



Recognizing Partners

Watershed councils depend upon partners, or “interests” to accomplish goals. Because healthy watersheds are in everyone’s interest, broad representation on the watershed council is important. This issue of [Watershed Events](#) honors the partners working in the Glenn and Gibson Creeks Watershed.

We Do Better Together

Successful projects depend upon strong partnerships. Here, with thanks, are some of our partners working in the watershed:

- City of Salem
- West Salem Neighborhood Association
- Polk Soil and Water Conservation District
- Salem Electric
- Salem Audubon Society
- Marion Soil and Water Conservation District
- Organic Enterprises of Oregon
- Salemtowne
- Woodhaven Homeowners Association



Orchard Heights Pollinator Garden, a partnership between the City of Salem and Glenn and Gibson Creeks Watershed Council. The flower beds planted in the Orchard Heights Community Garden just east of the pollinator garden increase the area and the impacts of the pollinator garden. Bees are a constant presence, Goldfinches are frequently seen, butterflies are occasional visitors.



Orchard Heights Pollinator Garden



Orchard Heights Community Garden Lower Garden



Partners

Partners for the Oak Savanna project include:



The Wetland on the Oak Savanna

The wetland at the north end of the Oak Savanna is important habitat for a variety of birds and small mammals. Cattails and willow dominate the interior and most saturated portion. Cottonwood, Oregon ash, Birch and Oak trees make up the forest. Shrubs include Dogwood, Snowberry and Douglas Spirea. One of the headwaters of Goldcrest Brook emerges from the wetland, flowing east across the property, then entering a culvert to pass beneath Orchard Heights Road.

Project maintenance

Armenian blackberry control is a constant part of the maintenance for this project. Blackberries have overgrown the wetland and riparian corridor so this summer has been blackberry removal time. Volunteers have cut the canes and grubbed the roots. City of Salem park maintenance crews have hauled the piles of debris.

Project progress

On the upland portion of the project, Oak and Madrone trees continue to grow as well as a wide variety of forbs and grasses. The project goal remains restoration of the property to an Oak Savanna and Willamette Valley native prairie ecosystem.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Salem and the Glenn and Gibson Creeks Watershed Council is being revised and updated this year. Changes include an expansion of the Right of Way width from 10 feet to 30 feet and earlier annual mowing from September 30 to August 31.

The Oak Savanna Management Plan is currently under revision.



City of Salem: property owner, management and maintenance partner, funding through the Watershed Protection and Preservation grant program.



OWEB: funding through the OWEB small grant program



Salem Electric: Raptor pole installation, funding through the Habitat Improvement Program

Turnage Brook enhancement



Volunteers planted native shrubs and trees in two wetlands in Eola Ridge Park



Eola Ridge Park Pollinator Garden, mowed for the Fall



Woodhaven HOA Detention Basin Wetland



Turnage Brook Riparian restoration

Turnage Brook Riparian Restoration through Eola Ridge Park

Volunteers improved the Brook by planting native trees and shrubs along its riparian corridor. Their efforts have produced a healthy stand of vegetation that will serve to provide habitat for many species, beauty for the park, and cool, clean water in Turnage Brook. Partners for this project include volunteers, City of Salem, Friends of Trees, and Polk Soil and Water Conservation District. As well as the riparian corridor, volunteers also planted two wetlands in the park. The City planted a pollinator garden in the park. Upstream from the park, Woodhaven Detention Basin is maintained by neighbors and the Woodhaven Homeowner's Association (WHOA). This facility controls water quantity during storms, expands habitat, and improves water quality of this reach of Turnage Brook.



Volunteers planting along Turnage Brook

Watch This Space!

Updates about projects in progress:



[Willamette River Study from Hayden Island to Windsor Island](#)

The OWEB Technical Assistance Grant application is under Regional Review. A recommendation is expected in December 2020. This project is a priority in our 2020 Work Plan.

[Salem Towne Dam](#)

Glenn and Gibson Creeks Watershed Council is participating in discussions about fish passage at the dam. This discussion was brought by Salem Towne residents and includes the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the neighboring landowner.

[More Pollinator Gardens in West Salem Parks](#)

Glenn and Gibson Creeks Watershed Council plans to continue our partnership with the City of Salem for more pollinator gardens in West Salem parks. The Salem Electric Habitat Improvement Program provides funding for seed for the gardens.

[Goldcrest Brook Study](#)

The report from the Goldcrest Brook Study will be presented October 22 from 6:00 pm-7:30 pm. To join the Teams meeting, contact stormwateroutreach@cityofsalem.net at least 2 days prior to the meeting.

[Your Project Here!](#)

If you have an environmental project or a concern, please let us know. Contact us via the information in the side bar.

[To Support Our Projects:](#)

Visit our web page <https://glennigibsonwc.org/> and click on the Donate button.

Contribute through the Salem Electric Habitat Improvement Program at: <https://www.salemelectric.com/documents>

Participate in our Bottledrop/Give program. Email info@glennigibsonwc.org to have a Bottledrop / Give blue bag sent to you or delivered to your home.

Contact Us

Glenn and Gibson Creeks
Watershed Council

P.O. Box 5005
Salem, OR 97304

(503) 362-6860

info@glennigibsonwc.org

Visit us on the web at

[https://
glennigibsonwc.org/](https://glennigibsonwc.org/)



Join us

We welcome guests and issues of interest to watershed health.

We meet via Zoom at 5:30 pm on the 2nd Tuesday of every month

To join a meeting, email Bierly.kenneth@gmail.com

