



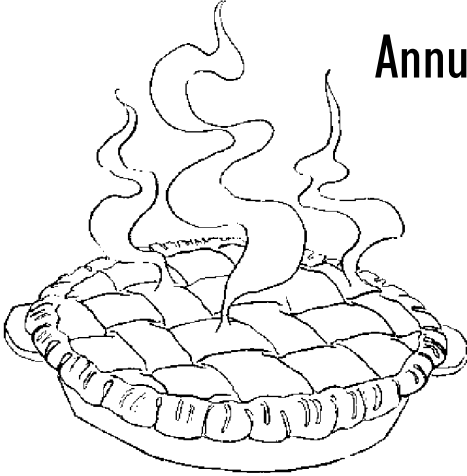
# The Green Heron Herald

The Quarterly Newsletter of the TUALATIN RIVERKEEPERS®

Volume 17, Issue 1, Winter 2010

## Annual Members Meeting & Blue Ribbon Pie Contest

Sunday, January 24, 2010 1 - 4 pm  
Scholls Grange, 16917 SW Hillsboro Hwy  
Open to the Public



- 1 PM Sample Pies/Select Blue Ribbon Pie/Pie Walk (\$5 to enter)
- 2 PM Elect NEW Board Members/TRK Initiatives
- 3 PM Featured Guest Speaker Donna Matrazzo
- 3<sup>45</sup> PM Presentation by *Wetlands* filmmakers  
Carl Vandervoort and Debra DeWit

**O**ur Piece of the Pie is Your Piece of the Pie. How we choose to develop land determines what's left for clean water and wildlife. Come learn about TRK's initiatives to preserve land, water and wildlife at this Riverkeepers homecoming.

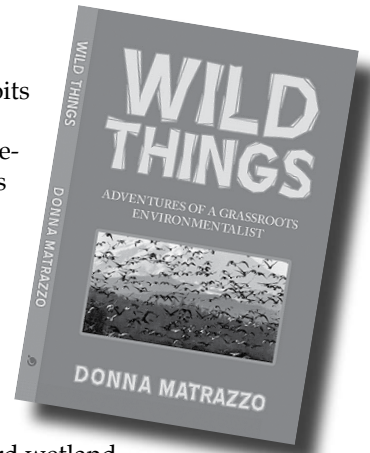
**Why Pie?** There's nothing more nostalgic than the foods that remind us of home. Come celebrate with food, the lands we work together to protect. **Why Scholls?** The community of Scholls is less than a mile from Gotter Prairie Natural Area, the 170 acre natural area owned by Metro Regional Government that TRK has worked to restore since 2002.

**Old Fashioned Pie Walk:** Fifteen Riverkeeper Pie Bakers will compete for your vote for the Blue Ribbon Pie. Attendees sample each pie and vote for their favorite. Contenders include Vicki Julis' Apple/Cheesecake hybrid pie and Sue Manning's red/blue Huckleberry combination pie. Buy a \$5 ticket to enter (\$10 for the Blue Ribbon Pie). Pie Walk Rules: Numbers 1-10 on the floor. When the music stops if you are standing on the winning number—you win a pie. To enter a pie in the blue ribbon pie contest please contact Monica Smiley at [monica@tualatinriverkeepers.org](mailto:monica@tualatinriverkeepers.org).

Featured Guest Speaker is **Donna Matrazzo**, author of *Wild Things: Adventures of a Grassroots Environmentalist*, a 2009 Oregon Book Awards finalist. *Wild Things* personifies the heart of grassroots environmentalism—an ordinary person falling in love with a place, finding the courage to speak out when that place becomes threatened, and becoming empowered to change the world, even a small part of it.

This spirited account follows the dogged exploits of greenspaces pioneers, including plenty of rabble-raising, deep friendships and just plain fun. *Wild Things* is this story.

Presentation by *Wetlands* filmmakers **Carl Vandervoort & Debra DeWit**. See the artwork that inspired a feature film about a Tigard wetland.



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## Coho Salmon Return to the Tualatin River

In October, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife counted 25,000 Coho salmon migrating above Willamette Falls; the most ever counted using the fish ladder. It is believed that coho did not use the upper Willamette until the locks were constructed in 1873. Winter Steelhead trout and Chinook salmon are able to migrate upstream over the falls in high water. To track where the coho were spawning, biologists inserted radio transmitters into 160 fish at the fish ladder. Riverkeepers have reported observing coho spawning in Scoggins Creek, Baker Creek and in the Tualatin River above Cherry Grove.

Visit our website at [www.tualatinriverkeepers.org](http://www.tualatinriverkeepers.org).

OUR MISSION

Tualatin Riverkeepers (TRK) is a community-based organization working to protect and restore Oregon's Tualatin River system. TRK builds watershed stewardship through education, public access to nature, restoration and advocacy.

The Tualatin Riverkeepers became a nonprofit in 1992 and is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Please join us by completing and mailing the membership application in this newsletter or by contacting us.

Phone: 503-620-7507

Fax: 503-620-7645

info@tualatinriverkeepers.org  
www.tualatinriverkeepers.org

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- Brian Wegener, Riverkeeper
- Lori Kruse, Environmental Education Coordinator

The Green Heron Herald is a quarterly publication of the Tualatin Riverkeepers. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please let us know if we have misspelled your name or if we mis-addressed the newsletter or sent you a duplicate copy.

Design: BeBop Graphics



Tualatin Riverkeepers is proud to be a Waterkeeper Alliance Member.



From the Director



Dear Riverkeepers,

2009 was a difficult year, as many of us faced economic hardship and saw its real effects on our communities. TRK was impacted, learned important financial lessons and emerged fiscally stronger. We started by diversifying our revenue sources, becoming less dependent on grants. We are growing our fee-for-service programs: guided kayak trips for groups and Nature Day Camp.

In addition to strong fiscal management, TRK is surviving because our mission is unique, we protect a basic need – clean drinking water and a healthy environment.

TRK developed successful new programs in 2009. We acquired 20 new kayaks from the Washington County Visitors Association, started a new Nature Day Camp program for children and held the first Tualatin Riverfront Music Festival. In addition we won many important legislative victories in our first session advocating for clean water in Salem.

In 2010, TRK has ambitious plans to move forward with the Campaign for Clean Water by guiding 1,000 people on paddle trips, leading 1,000 kids on nature field trips, restoring 77 acres of land, and building support for new clean water laws. I look forward to working with you on these initiatives to achieve our common vision for our river.

Prosperous New Year,

Monica Smiley

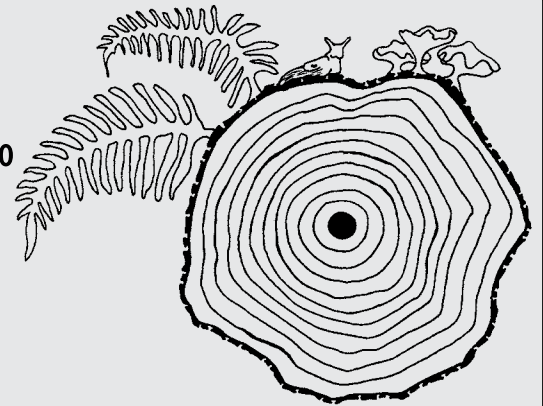
Green Heron Gala

April 24, 2010

Walters Culture Arts Center, Hillsboro

Save the Date!

Celebrate Earth Day with Tualatin Riverkeepers at the Gala



Instructions for a Good Green Time:

- 1) Round up a group of friends for a special evening out.
- 2) Enjoy fantastic food catered by Forest Grove favorite Maggie's Buns.
- 3) Bid on live and silent auctions items highlighting the best of local green businesses, vacations, wineries and more.
- 4) Enter the St. Cupcake raffle to win a hand-built wooden kayak.
- 5) Be inspired to service by the accomplishments of the Green Heron Award winner.

Individuals and groups can sponsor the Gala. Benefits include reserved table for 5-10 guests and creative marketing opportunities. Sponsor levels include the following: Green Heron (\$2,000), Chanterelle (\$1,000), Licorice Fern (\$500,) Banana Slug (\$250). Contact Monica Smiley at monica@tualatinriverkeepers.org or 503-620-7507 for details.

There's still time to nominate your river hero for the Green Heron Award at tualatinriverkeepers.org. Nomination forms due Feb. 15, 2010.

## Nature Awareness Education

### Fifth Graders Can Make a Difference

Vose Elementary fifth-grade students who participated in TRK's education program decided that people neglecting to pick up after their dogs is a problem, and they are going to do something about it! A component of TRK's Nature Awareness and Service Education program is a student-designed community service project. During the field trip component of the program, students took note of the amount of dog waste left behind in Tigard's Cook Park. The discussion quickly turned to the problem that dog waste is causing—pollution of the Tualatin River. Vose Elementary is located very close to one of the Tualatin's major tributaries—Fanno Creek. Many dog owners cross through the school's playground and sports field to get to the Fanno Creek Trail.

Vose students were very resourceful in making their dog-waste receptacles. With the help of parents and friends they used two-liter bottles, Halloween candy buckets and old fence posts to create the receptacles. When installing the receptacles, students explained to a local dog owner the importance of picking up the dog waste for the health of the Tualatin River and the enjoyment of their playground. Below is the explanation by one of the fifth-grade Vose Elementary students.

*"Please take a bag with you in case your dog does poop or you find garbage on the ground. The reason is because the trash and dog poop goes into Fanno Creek, then to the Tualatin River, the Willamette River and then the Columbia River, and finally the ocean. We can make the world more green. Thank you!"*



The weather may be cold now, but remember summer always comes, and along with it Nature Day Camp.

#### Take the Bus!

Budget cuts and price hikes for transportation to school field trips didn't stop fifth grade Vose Elementary teacher Karen Harger from taking her classes on a Nature Awareness field trip. Traditionally, the field trip location is a Metro Greenspace in Scholls called Gotter Prairie and schools are required to pay for the transportation. Lack of funds and price hikes are more frequently preventing classes from participating in the program because they can't afford the transportation to the field trip. Mrs. Harger organized her classes to take the Tri-Met bus to Tigard's Cook Park for the second season in a row for the field trip component of the program. The bus option costs a lot less money, introduces kids to using public transit, and provides an experience at an easily accessible natural space. We don't have to go far to learn from nature!

# Volunteering / Restoration

## TRK Volunteer Classifieds Experts and Novices Needed!

Join us as a volunteer. Contact Monica Smiley to volunteer at [monica@tualatinriverkeepers.org](mailto:monica@tualatinriverkeepers.org) or 503-620-7507.

### 2010 Gala On-line Auction Coordinator

TRK Gala is April 24 at the Walters Cultural Art Center in Hillsboro. Your excellent administrative and creative skills are needed. Evening meetings January–April at our Tigard office.

### Paddle Trip Leader:

Learn to lead TRK paddle trips on the Tualatin River. Are you an experienced paddler looking for an opportunity to volunteer and help protect your river? TRK trains Paddle Trip Leaders on March 13. Training includes water rescue, natural history and CPR/First Aid. Contact Lori Kruse, TRK Education Coordinator, at 503-620-7507 or [lori@tualatinriverkeepers.org](mailto:lori@tualatinriverkeepers.org).

### Field Trip Leader/Naturalist:

Share your knowledge of the natural world with children. Enthusiasm is a must! The field trips will take place at Gotter Prairie in Scholls and Cook Park in Tigard. Contact Lori Kruse, TRK Education Coordinator, at 503-620-7507 or [lori@tualatinriverkeepers.org](mailto:lori@tualatinriverkeepers.org).

### Nature Day Camp Assistant/ AmeriCorps Member:

Enrich the lives of children by sharing your excitement and knowledge of the natural world at summer Day Camps at the Tualatin National Wildlife Refuge, Sherwood and Cook Park, Tigard, June-August. 300 hours/\$1,000 education award.

### Citizen Action Committee:

Researchers, scientists, policy analysts, engineers, writers, organizers needed to help TRK develop public policy positions and advocate for the Tualatin River. Meetings 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm at Max's Fanno Creek Brew Pub on Main Street in Tigard.

### Native Plant Gardener:

Help maintain small native plant garden at TRK's Tigard office. 1-2 visits per month will keep our garden looking its best.

## Who's Who

### Beth Egee



*"TRK is a great organization, peopled by the very best kind of folk."*

*That alone would be a perfectly good reason for volunteering with TRK, but dedicated as they are to restoring and revitalizing our local environment, drawing attention to the problems that face the watershed and making it possible for everyone to once again enjoy the river, well, who wouldn't want to be a part of that?*

*I love having the opportunity to put my energy and talents to use in support of an organization that works so hard to protect our local area.*

*I think one of the biggest challenges will be keeping current levels of support for the river and its surrounds in the face of economic hardships. When times are tough at home, it's hard to think about taking care of the world outside your door, even if it's basically your own backyard that needs your help."*

— Beth Egee

Beth is the chairperson for the Green Heron Gala committee. She is a gifted leader and a master of all things Excel. Join her team and use your social and/or organizational skills to help TRK.

Sixty-four volunteers from Nike, Hands on Portland, REI and Chemeketa Community College planted 1,250 native plants including: Spirea, Snowberry, Indian plum, Lupine and Ninebark at Metro's Greenspace on Munger Lane. These native plants are an important part of restoring this rare wet prairie habitat!



Help us out! Volunteer at one of our restoration events this spring!

Join TRK & get your hands dirty restoring this greenspace property. TRK is hosting two public restoration events:

Saturday, February 27  
9-noon

Saturday, March 20  
9-noon – Celebrate the Spring Equinox with TRK!!

Contact Vicki at 503-620-7507 or email [vicki@tualatinriverkeepers.org](mailto:vicki@tualatinriverkeepers.org).

## Watershed Watch / Citizen Action

### Urban or Rural – Reserves will Impact the Tualatin River

In February, an agreement is anticipated between the Metro Council and the Washington County Board of Commissioners on where urban development will happen over the next 40 to 50 years and which areas will be protected from urban development.

During this process we heard claims from those promoting large expansion of urban areas that natural resources are better protected by being within the urban reserves. Tualatin Riverkeepers has examined this question with the following findings:

Some regulations are stricter in urban areas than they are in rural areas. For example, Clean Water Services vegetated corridor standards require restoration of native vegetation along creeks and wetlands when development occurs. In comparison, Oregon Department of Agriculture only requires a 25-foot vegetated filter strip along streams where vegetation is “allowed” to grow to promote shade. Many prior converted wetlands in the Tualatin are plowed and planted in farm crops.

That said, a growing body of research from the University of Washington, Center for Watershed Protection and others shows that urbanization severely damages streams. One of the significant problems with urbanization is impervious surface such as streets, sidewalks, parking lots and rooftops.

Impervious surfaces do not allow rainfall to infiltrate into the ground to recharge the groundwater system. Runoff from these surfaces carries pollutants like petroleum products, fertilizers, pesticides, heavy metals and toxics.

Urban runoff accelerates and increases storm flows in streams causing erosion and stirring up sediments and legacy pollutants that are harmful to fish and the macroinvertebrates they feed on. Numerous studies show that when a watershed reaches 5%-15% of impervious cover, a measurable loss in diversity of fish and macroinvertebrates occurs. Within the urban growth boundary of the Tualatin basin, we have almost 30% impervious cover.

**Tualatin Riverkeepers  
has advocated for a  
drastic reduction in the  
amount of land to be**

**included in urban reserves.**

For these reasons, TRK has advocated for a drastic reduction in the amount of land to be included in urban reserves. We have made specific recommendations for designating floodplain and areas around the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge as rural reserves to protect fish and wildlife. We also asked that headwaters areas, like Cooper Mountain, where stormwater runoff cannot be eliminated be designated as rural reserves to protect water quality and habitat.

To get involved with our advocacy efforts to protect the Tualatin River, drop a line to Brian Wegener, [brian@tualatinriverkeepers.org](mailto:brian@tualatinriverkeepers.org).



**On January 26, Oregonians will be voting on Measures 66 and 67.**

**That vote must be YES.**

**We want to make sure you understand what's at stake.**

As Oregonians, we have a state to be proud of: abundant farmland, lush forests, pristine public beaches, clean rivers, and special places that provide fish and wildlife habitat as well as some of the most beautiful and diverse recreation in the nation.

And Oregon has a reputation for leading the nation on energy innovation and environmental safeguards. **But if Measures 66 and 67 don't pass, our natural resources agencies like DEQ and ODFW will face cuts that will hamper our ability to protect our state, our children, our fish and wildlife from harmful pollution.**

Measures 66 and 67 ask corporations and Oregon's wealthiest 2% to pay their fair share for the services we all benefit from. The majority of big corporations in Oregon pay only the minimum \$10 corporate tax, which hasn't been raised since the 1930s. Vote for a Clean and Healthy Oregon.

**Vote YES on Measures 66 and 67 on January 26.**

# Trips & Tours



## Learn To Lead TRK Canoe & Kayak Trips March 13, 2010, 11am - 6pm, Tigard, OR

Trip Leaders will learn water safety and rescue techniques.

Looking for experienced paddlers who:

- Own their own boat
- Are responsible
- Enjoy working with public

Ability to haul canoe trailer desirable but not required.

Contact Lori Kruse at 503-620-7507 or lori@tualatinriverkeepers.org.

In July TRK received a \$40,000 grant from the Washington County Visitors Association to promote access to the River.

Our fleet of new kayaks will be available for use on group paddle tours.



Photos this page: Our new fleet of kayaks being used at the Tualatin Riverfront Music Festival at Brown's Ferry Park in September.

## Tualatin Riverkeepers' 2010 Paddle Trip Schedule "Sneak Peek"

TRK trips are open to all members and the general public. Space is limited and reservations are required. *There is a trip charge of \$5 per person for TRK members and \$10 for nonmembers. Canoes are available to members free of charge by reservation. Nonmembers may rent canoes for our trips for \$30. Annual memberships start at \$35.*

Register ONLINE at:

[www.tualatinriverkeepers.org/paddle\\_trips](http://www.tualatinriverkeepers.org/paddle_trips).

For more information, please contact us at 503-620-7507 or [info@tualatinriverkeepers.org](mailto:info@tualatinriverkeepers.org). *Please check our website for updates at [www.tualatinriverkeepers.org](http://www.tualatinriverkeepers.org).*

May 1, Saturday May Day Paddle  
Tualatin Community Park, 1 pm - 4 pm

May 15, Saturday Migratory Songbird Festival  
Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge, 9 am - 12 pm

June 12, Saturday  
Paddle & Hike with Metro Naturalist James Davis  
Metro's Greenspace at Munger Lane, 10 am - 2 pm

FREE EVENT  
21st Annual Tualatin River Discovery Day  
June 26, Saturday

July 10, Saturday Paddle & Picnic  
Brown's Ferry Park, 10 am - 2 pm

July 24, Saturday Mid-Summer's Night Paddle Trip  
Tualatin Community Park, 5 pm - 8 pm

August 14, Saturday Family Paddle Day  
Cook Park, 10 am - 1 pm

August 28, Saturday Beginners Paddle  
Bown's Ferry Park, 9 am - 12 pm

September 12, Sunday Beginners Paddle  
Cook Park, 10 am - 1 pm

September 25, Saturday Members only Paddle  
Eagle Landing to Scholls, 9 am - 1 pm  
(recommended for intermediate paddlers)

October 16, Saturday Autumn Colors Paddle  
99W Bridge, 1 pm - 4 pm

# Membership

## Thank You Funders

\$2000 City of Tigard for Trips & Tours

\$1250 Commissioners

Dick Schouten & Desari Strader

\$25000 Bullitt Foundation  
for Watershed Watch

\$5000 REI for Trips & Tours

\$2500 Next Base Foundation

\$4500 Waterkeeper Alliance and Keihl's

\$1000 Metro

\$1000 ISIS Foundation

We would like to thank the following Riverkeepers who joined or renewed their membership between August 1 and November 30, 2009.

PROTECTOR (\$1,000+)  
Stephen Larson\*

GREEN HERON MEMBERS

(\$500+)  
Joe &  
Lavonne Blowers\*  
Jim & Fay Milne

OSPREY MEMBERS (\$250+)

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Kent Christopher\*  
Nancy &  
Larry Church  
Bill &  
Frances Coffield\*  
Lee & Ann Engvall  
Bob Fuquay\*  
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Paul &  
Audrey Oliver  
Barbara O'Neill  
Celina Patterson  
Donald &  
Elizabeth Petit  
Paul & Jean Rose  
Richard &  
Becky Turner  
Ramsay Weit\*

KINGFISHER MEMBERS  
(\$100+)

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Valerie Briggs  
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Liz Newhouse  
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Aldene Leistra  
Mark &  
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Carol Ottoson\*  
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Quarterman &  
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Ralph &  
Susan Luan Reisbeck  
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Bill Weismann\*  
Paul & Diane Whitney  
Gary & Leslie Worthen  
William Young  
Elisabeth Zeller  
Gerald &  
Sandra Zimmer

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Deborah Borawski  
Scott Bowler\*  
Pieter &  
Elisabeth Braam  
Charles Brod  
Phillip & Lori Brooks  
Dennis Brophy &  
Cathy Gwinn  
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Pat Budahl  
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Don &  
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Lisa Jean Hoefner\*  
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John Vitas & Pat Towle  
James &  
Kathleen Walseth  
Suzanne Whisler  
Margaret &  
David Zeps

INDIVIDUAL/FAMILY  
(\$35+)

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Robert & Bonnie Acker  
Lynn Alsobrook  
Stephen Amy  
Karen &  
Bruce Andrus-Hughes  
Mary Angerman &  
Paul Chase  
Shela Babber  
Chuck & Ginger Babin  
Richard &  
Sharon Barnard  
Richard Becker  
Bonnie Beebe  
Janet Black &  
Deane Blair  
Valerie Bloye &  
Daniel Roney  
Luana Blunk  
Dick & Betty Bohrer  
Elly Branch  
Kathy Brock &  
Tim Ennis

Merle & Tom Burgess  
Carla Cannan  
Chris Carter  
Troy Clark  
Leigh Coffey &  
Judy Teufel  
Clarence &  
Freddie Cole  
Rachel &  
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Councilor Carl  
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\*River Bank Members, a  
monthly donation program



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## Join TUALATIN RIVERKEEPERS today.

Your membership will help protect and restore the Tualatin River.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (w) \_\_\_\_\_

*For a membership of \$35 or more, you will receive our quarterly Green Heron Herald newsletter, and discounts at events and classes, as well as use of canoes on our trips.*

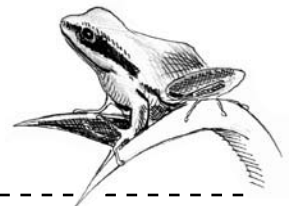
- \$35 Family/Individual       \$50 Dragonfly       \$100 Kingfisher       \$250 Osprey       \$\_\_\_\_\_ Other
- \$500 Green Heron       \$1,000 Protector       \$2,500 River Benefactor

**Check** enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_      *Your contribution is tax-deductible as allowed by law.*

Please **charge** my:     VISA     MasterCard     Discover

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

- I will donate on a monthly basis with the **River Bank Program**. Monthly amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_.
- Please deduct the indicated amount from my CHECKING ACCOUNT. Submit a voided check.
- Please charge my CREDIT CARD. Fill out the information above.



Join online at [www.tualatinriverkeepers.org](http://www.tualatinriverkeepers.org)

