



2018-2019: A Year in Review



Tryon Creek Watershed Council restores, protects, and enhances the ecological health and function of our unique urban watershed. With headwaters in Multnomah Village of Southwest Portland, Tryon Creek flows through Portland and Lake Oswego before joining the Willamette River, where it provides cool water refuge for native fish species. At Tryon Creek Watershed Council, we remove fish passage barriers, restore riparian corridors, engage with our community members, and coordinate partnerships and stewardship to build a stronger, healthier, and resilient watershed.

tryoncreek.org



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

Organization in Review

2018-2019 was a great year of community engagement and reach expansion for the Tryon Creek Watershed Council. We deepened our partnership roots and grew our impact. TCWC Staff and Board were engaged in year-round trainings, conferences, and professional development. We continued to convene Stewardship Committee Meetings and were an active partner in regional meetings focused on urban watersheds, restoration planning, and diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Updates

Graphic Design: We updated TCWC's logo, unified our branding, and produced cohesive, updated outreach materials thanks to the graphic design expertise of volunteer Yuko Ohnuma-Oyler.



Through these graphic design updates we kept true to our original Tryon Creek muse: the Giant Pacific Salamander. They are habitat quality indicators, and we're always excited when we find them in the field!

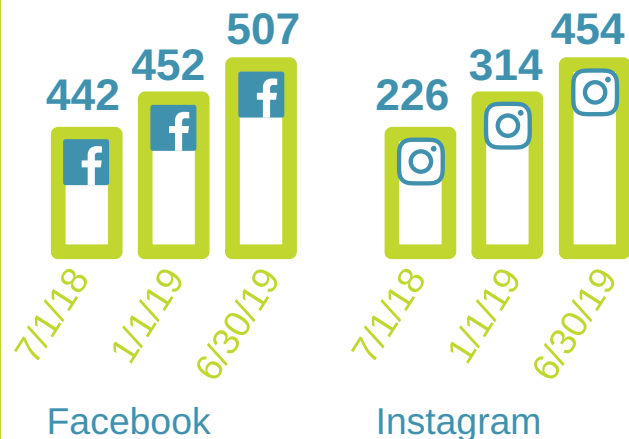
Watershed Assessment: PSU Graduate Student Danielle Goodrich continued working on a Tryon Creek Watershed Assessment for her Professional Science Masters Thesis. The final document will include recommendations and priorities for restoration.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI): The TCWC board voted to incorporate DEI as a foundational element in planning and programs moving forward.

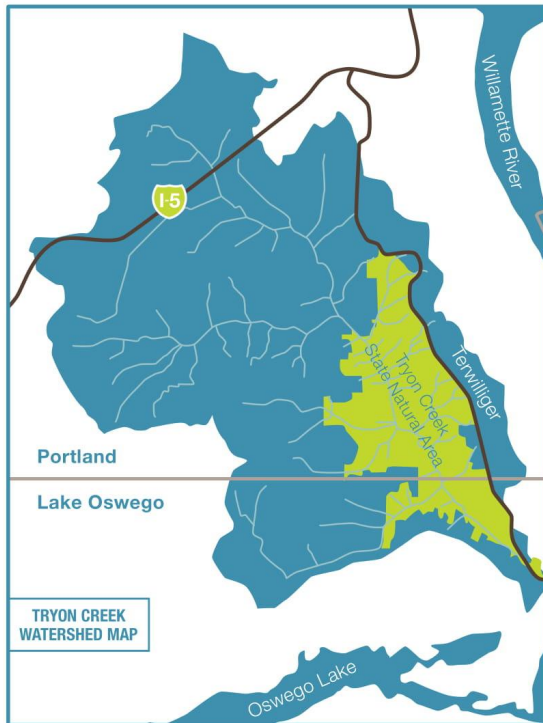
Strategic Plan: With a Watershed Assessment to heighten our scientific understanding of the watershed, and DEI as a value prioritized by the board, TCWC will move forward in incorporating both of these important factors into an updated Strategic Plan.

Social Media Growth

TCWC social media presence strengthened, and reach and engagement grew, particularly on Facebook and Instagram platforms



Tryon Creek Watershed



Throughout our work at Tryon Creek Watershed Council, we lean into opportunities to share more authentic cultural narratives. We are utilizing the land of the Clackamas Chinook, the Willamette Tumwater, the Wasco-Wishram, the Watlata, the Multnomah, and other Chinookan peoples, as well as the Tualatin Kalapuya, the Cayuse, the Molalla, and other tribes and bands of the Columbia and Willamette Rivers. We are here as guests of this land, and are here because of the sacrifices forced upon this place's original inhabitants. We will do our best to honor these peoples and work with them in stewardship of the water, land, and plants that make up this community.

Fish Passage Barriers

The Tryon Creek Watershed Council works to remove anadromous fish passage barriers in the watershed.



Highway 43 Culvert: Limiting fish passage a quarter mile upstream from Tryon Creek's confluence with the Willamette River, this culvert has been under consideration for replacement for over two decades. Once federal appropriations are secured, this complicated and expensive project will be led by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services.

Boones Ferry Culvert: Obstructing fish passage to nearly half of the upper watershed, this undersized and obsolete culvert is scheduled for removal in Summer 2020, to be replaced with a bridge benefiting both wildlife and hikers. For years, TCWC has advocated for this project, which will be undertaken by City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services.

East Fork/4th Avenue Culvert: Located within the State Natural Area, this culvert's removal will enhance watershed connectivity benefiting a suite of natural processes. TCWC has been leading this project by coordinating restoration designs, securing environmental permits, and pursuing funding opportunities with partners.



Cutthroat trout receiving pit tag for monitoring in Tryon Creek

Staff and Board

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



Terri Preeg Riggsby – As Executive Director and longtime member of TCWC, Terri provides guidance, grantwriting, and moves forward TCWC's work, collaborating closely with the board and partners.

Alexis Barton – As TCWC Program Coordinator, Alexis manages restoration projects, volunteer events, workshops, outreach and education, social media, and more, working closely with the board and partners.



Carl Axelsen - As a former TCWC Coordinator, Carl champions the replacement of Highway 43 culvert and is consistently focused on long-term, watershed-scale restoration needs.

Dustin Day – Our Vice Chair, Dusty has focused on advancing the design and permits of the East Fork/4th Avenue culvert replacement.



Kristie Focht – As Treasurer, Kristie's time spent managing TCWC's financials is keystone. She keeps the wheels turning!

Megan Hill – Megan brings watershed council specific guidance as former E.D. at the McKenzie Watershed Council, looping her family into TCWC's work.



Jennifer Jones – As Secretary, Jennifer takes careful meeting minutes, and has tabled at TCWC's booth at community events, engaging and educating community members about the watershed.

Sharon Keast – As Technology Director, Sharon ensures staff technology is functioning well, and plays a crucial role in website upkeep, including upcoming events.



Glen Leverich – Glen has represented TCWC in regional meetings and at several community tabling events, sharing information about the watershed and TCWC's activities.

Hannah Machiorlete – Hannah is a Biology student at Lewis & Clark College, encouraging both her peers and the school as an institution to be engaged in the ways to steward the watershed.



Financials

Fiscal Year is July 1 2018 - June 30 2019

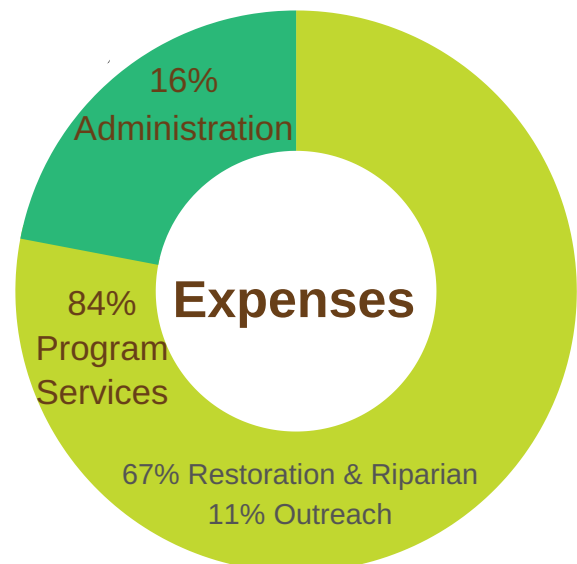
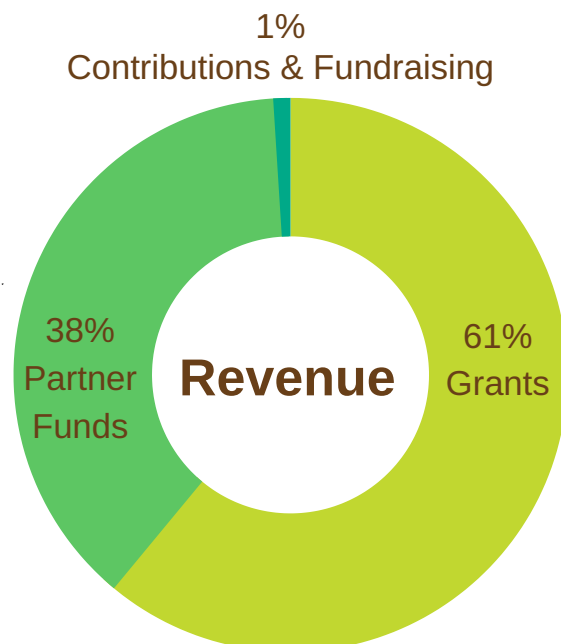
	2019	2018
Revenue and other support		
Grants	45,565	42,344
Partner Funds	28,560	26,000
Contributions	395	2,997
Interest Income	223	127
Total revenue and other support	\$74,743	\$71,468

Expenses

Program Services		
Restoration/Riparian	67,271	38,812
Outreach	10,832	10,833
Total program services	78,103	49,645
Supporting Services		
Administration	22,432	1,542
Total Expenses	\$100,535	\$51,187

Net assets, end of period	\$36,497	\$62,289
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Not reflected are two large multi-year grants with a lifetime budget total of \$135,000



January 1 2019 - June 30 2019

Restoration Projects

TCWC worked with **16** property owners
on **4.1** acres, with
150 trees treated for ivy
& **3,255** plants installed



Through the initiative of the Tryon Creek Watershed Council, we were able to secure an OWEB Small Grant to restore our natural forest. Invasive plants were treated in December of 2018. In early March 2019 the planting crew arrived with our beautiful native plants of many varieties. It feels very satisfying to have them in the ground and we will be forever grateful to all who helped us with this grant. Together we can restore natural health and beauty to our watershed and become a strong model for other areas.

Projects funded by:
Lake Oswego Habitat Enhancement Program
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

Barbara Haynes, project landowner

OWEB Small Grants

TCWC worked with Marshall Park neighbors to address upland erosion on 1.8 acres of the Arnold Creek subwatershed with Sound Native Plants, under an OWEB Small Grant program.

We were also awarded an OWEB Small Grant to continue restoring the natural area on the Lake Oswego United Church of Christ's (UCC) property. The UCC was the first church awarded Gold Certification to Clackamas County Leaders in Sustainability and we are excited to work with a partner with such strong community support for restoration work. This project will complement work done at the UCC's property during TCWC's Watershed Wide Event.

Restoration Projects

Jackson Middle School

TCWC has been engaged at Jackson Middle and Markham Elementary schools through their SUN Programs, but 2018-2019 also brought some big changes to a trail at Jackson Middle School that is frequented by community members. Restoration of this pathway was initiated under the SW PDX Connect grant from Metro's Nature in Neighborhoods program and in partnership with the West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District. TCWC partnered with Wisdom of the Elders, a Native American workforce training program and LLC environmental contractor, to remove invasive species from about a quarter of an acre. Wisdom of the Elders lent their expertise to remove English ivy, Armenian blackberry, several young English hawthorne, and holly trees. A few months later, Wisdom of the Elders installed about 200 native plants.

During TCWC's Watershed Wide Event, volunteers continued the work and installed 125 more native plants. The pathway was mulched by Stormwater Stars volunteers with Westside Watershed Resource Center, and the SUN School programming visited the pathway for environmental education.



Volunteers planting at Jackson M.S., at TCWC Watershed Wide Event 2019



TCWC & Wisdom of the Elders at Jackson M.S.

Nettle Creek

TCWC has been restoring the Nettle Creek tributary with private landowners and environmental contractors, with funding from the City of Lake Oswego's Habitat Enhancement Program. We've managed about 2 acres of active restoration across two groups of neighbors. Clearing out the dense infestation of invasive species has made space in the forested areas for native shrubs to take root.

We also hosted a Watershed 101 Workshop tailored for project landowners. This was a chance to educate landowners on the impetus for and process of the work in more detail. It also had the added benefit of tangible community building, where we built relationships with the landowners and the landowners met and worked with each other to improve their section of the watershed.

Funding from the Clackamas and West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation Districts allows TCWC to seek funding for these projects.

Education & Outreach

TCWC provided
environmental education to

229 community
members

at **14** events &
workshops

via our Watershed 101 Workshop
program, Science Talks, & guided hikes



Watershed 101 Workshop Program

Our Watershed 101 Workshop program is a flexible, mobile workshop that provides an opportunity to educate watershed residents & community members and to accomplish on-the-ground restoration work. Through these workshops we are able to increase our reach and ecological impact.

Our Watershed 101 Workshop's 1-hour presentation, which covers watersheds, native and invasive plants, influences of urbanity, and more, is regularly customized for each workshop's location, topic, audience and activities. While the presentation usually takes place inside, it can also be held outside, and that flexibility has allowed us to reach more groups this year. After the presentation, we head outside to either install native plants and/or remove invasive species, teaching best practices and plant identification.

Wider reach: We recognize the importance of reducing barriers to environmental education for low income communities and communities of color. This year we continued youth and young adult education, and reached two new culturally specific groups this year as well.

- **Markham Elementary SUN School**
- **Jackson Middle SUN School**
- **PCC Sylvania Habitat Restoration Team**
- **The Blueprint Foundation**, who work to eliminate the opportunity gap for Black youth in the Portland area
 - Focused education on environmental engineering, hiking to the Nettle Creek Bridge with the project blueprints & photos of the former fish passage barrier
- **ORCAS**, Oregon Refugee Childrens Assistance Services
 - Facilitated new Portlanders' first PNW forest experience
- **HAKI Community Organization**, serving Swahili speakers
 - Environmental education at a multigenerational event organized by Friends of Tryon Creek & Columbia Land Trust

10th Annual Watershed Wide Event

We were thrilled with the outcomes from our 10th Annual Watershed Wide Event. Community members turned out in force on a clear, brisk day, were fueled at our kickoff, and in a few short hours made an impressive impact on the watershed!



155 volunteers,
including **40** youth

66 tree ivy
"lifesavers"

565 native
plants installed

52,492 sq ft
work area where
invasive species
were removed

\$13,250*
volunteer
power leveraged!



Project Sites: Tryon Creek State Natural Area, Marshall Park, Lewis & Clark College, Jackson Middle School, Boonesferry Terrace HOA Natural Area; Lake Oswego United Church of Christ. **Site Leaders:** Friends of Tryon Creek, Portland Parks & Recreation, West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District, SWNI's Watershed Resource Center. **Thanks also to:** Riverdale High School, Spielman Bagels, Grand Central Bakery, Einstein Bagels, Starbucks Coffee, and more! **Funded by the Bureau of Environmental Services**

Volunteer Restoration Events

299 volunteers
including **64** youth

contributed **833**
volunteer hours



removing
invasive species from
88,772 sq ft of work areas

freeing **75** trees from ivy

and planting **755** native plants.

Their contributions are
valued at **\$17,030** *

Volunteer Restoration Events:
Lewis & Clark College's New Student
Orientation
Solve's Annual Beach & Riverside Clean-Up
No Ivy Day
Watershed 101 Workshops
Solve It for Earth Day
TCWC's 10th Annual Watershed Wide Event



* Value of adult volunteer time, professional volunteer time, and student time, calculated from City of Portland & Metro sources (Independent Sector, average Oregon Wage, Oregon Minimum Wage)

Thank you to our Funders & Partners

Funders:

City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services
City of Lake Oswego Habitat Enhancement Program
Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation District
Metro Nature in Neighborhoods
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
Southwest Neighborhoods Inc.
West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District

Partners in Restoration & Outreach

City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services
Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation District
Blueprint Foundation
Boones Ferry HOA
Friends of Marshall Park
Friends of Tryon Creek
HAKI Community Organization
Jackson Middle School SUN Program
Lewis & Clark College
Markham Elementary School SUN Program
ORCAS (Oregon Refugee Childrens Assistance Services)
Oregon Parks & Recreation District
Portland Community College Sylvania
Portland Parks & Recreation
Solve
Vanderbilt University
Westside Watershed Resource Center
West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District
Wisdom of the Elders
Youth Charity League



2018-2019 Annual Report



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Photos: Corey Shelton, SWNI; Tryon Creek Watershed Council;
Lisac Mark, USFWS; Mosaic Ecology; Sound Native Plants