

Eugene-area Agencies or Organizations That Can Provide Expertise, Referrals, Funding, Plants, or Labor for a School Natural Landscaping Project

- Lorna Baldwin, Coordinator, **Eugene Stream Team, Environmental Volunteer Program**, (541) 682-4850

E-mail: lorna.j.baldwin@ci.eugene.or.us

Web: www.ci.eugene.or.us/pw/stream/stream.htm

Offers support and coordination to volunteer groups for efforts to restore riparian (streamside) and wetland vegetation, monitor for pollution, and other projects to promote clean streams and watershed health in the Eugene area. One project works with area schools to educate students about the hazards of pesticides to water quality, and to coordinate student efforts to stencil storm drains. The ultimate goal is to promote public education about runoff and how to prevent pollution of stormwater. The program is also involved in a new, multi-jurisdictional native plant nursery project, where native plants are grown and propagated for pre-selected, city-sponsored restoration projects in Eugene and Springfield. Some plants and native plant seeds are available for selected wetland or riparian restoration projects on school grounds. Volunteers are needed to work at the native plant nursery, and those who do volunteer will have the opportunity to learn about native plants and how to rear and propagate them.

- Program Coordinator, City of Eugene **NeighborWoods Program**, (541) 682-4800

Web: www.ci.eugene.or.us/pw/tree/freetree.htm

Brings together neighbors, local businesses, and the City of Eugene to plant and care for street trees in the public rights-of-way. Local residents can get free trees for planting in public rights-of-way, including those adjacent to school grounds, if they agree to help take care of the new trees, including watering as necessary. The city will provide pruning and other services, and can also help provide planting volunteers. While most of the trees that are available are non-natives, native trees are sometimes available and can be ordered upon special request. For best results, contact the NeighborWoods program coordinator well ahead of the winter planting season (preferably during the summer) to inquire about tree availability and ask about the possibility of special orders of native trees for specific projects.

- **City of Eugene Neighborhood Matching Grants Program**, (541) 682-5272

E-mail: beth.b.bridges@ci.eugene.or.us

Web: www.ci.eugene.or.us/PDD/Development/Grants/index.htm

Provides \$100,000 in funding annually for urban projects of varying size. Grants are available for immediate use for neighborhood physical improvements that benefit Eugene residents. Proposals must be for capital projects, not on-going services. Project sites are not limited to City property, as long as the project is for the general public good and the property owner agrees with and allows public access to it. Some portion of the project must be within Eugene's Urban Growth Boundary. Neighborhood groups can apply for funds to support school ground improvement projects, including natural landscaping projects.

- **East Lane Soil and Water Conservation District and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service**

(541) 465-6436 Ext. 3 (Mary Pishioneri, Ext. 102), 1600 Valley River Dr., Suite 230,

Eugene, OR 97401

Web: or.nrcs.usda.gov

Offer various programs to support private landowners interested in conservation work on their property (e.g., wetlands preservation or restoration, riparian buffer restoration, and more). Offer technical assistance and cost-sharing for implementation of conservation efforts. Offer publications, including "Guide for Using Willamette Valley Native Plants Along Your Stream," and many others. Occasionally have some native plants remaining from large planting projects that might be available for school landscaping projects--contact Dave Downing.

- Jason Blazar, President, **Camas Education Network**, (541) 543-6869

PO Box 24923, Eugene, OR 97402

E-mail: blazar1@mindspring.com

Web: www.camasnet.org

Mostly volunteer group works with teachers and school districts to promote habitat restoration and enhancement on area school grounds, and to involve students in learning about ecology, watershed health, land use planning, and land stewardship as part of its projects. The group is working to establish a resource mitigation bank to provide a funding source for its school habitat restoration projects. The group is interested in working with school districts located within the McKenzie, Willamette (including Middle and Coast forks), and Long Tom watersheds, from Corvallis to Cottage Grove, and from the Cascade crest to the Willamette Valley floor.

- Bruce Newhouse, President, **Emerald Chapter, Native Plant Society of Oregon**

PO Box 902, Eugene, OR 97440

E-mail: newhouse@efn.org

All-volunteer group may be able to offer referrals to native plant experts, native plant salvage projects, or landscapers to assist a school-based natural landscaping project.

- **Lane County Extension, Master Gardener Program**, (541) 682-4247; E-mail: lanemg@orst.edu

Have a (local) native plant list and natural gardening publication. Can answer requests for information about specific native trees and plants. You can also send a notice soliciting master gardener volunteers for a school natural landscaping project, and ask that it be posted on the master gardener bulletin board.

- **University of Oregon Architecture and Allied Arts, Landscape Architecture Department**

Ann Bettman, Assistant Professor, Landscape Architecture, E-mail: abettman@aaa.uoregon.edu

Cynthia Girling, Associate Professor, Landscape Architecture, E-mail: girling@aaa.uoregon.edu

Bart Johnson, Assistant Professor, Landscape Architecture, E-mail: bjohnson@aaa.uoregon.edu

Faculty members from the University of Oregon Landscape Architecture Dept. periodically seek opportunities to involve their students in the design and implementation of real-world landscaping or environmental restoration projects, including projects at local schools or similar sites. With generous lead time and advance planning, community members may be able to solicit the involvement of individual university students or even a studio design class in a school natural landscaping project. Contact the above faculty members to inquire about possibilities.

- Dana Erickson, Coordinator, **Long Tom Watershed Council**, 751 S. Danebo Ave., Eugene 97402

(541) 683-6578

E-mail: longtom@efn.org

Web: www.longtom.org

Mission is to improve water quality and enhance habitat for fish and wildlife in the Long Tom watershed. Consult with both public and private landowners to accomplish this mission but, as a mainly volunteer group, are not able to handle general requests for information or technical assistance. Can offer a forum for networking and information sharing (via monthly meetings and their periodic newsletter) for those initiating or carrying out school ground restoration projects within the Long Tom Watershed.

- **Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**, Salem, (503) 378-3739; Web: www.oweb.state.or.us

Offers grants program for watershed restoration, enhancement, and education projects. Any landowner, organization, institute of higher education, or local government may apply. The application form and process is substantial. For education projects, priority is given to grants that involve cooperative ventures between local groups (e.g., Soil and Water Conservation districts or watershed councils) and school districts.

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- Beth Stout, **National Wildlife Federation** Schoolyard Habitat Stewards Program

Portland/Beaverton, (503) 693-8596

E-mail: stout@nwf.org

Provides training via Schoolyard Habitat Stewards program. Nominate someone from your school to take the 40 hour training course and become a steward for your project.

- **Northwest Youth Corps (NYC)**, 2621 Augusta, Eugene, OR 97403, (541) 349-5055

E-mail: nyc@nwyouthcorps.org

Web: www.nwyouthcorps.org

Rachel Schneyer, Outdoor School

Carrie Copeland, Youth Corps Program Director

The **Outdoor School** is an alternative high school. Each week crews of ten youth from the school work in the field on conservation projects. The Northwest Youth Corps provides tools, supervision, and some training to these crews, which can be available to provide (volunteer or paid) labor for natural landscaping projects. Projects that have an educational component, a conservation focus, community involvement, and that can provide some job skills training to the youth involved are given priority, as are projects that can pay a stipend to the NYC to help cover costs. Typically, the Corps solicits project ideas and draws up work schedules for its Outdoor School crews well in advance. NYC also has a **Youth Works Afterhours** and **YouthWorks Summer Program** which can provide youth to do community service or conservation projects. Contact NYC for more information.

- Tim Whitley and Helen Haberman, co-teachers, **Rachel Carson Center for Natural Resources** at Churchill High School, 1850 Bailey Hill Road, Eugene, OR 97402

(541) 687-3421 or (541) 687-3432

Students are raising native plants in their program's greenhouse, some of which may be available for schoolground landscaping projects. During the school year students are available for 2 hour periods to assist with local stream and habitat restoration efforts. They have their own transportation and tools.

- Jonathan Brandt, President, **Eugene Tree Foundation (ETF)**

PO Box 12265, Eugene, OR 97440, (541) 431-4990 (voice mail message phone)

E-mail: jcbrandt@aol.com

Mission is to get more trees planted on public lands within Eugene's city limits, including on school grounds. With sufficient advance notice, ETF may be able to offer crews of volunteers to assist with tree planting efforts, as well as to provide some technical expertise about planting and caring for native (and non-native) trees and shrubs. The group may also be able to provide small amounts of funding to help purchase trees for school yard projects.

- Andy Pearsa, Director, **Nearby Nature**, PO Box 3678, Eugene, OR 97403, (541) 687-9699

E-mail: info@nearbynature.org

Web: www.nearbynature.org

Offers guided nature walks in local parks and nearby natural areas, and other activities and classes that may provide instruction in wildflower and native plant identification, and understanding of local wetlands, riparian corridors or other natural areas that can be used as "instruction manuals" for natural landscaping projects. The group also sponsors regular work parties to do invasive plant removal and native plant restoration in Alton Baker park. Participants may learn techniques that are useful in a natural landscaping project at a school.



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