



UMPQUA

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 415, Reedsport, Oregon 97467 (541) 662-1341

Email: rhonda@umpquasoilandwater.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/UmpquaSoilandWaterConservationDistrict

Newsletter – July 2023

Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District is a non-regulatory agency here to help our community conserve natural resources through educational, financial and technical assistance. Since 1953 Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District has been serving the residents of Northwestern Douglas County by partnering with landowners to empower them to be stewards and experts on their own land.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tide Gate Pre-Project Tour

Glover Estuary Enhancement

Pre-Project Tide Gate Tour:

Umpqua Soil & Water Conservation District and the Partnership for Umpqua Rivers invite you to our pre-project tide gate tour!

We are ready to begin replacement of 2 tide gate structures at the Glover Estuary Enhancement site on Lower Smith River.

We will be providing an informational talk, followed by a walk out to the project site to view the closest tide gate set for removal and see the new tide gate structures that will be replacing the old tide gate structures.

For more information, or with questions, contact Rhonda Black at Umpqua SWCD at (541) 662-1341 or by email at rhonda@umpquasoilandwater.com.

When: Monday, July 31st from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Where: 4859 Lower Smith River Road, Reedsport, OR 97467

Cost: FREE

Consider carpooling as parking is limited. Look for signage at gate!



Mud & Manure Farm Tour

Farm Tour:

This farm tour will be highlighting improved heavy use areas for livestock. If you are interested in improving your livestock pastures, working facilities, and barn entrances while preventing soil erosion, you won't want to miss this! During the tour, we will see improvement practices (Including pictures of before and during) and learn about programs available to producers to share the cost of land improvements for your operation.

When: Friday, August 4th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

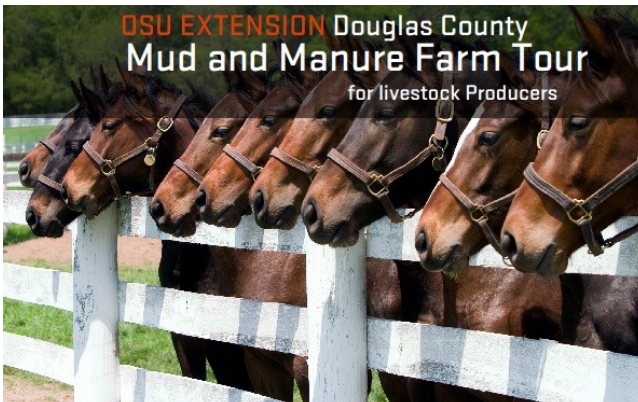
Where: Oregon State University Extension Office,
1134 SE Douglas Avenue, Roseburg, OR 97470

Cost: FREE

Register by going to:

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/events/mud-manure-farm-tour-douglas-county> or by contacting Logan Bennett at Logan.bennett@oregonstate.edu or by calling (541) 672-4461.

Healthy land leads to healthy animals. Horses and Livestock are important parts of many people's lives, but often times the paddocks and pastures these animals inhabit can become muddy and mucky. Learn how to improve and manage your livestock living areas in this workshop. Presenters: Shelby Filley – Oregon State University Livestock Forages Specialist, Tammy Barnes – Oregon State Extension Service Assistant Professor (Practice) Animal and Rangeland Science, Logan Bennett – Oregon State Extension Service Small Farms Program Coordinator, Rhonda Black – Umpqua Soil & Water Conservation District Conservation Planner, and Cindy Bright – Douglas Soil & Water Conservation District Conservation Technician.



Free Farm tour for livestock producers

This farm tour will be highlighting improved heavy use areas for livestock. If you are interested in improving your livestock pastures, working facilities, and barn entrances while preventing soil erosion, you won't want to miss this! During the tour, we will see improvement practices (Including pictures of before and during) and learn about programs available to producers to share the cost of land improvements for your operation. Parking is limited, consider carpooling.


Contact Logan Bennett for questions:
logan.bennett@oregonstate.edu
(541) 236-3015




August 4th, 2023
10:00 am-12:00 pm
Meet at the OSU Extension office
1134 SE Douglas Ave

Registration required
Space is limited, register now!

How to Register
online: <https://beav.es/iHt>
call (541) 672-4461
or click on the QR code

Registration will end on July 28th.



 **Oregon State University**  

OSU Extension Service provides accommodation to all its programs, services, activities, and materials. This publication will be made available in accessible alternative format upon request. Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made by July 20th, 2023. Please contact Bennett, (541) 236-3015, logan.bennett@oregonstate.edu.

SERVICES

Farm Conservation Planning

Farm Conservation Plans are documents developed jointly by Umpqua Soil & Water Conservation District and land managers. Farm Conservation Plans include actions that land managers can take to achieve their land use goals while protecting water and other natural resources. The planning process takes into consideration the size of the farm, type of soils, slope of the land, proximity to streams or water bodies, type of livestock or crops, and resources such as machinery, buildings and available finances.

Umpqua SWCD's Conservation Planner looks at changes that can be made to improve farm productivity and reduce impacts on natural resources. Some examples include stream-side fencing, gutters and downspouts, composting manure, pasture management and renovation, weed management, creating sacrifice areas, cross fencing and pasture rotation of livestock. Our Farm Conservation Planner can offer technical assistance on questions such as what grasses to plant, how to build a fence and when to mow.

Once the land manager has decided which changes they'd like to make on their property, they work with our Conservation Planner to set a tentative implementation schedule. Revisions of the schedule and the plan can be made as the goals and needs of the land manager change.

Farm Conservation Plans can help land managers, who have livestock, to meet the requirements of the Oregon Department of Agriculture Umpqua Basin Agricultural Water Quality Area Plan. This document can be found by going to:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oda/shared/Documents/Publications/NaturalResources/UmpquaAWQMAreaPlan.pdf>

Soil Testing

Are You Prepared for Fall? Do you know your soils pH?

Did you know lime can be applied in the Fall? Yes, it can, and it's a great time to make the most of lime applications. Contact the Umpqua Soil & Water Conservation District Office today to schedule your soil test in preparation for Fall lime applications. Lime can take several months after application to break down and change your soil pH. The benefit of adding lime to your soil in fall is that freeze-thaw cycles, abundant rain, and for our area, sometimes snow, common during the fall and winter months will help break down the lime and start raising the soil's pH. Lime should never be applied to pastures that are stressed or dormant, so please keep that in mind. Soil tests are currently free to District residents and provide application rates for lime, nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium, and boron.

Weed Wrench Loan Program

Weed Wrenches are woody plant pullers and available for loan through Umpqua Soil & Water Conservation District. These plant pullers are most effectively used when the soil is soft in the spring and are suited for leveraging scotch broom, small trees, and even blackberry roots from the soil. Requires a \$25 refundable deposit for a 2-week time period. Contact us today to rent one of these helpful tools.

SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Small Grants will be available to District residents and producers for a variety of water quality/Ag WQ and habitat improvement projects through our Umpqua 7 Small Grant Team starting this Fall! Now is the time to start thinking about projects to implement in the Spring/Summer of 2024.

Contact the Umpqua Soil & Water Conservation District Office in order to begin the application process. Grants are available in amounts up to \$15,000.

Project Examples:

Livestock Exclusion Fencing, Off-Stream Watering Systems, Hardened Livestock Feeding Areas, Improved Livestock Crossings and Livestock Access Roads, and More!

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Director's Meetings

August 10th, September 14th (Annual Meeting that night, too!), October (date to be determined), November 9th, and December 14th.

Our meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month and held virtually.

Please email rhonda@umpquasoilandwater.com to obtain meeting information and instructions for attending virtually.

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

Would you like to receive this newsletter by email? Send us an email with "newsletter" in the subject line to rhonda@umpquasoilandwater.com to let us know! If you are not yet receiving this newsletter and would like to, but don't use email, call (541) 662-1341 and we'll add you to our mailing list.

CONTACT INFORMATION

How to contact Umpqua Soil & Water Conservation District:

Email: rhonda@umpquasoilandwater.com

Telephone: (541) 662-1341

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 415, Reedsport, Oregon 97467

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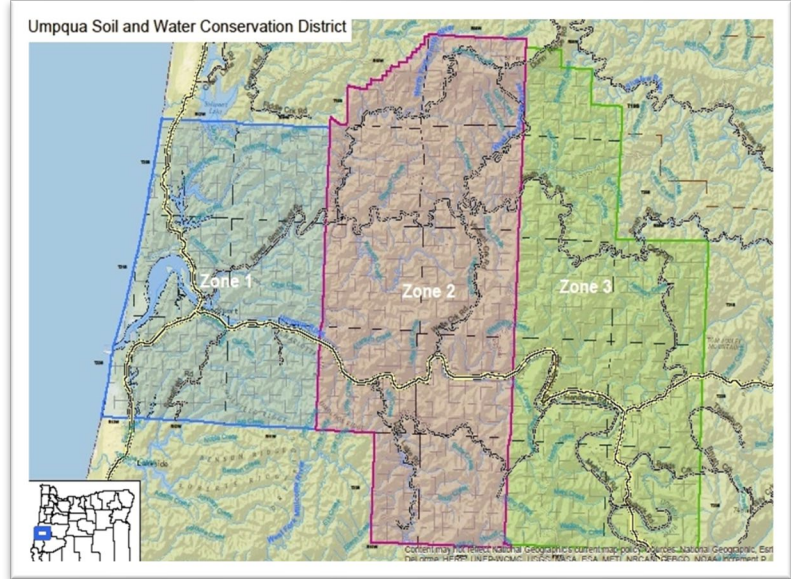
Website: <https://umpquasoilandwater.com/>

DIRECTOR RECRUITMENT

Director Responsibilities:

The Board of Directors set the direction of the District through the development and/or oversight of the strategic plan, biennial work plan, and District policies, with input from the District Manager and Staff. The Board and Staff enjoy a great working relationship that ensures natural resource stewardship programs and projects are available to all Douglas County citizens within the Umpqua Soil & Water Conservation District boundaries.

An individual Board member may only exercise their authority and responsibility of his or her position when the Board is in legal session and only as part of a specific Board action (e.g. resolution, motion, policy, etc.) and must be recorded in the public meetings minutes. Individual Board members may be given limited authority to act on behalf of the Board only when authorized by a specific Board action.



The responsibilities of the Board of Directors include but are not limited to the following tasks: Approval and tracking of budgets, require and understand sufficient financial reports, oversight, employee performance reviews, approval and monitoring of annual work plan, strategic plan development and approval, represent Interests of Constituents, come to meetings informed and prepared, stay abreast of local conservation issues, promote the District's work to local landowners, local and state agencies, legislators, and other organizations.

In addition to the responsibilities listed above, the Directors, as a Board, have legal powers under ORS 568.550. To find out more go to: https://oregon.public.law/statutes/ors_568.550

The District is currently recruiting for the following positions for appointment to the Umpqua SWCD Board of Directors: At-Large 1 and Zone 3.

A person wishing to become a director in the At-Large position must be a registered voter in within the District boundaries and reside within the District.

A person wishing to become a Zone Director must be a registered voter within the District boundaries along with satisfying one of the following:

- Actively manage 10 or more acres in the zone that is being represented and reside within the boundaries of the district, or
- Reside within the zone that is being represented and actively managing 10 or more acres within the boundaries of the district, or
- Reside within the zone, serving at least one year in a SWCD At Large position or in a SWCD associate director position, and having a conservation plan that is approved by the district. This eligibility option does not include a requirement of active management of 10 acres or more.

An interactive map of the District and zones can be found at:

<https://geo.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/lookup/index.html?appid=31b2f5ae9d494ecfbf7ff2608061a63f>

MISSION

“The mission of the locally led Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District is to provide assistance to any individual, group, or agency in applying natural resource conservation practices for the wise use of their natural resources.”