

CONSERVATION QUARTERLY

SPRING 2011



PICTURE THE WENATCHEE: WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN LAUNCHES

The Picture the Wenatchee watershed stewardship campaign represents a collaborative effort between citizens, businesses, nonprofit groups, and public entities interested in improving water quality and stream habitat in the Wenatchee River and its tributaries through communication, education and action.



In Your Home

The primary objective of the campaign is to reduce non-point source pollution in the Wenatchee River watershed. We hope to create a community around this common cause and connect the good stewardship message with actual watershed improvement projects in the Wenatchee River and its tributaries.

The Picture the Wenatchee campaign is designed to be a standalone entity that not only promotes watershed stewardship activities, but also highlights all of the organizations working in the watershed and the great work that they do.

The campaign is divided into four categories: In Your Home, In Your Yard, With Your Vehicles



In Your Yard

and With Your Animals. Each category includes targeted actions for watershed improvement and incentives for engaging in those actions.

In Your Home we encourage people to use low or no phosphorus soaps and detergents and will provide a sample of low phosphorus detergent to get you started.

In Your Yard we will encourage minimal use of fertilizers and harsh chemicals, restoring and protecting riparian areas, septic system maintenance and water conservation. As an incentive we will provide information on cost-share programs for riparian restoration projects as well as coupons for 15% off at various local native plant nurseries.

With Your Vehicles we ask people to use a commercial car wash rather than washing in their own yards or driveway. As an incentive we will offer

coupons and tokens redeemable at a local car wash.

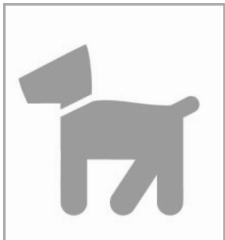


With Your Animals we ask people to pick up pet waste and fence livestock out of waterways. As an incentive we will provide pet waste bag dispensers and information on cost-share programs for livestock exclusion fencing.

The incentives will be available as part of our “Watershed Care Package.” The Watershed Care Package is designed to get Wenatchee watershed residents started on their move toward better watershed stewardship.

Anyone with an interest in watershed health can join the Picture the Wenatchee campaign. Get started by ordering your Watershed Care Package at the Picture the Wenatchee Website.

WWW.PICTURETHEWENATCHEE.COM



With Your Animals



With Your Vehicles

WANTED: LANDOWNER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COOPERATORS

If interested please contact us at 509-664-9370 or visit www.cascadiacd.org



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WALK THE TALK: HIGHLIGHTING VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

April 10-16, 2011 marked National Volunteer Appreciation Week. This is a special week meant to recognize the people who donate their time and talents to a variety of causes.

In honor of National Volunteer Appreciation Week, we are using this segment of *Walk the Talk* to highlight volunteer Regge Egger who has helped with our Native Plant Sale and Firewise assessments.



Before retirement, Egger spent 33 years with the Corps of Engineers doing a variety work, including surveying.

While he enjoyed working for the Corps of Engineers, his passion is for the outdoors.

“I really love to hike, go camping, and garden with

my wife,” said Egger. When he isn’t hiking or working in his garden, Egger also volunteers with Fire District 9.

Egger said he enjoys volunteering because, “there’s no greater feeling than knowing you were able to help someone. It gives me great satisfaction.”

Whether he is helping Cascadia with our Native Plant Sale or keeping his elderly neighbor’s driveway plowed during winter, our community is fortunate to have people like Egger living in it. It is also apparent that Egger “walks the talk” when it comes to volunteerism.

Cascadia would like to thank the many volunteers, like Egger, who have donated their time, talents, and skills to a variety of projects such as the Native Plant Sale, the Entiat and Wenatchee River clean-ups, riparian restoration, and newsletter bundling. Volunteer contributions enrich our programs and help Cascadia to

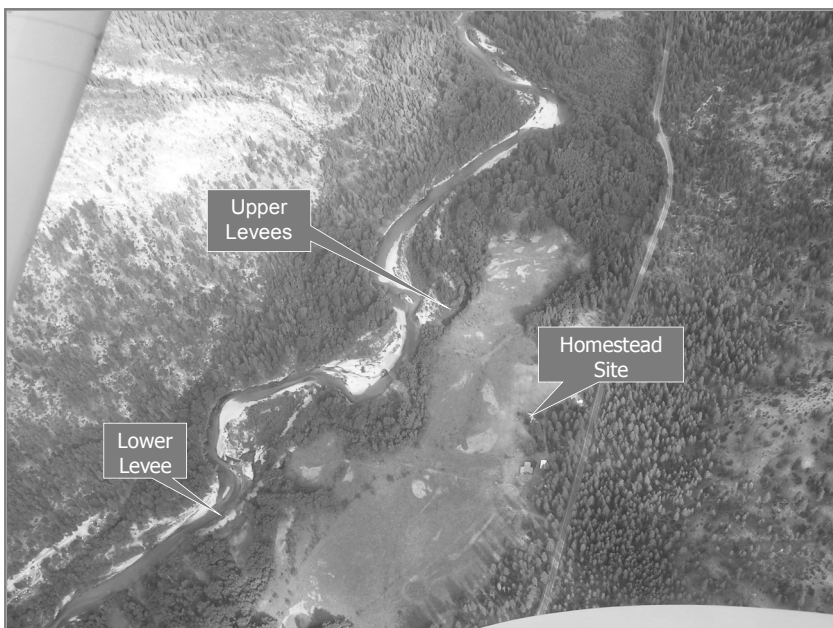


Beaver Creek Streamside Restoration.

encourage the wise stewardship and conservation of natural resources for current and future residents of Chelan County.

For more information about volunteering contact Amanda Ellis, our AmeriCorps volunteer, at (509) 664-9373, amanda.ellis@wa.nacdnet.net or check out our website at www.cascadiacd.org.

THE ENTIAT: AN INTENSIVELY MONITORED WATERSHED



Map of the Tyee Ranch Project site on the Entiat River.

In 2007, the Entiat River Watershed was selected by the Bonneville Power Administration to be studied as an Intensively Monitored Watershed (IMW), one of only two in the Pacific Northwest.

This multi-year program requires that large scale restoration projects or actions occur in the same area during a single year. Intense and focused monitoring is conducted both before the restoration and for two years after to evaluate the

effect on local fisheries.

Restoration construction years will be 2011, 2014 and 2017, followed by monitoring years 2012-2013, 2015-2016 and 2018-2019 with a cumulative report in 2020 evaluating whether this approach met the goals of salmon recovery in the Entiat River.

Three large scale restoration projects are currently in process for construction in 2011. These projects consist of reactivating and enhancing old or underused side channels, placement of large woody debris (LWD)

and engineered log jams (ELJ) in the stream channel, and riparian plantings of native vegetation along the river bank.

These projects will occur between river miles 24-25, 22-23 and 21.3-21.8 and are sponsored by the Yakama Nations, Cascadia Conservation District, Chelan County, the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust and the US Forest Service. Due to a

small instream construction window in order to protect salmon, all of these activities will take place from the middle of July to the end of September.

Cascadia is committed to maintaining landowner trust while creating opportunities for effective restoration efforts, which increase fish population in the watershed. Please contact Susan Dretke, at 509-664-9348 or susan.dretke@wa.nacdnet.net with any questions or comments regarding IMW efforts.



Aerial view of Cascadia’s Tyee Ranch Project on the Entiat River.

EARTH DAY ESSAY CONTEST A SUCCESS

In March, Cascadia Conservation District sponsored our first Earth Day essay contest. The contest was open to all sixth through eighth grade students in the Wenatchee and Entiat watersheds. Students were tasked with answering the question, “what does nature mean to you and what do you do to protect it?”

We received several essays, which were evaluated on their creativity, thoughtfulness, and

attention to contest rules. The panel of judges, representing Cascadia Conservation District, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service, were impressed with how well the top three essays addressed the question and the commitment each essay writer has toward helping the environment.

The first place essay was written by Eva Aneshansley of Chelan Middle School. See this essay below.

The second place essay was written by Gauge Austin of Icicle River Middle School.

The third place essay was written by Vivian Noyd of Foothills Middle School.

The top three essay writers will spend Saturday, May 21 with a professional wildlife biologist, courtesy of Chelan County PUD, conducting Wood Duck surveys.

In addition, Savings Bonds, courtesy of Cashmere Valley Bank, were awarded to the



Wood Duck Nesting Box

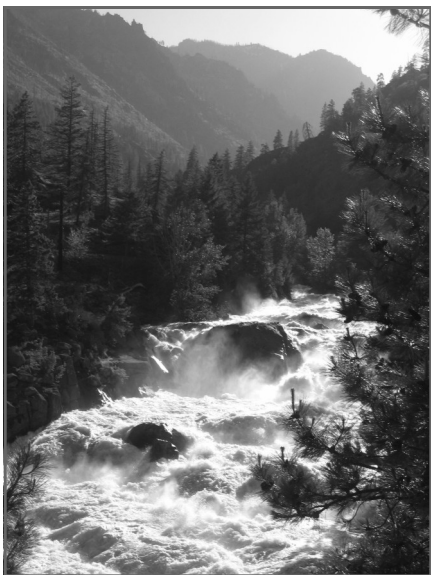
top three essay writers. First place received a \$250 bond, second place received a \$150 bond and third place received a \$100 bond.

Congratulations to this year’s winners! We hope the 2012 contest will be just as successful!

WHAT NATURE MEANS TO EVA ANESHANSLEY FIRST PLACE EARTH DAY ESSAY

Have you ever loved something so much, you wanted to protect it for the remainder of your life? I have, and whenever I think about the shape it’s in, I feel like my heart might burst with grief and sorrow. What do I care about so much? Nature.

When I’m out and about in nature, I feel so alive and happy. Nature is like a second, more beautiful home to me. This is because I grew up hiking to glacial lakes and mountain meadows. Up there I would frolic through the flowers or fish for Rainbow Trout. The crisp clear air cleansed my insides of the city. With each breath, I would start to forget the stresses of life and give myself up to the singing birds and buzzing bees. Nature helps me to realize who I really am inside, and this is why nature is important to me.



As I said before, I dislike the way nature is being treated. Would people really treat themselves like garbage? We all came from nature so we are a part of it too.

What do I do to help the thing I love so much? I recycle by reusing things before I buy new ones. I have been known to scrape tape off tables just to reuse it. I compost by putting food scraps onto a pile and then letting my chickens eat them. The leftovers I use for shoveling into my garden that I’ve been planting since I was nine years old. Whenever I taste the tart explosion of a raspberry between my teeth, I feel so proud that I at least help to revive a tiny bit of nature in my own backyard.

When I take care of nature, it always pays me back.



First place essay writer
Eva Aneshansley of
Chelan Middle School.

ENVIRONMENTAL CREDITS ADD INCOME TO YOUR FARM

American Farmland Trust is excited to offer help to farmers and ranchers interested in selling credits for environmental services. There is increasing interest from potential buyers in paying farmers to adopt conservation practices on their working farms.

If you are the owner/manager of active farmland and interested, please contact: Dennis Canty, American Farmland Trust, 1335 N. Northlake Way, Ste. 101, Seattle, WA 98103, dcanty@farmland.org or call: 206-860-4222.

You may also find it useful to consult the recent American Farmland Trust publication: “Guide to Environmental Markets for Farmers and Ranchers” online at: <http://www.farmland.org/documents/GuidetoEnvironmentalMarketsforFarmersandRanchers.pdf>.

ENTIAT RIVER APPRECIATION 2011

Cascadia Conservation District and partners will host an Entiat River Appreciation Event on Saturday August 6. The event will include a clean-up on a stretch of the Entiat River, riparian planting at the Entiat National Fish Hatchery, and a Volunteer Appreciation party at Entiaqua Park. The clean-up and planting are from 9:00 AM to noon with the party following. The Volunteer Appreciation party will include a barbeque, fun-filled



Smokey Bear!

educational activities, live music and maybe even an appearance by Smokey Bear! This event will be fun for the whole family so please join us on Saturday August 6.

As part of the Entiat River Appreciation event, Cascadia sponsored a logo contest. Entiat School 4th and 5th grade students created logos illustrating what river appreciation means to them. The winning logo was chosen on Earth Day, April

22. The winning logo will be presented at the May 3 Entiat School Literacy Night. Visit www.entiat schools.org/entiat/site/default.asp for Literacy Night details.

The winning logo will also be used for all outreach materials associated with this year's Entiat River Appreciation. We will have posters, tee shirts, buttons and more displaying this logo.

Stay tuned for an update on the Entiat River Appreciation Event and presentation of the winning logo in our summer newsletter.



Wheel of Fish activity.



Live Music!

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Cascadia Conservation District Board Meetings

May 19 at 3:30pm, 215 Melody Lane in Wenatchee

June 16 at 3:30pm, 215 Melody Lane in Wenatchee

Entiat Habitat Subcommittee Meetings

May 19 from 9am-12pm at Chelan County Fire District #1, 206 Easy Street in Wenatchee

June 16 from 9am-12pm at 215 Melody Lane in Wenatchee

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

The deadline for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program's (EQIP) **Organic Initiative** is May 20. The program provides funding to organic-certified or in-transition producers who are interested in planning and implementing conservation practices that address natural resource concerns in ways that are consistent with organic production.

NRCS, together with WSU, USDA-ARS, and private landowners, is hosting an orchard cover crops workshop in Quincy on May 19. We will hear from WSU scientists on how their cover crop trials are faring, how cover crops can help with pollinators and predator insects, and the pros and cons of planting non-grass species in drive rows.

Forest Activities, NRCS is also currently accepting applications for forest activities that improve tree health, reduce wildfire risk, and improve wildlife habitat. Common practices included in this scenario are: non-commercial thinning, pruning, and slash treatment. For more information regarding any of these NRCS programs contact Amy Hendershot at 509-664-9370.

Chelan County Natural Resources Department

In May, please join the Wenatchee Watershed Planning Unit for a series of community meetings to provide updates on salmon recovery project implementation and water resources management. For a complete list of events and more information contact Jennifer Goodridge at 509-667-6682.

Trout Unlimited – Salmon-Safe Initiative

Salmon Safe works to increase water quality in rivers and streams by improving biodiversity, and promoting habitat quality projects. For more information contact Jeri Timm at 509-881-7690 or jtimmm@tu.org. You can also find information at www.salmonsafe.org/tu.

For more information on any of the meetings and events listed above, call our office at (509) 664-9370 or visit our website at www.cascadiacd.org.



CASCADIA
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Please Remember to Recycle

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