

# MCKENZIE WATERSHED

## HEALTHY FARMS CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

### **Agricultural Chemical Disposal**

Agricultural chemicals (including pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, diesel and waste oil) that are stored on farms have the potential to run off the land during rain events and pose a threat to surface water and groundwater resources in the region. In addition, they may pose a threat to both human and animal health and safety.

A survey of over 700 growers in the Upper Willamette Basin conducted by OSU Extension found that thousands of gallons of obsolete agricultural chemicals remain on farms. Some reasons for continued presence of these chemicals may be: high disposal cost (\$5-8/gallon), lack of knowledge about how to dispose these banned chemicals, and the fact that growers are not allowed to participate in household hazardous waste collection events.

The purpose of this project component is to give farmers in the watershed several free opportunities to properly dispose of old agricultural chemicals that may still exist in barns and sheds. Grant money is available to cover disposal costs for these chemicals. Lane County Waste Management and McKenzie Fire & Rescue are available to help farmers identify and/or package up chemicals for safe transport to the Glenwood disposal facility if needed.

#### Disposal Opportunities:

McKenzie farmers can schedule appointments to drop off their agricultural chemicals at Lane County Waste Management's (LCWM) Glenwood facility on the third Wednesday of each month from 9am-noon, or by appointment. LCWM asks that farmers fill out a quick survey with an approximate amount and type of chemicals they plan to bring so that staff can be properly prepared to receive the chemicals.

For more information contact Nancy Toth at EWEB (541-685-7438, [nancy.toth@eweb.org](mailto:nancy.toth@eweb.org)).

To learn more about EWEB's Healthy Farms Clean Water Program, visit:  
<http://eweb.org/waterquality/farms>