



BOARD BYLINE – Susan Keil, Board President:

Did you know that residential pesticide use is on the rise in America? Each year, homeowners apply over 90 million pounds of chemical pesticides, herbicides, and insecticides to their lawns and gardens. That's equal to the weight of over 5000 school buses.

These chemicals often end up in our waterways, affecting plants and animals that were not the intended targets. Unfortunately, the application rate is often far over the needed amount.

With your help, we can reduce the amount of chemicals used on our home gardens and lawns. This will keep our local watersheds healthier and help the critters that live here at home. Follow the application instructions on any chemicals you apply, or even explore a chemical-free pest control program. Learn more by contacting the "WeedWise Program" of Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District at 503-210-6000.

Feel free to contact OLWS with questions and comments at: 503-654-7765.

– Thanks to the Clackamas River Basin Watershed Council for providing some of the information shared in this message.

You are invited to attend:
OLWS BOARD MEETINGS!

All Board Meetings held at:

Oak Lodge Water Services
Administration Building
14496 SE River Rd.,
Oak Grove, OR 97267

* **SEPTEMBER 17 at 6 p.m.**

* **OCTOBER 15 at 6 p.m.**

Surface Water Management Planning Update

Surface Water in our District drains directly into storm drains, which lead into local ditches, creeks and the Willamette River. When we keep our streets and yards free from debris, trash, oils, washing materials and chemicals, we support the water quality here at home.

Currently, Staff and a local volunteer committee are working on developing at least one document addressing Surface Water Master Planning, which will be presented to the public later this year. The District invites your comments about Surface Water planning for our area to be sent to: jason@olwsd.org. Please also watch the District's website for opportunities to provide public input.



BOARDMAN WETLAND: NATURE PARK

– A new park in Jennings Lodge

OLWS and North Clackamas Parks and Recreation have nearly completed the Boardman Wetland Nature Area. Park benefits include: conservation of vital green space and wetland habitat; improved wildlife habitat, increased water storage and improved water quality; and expanded public access to nature-based recreation experiences. Site enhancements include:

boardwalks, trails, a nature playground and an outdoor classroom; extensive native plantings; a parking lot for visitors; and new sewer infrastructure. While the site will be open to the public this fall, OLWS and NCPRD look forward to hosting a grand opening celebration in the spring.

Fish on the Run, Irrigation Done!

We all know practicing water conservation all year is the most important thing we can do to be good stewards of our drinking water source. In addition to providing drinking water to over 300,000 people the Clackamas River is home to migrating salmon and steelhead virtually year-round.



This summer the Clackamas River Water Providers (CRWP) is asking all of us to take another step to help keep water in the Clackamas River by reducing or shutting-off outdoor watering in time for the fall fish runs. Whether you use a hose or use an underground watering system to water your yard and garden, using less water will help keep it in the river for our fish.

Most of the year there is plenty of water in the river, however summer is the time of year when the Clackamas River is flowing at its lowest levels and we get the least amount of rainfall. This is especially important in late August as Fall Chinook and Coho Salmon begin returning to the Clackamas River on the way to their spawning grounds. As our summers are getting longer and hotter, making sure there is enough water in the river for the fall fish runs is getting more challenging.

So, since you live in Clackamas County and get your drinking water from the Clackamas River, you are invited to be a part of our ***“Fish On the Run, Irrigation Done”*** campaign to help migrating fish.

Starting mid-summer into fall visit www.clackamasproviders.org to find out what kind of changes you can make to your outdoor watering. These changes will ensure that you are using our drinking water in the most efficient ways possible. Take the pledge and receive a free yard sign letting neighbors know that you are doing your part to keep water in the Clackamas River for fish, wildlife and people. The more water we can conserve the easier this journey will be for these threatened and endangered salmon species.

For more information contact Christine Hollenbeck at (503) 723-3511 or christine@clackamasproviders.org.

Graph Showing the annual fish migrations in the Clackamas River

