TUALATIN
RIVERKEEPERS®

HeronNow! Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2024

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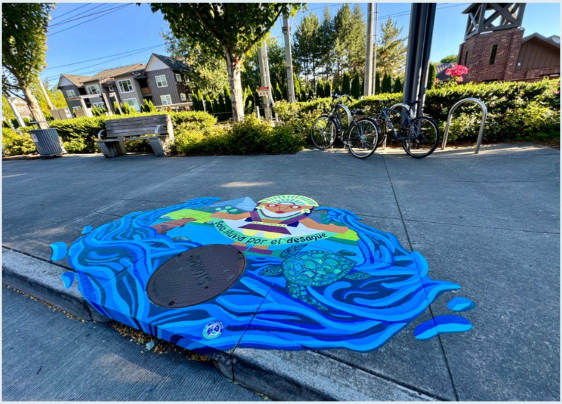


Hernandez latest mural "Only Rain Down the Drain" can be found at Orenco Station in Hillsboro

Through support from the Tualatin Basin Public Awareness Committee (TBPAC), TRK commissioned Portland artist William Hernandez to install a storm drain mural at the busy Orenco Station in Hillsboro.

Upcoming Events

Sept 21, 10am
Tualatin River Clean Up

Sept 22, 9am
Birding by Kayak with The Backyard Bird Shop

Oct 5, 4:30pm
Green Heron Fundraiser

Oct 12, 9am
Jackson Bottom Wetland Planting

Oct 19, 10am
Autumn Colors Paddle

His piece, translated as "Only Rain Down the Drain", is an absolute stunner and the latest storm drain mural in our watershed, following up on Linda Sawaya's 2024 installation in downtown Hillsboro. TBPAC, which also supports Tualatin River Discovery Day, is a partnership between multiple organizations with the single goal of protecting the Tualatin River Watershed through innovative stormwater public awareness and education activities.

Learn More About William's Art

Update on Ordinances Number 901 and 902

Tualatin Riverkeepers' Policy & Advocacy Director, Eve Goldman, provided written and oral testimony at the Washington County Planning Commission hearing addressing the proposed Land Use Ordinance

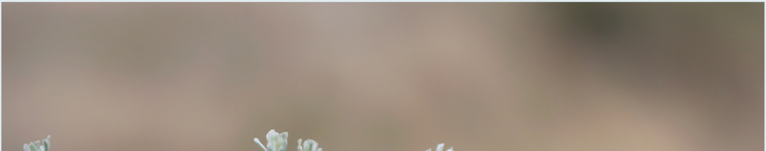
Numbers 901 & 902. These ordinances are Washington County's attempt to come into compliance with Oregon's Goal 5 Significant Natural Resource (SNR) Program. Meeting these statewide planning goals is crucial to the protection of SNRs as development projects continue to increase exponentially in Washington County. **TRK is committed to ensuring that 901 & 902 are updated to better protect SNRs by including strong and unambiguous language that prevents overly expansive development in Washington County.** The Washington County Planning Commission is currently deliberating whether to approve the proposed 901 & 902 as drafted.

Board of County Commissioners
Public Hearing
Oct 1, 2024 @ 10am
Location: Charles D. Cameron Public Services Building, Auditorium

At this public hearing the Washington County Planning Commission and Board of Commissioners will decide whether to approve, reject, or amend the ordinances, or continue the hearing to a future date. We invite you to join us at the hearing to help support our natural resources.

Join Us at the Meeting

Fall Paddle Trips you Won't Want to Miss



The autumn migration season stretches from mid-August to early December, with songbirds peaking in September and October.

We have some terrific paddle trips coming up this fall, but also encourage you to keep an eye on our restoration calendar, where we have nearly weekly projects throughout Washington County. If you'd like to be more involved in our restoration work, including serving as a Crew Leader, contact our Volunteer and Restoration Manager, Erik Horngren, at erik@tualatinriverkeepers.org.

Fall Tualatin River Clean Up

September 21st, 2024

10:00am – 2:00pm @ Tualatin Community Park

Please join us for our annual clean up. Canoes and kayaks will be provided or volunteers may bring their own.

Birding By Kayak with The Backyard Bird Shop

September 22, 2024

9:00am – 12:00pm @ The 99W Bridge Boat Launch

Please join as we paddle toward the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge. We'll search for resident birds using the river as a migration corridor and rest stop. We'll observe the many varieties of birds passing through our area and learn about the stopping-off habitats that appeal to them on the way to their tropical wintering grounds. No experience is necessary.

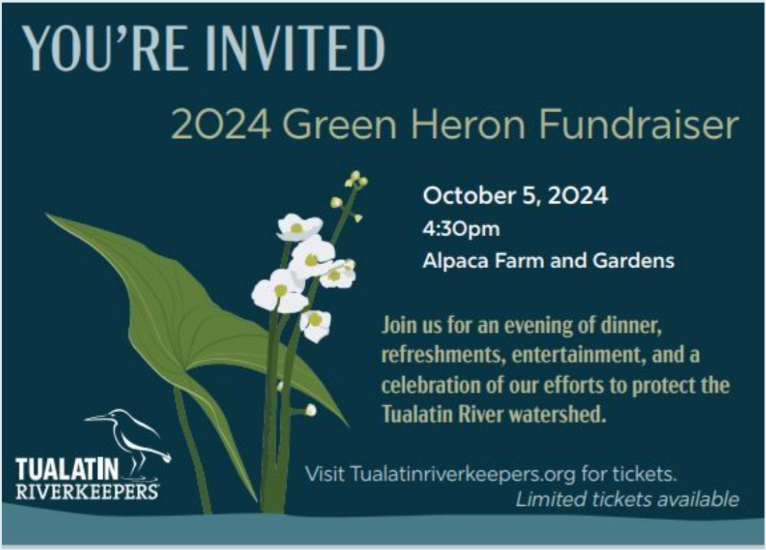
RSVP Now

Help Us Find Our Way!

Over the past few months, we've been working closely with a small team from the National Park Service on a Wayfaring project, which will soon lead to updated signs and maps of the Tualatin River. The final steps in this work include in-person surveys at key launches during the month of September, and a short electronic survey for the TRK and paddle communities. And that's where we need your help. We encourage you to take a moment to fill out either an English language or Spanish language version of the survey. It only takes a few moments, and your input will help us immensely! The survey will close September 22, the day after we say goodbye to summer.

Spanish Survey **English Survey**

Celebrating and Protecting the Tualatin Valley



YOU'RE INVITED

2024 Green Heron Fundraiser

October 5, 2024
4:30pm
Alpaca Farm and Gardens

Join us for an evening of dinner, refreshments, entertainment, and a celebration of our efforts to protect the Tualatin River watershed.

TUALATIN RIVERKEEPERS

Visit Tualatinriverkeepers.org for tickets.
Limited tickets available

From urban growth pressures to agricultural practices to impacts from climate change, the Tualatin River watershed faces complex pressures. Tualatin Riverkeepers is committed to working with our partners to protect this watershed, and our annual Green Heron Gala is our opportunity to highlight everything worth protecting.

Join us October 5 at Alpaca Farm and Gardens in Hillsboro for an evening featuring the best that our watershed has to offer - from food to wine and beer to incredible auction packages and the people who make it all so special. We're excited to honor longtime TRK volunteer Jeff Kohne with our Green Heron Award and our good friends at Explore Tualatin Valley with our River Champion Award.

Many thanks to our sponsors - Clean Water Services, Alaska Airlines, Intel Corporation, Northwest Cannabis, Heritage Bank and Metro - and our table sponsors and donors. We are so very grateful for the winery and farm owners, artists, and conservationists in our watershed whose contributions will help make this an incredible evening.

Individual tickets and table sponsorships are still available. Contact Emily with questions emily@tualatinriverkeeprs.org.

Get Your Tickets Now

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