



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

#### Board of Directors

Bill Taylor— Board Chair  
Scott Trexler—Vice Chair  
Melissa Gentry— Sec./Treas.  
Becky Wolf

#### Staff

Asako Yamamuro—  
Executive Director

# Splashes from the Molalla River



Summer 2021

## Join Us For A Fall River Cleanup!



**M**ark your calendars! We will host our 28th Annual Fall Molalla River Cleanup and Enhancement Event on Saturday, October 2 from 9AM—1PM.

Volunteers will meet at Feyrer Park ([16185 S Feyrer Park Rd. Molalla](#)) for instructions and a safety talk, then disperse to the beautiful Molalla Recreation Corridor and other public river access sites near Molalla. Unfortunately, due to the 2020 wildfires, a large area in the Molalla Recreation Corridor will not be accessible.



Activities will include trash cleanup along the Molalla River, and possibly trail enhancement work on the Corridor shared-use non-motorized trail system.

If COVID19 restrictions allow by then, there will be a volunteer appreciation barbecue back at Feyrer Park. Free parking passes will be provided to volunteers.

Current COVID restrictions require masks in outdoor public spaces. Please bring a mask or we can provide one for you. We recommend

gloves, water, a snack, and wear sturdy shoes and appropriate clothes for the weather. We will provide all volunteers with trash bags, gloves, and a limited number of trash-grabbers. Wipes and hand sanitizer will be available.

Please pre-registration through SOLVE. <https://www.solveoregon.org/opportunity/a0C1100000QFuRPUA1>

Please feel free to contact Asako at [molallariver-watch@gmail.com](mailto:molallariver-watch@gmail.com)

## Spring River Cleanup Thank You



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On April 17, 2021, 51 participants helped cleanup 780 lbs of trash from the Molalla River, cleared 2 miles of trails in the Molalla Corridor, and painted over the graffiti on the Hardy Creek Trailhead pit toilet and message board. **Thank you volunteers for doing such great work!**

## Introducing Our New Board Member, Scott Trexler



**S**cott was born and raised in Michigan. He has been an Oregonian and Canby resident with his wife since 1981. After nearly 34 years in manufacturing,

Scott retired in January 2019. His outdoor loves are running rivers and backpacking. He is currently section hiking the Pacific Crest Trail through Oregon. Scott also enjoys frequent floats on the Molalla River from Canby to Molalla State Park, as well as trips up the Molalla Corridor to enjoy the beauty and solitude.

Scott's first introduction to one of Molalla River

Watch's activities was volunteering to work on the new appropriately named Geezer Trail in the Corridor. Scott joined the Board in September 2020 and became Vice-Chair in November 2020. He is looking forward to helping advance its mission. Scott is also a member of the Oregon Natural Desert Association and the Pacific Crest Trail Association.

*"Life in us is  
like the  
water in a  
river."*

—Henry  
David  
Thoreau

## Stay Tuned for Our Board Member Recruitment Ad!

### Molalla Recreation Corridor & Molalla River Watch

By Bill Taylor, Board Chair

**T**he past year created major challenges for recreational use in the Molalla Recreation Corridor. The upper watershed is still closed from the Beachie Creek Fire. John Huston, BLM's Northwest Oregon District Resource Manager, anticipates the road closure will be moved upriver to provide access to Table Rock by November. Access to Copper Creek fork and Rooster Rock Trail will likely remain closed for longer due to fire damage hazards.

Fire damage to the Molalla Recreation Corridor's trail system was limited to southern end trails. Much of Aquila Vista Environmental Education Area was scorched, but damage to facilities was minor. The BLM is hoping the site will be open next spring.

Molalla River Watch (MRW) members and volunteers spent many hours clearing trails of downed trees and limbs resulting from high winds during last September's fire, only to be hit

again by damage from the ice storm which brought down more tree debris.

Due to COVID, demand has been high for areas to recreate with little risk. With many miles of trails, encountering other users is infrequent even on summer weekends.

MRW continually works to improve recreation opportunities for you. Please contact Bill at 503-829-6793 if you are interested in joining future trail work parties.

**TRIVIA: With lots of areas in drought, can scientists just create water ?**

YES or NO or IT'S COMPLICATED.  
Answer on page 5.

## Our On-Going Collaborations Throughout the Watershed

**1.** We've moved our office into the Molalla Hive, a community workspace, at [217 E Main St. Molalla](#).

Sponsors include: Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation District, and Molalla Communications.

**2.** With funding from the Willamette Water Supply Program, we continue to treat 25.5 acres of knotweed at Molalla River State Park in Canby and look to-

wards knotweed treatment strategies upstream.

**3.** Molalla River Watch is on the advisory committee for [Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation District's National Water Quality Initiative on the Molalla Watershed](#). Next steps include water quality monitoring throughout the watershed. We will seek volunteers in the future.

**4.** We are also on the advisory committee for the City

of Canby's [Molalla Forest Rd Traverso Project to help explore pedestrian/bike/equestrian trail ideas](#) for future design and construction improvements.

**5.** We are collaborating with Molalla River Academy to install a trail through the gorgeous wooded area on campus next to Dickey Creek.



Knotweed treatments at Molalla River State Park. Green is new growth. Brown canes are treated.

## Local Drought Information and Water Conservation Tips

USGS Gage on Molalla River by Good's Bridge in Canby, [waterdata.usgs.gov/or/nwis/uv?site\\_no=14200000](http://waterdata.usgs.gov/or/nwis/uv?site_no=14200000)

- Hydrograph compares current discharge to the median daily statistic for the last 66 years.

Drought Status Update for the Pacific Northwest, [drought.gov](http://drought.gov)

- Drought monitoring, forecasting, and planning information.
- You can find out "How is drought affecting your neighborhood?" by entering your zip code.

**6 Possible "New to You" Ways to Conserve Water at Home:**

- 1. Check your water

meter before and after shutting off water for 2 hours. If there's a change, you have a leak.

2. Add food coloring to toilet tank. If it seeps into the bowl without flushing, you have a leak.

3. Install aerators on all faucets to conserve water.

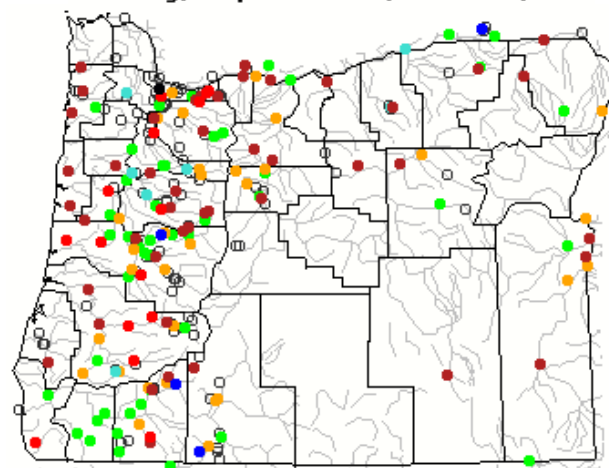
4. Turn water treatment and softener systems off while on vacation.

5. Avoid over fertilizing plants since fertilizers increase plant growth and need for water.

6. Adjust lawnmower to cut at 2 inches. Taller grass holds moisture better than short grass.

Source: [Project Water's 100 Ways to Conserve Water](#)

Tuesday, September 07, 2021 17:30ET



USGS

Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	Not-ranked
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		



## Riparian Planting Help Next to Woodcock Creek



Molalla River Watch board member, Scott, and two volunteers, Kathy and Bruce, help stage plants at their new home along Woodcock Creek on Port Blakely property.

**“Water is the mother of the vine, the nurse and fountain of fecundity, the adorer, and refresher of the world.”**  
—Charles Mackay

**R**iparian plants are defined as plants living on the bank of a river or other body of water. A healthy composition of riparian plants is extremely important because they provide food and cover for a large diversity of animals, stabilize streambanks, help filter nutrients and sediment from reaching the water, and shade the stream for temperature sensitive fish like salmon and trout.

Molalla River Watch had a great opportunity to partner with Port Blakely, a lo-

cal forestry company, and Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District (CSWCD) to help plan and participate in riparian planting next to Woodcock Creek on Port Blakely property.

Port Blakely staff had done a phenomenal job of removing thickets of invasive Himalayan blackberry and invasive reed canary grass from next to Woodcock Creek, which eventually flows into Milk Creek. With the weeds treated, Molalla River

Watch and CSWCD helped Port Blakely put together a planting plan. To increase plant survival success and wildlife habitat creation, the planting plan included suggestions of planting more of what's currently growing, plants appropriate for sunny vs. shady areas, and pollinator and wildlife plants.

On a drizzly March 18, 2021, Molalla River Watch staff, one board member, and two volunteers helped Port Blakely staff set up the newly acquired plants

for planting. Next, Port Blakely staff planted the staged plants. In total, **over 1,400 trees, shrubs, plants, grasses, and sedges were planted next to Woodcock Creek!**



Kathy strategically places Oregon oaks, mock oranges, nootka roses, red-flowering currants, and kinnikinnik in their new home near Woodcock Creek.

## GET INVOLVED!

### HELP ENHANCE AND PROTECT THE MOLALLA RIVER



You can also become a member and make donations on our website: [www.molallariverwatch.org](http://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](mailto:molallariverwatch@gmail.com)    Website: [www.molallariverwatch.org](http://www.molallariverwatch.org)

*All Contributions are Tax Deductible!*

## From Page 2 Water Trivia

If you picked **IT'S COMPLICATED**, you are correct!

To **make water**, scientists need to join two hydrogen atoms and an oxygen atom. To make the two hydrogen atoms link to the oxygen atom, energy is needed, which causes an explosion. It's extremely dangerous!!!💧💣

But, scientists have not given up. Instead of creating water, one inventor made a wind powered machine to **collect existing water** vapor out of the atmosphere. Other scientists are similarly making machines to collect water vapor from the

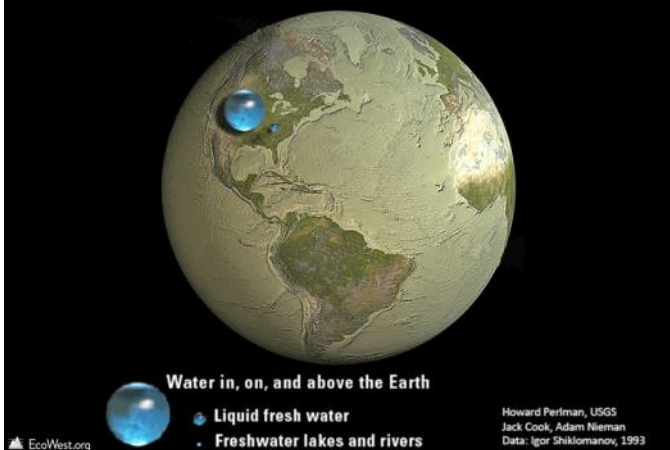
atmosphere. However, these machines are not being produced fast enough to help with all of the existing water needs.

Learn more about making & collecting existing water [here](#) from the HowStuffWorks website article by Josh Clark.

Related articles:

- [The Water Geeks, Why Can't We Just Make Water?](#)
- [The Conversation, Curious Kids: How is Water Made?](#)

### Drop on the planet: visualizing the Earth's water



Important to keep in mind that in the water cycle, the total volume of water on Earth stays the same by continually changing location and state (solid ice, liquid water, gas vapor). Even more important is that only 3% of the Earth's water is freshwater (needed for life), the rest (97%) is ocean water.



Molalla River Watch, Inc.  
P.O. Box 867  
Molalla, OR 97038-0867

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Sept. 28**—Molalla River Watch Board Meeting, 7-9pm. Please see our [Events Calendar](#) on our website, [molallariverwatch.org](http://molallariverwatch.org) for info on how to join the virtual meeting.
- **Oct. 2**—28th Annual Fall Molalla River Cleanup, 9am-1pm. Feyrer Park.

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too!**



## Molalla River Watch, Inc.

### Purpose

- To promote and encourage the enhancement, restoration, protection, beautification and preservation of the Molalla River Watershed for the educational, recreational and economic 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 Watershed.
- To conduct meetings, seminars, events, outings and educational activities for the purpose of fostering and promoting public interest 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.