



LIVING WITH NATURE

Willamette River: *River of Change*

You drive over it, bike alongside it, play Frisbee golf in its floodplain, and drink from it - we are reminded daily of the Willamette River as it flows north through the mid-Valley. From our office at Greenbelt we witness life along the river – families canoeing, OSU Crew out for a morning row, students in ramshackle rafts enjoying a summer afternoon float.

For us Oregonians, the River is a part of our story - a major player in our sense of place. The River has its own story... how much of it do you know?

The Willamette is an impressive artery of western Oregon watersheds, its waters supporting over 70% of the state's populace along a 187 mile route from its headwaters outside of Eugene, to its union past Portland with the mighty Columbia, on out to the sea.

You have likely heard the Willamette's 'comeback kid' story, from its lowest point where decades of pollutants and runoff created what scientists named a 'biologically dead' river in 1944. Then

– an upswing as politicians and citizens rallied by Governor Tom McCall joined forces to support the River's revitalization throughout the 1960's and 70's. The Willamette's clean-up became a national success story, highlighted by the National Geographic special as 'From Shame to Showcase; A River Restored'.

“The Willamette is a part of my life. A part of my rituals and stories. It is up to me, up to each one of us, to make sure that it remains so for future generations.”
–Michael Pope, Executive Director.

Forty years later, and we are yet again faced with the questions of how to maintain clean water and a functioning ecosystem in the Willamette. From years of channel constraint, increased land use pressures, pollutants and runoff, the Willamette is at another turning point in history. With a population estimated to double in the Valley over the next 40 years, our generation is confronted with the challenge of balancing clean water and living rivers, with growth and development.

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Willamette River

FALL 2011

Update Bald Hill Farm

We have asked for your support, and you have answered!

This property is important to you...

You want to see it there for future generations...

It is a part of your daily life...

In the past 5 months, GLT has:

- Submitted 2 grant proposals, requesting over \$3 million to acquire Bald Hill Farm
- Conducted inventory of natural resources
- Led 29 tours of the property for the public and donors
- Raised over \$813,000 to leverage grant funds to purchase Bald Hill Farm

Do you enjoy the trails at Bald Hill Farm? Do you want this area protected for our children? Get involved!

Come on a tour, or contact GLT to learn more about this momentous Campaign.



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The Greenbelt Land Trust acts to conserve and protect in perpetuity native habitats, working lands and lands of natural beauty, which provide a connection to the natural world for the residents of the Mid-Willamette Valley.

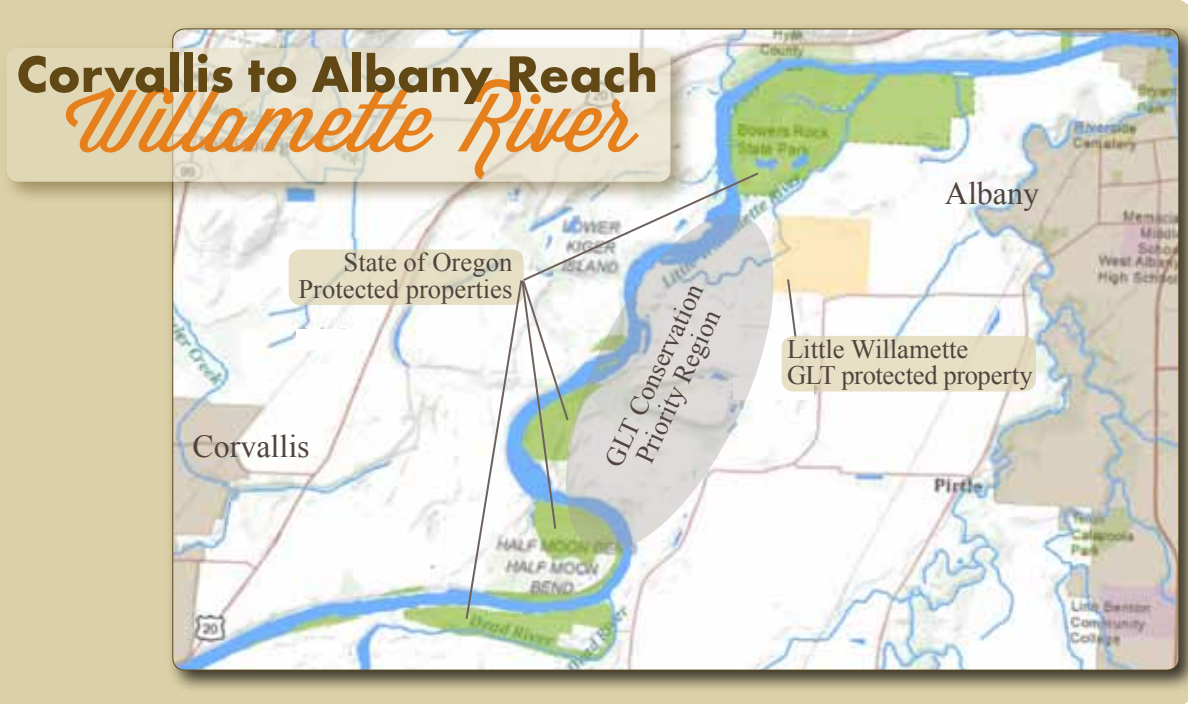
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Within Our Reach ~ Corvallis to Albany

Over the last 5 years conservation organizations, landowners, and funders have discussed what it might take to create real change along the Willamette, culminating in the identification of critical stretches along the River and funding opportunities to focus conservation investments and restoration.

One such stretch lies between Corvallis and Albany, known for its complex side-channel systems, flood plains, landowner interest, and proximity to protected lands. In 2009 Greenbelt Land Trust protected 200 acres in this region, known as the 'Little Willamette'. Over 900 native trees and shrubs have been planted on the property to begin restoring a floodplain forest and seasonal ponds are being managed for migratory birds. On any given winter morning one can find Cinnamon Teal, Pintail, and Canadian geese throughout the Little Willamette's wetlands and ponds.



“We have tremendous opportunities to restore ecological processes to floodplains across a broad scale, to let the river interact with floodplains and side channels, to establish forests, to provide forage and refugia for fish, to store flood waters, to provide habitat for song birds and waterfowl ... to let the river be a river.” – Jeff Baker, Stewardship Manager

Greenbelt is now working with an additional 8 landowners to protect over 700 acres of imperiled Willamette River frontage, and are in the process of planting 10,000 trees along its floodplain, enhancing riparian areas to keep water cool for fish, while controlling the threat of erosion and flooding. With the support of landowners committed to restoring their properties we are at a turning point in the future of the Willamette River.

“As my kayak scrapes against the gravel shores, I step out onto the riverbank, witnessing a heron silent along the far shore. I shade my eyes to the afternoon sun looking downstream to where the river bends out of sight. The Willamette is a part of my life. A part of my rituals and stories. It is up to me, up to each one of us, to make sure that it remains so for future generations.” – Michael Pope, Executive Director.

How YOU benefit from *Land Conservation*

Across the country, local citizens and communities have joined together to save the places they cherish by establishing land trusts. These non-profit, community-based conservation organizations acquire and protect land for the public good - on a strictly voluntary basis. Strong land trusts provide local communities with effective champions and long-term caretakers of their critical land resources.

The nation's 1,700 + land trusts work with communities to acquire and manage land for the purpose of permanent conservation and then steward the land for public benefit. Land trusts, like the Greenbelt Land Trust, are on the front lines with their local communities to help them save America's land heritage.

Land Conservation Saves Limited Resources

Our air and water are limited resources. Our forests serve as critical filters for our air. Wetlands that border our rivers, lakes and streams filter pollution before it reaches our drinking water. The Greenbelt Land Trust has protected nearly 1300 acres of prairie, forest, wetland, streams, riverine habitat, and savannah in Benton, Linn and Polk counties.

Land Conservation Provides Economic Benefits for Communities

Studies conducted by The Trust for Public Land have shown that conservation returns from \$4 to \$10 for every dollar invested. It also provides recreational opportunities, controls flooding, and protects air and drinking water quality, wildlife habitat, and farms while supporting industries such as tourism, agriculture, and fisheries.

Land Trusts Help Your Community

Over the past 22 years, the Greenbelt Land Trust has been pivotal in working with the community to protect our common resources—clean air and water, food security, wildlife, natural areas and places for recreation and reflection.

Protected—and connected—natural areas make our communities more desirable places to live and work, and help preserve Oregon's distinctive landscape and character.

greenbelt's Summer Facts

914

OF PEOPLE @
GREENBELT EVENTS
(MAY-SEPT)



Tour of Property

\$815,533

DONATIONS
RECEIVED TO
PURCHASE
BALD HILL FARM



Bald Hill Farm

1400

GALLONS OF WATER
USED TO WATER
500 NEW TREES AT
WILLAMETTE BLUFFS



Willamette Bluffs

42

LOGS PLACED IN
PRICE CREEK AT
THOMAS PAINE FARM
TO ENHANCE HABITAT
FOR FISH



Price Creek

15

SPECIES OF
BUTTERFLIES OBSERVED
AT LONE STAR RANCH
DURING SPRING &
SUMMER SURVEYS



Limenitis lorquini



NON-PROFIT
ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CORVALLIS, OR
PERMIT NO. 217



Get into Nature Calendar of Events

Wednesday, October 12th, 7 pm – 8.30 pm **'Bee All You Can Bee: A Pollinator Primer,** **Corvallis Library, Main Meeting Room**

Join GLT and presenter Bruce Newhouse at the Corvallis Library for our quarterly 'Living With Nature' Lecture Series! Honeybees are not the only pollinators who are facing big problems - native bees and other pollinators also need our help. In this presentation, learn about pollination and its importance, pollination biology, some of our fascinating pollinators, and how you can "bee" helpful in keeping our local pollinators thriving.

Saturday, October 22nd, 9 am - 12 pm **Why are we burning Lupine Meadows? Restoration Tour.**

Come and see the after-effects of a controlled burn at Lupine Meadows. Stewardship Manager Jeff Baker will be leading a walk around the property, discussing the benefits and uses of burning as a tool for restoration among the upland prairie and wet prairies at this sensitive property. Fire is a historical management tool used in the Willamette Valley, and one of the varied restoration resources that Greenbelt uses to control invasive plants and encourage native seedbanks.

Tuesday, November 1st **Greenbelt Photo Contest Deadline**

How do you see the Willamette Valley? Submit your favorite photo! Contest winners will have their photo displayed prominently on GLT website, a 1-year GLT Family Membership, and a GLT T-shirt.

Submit your entry by 11/1/11 either to www.flickr.com/groups/greenbeltphotocontest/ or directly to jessica@greenbeltlandtrust.org.

Saturday, November 19th, 9 am - 12 pm **Naturalist Walk @ Owens Farm, Corvallis**

Join trip leaders Don Boucher and Lisa Millbank of Neighborhood Naturalist, as they share their knowledge about nature in the Willamette Valley. We will be looking at and identifying birds, plants, and animal tracks. These nature walks are slow-paced and casually structured. Bring along a hat, rain gear and shoes that can get muddy. Binoculars are always advised. Activities are geared toward adults but children may enjoy them too.

Save the Date

Thursday, February 9th, 6pm - 8pm **Greenbelt Land Trust Annual Meeting** **First Presbyterian Church, 114 SW 8th St., Corvallis** 6-6.30pm: Social Gathering

6.30-8pm: Join GLT and keynote speaker Charles Goodrich, nature writer and Director of the Spring Creek Project for Ideas, Nature, and the Written Word for our 23rd Annual Meeting! Charles will be weaving together poetry and prose to discuss the connections between people and nature.

For more information, visit www.greenbeltlandtrust.org or 541.752.9609.