



## Contact the Pure Water Partners Program

Pure Water Partners (PWP) is a collaborative initiative with local resource and conservation organizations to support landowners along the McKenzie River who steward their land to benefit water quality protection.



Services offered by PWP include:

- Burn assessments and erosion control
- Naturescaping workshops and planning
- Technical and financial assistance
- Habitat restoration

For more information about the PWP Program, email [info@purewaterpartners.org](mailto:info@purewaterpartners.org) or call 541-685-7438



[eweb.org/hff-resources](http://eweb.org/hff-resources)

Eugene Water & Electric Board  
4200 Roosevelt Blvd  
Eugene, OR 97402  
541-685-7000

## Dedicated Support Staff

We have established a dedicated support center for customers impacted by the Holiday Farm Fire. We are here to answer questions, expedite service requests, and discuss how we can best help you through recovery and rebuilding. You can send a general inquiry email or contact your account representative directly:

### General Inquiries:

[watershedrecovery@eweb.org](mailto:watershedrecovery@eweb.org)

**Cheryl Froehlich** at 541-685-7676  
or [cheryl.froehlich@eweb.org](mailto:cheryl.froehlich@eweb.org)

**Caitlin Pratt** at 541-685-7417  
or [caitlin.pratt@eweb.org](mailto:caitlin.pratt@eweb.org)

## Rebuilding After Wildfire

*Resources for community members affected by the Holiday Farm Fire*

- Home Site Relocation
- Septic and Infrastructure Loans
- Electric Service
- Pure Water Partners Program



Eugene Water & Electric Board

[eweb.org/hff-resources](http://eweb.org/hff-resources)



## Home Site Relocation Program

EWEB will award **grants up to \$7,000** to eligible landowners in the Holiday Farm Fire perimeter interested in protecting the watershed.

### Relocation Incentive

If you desire to move the location of your home further from the floodplain, you may be eligible to receive \$2,000 towards rebuilding costs. Funding for road setback variance are also available.

### Infrastructure Grants

EWEB will offer grant funding for landowners who install advanced septic systems or incur out-of-pocket expenses to relocate the home site in order to minimize risk to the McKenzie River. Grant amounts are for 25% of expenses up to \$5,000. Income-eligible landowners can receive 50% of expenses or up to \$5,000.

## Underground Electric Service Lines

EWEB intends to invest in installing underground EWEB-owned service lines wherever practical for customers rebuilding within the Holiday Farm Fire perimeter who require substantial repair or full replacement of the service line. This project is an effort to improve reliability, reduce the duration of outages and labor costs related to restoration and simplify the process of rebuilding.

For information about eligibility for this service or customer reimbursement caps, visit our website or contact our Distribution Engineering department.

**Phone:** 541-685-7521

**Email:** [distributionengineering@EWEB.org](mailto:distributionengineering@EWEB.org)

## Septic System and Infrastructure Loans

Our zero-interest loan program can help you replace or make major repairs to your septic system or drainfield. Loans of up to \$20,000 are available to homeowners who qualify. This program is designed to address septic systems that need repairs in order to function properly. It is not intended for routine maintenance or pumping.

For details on work covered and eligibility, visit: [eweb.org/hff-landowners](http://eweb.org/hff-landowners)

### Eligibility for Home Site Relocation Program:

- Property must be within the Holiday Farm Fire perimeter and Pure Water Partners program boundary.
- Land use permit is located within the riparian setback area or Special Flood Hazard Area.
- Property relocation must meet current riparian setback or Special Flood Hazard Area requirements.
- Permits must be secured by October 1, 2023.





# Watershed Recovery Assistance

## **Pure Water Partners**

The Pure Water Partners (PWP) program is a local initiative to protect McKenzie River water quality and enhance riparian forests. The PWP works with private landowners on a voluntary basis with a range of local, state, and federal funding. Local partners led by the Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) are adapting the PWP to support private landowners and watershed recovery efforts following the Holiday Farm Fire.

***Private landowners can participate in the program by visiting [www.purewaterpartners.org](http://www.purewaterpartners.org) and completing the online Property Assessment Request and Right of Entry agreement.***

The post-fire assessments are free and will evaluate erosion concerns, hazard trees, and soil conditions. The assessments will also guide a range of erosion control and riparian restoration measures as part of an integrated approach to erosion management on private properties. The PWP is working with local funders such as EWEB and federal programs offered through the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and Farm Service Agency (FSA) to help implement a range of short and long-term treatments, at no or minimal cost to private landowners. Potential treatments available to private landowners include:

- Hazard tree assessment and removal
- Installation of erosion control treatments (native grass seeding, silt fences, wattles, mulching)
- Planting native trees and shrubs

## **What to expect with participation in the PWP program**

1. Sign up at [www.purewaterpartners.org](http://www.purewaterpartners.org) and complete a Property Assessment Request
2. A PWP surveyor will contact you to schedule the assessment
3. A preliminary hazard tree assessment will be completed, and hazard trees will be flagged
4. A PWP surveyor will complete the assessment, and make site-specific recommendations for recovery
5. A PWP representative will provide recommended best management practice documentation in an assessment report
6. Landowner will work with the PWP representative and contract crews to implement recommended short-term erosion control measure(s)
7. Landowner will work with the PWP representative to reestablish native plants and manage invasive vegetation.

Some short-term assistance to private landowners, such as seeding and native tree planting, will be prioritized based, in part, on an assessment of erosion and debris flow risk on their property and in coordination with watershed-wide assessments.



## **Recommendations for landowners interested in completing work on their own**

- An adaptive approach to erosion control measures that responds to site conditions is best. Low intensity burn areas may need no or limited management. High intensity burn areas or properties with steep slopes may need more active erosion control and restoration approaches.
- Leave existing woody debris and vegetation in place as an erosion control measure. This is probably the most cost-effective short-term measure that landowners can undertake.
- Spreading mulch is one of the most effective short-term erosion control techniques following a wildfire. Be sure to use native materials such as wood chips, or leaf or needle litter as much as possible.
- Wheat straw can be an effective mulch on highly managed landscapes such as pasture, roadsides, or residential areas. Do not use wheat straw in forested riparian areas due to the potential to establish non-native grasses and weeds.
- To avoid introducing invasive plant species, we recommend the use of native plant seeds in the revegetation process of sensitive areas such as riparian areas.
- Non-native grasses, such as annual rye grass, can be very effective as a short-term erosion control method, but their use in forested riparian areas is not recommended due to its potential for persistence in the natural environment.
- Work with the PWP to develop riparian restoration plans to reestablish native plants and manage invasive vegetation.

PWP member organizations include EWEB, Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation and Development, McKenzie River Trust, McKenzie Watershed Council, Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission, The Freshwater Trust, University of Oregon, Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District, and the U.S Forest Service.





# Replanting with Native Plants

## WHY USE NATIVE PLANTS?

Native plants provide many benefits and are an important contributor to healthy riparian areas and water quality. Along the McKenzie River, trees and shrubs help:

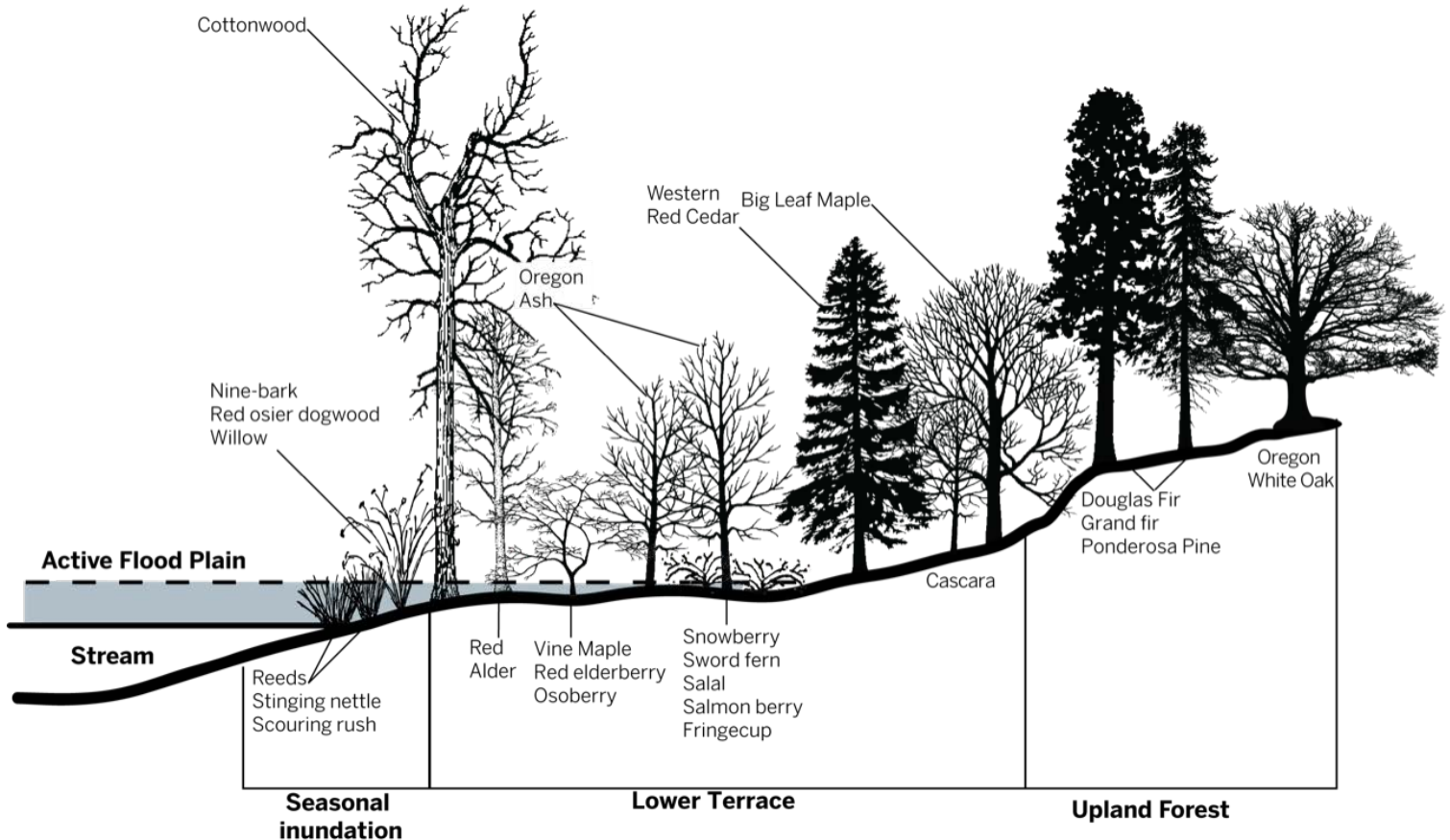
- Protect water quality by filtering nutrients and providing shade
- Control erosion during flooding and high water events
- Dissipate stream energy during flooding
- Provide important habitat for native fish and wildlife

Native plants are well adapted to the local climate and soils and require less maintenance for property owners. Many native plants are beautiful throughout the year with attractive bark, leaves, flowers and berries and can be used in both natural and developed areas of your property.

## WHAT TO PLANT WHERE

The best thing is to choose a plant suited to the site. Is your planting area dry, wet or seasonally wet? Is it a hot or cool site? How many hours of sun does it get during the summer?

Use the diagram below and the tables on the following page to help decide what species to plant within *Seasonal Inundated* or *Lower Terrace* zones of a riparian forest. Different species should be considered for *Upland Forest* areas.





NATIVE TREES	PREFERRED HABITAT AREA	NATIVE SHRUBS	PREFERRED HABITAT AREA
Big Leaf Maple	Lower Terrace, Upland Forest	Douglas spirea	Seasonal Inundation, Lower Terrace
Red Alder	Lower Terrace	Red osier dogwood	Seasonal Inundation, Lower Terrace
Black Cottonwood	Lower Terrace	Ninebark	Lower Terrace
Oregon Ash	Lower Terrace	Willow <i>sps</i>	Seasonal Inundation, Lower Terrace
Western Red	Lower Terrace	Snowberry	Lower Terrace, Upland Forest
Cedar Incense	Lower Terrace, Upland Forest	Osoberry	Lower Terrace, Upland Forest
Cedar Cascara	Lower Terrace, Upland Forest	Red Elderberry	Lower Terrace, Upland Forest
Douglas Fir Grand	Upland Forest	Oregon grape	Lower Terrace, Upland Forest
Fir Western	Upland Forest	Serviceberry	Lower Terrace, Upland Forest
Hemlock	Upland Forest	Red flower current	Lower Terrace, Upland Forest
		Oceanspray	Upland Forest
		Mock orange	Upland Forest
		Nootka rose	Lower Terrace, Upland Forest

## WHAT SHOULD I PURCHASE?

Native plants are available in variety of stock types.

- **Bare Root Stock:** Local riparian restoration projects typically rely on bare root trees and shrubs. Bare root stock is relatively inexpensive but often must be order well-ahead of the planting season. Bare root planting is typically done in the winter, January - March, while plants are dormant. Care should be taken when planting bare-root stock to avoid damaging the roots, and experienced contract crews are recommended.
- **Container Stock:** Native plants can also be obtained in 1-5 gallon containers that can be planted in the fall or winter. Container stock is typically easier to plant, but more expensive.
- **Plug:** Conifers used in commercial forestry such as Douglas fir, grand fir, and cedar are also available as plugs. Plugs are relatively inexpensive but often must be order well-ahead of the planting season. Plugs are planting is typically done in the winter, January - March, while plants are dormant.
- **Cuttings:** Some plants like willow readily sprout from vegetative cuttings. Cuttings are available through local native plant nurseries or can be taken yourself. Cutting should be taken while the plant is dormant during the winter months. Guides for taking your own vegetative cuttings can be found on line, [www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_PLANTMATERIALS/publications/orpmcrb560.pdf](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_PLANTMATERIALS/publications/orpmcrb560.pdf)

## WHERE TO GET NATIVE PLANTS?

Obtaining native plant material may be a challenge in 2020 and early 2021 due to the unprecedented wildfire season in western Oregon. The Willamette Valley is home to a number of excellent nurseries that carry or specialize in native plants. A good place to start looking for native plant stock is a list of nurseries found on the Eugene Chapter of the Native Plant Society website, [www.emerald.npsoregon.org](http://www.emerald.npsoregon.org).

## WHERE CAN I GET HELP?

The Pure Water Partners (PWP) program will work with private landowners interested in planting native trees and shrubs in riparian areas impacted by the Holiday Farm Fire. The PWP has a limited supply of trees and shrubs available for planting in January-March 2021, once bare-root plants become available from nurseries. Planting sites in 2021 will be prioritized based on an assessment of erosion and debris flow risk.

Longer term planning and assistance for planting in 2022 and beyond is also available through the PWP and federal partners such as the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Farm Service Agency (FSA) regardless of immediate erosion/debris flow risk.

**If you are interested in assistance with immediate or long-term riparian restoration projects, please sign up for a PWP site assessment by visiting [www.purewaterpartners.org](http://www.purewaterpartners.org).**