



Molalla River Watch is dedicated to the enhancement, restoration, protection, beautification, and preservation of the Molalla River Watershed

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Splashes from the Molalla River



Spring 2018

Impact Locally & Celebrate Earth Day!

You can help communities along the Molalla River by joining us to help cleanup the Molalla River! Coming together to remove trash from the river is the perfect way to celebrate Earth Day.

Please join us for our 26th Annual Spring Molalla River Cleanup & Enhancement on Saturday, April 21st at 9am.

For 26 years, two times each year, Molalla River Watch has led volunteers to help cleanup & beautify the Molalla River. We adopted 12 miles of the River in the Molalla Recreation Corridor in 1992 through SOLVE's Adopt-A-River program.

Everyone is welcome. We greatly appreciate all repeat volunteers and welcome any new folk with an interest in improving water quality and helping to keep the Molalla River beautiful.

Meet at Feyrer Park for registration and a safety talk. Participants will then disperse to pick up trash in the Molalla Recreation Corridor or other public access sites. Volunteers will also have the choice of helping to clear Molalla Recreation Corridor



Volunteers helping plant 35 trees & pick up 1,480 lbs. of trash along the Molalla River during our Fall Cleanup!



We appreciate our volunteers with a free barbecue lunch!

trails of winter debris. Afterwards, participants return to Feyrer Park for a Volunteer Appreciation Barbecue.

You can register on the day of the event at Feyrer Park or pre-register from the

SOLVE website (www.solveoregon.org/get-involved/events). If you have any questions, please contact Asako Yamamuro at 503-559-0885 or molallariver-watch@gmail.com.

From Riddled with Weeds to Native Sanctuary



Cindi hauling one of MANY loads of invasive English ivy pulled by contractors. Molalla River Watch also helped provide chemical weed treatment, technical assistance, & purchasing & planting native species.

“Mother Earth is not a resource, she is an heirloom.”

**—David
Ipina, Yurok**

With the help of a grant awarded to Molalla River Watch by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, the Buells have worked hard to clear out invasive English ivy, Himalayan blackberry, Scotch broom, & reed canary grass to make way for native plants.

Since purchasing river-front property a few years ago, the Buells had planned on making their property more wildlife friendly. Molalla River Watch has helped them achieve their goals more efficiently by saving them time, money, labor, & helping to provide conservation planning advice. The Buells have gone from overwhelmed with weeds to

waiting for spring to see how many of their newly planted, diverse natives will start filling in spaces previously occupied by a “sea” of ivy.

Removing weeds & planting natives leads to more shelter & food sources for wildlife, plus better erosion control & stream shading for aquatic habitats.



Matt Stine of Native Ecosystems NW, planting native red osier dogwood & willow stakes along Cedar Creek on the Buells' property. Established Oregon grape (foreground), sword-fern (middle), & sedges (left) have space to fill in where ivy was previously pulled.

Poker Ride Brings Trail Users Together



Equestrians drawing lucky cards on Molalla Corridor Trail System on Sept. 17, 2017.

We had a great turnout of 43 participants to our 23rd Annual Horses, Hikers, & Mountain Bikers Poker Ride on Sept. 17, 2017. Most of the participants went home with prizes that were generously donated by local businesses. Our \$100 Grand Prize winner was Steve Yost!

With the help of Poker Ride players, prize donations, & volunteers, we were able to raise \$951 for trail improvements in the Molalla Recreation Corridor!

Thank you, Donors: Valley View Riders, North Valley OET, Bentley Feed, Hobart Oil, White Horse Restau-

rant, El Charritos Restaurant, Bella Vita Restaurant, Hitchin Post Restaurant, Lumberjack Grill, Figaro's Pizza, Bikes 'N More, Bob's Red Mill, Fall Line Bike Shop, First City Cycles, Santiam Bicycle, Scott's Cycle, Sellwood Cycle Repair, REI, Happy Family, Jasper's Café, & Safeway Starbucks!

"We all need the same things: clean air and clean water. We have a lot of work to do, but if we can combine our strengths, we can fight for what's right."

—Jake Edwards, Onondaga



Equestrians, puppy, & hiker ready to gather poker cards to win prizes & help raise funds for trail improvement.



Mountain biker ready to share the trails!

Frogs & Salamanders Like to Lay Eggs in This Pond!

On February 28th Jim Holley, Asako Yamamuro, Anne Shalas, Verena Fabian, and Elaine Rybak with drone work by Ken Piper surveyed Aquila Vista under beautifully dark, cold and rainy conditions. Aquila Vista is located in the Mo-

lalla Recreation Corridor & is a scientific environmental education & research area.

We saw 326 northern red-legged frog and 20 northwestern salamander egg masses and 29 rough skinned newts. "This pond

has a very high density of northern red-legged frog egg masses compared to the other ponds I've surveyed in Clackamas County", says Jim, the survey leader who has led these surveys for the past four years.

"It seems to me that the natural world is the greatest source of excitement; the greatest source of visual beauty; the greatest source of intellectual interest. It is the greatest source of so much in life that makes life worth living." — David Attenborough



Looking for egg masses is only for the nimble & those prepared for cold/wet conditions.



Finding & recording amphibian egg mass species & stage of development (**round** = newly laid vs. **tailed** = close to hatching)



"We like to come out of the forest in late winter & lay our eggs in THIS pond!"

Left, northern red-legged frog & below, northwestern salamander.



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GET INVOLVED! HELP ENHANCE AND PROTECT THE MOLALLA RIVER



You can also become a member and make donations on our website: www.molallariverwatch.org

Please print

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email (for event contact) _____

Area of Interest _____

- ☐ Volunteer
☐ Donate services, equipment, or materials

- ☐ \$20 Individual ☐ \$100 Steward
☐ \$25 Family ☐ \$250 River Patron
☐ \$50 Friend ☐ \$_____ Other

- ☐ New Member
☐ Membership Renewal

- ☐ I would like information on corporate/
business membership

**Make Checks Payable,
Detach, and Mail To:**

MOLALLA RIVER WATCH, INC.
P.O. Box 867
MOLALLA, OR 97038-0867

Phone: 503-559-0885 Email: molallariverwatch@gmail.com Website: www.molallariverwatch.org

All Contributions are Tax Deductible!

Introducing Molalla's New Native Fish Society River Steward, Terre

I've been a river steward on the Molalla for the Native Fish Society (NFS) since Fall of 2017. Since then I have been learning more about the history & lore of the River & people who share its wonders than I could have imagined. I am humbled to witness the passion evidenced by the tracks that the previous Molalla River Steward, Mark Schmidt, laid. He touched so many people & had a profound affect on the path that's followed today toward a healthy & sustainable Molalla River environment.

Since my first visit to the Molalla River in 2005 when my wife and I looked at a

piece of property across from Glen Avon I knew my free time was in some way going to involve its waters. My recent retirement from a biotech firm in Hillsboro affords me more time to both enjoy & work on the river.

As Molalla's River Steward, I have participated in meetings with Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW) to support native fish populations. One meeting in March initiated the resumption of spawning Steelhead redd counts in the upper reaches of the river. The project lay fallow since the late 1990's when ODFW no longer had hatchery fish in the river to

monitor. Mark Schmidt was the one individual who kept track of spawning activity each spring since then. OSU & ODFW have contacted NFS to help gather reproductive information from a Native only fishery. The Molalla's population of native Steelhead trout may represent the strongest in the threatened upper Willamette system. April through May will be peak months for teams to capture much needed data on these endangered fish. As a bonus Mark's data on the same reaches will be included in the analysis to give an idea how populations have trended since

the end of the hatchery era on the Molalla.

I look forward to meeting more MRW members and working together on projects that support our goals for the river.

-Terre Rogers



Terre in his element!



Molalla River Watch, Inc.
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UPCOMING EVENTS

- **April 21**— 26th Annual Spring Molalla R. Cleanup & Enhancement, 9am at Feyrer Park.
- **April 24** - Molalla River Watch Board Meeting 3pm at the Molalla Public Library.
- **May 22**—Molalla River Watch Board Meeting 3pm at the Molalla Public Library.

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MOLALLA RIVER WATCH, INC.

Purpose

- To promote and encourage the enhancement, restoration, protection, beautification and preservation of the Molalla River for the educational, recreational and monetary benefit of the community and public and for the benefit of future generations.
- To promote and encourage interest in watershed preservation and ecological matters, particularly as such matters pertain to the Molalla River or to the Molalla Recreation Corridor.
- To conduct meetings, seminars, events, outings and educational activities for the purpose of fostering and promoting public interest in and knowledge of the Molalla River Watershed.

Mission Statement

To preserve, protect and restore fish and wildlife habitat and water quality of the Molalla River Watershed through education, conservation and restoration activities for present and future generations.