of Water Quality Standards**

DEQ is launching a Triennial Review process to determine what water quality standards revisions DEQ should undertake over the next three years. The Review will result in a workplan that outlines the water quality standard projects DEQ will complete or initiate between 2025 and 2027. DEQ plans to complete the Triennial Review process by January 2025. The Clean Water Act requires states to hold a public hearing and review water quality standards every three years. The purpose of revising water quality standards is to incorporate new scientific information, meet federal requirements, or improve clarity and program implementation. The Triennial Review does not result in water quality standards changes, but will prioritize projects to revise water quality standards or clarify implementation of standards.

DEQ will request public input on a draft priority list of water quality standards projects during a 45-day comment period (early October through late November). During the comment period, DEQ will hold an informational webinar and a public hearing.

Information about the Triennial Review may be found on the [Triennial Review webpage](#).

## **SUCCESS STORY - Three Key Findings from First-of-its-Kind Study on NRCS Conservation Practices and U.S. Pollinators**

By Elizabeth Creech-Thomas, Natural Resources Communication Specialist

## **Columbia Gorge News: How does irrigated farmland factor into Oregon's wildfire hazard map?**

This past spring, ODF created a Rulemaking Advisory Committee (RAC) consisting of leadership across the state, from the state Water Resource Department, to fire marshals, county officials, the Farm Bureau, scientists and researchers to evaluate this data and make policy recommendations to the State Forestry Board.

## **State Releases Nitrate Reduction Plan for Lower Umatilla Basin**

Today, four Oregon state agencies [DEQ, ODA, OWRD, and OHA] released their [Nitrate Reduction Plan for the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area](#) (LUBGWMA), which outlines the state's plan for public health responses and long-term strategies to reduce nitrate levels in groundwater in areas within the Basin. OFS has been tracking the state's efforts on this topic and has assembled a coalition of agricultural and natural resource organizations to advocate for the needs of agriculture in the region and beyond. We are preparing for a meeting with the Governor's staff on this issue and will be working hard to ensure that any proposed solutions impacting agriculture are grounded in data and science. Find the [full plan here](#). Feedback on the plan can be submitted [here](#).

## DISTRICTS IN THE NEWS

### CHECK OUT THE LATEST NEWS STORIES FEATURING OUR SWCDS---

*Experts warn emerald ash borers pose risk to Oregon trees,* KPTV, Fox 12

*Local agencies unite to tackle beetle infestation threatening Oregon Ash Trees.,* KATU

*How 'invisible fences' can make Oregon rangelands more resilient against wildfires,* Oregon Public Broadcasting

*A program that helps Oregon farmers grow their businesses is looking for its next cohort,* Oregon Public Broadcasting

*Tualatin SWCD leads climate resilience outreach with partners,* NACD

Do you have a story to share, please send it to [andrea.kreiner@OACD.org](mailto:andrea.kreiner@OACD.org)!



Oregon Association of  
Conservation Districts

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