

CONSERVATION QUARTERLY

SUMMER 2017

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THE WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER GETS A COMMUNITY GARDEN



This spring Cascadia and several partners worked with the Women's Resource Center (WRC) to develop a community garden for their residents at Parkside in south Wenatchee. The WRC provides individuals and families experiencing poverty and homelessness with the housing and services they need to be part of a healthy diverse community.



The residents at Parkside had long expressed interest in a gardening space as a way to supplement their food supply with local, healthy and affordable options. Parkside set aside some land adjacent to the center for a residential and eventually public community garden. The land was donated to them by the City of Wenatchee in 2016.

With support from Lowe's, Bob's Apple Barrel and Cashmere Valley Bank, Cascadia designed and built eight raised beds, as well as gathering gardening tools, seeds and starts to get the garden going. Cascadia has worked with Parkside to develop a garden committee to help manage garden maintenance and distribute the produce among residents.

Eventually, Parkside residents would like to add a more beds as well as benches and shade to make the area a community space to relax and enjoy. As Parkside looks to expand the living center and add more units for residents, Cascadia will continue to work with them to expand the garden to meet resident and community needs.

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 **Chelan County
Clean Water
Campaign**

**PHOTO
CONTEST**

Visit www.cascadiacd.org
for complete contest rules &
details and to submit your photo(s)!



Orange Flower
Savannah Meiners

PESTICIDE MONITORING IN CHELAN COUNTY

Contributed by Abigail Nickelson, WA State Dept of Agriculture (WSDA)

The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) monitors several sites around the state for the presence of pesticides in Endangered Species Act-listed, salmon bearing streams during the typical pesticide-use period from March through September. In the Wenatchee River watershed, WSDA's Natural Resources Assessment Section monitors Brender Creek and Mission Creek near Cashmere. Stemilt Creek, southeast of Wenatchee, is also monitored.

In 2016, the monitoring program detected 20 different pesticides in Mission Creek and Brender Creek, between March 22 and September 16. Among the pesticides detected was chlorpyrifos, also known under the product names of Lorsban and Dursban. This pesticide was detected at levels toxic to aquatic invertebrates and fish in both creeks during March 2016. Mission Creek and the lower reaches of Brender Creek provide rearing, spawning and adult migration habitat for Summer Steelhead and Coho.

Researchers with WSDA analyze samples for more than 140 pesticide compounds including insecticides (neonicotinoids, pyrethroids, organochlorines, organophosphates, carbamates, etc), herbicides, fungicides, and wood preservatives, as well as breakdown products and pesticides no longer registered for use such as DDT. Data for conventional parameters are also collected at each monitoring location during site visits. These include total suspended solids (TSS), stream flow, pH, dissolved oxygen, conductivity and continuous air and water temperature measurements.

Preventing surface water contamination is critical for protecting fish and aquatic systems. Farmers and homeowners can help by ensuring all pesticide applications follow label instructions and heed any environmental hazard and precautionary label statements. Pesticide applicators should pay particular attention to avoiding pesticide drift and runoff to adjacent surface waters when applying chlorpyrifos in the Brender Creek and Mission Creek watersheds.



WSDA Natural Resource Scientist, Matthew Bischof, monitors the Lower Brender Creek site near Sunset Highway in Cashmere.

ENTIAT RIVER APPRECIATION

JULY 29 10AM-2PM

Cascadia Conservation District and Chelan-Douglas Land Trust would like to give a BIG thank you to the following groups for helping put on this fun community event!:

Partnering agencies include: the City of Entiat, Entiat Watershed Planning Unit, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Forest Service, US Bureau of Reclamation, Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group, Foster Creek Conservation District, Wenatchee River Institute, Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board, Chelan Co Public Utilities District, Entiat Library, AmeriCorps, and Team Naturaleza.

Entiat community groups, businesses, and individuals include: Entiat Valley Community Services Group, Entiat Food Center, Entiat Shell Station, the Tyee Ridge Runners, Cascade Quality Water, Entiat Bakery, Bob Whitehall, Keith Vradenburg, Apple Valley Pumping, Trader John's, Snowgrass Winery, and Crunch Pak.

Visit www.agr.wa.gov/PestFert/NatResources/swm/ for more information and reports from other areas monitored by WSDA.

WILDFIRE RESOURCES

It's wildfire season and being proactive and creating defensible space around your home is key to reducing your risk of damage from wildfire! Many great resources exist for learning how best to prepare your home and property for this season. Please see some below:

Firewise.org has a plethora of excellent information and resources about defending your home from wildfire damage.

Cascadia Conservation District offers free home fire risk assessments and chipping programs. We also work with communities to become recognized through the national Firewise Communities program. Contact Amanda Newell at amandal@cascadiacd.org or (509) 436-1601 for additional information.

The Era of Megafires presentation featuring Dr. Paul Hessburg and video vignettes from North 40 Productions has showings throughout the west and is working on a recorded version of the presentation. Visit: <http://www.north40productions.com/> wildfire or contact Sara Rolfs at sararolfs@nwi.net or (509) 679-2043 for additional information.

The WA Department of Natural Resources (DNR) offers cost-share programs for forest landowners. Contact Cindi Tonasket at cindi.tonasket@dnr.wa.gov or Scott Chambers at Scott.Chambers@dnr.wa.gov for additional information.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) also offers assistance to forest landowners. Contact Christopher Wright at Christopher.Wright@wa.usda.gov for additional information.

The best offense...

...is a good defense.

Don't wait...

...until it's too late!

Cascadia offers free fire risk assessments. Contact Amanda Levesque Newell at amandal@cascadiacd.org or (509) 436-1601 for additional info

Need help managing natural resources on your property? Cascadia is here to help!

Cascadia's Landowner Assistance Program offers technical and financial assistance and can pay up to 75% of the total cost of eligible projects. Eligible projects include: fuels reduction, irrigation system upgrades, and more.

Cascadia is currently seeking cooperators for streamside planting projects in the Wenatchee River basin. If you live in a floodplain, Cascadia can pay to restore and replant riparian areas to make them more flood resistant and improve the function of the natural ecosystem. We can also answer any questions you may have about reestablishing your floodplain!

For additional information, please contact Sandy Letzing at: (509) 436-1601 or Sandyl@cascadiacd.org

CASCADIA HAS A NEW URBAN AGRICULTURE PROGRAM!



This new program will provide gardening based education and outreach events and work with local partners to develop new community gardens.

Cascadia will also provide our community with technical assistance and resources to help with many garden needs. We want to hear from you about what types of workshops would help you succeed with your backyard garden....composting, vegetable garden tips, pest management or more efficient irrigation?

Need assistance with composting? Contact Cascadia!

Photo from: <http://www.finegardening.com/6-ways-make-great-compost>



Interested in container gardening? Contact Cascadia!

Photo from: <https://www.pinterest.com/explore/small-herb-gardens/>

Please visit us on Facebook to take a survey or email sandyl@cascadia.org for additional information. We are also looking for spaces and neighborhoods for new community gardens. Please let us know if your community may be interested.

Remember, even if you live in a small space, are limited by time, or feel overwhelmed by growing vegetables, there's definitely something you can do to participate in urban agriculture. Whether it's working a patch at a community garden, taking a free gardening class, or starting a container garden in your south-facing kitchen window with vegetables or herbs, Cascadia is here to help get you started!

KIDS IN THE CREEK HAS ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR!

A BIG thank you to the following partners for helping make the 2017 Kids in the Creek another success: US Bureau of Reclamation, South Douglas Conservation District, the Entiat National Fish Hatchery staff, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group, Department of Ecology, Chelan County

Natural Resources Department, AmeriCorps, City of Wenatchee, US Forest Service, WA Department of Fish and Wildlife, Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board, Team Naturaleza, Chelan PUD, Foster Creek Conservation District, Trout Unlimited, City of East Wenatchee, Chelan County Public Works, US Bureau of Land Management, Cascade Quality Water and other community volunteers.



FAREWELL AVA!

AmeriCorps Member Ava Izdepski is moving on. During her 10½ month term with Cascadia, Ava worked on numerous projects, including: Water on Wheels, Wheat Week, Kids in the Creek, Native Plant Sale, Native Planting 101, and much more! She brought a level of dedication and insight to her work that we truly value.

Ava is off to pursue a career in environmental planning within Washington.

Thank you, Ava! We wish you all the best in your future endeavors!



AMERICORPS POSITION AVAILABLE

Join the Cascadia team as our Environmental Education Assistant from September 2017-July 2018!

This is an excellent opportunity for anyone interested in natural resources conservation, teaching, and serving their community.

Through AmeriCorps you will receive a monthly living stipend and an education award upon the completion of your service. Plus, you will make meaningful connections and new friends in the community that will lead to future jobs and opportunities!

For additional information on AmeriCorps and this position please visit: <https://washingtonservicecorps.org/become-a-member/how-to-apply/wsc-positions/> or call Cascadia at (509) 436-1601.



AmeriCorps members during Martin Luther King, Jr service day at Pybus Public Market in Wenatchee

HOSTING HONEY BEES

POLLINATOR ARTICLE SERIES - ARTICLE 5 OF 5

Contributed by Nate Andreini, East Columbia Basin Irrigation District

We have learned about how important bees are to our everyday lives and the food we put on our tables. We have also learned about planting bee friendly plants in our yards or on our patios and about the bee-friendly ways to apply pesticides, and about Colony Collapse Disorder. To wrap up our series of articles on Honey Bees, this article will explore hosting hives in the off season.



Honey bees are hard-working pollinators! But after pollinating our tree fruit and seed crops, in addition to many other crops, they still need a place to forage. This can be a big obstacle for large bee keepers in Washington State. Many bee keepers even have to transport their bees out of state to find a place to store their hives in the offseason. Some go to Montana or even South Dakota to find space for their bees. The travel is hard on the hives and it is not uncommon to lose a significant part of the hive population going to and from storage and forage areas.

Do you have land that may be suitable to host bees in the off season? Bees need water, ample space and plants to forage. Road access can be important too as larger bee keepers transport their hives with flatbed trucks and use fork lifts to place the hives. How can you find out if there are bee keepers in your area that need a home for part of a season? Try going to the Washington State Bee Keeper's Association webpage at <http://wasba.org/>. The map shown here is from the website. You can get listings of bee keepers and local bee associations by area. Just like people, bees thrive in ideal conditions. Helping bees and pollinators to stay healthy helps to keep our crops producing the fruits and vegetables we love to eat every day!

AgForestry Class 37 hopes you have enjoyed our series on honey bees and honey bee health. We hope that, at the least, you have learned valuable information about pollinators. We really hope that something has sparked your interest and you will play an active role in keeping our bees healthy, whether that is planting bee friendly plants, being careful when using pesticides, or choosing to open your property up to host some hives in the off season. Even small changes can have some delicious results!



Photo from: <http://wasba.org/>



CASCADIA
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Cascadia Conservation District has a blog:
Please check it out at:
<http://ccdconservationconversation.blogspot.com/>



Please Remember to Recycle

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

CCD Regular Board Meetings

-August 17, 2017 3:30-5:00 pm at 14 N Mission St, Wenatchee
-September 21, 2017 3:30-5:00 pm at 14 N Mission St, Wenatchee
-October 19, 2017 3:30-5:00 pm at 14 N Mission St, Wenatchee

Entiat Habitat Sub Committee Meetings

-August 17, 2017 9:00-12:00 pm USFS Building, Wenatchee Rm
-September 21, 2017 9:00-12:00 pm USFS Building, Wenatchee Rm
-October 19, 2017 9:00-12:00 pm USFS Building, Wenatchee Rm

Entiat Watershed Planning Unit Meetings

-October 4, 2017 9:00-12:00 pm at Entiat Grange Hall

Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board

Regional Technical Team Meetings -August 9, 2017 9:00-4:00 at Community Foundation of North Central Washington (CFNCW)
-September 13, 2017 9:00-4:00 at (CFNCW)
-October 11, 2017 9:00-4:00 at (CFNCW)
Board of Directors Meeting -September 28, 2017 10:00-3:00, Douglas County Land and Transportation Building
-October 26, 2017 9:00-11:00 conference call
Implementation Team Meeting -September 5, 2017 10:00-3:00 at Sunnyslope Fire House
North Central Washington Forest Health Collaborative Quarterly Meeting -September 6, 2017 10:00-4:00 at Chelan Fire House

NON-LETHAL BEAVER MANAGEMENT TOOLS FOR RURAL LANDOWNERS

Contributed by Cody Gillin, Trout Unlimited WA Water Proj.

One spring morning Ryan and Sarah Walker discovered that their Chumstick Creek aspen grove had been selected by beaver as a source of food and woody material for a new colony. Several trees lay on the ground. The Walkers don't mind beaver – they know beaver store water, create fish habitat, and improve water quality - they just don't want all their aspen cut.

Their story is not unique. Rural landowners appreciate wildlife using their property but also want to maintain a forest aesthetic. Orchardists farming along creeks and rivers want to protect their livelihood. Often, beaver are lethally removed. This does not solve the problem. Beaver choose a site based on local conditions. If the location is suitable, beaver will come back. What to do?

Enter Trout Unlimited. At the Walkers' property, Trout Unlimited installed fence wraps around selected trees, leaving some aspen and cottonwood along with all the dogwood and alder beaver could ever want. The result: desired trees are protected long into the future and the site remains suitable for beaver colonization. Trout Unlimited thanks Ryan and Sarah Walker for their non-lethal approach to beaver management.

Thank you to these funding sources for keeping important outreach projects and programs in operation!



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