



2021-2022: A Year in Review



tryoncreek.org



[@TryonCreekWC](https://www.instagram.com/tryoncreekwc)

Highlights

This report covers our activities from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.



- Throughout the year, we continued to host our Watershed 101 Workshops online and develop relationships with new groups, as well as host Science Talks amplifying watershed projects & research. *pgs 2,5*



- We engaged as a community stakeholder for the ongoing Highway 43 culvert replacement project, which is being spearheaded by US Army Corps of Engineers & Portland Bureau of Environmental Services (BES).



- We facilitated COVID-safe in-person volunteer events, and enjoyed connecting with community members while tabling as several events were held again, with COVID-19 safety measures. *pg 3-5*



- We continued restoration along Nettle Creek and its tributaries through the City of Lake Oswego, and continued implementing restoration through Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) Small Grants. *pgs 3,4*



- We secured all-board equity training thanks to Meyer Memorial Trust and Center for Diversity & the Environment.



- TCWC's Coordinator, Alexis, was reelected on the Board of the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils as a Region 3 (Willamette Valley) Representative.



- Throughout the year, we've continued facilitating Stewardship Committee meetings, collaborating with partners, and supporting watershed residents' stewardship efforts.
- We concluded a project wherein we developed a cohesive restoration project database and assessed current conditions of former restoration projects, to assess the effectiveness of project maintenance and inform future program planning. This work was largely achieved through the dedication of Project Assistant Mak Kastelic (Phoenix Habitats). *pg 6*
- Qwynici Bowman, our Lewis & Clark College Student Representative on our Board, is studying abroad her senior year, so we bade her farewell and best wishes. During summer 2022, we are welcoming two new L&C student representative board members, Jack Fiocco and Mateo Kaiser.

Social Media Growth

| | July '21 | June '22 |
|---|----------|----------|
|  | 774 | 1,046 |
|  | 1,114 | 1,292 |

Science Talks & Student Projects

Our Watershed 101 program included Science Talks on watershed ecology topics, delivered by regional experts. By hosting these online we have been able to reach a wider audience.

99 community members
were reached via TCWC's
21-22 Science Talks



In fall 2021, Char Corkran from the Northwest Ecological Research Institute (NERI) presented about amphibians in the Tryon Creek watershed. In spring 2022, ecologist Laura Guderyahn (NERI, PSU, PP&R) discussed turtle research in the Portland area and in the Tryon Creek watershed.



Crayfish Monitoring

Kyla Schmitt, UO Clark Honors College '25, has been collecting data on crayfish and habitat conditions in the Tryon Creek watershed; a preliminary survey season in summer & fall 2021 is expanding in 2022 (thanks to the NERI McGowan Grant for Neglected Corners and Niches of Ecology).

The objective of this study is to identify whether invasive crayfish pose a threat to the Tryon Creek watershed, and to further contribute to the limited body of literature on the behavior, health, and habitat preferences of native signal crayfish in the region.

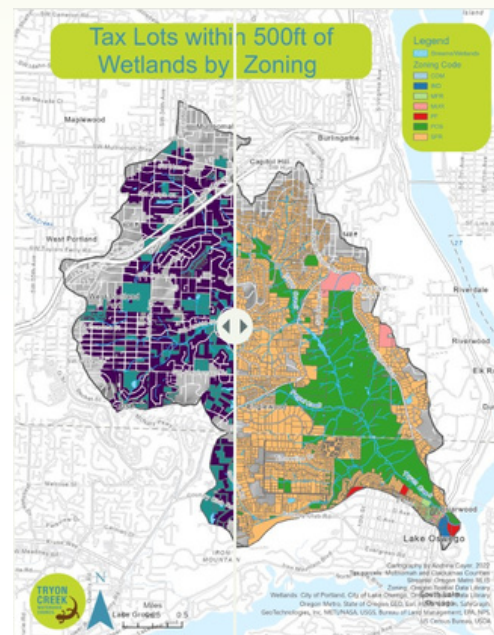


Click to read Kyla's report:
[Portland's Keystone Crustacean:
Signal Crayfish Behavior, Health, &
Habitat in the Tryon Creek Watershed](#)

PCC GIS Student Project

Each spring, we work with PCC Sylvania GIS students to complete a GIS-based project. When construction & developments occur in and near the watershed's wetlands, mitigation is required, which is typically satisfied by purchase of wetland mitigation bank credits by project proponents. Because the Tryon Creek watershed is not currently within a mitigation bank service area and lacked a comprehensive assessment of potential wetland mitigation sites, student Andrew Cayer worked to identify wetland sites that could potentially be used for mitigation within the Tryon Creek watershed as future development occurs.

Photos: Ensatina salamander by Char Corkran; Painted turtle by Laura Guderyahn; Signal Crayfish by Kyla Schmitt; GIS Project by Andrew Cayer
To learn more about these projects, email alexis@tryoncreek.org



By the Numbers

Restoration Projects

TCWC worked with **33** landowners on projects spanning

7.7 acres, with
7,485 plants installed



Education & Outreach

TCWC provided environmental education to **659** community members

at **11** events & workshops
via our Watershed 101 Workshop program, Science Talks, and community events

Volunteer & Board Engagement

97 volunteers contributed
130 volunteer hours
removing invasive species from

10,700 sq ft of work area,
freeing **28** trees from ivy,
and planting **514** native plants.



Their contributions are
valued at **\$3,894***

Tryon Creek Watershed Council's Board Members served **708** hours in 2021-2022, providing
\$21,212*
of in-kind organizational support.

* The monetary value of volunteer time is calculated using a standard rate via the [Independent Sector](#)

Volunteer Restoration Events included:

No Ivy Day; Watershed 101 Workshops; Lewis & Clark College's New Student Orientation Day of Service

Not included in above calculations:

TCWC's 13th Annual Watershed Wide Event - see pg 4



Photos, from top to bottom: Park Creek HOA volunteer event before & after ivy pull; Pacific Chorus Frog by Char Corkran (Fall Science Talk); Lewis & Clark New Student Orientation

Restoration: Events & Projects

13th Annual Watershed Wide Event

With COVID-19 precautions in place, Watershed Wide Event volunteers met in on-site groups. Whether at HOA's shared greenspaces, on school campuses, or in large natural areas, we were able to make a collective positive impact on the watershed.

157 volunteers across **8** sites
removed invasive plants from **1.1** acres

removed ivy vines from **297** trees

planted **747** native plants



Riparian Restoration on private properties



Through riparian restoration projects, invasive plant species were removed and native plants installed. Native plants support insects and pollinators, birds and other wildlife; additionally, trees' root systems provide better erosion control. These projects support a healthy riparian ecosystem.

OWEB Small Grants

OWEB Small Grants are well-suited for urban restoration projects, where work is done on smaller parcels of land. In 2021-2022, TCWC had two active Arnold Creek subwatershed Small Grants, completed a Small Grant at the Lake Oswego United Church of Christ, and prepared for a new Small Grant project to begin in the Park Creek subwatershed.

Nettle Creek

TCWC implements riparian restoration in the Nettle Creek subwatershed through the City of Lake Oswego's Habitat Enhancement Program. This year, TCWC received funding to implement restoration at the Lake Oswego United Church of Christ, where an OWEB Small Grant wrapped a few months before.

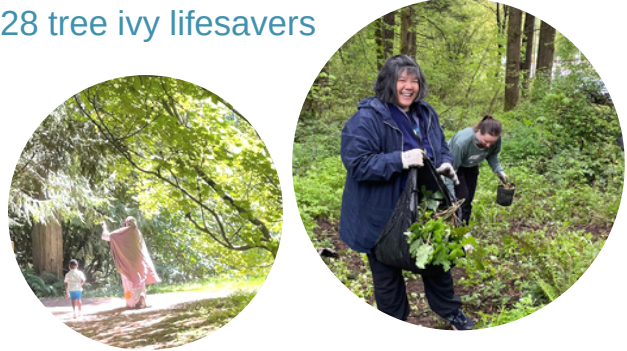
TCWC is glad to contract with local companies Mosaic Ecology and Sound Native Plants for our riparian restoration projects.

Watershed 101 Workshop Program

Our Watershed 101 Workshop program is a flexible, mobile workshop with education and hands-on restoration activities; each presentation is tailored for workshop location, audience, and activities. Through this program, we educate watershed residents & community members and accomplish on-the-ground restoration work, increasing our reach and ecological impact. Delivering online workshops as a result of the pandemic has allowed us to be more flexible in our programming.

Watershed 101 Workshops:

205 people reached in education-only
(106 adults, 39 youth)
92 volunteers engaged in restoration
514 native plants installed
28 tree ivy lifesavers



Highlights



This year, we were able to work with **Cascade Education Corps (CEC)**, an experiential education program for students in the Tigard-Tualatin School District. Thanks to the students' preparedness and hard work, we were able to increase our on-the-ground impact through this partnership. We worked to develop dynamic field days with career pathway conversations, such as touring the Boones Ferry Bridge site, working alongside Portland Parks & Recreation staff, and more.

We were excited this year to be able to host a Family Park Day with **HAKI Community Organization**. Together we discussed urban watersheds, habitat connectivity, and ethnobotanical plant uses with Swahili translation, during a hike through a pollinator meadow and shaded riparian area. After this, we savored a community-prepared lunch!

This program is funded by the City of Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services' Community Watershed Stewardship Program.



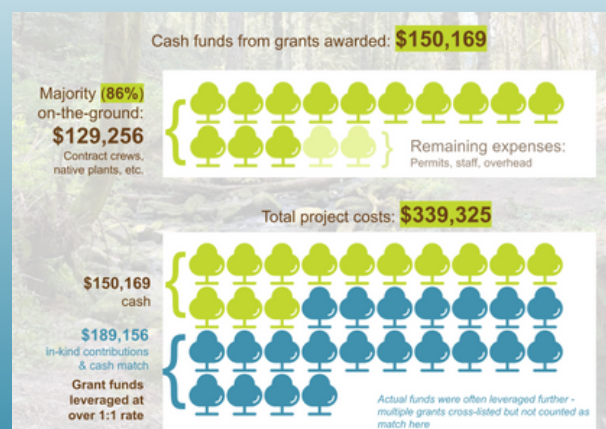
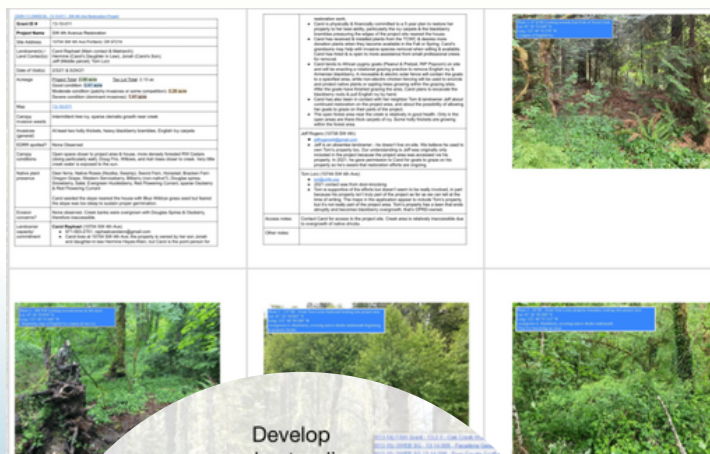
From top, photos: PCC Sylvania Habitat Team work party; TCWC/HAKI Family Park Day; CEC students during lunch at Marshall Park; group hike at TCWC/HAKI Family Park Day

Restoration Database & Assessment

With grant funding often restricted to a few years and specific taxlots, restoration practitioners in the region have collaborated and brainstormed with one another about how to better manage post-project maintenance needs.

The past few years, TCWC has worked on a project to assess our former restoration projects, to evaluate current conditions and build a comprehensive project database. We worked with Project Assistant Mak Kastelic (Phoenix Habitats) on this effort. Working through our electronic project restoration files (projects since ~2013), TCWC and Mak worked to reorganize our files and reestablish contact with landowners at all of our former project sites. Based on site visits, current conditions within various projects were mapped and contextual details & qualitative information were captured in Site Status forms. This information allowed us to determine the total acreage of former sites in good, moderate, or poor conditions, in order to seek funding to revisit highest priority sites. TCWC now has a better-functioning and up-to-date database of landowners' contact information, which also holds links to project files and the captured project conditions.

These photos are screenshots from the project presentation, including an example of the site assessment forms, overview of the processes, and analyses of expenditures and size & scope of projects.



Financials

Fiscal Year is July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

| | 2022 | 2021 |
|--|-------------------|------------------|
| Revenue and other support | | |
| Grants | 86,860 | 9,065 |
| Partner Funds | 32,375 | 23,961 |
| Fiscal Admin Fees | 5,975 | 11,442 |
| Contributions | 1,671 | 455 |
| Interest Income | 116 | 78 |
| Total Revenue and other support | \$ 126,997 | \$ 45,001 |
| Expenses | | |
| Program Services | | |
| Restoration/Riparian | 33,612 | 14,074 |
| Outreach | 12,479 | 1,580 |
| Total program services | 46,091 | 15,654 |
| Supporting Services | | |
| Administration | 32,467 | 33,122 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 78,558 | \$ 48,776 |
| Net assets, end of period | \$ 138,450 | \$ 67,626 |



We have continued to support our community this year by serving as a fiscal sponsor for two of our partners, represented in the above photos; click to visit their websites:

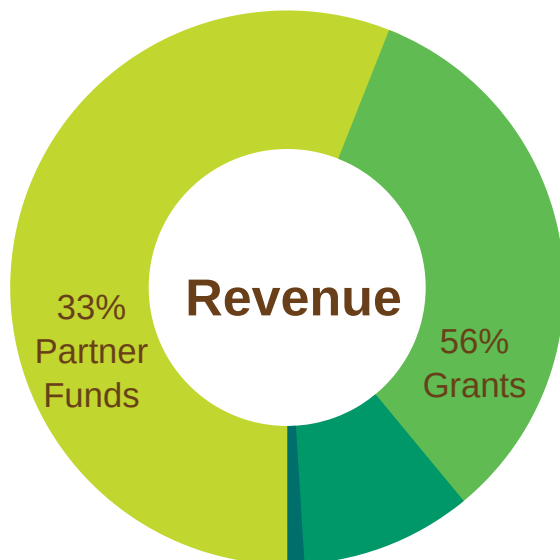
[Friends of April Hill Park](#)

(photo of April Hill Park boardwalk), &

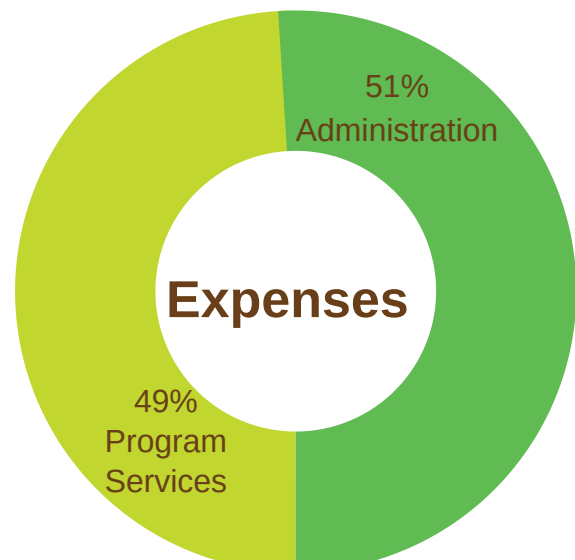
[HAKI Community Organization](#)

(photo of Mohamed Bahamadi & HAKI Community members with TCWC's Alexis at our June 2022 Family Park Day)

In 2022, TCWC received reimbursement for a large multi-year restoration grant, as well as for organizational equity training; overall our funding structures remain sound.



10% - Fiscal Admin Fees
1% - Contributions & Fundraising



Program Services breakdown:
77% Restoration & Riparian; 23% Outreach

Staff and Board

Tryon Creek Watershed Council has a small staff and working board who support the many outreach activities and restoration projects.

Staff

Terri Preeg Riggsby – As Executive Director, Terri provides guidance and administrative support & represents TCWC on regional committees to advocate for environmental considerations.

Alexis Barton – As TCWC's Coordinator, Alexis manages restoration projects, volunteer events, workshops, communications, grants, and more, working closely with partners & the board.



Board

Megan Hill, Chair
Glen Leverich, Vice Chair
Jennifer Jones, Secretary
Kristie Focht, Treasurer

Sharon Keast, At-large & Technology Director
Qwynci Bowman, Lewis & Clark College
Dustin Day, At-large

Danielle Goodrich, Technology Director & At-large
Jill Gaddis, At-large & Friends of April Hill Park
Rebecca Crosby, At-large & Friends of Tryon Creek
Stuart Myers, At-large



TCWC Board Members served 708 hours in 2021-2022

Ex-officio Board Members

Colleen Mitchell, Portland BES
Jim Cathcart, West Multnomah SWCD
Sonja Johnson, City of Lake Oswego

Ex-officio Board members are non-voting board members who represent partner organizations

Stewardship Committee Members

Dan Quigley & Katherine Kallus, Oregon Parks & Recreation
Erik Horngren, Westside Watershed Resource Center
Mary Logalbo, West Multnomah SWCD
Colleen Mitchell, Portland BES
Amy Stout, Friends of Tryon Creek
Mary Verrilli & Maha Guliani, Portland Parks & Recreation
Justin Cooley, Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation District
Jack Halsey, Oswego Lake Watershed Council

TCWC convenes quarterly Stewardship Committee meetings with regional partners in restoration

Thank you to our Funders & Partners



Jim in his element, teaching community members about invasive plants at Twilight Tuesday at the Oregon Zoo

Remembering Jim Cathcart

We are lucky to have representatives from partner organizations sit on our board as ex-officio members. As District Manager of the West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District (WMSWCD), Jim Cathcart sat on the TCWC Board. In light of his passing in May 2022, we want to acknowledge our gratitude for his role in our organization.

Jim was a consistently engaged and thoughtful contributor to our work. As a lifelong learner, Jim encouraged the growth of our work and our board in many ways, including in concreting the prioritization of DEI work in our strategic planning. His enthusiasm, thoughtful insights, perseverance, and positivity, left a mark on the Council's community members, by whom he is remembered with fondness.

[Click here to read Jim's full obituary.](#)

Tryon Creek Watershed Council works using science and best practices to restore and protect the watershed, and to promote a stewardship ethic and understanding amongst our watershed residents and visitors.

Funders:

- City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services
- City of Lake Oswego Habitat Enhancement Program
- Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation District
- Meyer Memorial Trust
- Northwest Ecological Research Institute
- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
- West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District
- You! Thank you to our individual donors

Partners in Restoration & Outreach

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boonesferry Terrace HOA • Bosky Dell Natives • Cascade Education Corps • City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services • City of Lake Oswego • Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation District • Friends of Marshall Park • Friends of Tryon Creek • HAKI Community Organization • Jackson Middle School • Lake Oswego High School • Lake Oswego United Church of Christ • Laura Guderyahn | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lewis & Clark College • Mosaic Ecology • Northwest Ecological Research Institute • Oswego Lake Watershed Council • Oregon Parks & Recreation District • Portland Community College Sylvania • Portland Parks & Recreation • Quail Park HOA • Sound Native Plants • Squire Crest HOA • Westside Watershed Resource Center • West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District |
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Photos: Tryon Creek Watershed Council, Char Corkran,
Laura Guderyahn, Kyla Schmitt