

Pure Water Partners Protection/Restoration Pathways



EWEB's Pure Water Partners program (PWP) is designed to reward landowners who protect high quality land along the river, assisting EWEB in protecting water quality and helping to avoid future water treatment costs. The program also helps to connect landowners who wish to engage in restoration on their land with technical and financial assistance.

For landowners with properties that are >3 acres and within the PWP boundary, the program has two pathways: protection and restoration. Landowners who have healthy riparian forests on their properties can enroll in the *protection pathway*, where they receive a lump sum or annual payments to keep their land in good condition over the length of the agreement. The PWP offers technical assistance to help with this work.

Landowners with properties that do not qualify for the protection pathway can enroll in the *restoration pathway*, where PWP partners help landowners to obtain funding to do restoration projects on their property. PWP staff still develops a management plan for the property, but funding is not guaranteed. Rather, PWP partners seek to match up funding opportunities with the landowner's property and work commences once funding is secured.

Here is the process for enrolling in the PWP program:

- 1) Contact PWP partners.
- 2) PWP field analysts conduct a quick site visit and obtain a signed access agreement for performing an assessment.
- 3) PWP field analysts perform a riparian assessment on the property.
- 4) PWP field analysts put together an assessment report and score, and meet with landowner to discuss results.
- 5) If landowner agrees to move forward, PWP field analysts will work with the landowner to develop a management plan for the property.
- 6) Landowner signs an agreement for long-term protection and/or restoration of their property. The agreement is between the landowner and EWEB and is ideally 20 years in length.

Protection Properties

Landowners can either sign an agreement that goes with the property (is recorded with Lane County) or one that is not recorded. Agreements that are recorded give landowners a larger, lump-sum payment up front. Agreements that are not recorded give landowners smaller payments on an annual basis. PWP partners will be responsible for helping landowners to maintain their properties in good condition through contracted invasive species removal work and possibly native planting work.