



THE CONSERVATIONIST

JACKSON SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2009 VOLUME 5 ISSUE 4

Summer Camp

Are you stronger
than me?



Forest and Range Day Camp

For kids with an interest in the natural world, the Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District offers a weeklong educational day camp for youth entering grades 5-7.

This is an outdoor education program focused on forestry and rangeland management. Campers will leave the camp with a sense of stewardship for our natural resources and acquired valuable skills and knowledge through hand-on learning and activities. Participants will learn to work as part of a team to investigate and discover the wonders of our world.

You may not be as strong as a horse, but what about you and 40 of your friends? Come to Forest and Range Day Camp and find the answer!



At the Forest and Range Day Camp you will:

- Meet new friends
- Learn survival skills
- Play and learn outdoors
- Get muddy (if you want)
- Learn about our local natural resources and resource management
- Have a great time

When: June 22 – 26, 2009

Drop off is 7:30am and pick up by 5:30pm

Where: Drop off is located at the Rogue Valley Mall. Meet the bus at the east side of the parking lot.

Who: Incoming 5th-7th grade students interested in the natural world. Student fee is \$60.00 and registration closes May 29, 2009

Contact the JSWCD office:
541-734-3143 for more information

Pick up a registration form:
573 Parsons Drive, Suite 102,
Medford, OR 97501

Adventures of the Day will include:

- Milking a cow and making butter, cheese, and ice cream
- Collecting eggs from chickens
- Building a fire line
- Watch sheep being shorn, then carding, spinning, and weaving the wool
- Participating in a ranch relay race
- Building bat houses
- Watching the camp's own food leftovers create methane power
- Testing creek water
- Climbing trees in a rope swing



Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District is your gateway to natural resource assistance. Board members and staff work with the Natural Resource Conservation Service to ensure educational and on-the-ground technical assistance opportunities take place which help the landowners of Jackson County.

Jackson

Soil and Water Conservation District

Staff:

Randy White, NRS/District Manager
 Angie Boudro, Natural Resources Specialist
 Vickie Simpson, Urban Resource Conservationist
 Markie Germer, Bookkeeper/Office Assistant
 Margaret Meierhenry, Newsletter Editor

Board of Directors:

Charlie Boyer, Chair, Zone 4
 Barbara Niedermeyer, Vice Chair, Zone 2
 Keith Emerson, Secretary/Treasurer, Zone 1
 Marilyn Rice, Director, at Large
 Brian Gebhard, Director, Zone 3
 Keith Corp, Director, Zone 5
 Allan Campbell III, Director, At Large

Associate Directors:

Ed Vaughn Martha Straube
 Bob Lozano Margaret Meierhenry

Office Hours:

Monday—Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Board Meetings: All are welcome to attend!
 October-March 4 PM April-September 7 PM

USDA

Natural Resource Conservation Service

Staff:

Nicola Giardina, District Conservationist
 Peter Winnick, Soil Conservationist
 Bill Cronin, Irrigation Engineer

Farm Service Agency

Staff:

Joe Hess, County Executive Director
 Diane Rabbe, Program Technician
 Donna Finch, Program Technician

County Committee members:

LAA 1 - Suzanne Ginet, Chair
 LAA 2 - Charlie Boyer, Member
 LAA 3 - Lori Mefford, Vice Chair

Tax Deductibility for Donations / Contributions

Please think of Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District (JSWCD) if you are interested in donating, gifting, granting, and/or bequeathing items, real or personal property, or monetary contributions for soil and water conservation efforts. Conservation Districts are political subdivisions of state government. IRS Code, **Section 170(c) (1)** states: Contributions or gifts to a state or any of its political subdivisions, i.e., conservation districts, are “charitable” contributions for tax purposes, and are, therefore, **tax deductible.** (See *IRS Publication 526: Charitable Contributions*).

Your help is greatly appreciated.

Contact: Markie Germer(541) 734-3143
Markie.germer@jswcd.org

573 Parsons Drive, Suite 102, Medford, OR
541- 734-3143 FAX: 541-776-4295

JSWCD’s New Urban Resource Conservationist
Vicki Simpson

I grew up in Ukiah, California, a valley region similar in many ways to the Rogue Valley.

To drive through Ukiah Valley is to take a tour of the pear orchards, the walnut groves, and the many acres of table and wine grapes. I am so glad to see the heritage of hops, now gone from my home region, emerge here in the Rogue Valley in the form of the OSU Extension hops cultivation project. Maybe this indicates the potential for Oregon to fill the huge demand for more hops production in the future. This is another of the possible economic strategies developing in our region.

I have always had a keen interest in how a community works. My dad was mayor of our town for several terms and was often on state boards during his career, so we had interesting talks around our dinner table.

I graduated in 1978 from the University of California, Irvine with a major in Social Ecology. Only our campus and Stanford had that major at the time. It was a discipline that focused on how the specifics of human development, the criminal justice system, and environmental ecology interact to impact people and communities. I received a teaching credential at UCI the next year.

Jackson County has been my home since 1980. Over the last 29 years, I have worked for the Oregon State Legislature, as Constituent Liaison for a state legislator, for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and have run two successful service businesses.

In 2007, I joined the Bear Creek Watershed Council because I wanted to learn about our creeks and fish in Jackson County and help with the work being done to restore both to strength. It was at a Watershed



Council meeting that I learned about the work of the Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District. Randy White and Angie Boudro of the District supplied the important strategies needed to complete plans for a particular Council riparian restoration project on a historic farm site. I was impressed to see the collaboration and this increased my conviction that our best use of our natural resources in the future depends on these stewards who understand the land, crops, water protection, and livestock.

I am very happy to become a part of the Jackson Soil and Water Conservation staff.

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Director Profile

Keith Corp Director
Zone 5

Editors Note: This is the fourth in a series introducing Jackson SWCD Board of Directors.

The ranch Keith lives on was originally homesteaded in 1853 and has been farmed continuously through the years. In 1947, his father originally purchased the ranch as retirement property and Keith usually spent the summers working on the Oregon farm while growing up in Salinas, CA. He graduated from Cal Poly at San Luis Obispo, CA as an Agricultural Engineer. After a short time of working in the Los Angeles area, he returned to the farm in 1967 to assume control of a struggling operation – and he has never left. In 1968, Keith began his first conservation project by introducing sprinkler irrigation in lieu of dry farming and flood irrigation.

The ranch has change a great deal over its long history. The original homestead took water from Neil Creek, using an 1854 water right for the house, livestock, and irrigation. However, most farming was dry land farming--growing corn, various grains, and alfalfa. In 1916, local farmers started the Talent Irrigation District (TID). Water availability in the Rogue Valley in late summer is often erratic, but with water from Neil Creek and TID water, different crops were less risky to grow. Over the years, Keith has acquired water rights for 153 acres from TID, assuring an ample supply of water during the summer.

Presently, Keith runs a small herd of Simmental-Angus crosses and a few sheep for livestock, but the farms primary production is quality grass hay for the horse market.

Through innovative designs and a lot of hard work, Keith has developed a gravity powered irrigation system that provides water to 153 acres of highly erodible soil, maintaining grass to minimize soil erosion and provide a sustainable cash crop of quality grass hay. Through NRCS assistance the last field, formally flooded, received a solar powered wheel-line, thus completing a full conversion from flood irrigation to sprinkler—gravity-pressurized energy efficient.

Keith has participated in water and environmental issues as they pertain to the agriculture industry for many years. Along with his being the JSWCD Director, he also is a Director for the Talent Irrigation District. He serves on the Bear Creek Watershed Council, Senate Bill 1010 Advisory Committee, and as Water Resource Chairman of the Jackson Country Stockmen’s Association. He also is a director for the Grange Coop. In 2001, Keith received the Oregon State Watershed Steward Award. Currently, he is participating with the WISE (Water for Irrigation, Streams & Economy) project to pipe and conserve irrigation water thus improving water quality in the Little Butte, Big Butte, and Bear Creek basins.

Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District appreciates Keith’s continued effort to be involved with conservation and in utilizing the natural and human resources in order to maintain our lifestyles in this beautiful Southern Oregon area.



Jackson County Cooperative Weed Management Area

Second Annual

Pulling Together Initiative

June 20, 2009

Volunteers needed to clean up invasive weeds!

Choose your special site: meet at 9 am June 20th

Valley of the Rogue State Park
Rogue River/Gold Hill

Denman Wildlife Area
White City

Jefferson Nature Center
South Medford

Lower Table Rock
Central Point

North Mountain Park
Ashland

Prescott Park (Roxy Ann)
East Medford

Following the weed pull, volunteers will enjoy a free picnic, music, meet other volunteers and browse educational booths at Bear Creek Park Pavilion in Medford to begin at 12:00 noon
For more information please call Markie at 734-3143



Across the City Fence

By Angie Boudro — Natural Resource Specialist

A River Runs Through It...

Many rural properties in Jackson County border a river, stream or drainage area. Seasonal rain falling on impervious or even partially pervious surfaces sends water rushing down the nearest drainage or stream. Even though we enjoy the benefits of these streams, few of us are aware of the responsibilities that come with the streamside view.

Many homeowners throughout Jackson County have cleared, or are clearing the land around streams and rivers in an effort to improve their view and increase their property value. However, this “development” can be extremely detrimental to the environment. Even more, it is against the law!

In an effort to protect watershed health, Jackson County Ordinances prohibits the development (of a structure or other development, such as grading) or removal of vegetation within 75 feet of the top of the bank of the Rogue River, or closer than 50 feet to the top of bank of any Class 1 or 2 stream or other fish-bearing water area, including lakes, ponds perennial and intermittent fish-bearing streams. In other words, you are prohibited from building, moving dirt, or pulling or cutting vegetation from stream banks without a permit. A planting plan is also required if you plan to plant streamside vegetation. (See section 8.6 of the Current Land Development Ordinances). Many cities have ordinances as well. Why were these ordinances made?

Streamside vegetation offers many benefits. A diversity of trees and shrubs in the riparian area equates to

a variety of root types and depths, which increases bank stability and prevents erosion. Diversity of vegetation also means greater habitat quality for fish and wildlife that depend on the stream for life. Large trees provide shade that cools the water, while smaller shrubs and overhanging grasses provide hiding places for fish, small aquatic insects and other animals. This variety of vegetation also provides a wide variety of feed sources.

Vegetation is important for other reasons as well. Wide vegetative strips between the stream and upland land uses are called buffers. Water traveling through this buffer is filtered and cleaned by the vegetation so that the water reaching the stream is clean and cool. These buffers, particularly if continuous between property owners, are corridors that provide opportunities for large and small wildlife species to travel in the safety of cover.

Well functioning riparian areas are vital to stream flow, particularly in the summer months. Riparian areas should absorb water in the rainy winter months, and then slowly release it to the stream throughout the dry season. However, cleared riparian areas do not absorb water, as they should, so most water rushes into the stream and out to the ocean.

There are many ways that you can

increase the health of the riparian area on your property. The first step is to preserve any existing vegetation, especially vegetation with deep and varied root structures. To increase vegetative diversity, attract wildlife, or provide habitat for beneficial insects, plant a variety of native plants from our riparian plants list, and work with Oregon Fish and Wildlife to develop a planting plan.

Your actions will prevent erosion, provide habitat, and yield cleaner, cooler water for all of us!



From Canaan Valley Institute: Notice the lack of deep-rooted vegetation (shrubs, trees) on this eroding stream bank.

Jackson SWCD Partners in Conservation Education



Environmental Education Competition

Envirothon 2009 - "Biodiversity in a Changing World"

The Envirothon is an exciting, fun way for high school-aged students to learn about the environment through hands-on field experiences that demonstrate knowledge of natural resources. Teams of five students train and compete in the areas of soils, aquatics, wildlife, forestry and current environmental issues relating to particular ecosystems. Teams are provided with reference materials and may participate in hands-on training to acquire the knowledge and skills needed in each of the testing areas. In the oral presentation component, students learn the complexities of solving environmental problems while working as a team and having fun.

The Oregon Envirothon competition is held at the Oregon Garden in Silverton each spring. The competition is a full day event and all participants receive a t-shirt, breakfast, and lunch. The state winners receive cash prizes and plaques for 1st - 5th places. In addition, the first place team will have a chance to compete at the National Canon North America competition. This year's theme is "Biodiversity in a Changing World."

JSWCD contributes to funding and hopes that two years of "piloting" will enable us to increase participation from Southern Oregon. Crater High School's Academy of Natural Resources Team placed third in the FFA category for the second year in a row. Any number of students can participate. There were ten students and teacher, Jessie Newton, present for Ron Crouse's training session at Crater's Land Lab in March. This was a hands-on training for the four areas that are the same each year and also included the current issue--biodiversity. The final team members were Holly Albrecht, Riley Callahan, Paul Gladman, Josh Smith, and Garrett White.

Students must also submit a ten-minute video presentation prior to the daylong May 1st competition. Crater's topic dealt with the Jackson Creek Watershed. They did a photo safari that included upland and valley floor reaches. Photos illustrated: species--plant and animal diversity, endangered species, invasive plants (especially Himalayan blackberry) controls, community, agency cooperation, fish barriers, the ODOT improvements at the Niedermeyer property on Hwy 238, the riparian improvements in the Twin Creeks TOD (Transit Oriented Development) along Grant Road, etc. Individuals studied geological origins, early settlement, use of fire (past and current practices), weather patterns, irrigation, mining, topography, etc. which affect species diversity in water, soil, forests, wild life and man's impacts. Paul and Holly attended a meeting of the Native Plant Society at SOU where Dr. Darlene Southworth presented research on mycorrhizal with Oaks. It seems Oaks are ectomycorrhizal, requiring dispersal of both acorns and fungal spores and rodents play a role in the range expansion of Oregon White Oak. Students visited the Jacksonville Reservoir, visited parks, and toured extensively to develop a script and power point presentation.

Hands-On-Ag Days

The 17th annual "Hands-on-Ag" Days, presented on April 23 and 24 in the Compton Arena at Jackson County EXPO Park was, once again, an enjoyable educational experience for all who participated – students, volunteers and presenters.

"Hands-on-Ag" Days became a reality in 1993 through the creative efforts of Anne Manlove, the 4-H Agent at the Jackson County Office of the OSU Extension Service. Theresa Leonardo, School Enrichment Program Coordinator, shepherded the two-day event with great skill. Approximately 600 students (grades 3-5) from eight schools were in attendance.

The Jackson SWCD "Hand-on" activity, best described as a "Water Station", included a 3-dimensional plastic model of a watershed equipped with a community (e.g., buildings, roads, motor vehicles, and pets) and open country (e.g., farm lands, a creek, wooded areas – even a horse). Rotating groups of fifteen plus students visited this station, as well as each of the other "Hands-on-Ag" stations, for ten minutes. They watched the presenter add "colorful (make believe) toxic chemicals" to the human inhabited watershed environment (e.g., motor oil, herbicides, insecticides, fertilizer, house cleaning compounds, house paint) and even "dog potty" that were really tiny pieces of chocolate brownie.

At the conclusion of the demonstration and the rapid fire questions and answer session, each of the students was directed to produce a "rain storm" (plastic spray bottles filled with water) over the watershed and to talk about what happened to the toxic additives as "their rain" entered the picture (i.e., Where did they go? What did they do?)

Of course, the picture became quite clear. The rain and the toxics chemicals flowed downhill via sidewalks, road and sewer lines, to creeks - to rivers - to the Pacific Ocean. The impact on fish, wildlife, and humans was apparent.

And, before we concluded, the student-induced "rain event" also demonstrated soil erosion (i.e., water soaked powdered chocolate) that can be especially damaging in riparian areas that have been compromised by the removal of important vegetation.

Oh, one more thing. At the end of each ten-minute session, the students clapped their hands. Lessons were learned. WE WERE ALL STUDENTS – ALWAYS WILL BE!

Allan Campbell III — JSWCD, Director-At-Large

National competition is in Ashville, N.C. this year. Oregon will be represented by a team from South Salem High School and Newberg FFA goes to the National Convention. All high school students are eligible, so encourage classroom teachers and students, as well as FFA chapters to get involved. Next year lets send several teams to Envirothon 2010. If you want more information go to <http://www.oacd.org/envirothon.html> or contact Marilyn Rice through the Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District office 541-734-3143.

Marilyn Rice — JSWCD, Director at Large

Links to the Past

Niedermeyer—Vaughn Farm History — Part 2 —

By Nancy Niedermeyer Vaughn

Editors Note: Part 1 of this series covered the history of the Niedermeyer farm from 1902 when Louis and Charlotte moved from Nebraska to Oregon and purchased 600 acres off Old Stage Road. Through the years, more land was acquired and some was sold and the money was used for business and property investments around the valley. Eventually, Louis Niedermeyer decided to distribute most of the farmland among his seven children, keeping only his home and few acres surrounding it. It too has been sold, but Nancy and Ed Vaughn have taken up the management of the land that her father inherited, which is next door to this original farmstead.

When my grandfather, Louis Niedermeyer, passed his farm on to his children, he divided it into seven lots, one for each child. Each lot was written on a piece of paper and drawn out of a hat. My father, John Niedermeyer, was too young to take immediate possession of the lot he drew. It wasn't until August 1927, after his twenty-first birthday, that he became its legal owner.

The farm is about one mile north of Jacksonville off Old Stage Road on the east side of the road. The north end of the farm is used for grazing and hay production. The southwest and southeast portions of the farm, respectively, have sandy loam or silty clay loam soils that are more easily tilled. At one time my father accumulated a total of 230 acres. The farm now stands at 155 acres.

My dad farmed the property until his



death. He raised sheep on the hilly and rocky areas. On the more tillable portions he dry farmed alfalfa for hay and seed which he rotated with grains – wheat, oats and barley. In the early 1960's he included ground in the Medford Irrigation District and began growing irrigated seed crops under contract for various companies. I remember blue grass, fescue, onions, zinnias, ornamental basil, and calendula.

The farm passed into our ownership when my father died in March 1973. Because Ed was in the midst of his career with the U. S. Forest Service, we leased the land to local farmers for hay, grain and pasture. In the early 1990's we made the decision that we would like to preserve the farm for future generations. By then Ed had retired from his profession as a forester and we decided the best approach would be to move back to the farm and become hands-on with part of it ourselves. To an old forester, doing something with trees seemed most attractive. We decided to plant twenty-two acres of pears on Class 31A and 127A soils and take advantage of the local infrastructure and expertise supporting the culture of pears. The hay fields and pastureland remain in the care of lessees.

In 1993 and 1994, we installed an under-tree sprinkler system for irrigation and frost control and planted almost 6,000 pear trees. The decisions about pear varieties, rootstocks, irrigation systems and orchard layout were made after networking with many local orchardists and scientists at Oregon State University's Southern Oregon Research and Extension Center (SOREC). The two primary varieties selected were Bartlett and Comice. Packham's Triumph, an Australian variety that looks like a knobby Bartlett, is interplanted among the Bartlett trees to provide cross-pollination. The Bosc variety has been interplanted with the Comice for the same purpose. We recently grafted



one row of Comice to a red pear variety called Star Crimson to meet demands from produce managers. Additionally, we have increased the planting density of trees in the Bartlett blocks to increase per acre yields.

A temperature alarm in the bedroom alerts us to critically cold temperatures in the spring when the pear blossoms and immature fruit are most vulnerable. The first line of defense is to pump water through the sprinkler system. The water comes out of the sprinklers at 40 degrees and gives up heat as it freezes, thus warming the trees. On nights when there is a temperature inversion over the valley, two wind machines may be turned on to pull the warm air from above toward the colder air near the ground.

From the beginning, Ed has made it his goal to produce high quality fruit using methods that encourages healthy trees, soil and wild life. Weather data from the wireless weather station at SOREC and irrigation scheduling software are used to manage timing and amounts of irrigation. Foliar and soil samples are taken each year and analyzed for proper nutrient management. A practice called integrated pest management that includes mating disruption for coddling moths, is used to limit damage from worms. Ed has been using pheromone-impregnated rings on each tree. This year he has changed to the use of twenty-one digitally monitored 'puffers' throughout the interior of the orchard and rings only in the trees that border the orchard. He provides habitat for beneficial insects and hawks. He carefully times spray applications using computer generated insect growth models and limits the use of broad-spectrum sprays.

Most of our pears go to packinghouses where they are packed and sold by their

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in-house marketing departments. About twenty tons of pears are packed right in the orchard and stored on the farm in two commercial sized coolers. This fruit we sell directly to local grocery stores and grocery chains in Josephine, Jackson and Klamath counties. This past year, for the first time, we joined forces with two other small pear operations to extend our market north to Douglas and Lane counties.

Recently, we have taken advantage of education and networking opportunities at Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District (JSWCD) for management intensive grazing of livestock and OSU Extension programs to learn about pastured poultry practices. As a result we have connected with young farmers who are leasing our grass hay fields and pastureland to implement these practices.

On twenty-two acres, broiler hens will be pastured in rotation with Dexter cattle. An additional twenty-four acres of grass fields will be dedicated to hay production. We are working with NRCS (Natural Resources and Conservation Service), JSWCD and the lessees of our pastureland to design and plan irrigation systems and fencing that will accommodate management intensive grazing of cattle on about seventy acres.

It is a privilege and a challenge to be the stewards of our farm. We enjoy continually learning new things and improving practices. We are excited for the opportunity to partner with young farmers who are the future of agriculture. Our long-term goal is to increase the productivity and maintain the financial stability of our farm so that our children, grandchildren, and the community at large may continue to benefit from it.



"Weed of Distinction"

Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski proclaimed the week of May 17- 23, 2009 to be Oregon **Invasive Weed Awareness Week**. Unwanted noxious weeds that are not native to the state pose a genuine danger to the well being of the state. The economic impact of invasive weeds and the continual spread affects personal income and loss of jobs. Public awareness is essential in preventing the introduction and the spread of a noxious weed, so the more we know about the different invasive species, the better the chance we have in stopping them before their impact is too great, (e.g. Star Thistle).

There are five invasive weeds that could become a potential threat in Jackson County: Paterson's Curse, Japanese Knotweed, Dyer's Woad, Leafy Spurge, and several Knapweed species. The following is the first of a series about these invasive species that are probably not as well known as Star Thistle, but potentially have the same devastating impact on cropland, pastures, rangeland, and native habitat if they spread.

The first step in successfully controlling a noxious weed is the identification of the pest—meet **Paterson's Curse** (*Echium plantagineum*). Fortunately, there does not seem to be any plants presently in Jackson County. It was first detected in 2003 in Linn County, a second larger site was confirmed in Douglas County in 2004. Both Oregon sites are under intensive treatment. Seeds are spread by vehicles, farm implements, humans, animal, water, wind, hay and silage, and as a contaminant of commercial seed. It has been found in wildflower mixes in Oregon.

Paterson's Curse, also known as Salvation Jane and Riverina blue-bell, is an erect annual or biennial member of the borage family (Boraginaceae) generally 1-3 feet tall. Plants are often multi-branched with an abundance of stout hairs on stems and leaves. Reproduction and spread is by seed.



Stem - erect, light-green, bristly, stout, branching mainly toward the top.

Leaves - green to light-green, alternate, hairy and thick.

Flowers - most often blue-purple in color, but may be pink or white. Flowers are borne on a fiddleneck-like inflorescence. Blooming usually starts in June, but some flowering plants can be found at any time of the year. Two of the five stamens in the flower, are longer and project significantly from the joined corolla.

Seeds - each flower produces four brown or gray nutlets surrounded by a husk covered in bristles giving them a fuzzy appearance.



Paterson's curse is poisonous to grazing animals and a threat to natural areas. The plant contains pyrrolizidine alkaloids that cause chronic liver damage and death to susceptible animals. Paterson's curse is a prolific seed producer enabling rapid spread and displacement of pasture, range and desirable plants. It is a threat to native habitat with the potential to invade oak woodland, native prairie, and dry upland slopes. Handling plants can cause mild to severe skin irritation and hay fever in some individuals.

If you should see this plant here in Jackson County, contact JSWCD, 541-734-314 or call 1-866-INVADER – a toll free number to report invasive species. If you have questions about invasive weeds or to learn more about programs to help stop the spread, go to www.oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/WEEDS/



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please call us at (541) 734--3143 or
e-mail Markie.germer@jswcd.org

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Mark Your Calendar! For the JSWCD Annual Tour August 6-9, 2009

Proposed Tour Stops

- All Natural Pastures Farm (Pastured Pork)
- Winter Green Farm (Oregon Tilth Producer of the Year)
- Ten Rivers Food Web (Converting grass seed to food crops)
- Afton Field Farms (grass-fed meats)
- Willamette Biomass Processors (alternative energy/biofuels)
- Olson Berry Farms (berries)
- Son Up to Son Down (meat CSA)
- Oregon Gardens (alternative energy and urban conservation)
- Triangle Farms (Cut flowers and flower seeds)
- Willamette University (LEED certification and zero waste campus)
- Santiam Valley Ranch (aquaculture)
- Willamette Farm and Food Coalition (Farm-to-school program, local farms first programs, beans and grains program)
- Sweet Well Farms (horse-powered farming).

Expected Cost: ~\$250-275/person. Includes hotel, travel and meals.
Final cost is dependent on the number of people who attend and tour stops confirmed.

