

Public Works & Development Department

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### September is National Preparedness Month







## RIPARIAN

AREA
Clean Water
News

Cottage Grove Public Works and Development Department Quarterly Newsletter



FALL ADDITION

SEPTEMBER, 2021



#### Oregon wildfire Response & Recovery

The State has created a website to provide a fast way for you to get updated information about Oregon's wildfires: wildfire.oregon.gov

## SOUTH LANE COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE

For latest updates on current fire restrictions please go to: southlanefire.org



# September is National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month is an observance each September to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at anytime.

What can you do to prepare?

#### Make a Plan

Talk to your friends and family about how you will communicate before, during, and after a disaster. Make sure to update your plan based on the Centers for Disease Control recommendations due to the coronavirus.

#### **Build a Kit**

Gather supplies that will last for several days after a disaster for everyone living in your home. Don't forget to consider the unique needs each person or pet may have in case you have to evacuate quickly. Update your kits and supplies based on recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control.

#### **Prepare for Disasters**

Limit the impacts that disasters have on you and your family. Know the risk of disasters in your area and check your insurance coverage. Learn how to make your home stronger in the face of storms and other common hazards and act fast if you receive a local warning or alert.

#### **Teach Youth About Preparedness**

Talk to your kids about preparing for emergencies and what to do in case you are separated. Reassure them by providing information about how they can get involved.

Cottage Grove has a Preparedness page, check it out on the link below.

cottagegroveor.gov/cd/page/personalpreparedness



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#### **BE PREPARED!**

It is important to consider how you can best prepare for potential flood events.

#1 Know your flood risk.

For local information, go to cottagegroveor.gov/cd/ page/flood-information

#2 Prepare your property for wet weather.



#3 Get flood insurance.



There is a 30-day waiting period before a flood insurance policy takes effect, so call your insurance agent now.



RIPARIAN

#### The Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council Youth **Conservation Crew**

The Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council Youth Conservation Crew was out in force again this summer. This unique opportunity is conducted in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service (specifically Mike Cummings), that Cottage Grove Ranger District, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the City of Cottage Grove, Weyerhaeuser and new partners to the table this year Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) and Rural Organizing Project, to provide entry level job training, education and networking opportunities, supported through several grants and and employment experience for local youth aged 16-19 years old. This program has been operating annually each summer for the last four years. Over the Army Corps of Engineers, and EWEB. years the crew has varied in size over the years and for summer 2021 we hired 17 local youth. Two of these positions worked directly with the City of Cottage Grove Public Works Department at no expense to the City for the entire summer.

The main crew (remaining 15 youth) worked together killing blackberries/ thistle and other invasive species, helping project partners with resource deliveries for the community, working on fire recovery efforts on the McKenzie, and helping to maintain local area plantings. Not all of the time was spent on back breaking work, there was also some fun and education thrown into the mix. The crew was able to assist with fish salvage on the McKenzie River, tour Quamash Prairie with Lane County, snorkel Mosby Creek thanks to Weyerhaeuser, and participate in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training provided by Center for Diversity & the Environment.

This effort takes many hands to complete. We are extremely grateful to our partners, including the City of Cottage Grove continue to support and see value in this program. Transportation was also a major hurdle for several years and this year thanks to NW Youth Corps and South Lane Wheels we were able to overcome previous frustrations. Funding for this summer's program was contracts including the Oregon Community Foundation, Weyerhaeuser Giving Fund, US Forest Service, US

Written by Amanda Gilbert – Executive Director



Here are some pics (taken in June/July – before increased COVID precautions):



## National Risk Index for Natural Hazards

The National Risk Index is a new, online mapping application from FEMA that identifies communities most at risk to 18 natural hazards. This application visualizes natural hazard risk metrics and includes data about expected annual losses from natural hazards, social vulnerability and community resilience. The National Risk Index's interactive web maps are at the county and Census tract level and made available via geographic information system (GIS) services for custom analyses. With this data, you can discover a holistic view of community risk to natural Lane County's Risk index is relatively high hazards.

Natural hazards are defined as environmental phenomena that have the potential to impact societies and the human environment. These should not be confused with other types of hazards, such as manmade hazards. For example, a flood resulting from changes in river flows is a natural hazard, whereas flooding due to a dam failure is considered a manmade hazard, and therefore excluded from the National Risk Index.

In the National Risk Index, natural hazards are represented in terms of Expected Annual Loss, which incorporate data for exposure, annualized frequency, and historic loss ratio.

The 18 natural hazards included in the National Risk Index are:

- Avalanche
- Coastal Flooding
- Cold Wave
- Drought
- Earthquake
- Hail
- Heat Wave
- Hurricane

- Ice Storm
- Landslide
- Lightning
- Riverine Flooding
- Strong wind
- Tornado
- Tsunami
- Volcanic Activity
- Wildfire
- Winter Weather

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To learn more please visit: hazards.fema.gov/nri/





