

SINGING FOR THE SONGBIRDS: \$35,000 Goal for Year-end Campaign

Habitat loss and reduction in the urban tree canopy are the leading causes of diminishing bird populations in the Portland metropolitan region. Scientists have documented declines in many of our 200 native bird species, especially among neotropical migrants. Nineteen native bird species in the region are listed as “sensitive” or at risk of extinction.



You can help protect songbirds and our region’s habitat with a gift to Three Rivers’ Year-End Campaign. Your dollars are put to good work, protecting and preserving those landscapes where songbird trills, warbles, chirps, whistles, *chee-winks* and *teedle-eets* bring delight to our everyday lives.

◀ *Aurora asks you to help keep air clean, water clear and nature close to home for future generations.*

BUY A BRICK!

Create a lasting memory—for yourself, a loved one, a business or an organization—with an inscribed brick on the Stafford Trail, while supporting the work of Three Rivers. Your donation will help complete the trail, which will connect the cities of Lake Oswego and West Linn. Bricks will be placed near the Stafford Basin Path kiosk.

Bricks are \$100 each and inscription requests (no logos) are subject to final approval. Gift certificates are available.

Call us at **503 699-9825**.

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THREE RIVERS LAND CONSERVANCY

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Keeping nature close to home

Three Rivers Land Conservancy envisions the conservation of thousands of ecologically significant natural areas and miles of trail, enhancing and sustaining the human, natural and economic vitality of the north Willamette Valley.

Our mission is to inspire and involve people in conserving privately owned natural areas in the watersheds of the Clackamas, Tualatin and lower Willamette Rivers for current and future generations.

We believe that individuals can make a difference in preserving and protecting natural areas.

We believe that the regulatory framework is not sufficient to protect and preserve key natural features in areas threatened by development. We believe that Three Rivers should be a role model in stewardship.

We believe the time to protect local landscapes is **now**.

Wetzel Woods—Headwaters of the Refuge

“I’m naming these woods for my Grandpa,” Carole Andresen says. “He bought this land in 1905. Ever since I was a little kid, this was my playground.”

Carole and her husband Ron have dedicated 21 acres west of Sherwood as a conservation easement. Four creeks course through the steep woods, lush with enormous old cedar trees and blanketed with ferns. They form the west fork of Chicken Creek, headwaters to the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge.

Carl Axelsen, former program manager for Raindrops to Refuge, who helped establish the easement, describes it as “almost untouched headwaters, a spring-fed, year-round stream. You could be in a wilderness area.”

“This always seemed like a good place for an outdoors school,” Carole muses. At the national wildlife refuge “kids have to keep their hands in their pockets. Here kids can touch things, pick leaves. It can be more interactive.” They envision gazebos where people can birdwatch and enjoy the quiet.

Ron Andresen grew up on the other side of Highway 99. When he was young “it wasn’t uncommon to have forest right next to you.” “I watched the area be all forest,” Carole adds, “and now this is the only place left.”

The rarity of these woods in the Sherwood area is evidence of this conservation easement’s significance to Three Rivers’ mission. No matter how the surrounding lands are developed, Wetzel Woods’ pristine



“You could be in a wilderness area.”

headwaters will continue to provide a national wildlife refuge with year-round clean, flowing water. By offering access to Boy and Girl Scouts, and church and school groups, the Andresens are helping future generations of citizens to appreciate the natural world and work to protect it.

Carole takes a deep breath. “I love the smell of the woods, the trees, the moss, the creek, the critters. It was a dream of mine as a kid to share this with other kids.”

(Longer story on website at www.trlc.org)

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WORKING FOR WINE AND LAND

"Candace worked so hard!" Emogene says. "Emogene was so passionate!" Candace says. Candace Kramer and Emogene Waggoner, co-chairs of Wine and Land who have collaborated to make the event an ever-increasing success, are quick to heap praise on each other. Over the past three years of working together, they increased the tally of the event from \$40,000 to \$128,000 this year.



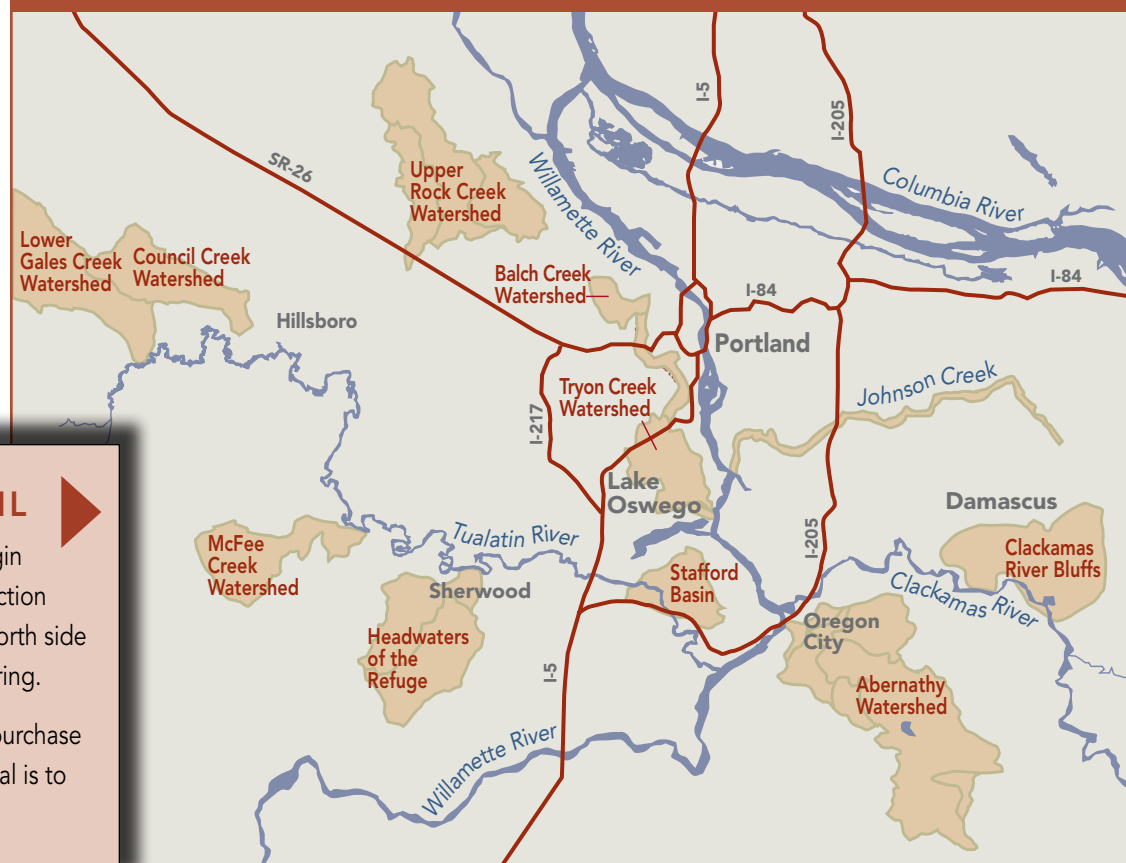
Candace managed the silent auction, garnering 120 items ranging from bottles of wine to a heli-hiking trip in the mountains of Canada. Ticket sales and the raffle were Emogene's responsibilities. Forty ticket sponsors sold most of the tickets before the event for the first time, and costumed Thespians (Kate Garner, Daniel Ebert and Michael Lukins) went around encouraging people to purchase raffle tickets.

The auction raised nearly \$50,000 and the raffle topped the goal of \$6,000. Emogene: "It's been wonderful." Candace: "It's exciting. When it's successful, everyone is happy."

◀ Candace Kramer, Emogene Waggoner and Sandy Wright enjoying the Wine and Land Benefit

THOUSAND-ACRE CHALLENGE

CONSERVE 700 ACRES • RESTORE 300 ACRES • BUILD 2 MILES OF TRAILS



STAFFORD TRAIL

Three Rivers expects to begin construction on the next section of Stafford Basin trail, the north side of Rosemont Road, next spring.

Help support the trail and purchase a brick by year-end. Our goal is to sell 120 more bricks.

The Place of the Elk

"There's a herd of about 40 elk that come through and like to graze in the open. The first time we saw them, my daughter, who was two then, ran out on the back porch, spread her arms and said, 'Hi, elk!' My daughter and son love seeing the elk here."

"It makes me feel good that it's a natural part of their lives that they experience regularly." Maryellen Hockensmith and Mike McCulloch share in that thrill of seeing the elk herd. She adds, "Most Portlanders don't know that elk live this close to town."

Mike says, "We're at a triangle crossroads of Germantown Road and Skyline Boulevard. These wooded and wildlife corridors are integral to urban living—fingers of natural areas that are transition zones that help maintain the viability of Forest Park."

Maryellen has noticed that "as we've been removing invasive plants, planting natives, and offering food sources throughout the entire year by strategic plantings, we see more birds and more varieties of birds. When before we'd see one pair of cedar waxwings, now we see a whole flock."

Maryellen's late husband, Bill Hockensmith, looked for a year and a half before finding the property, then died suddenly not long after they moved there. "I feel that this place was a gift from Bill to our family, and that I have a deep responsibility to share that gift with the broader community." She hopes to use the property to educate people about small-scale organic farming methods and forest stewardship.



Defenders of Wildlife

"These wooded and wildlife corridors are integral to urban living."

The family is granting Three Rivers a 19-acre conservation easement of second-growth forest that encompasses a long stretch of Abbey Creek and its drainage.

As a million more people move into the Portland region, this property exemplifies the mission of Three Rivers—an intact mature forest that helps provide clean water to the Tualatin River and significant protection for Forest Park wildlife, especially elk habitat. Because of this property, future generations of children can walk in Forest Park and have the opportunity to look up and say, "Hi, elk!"

(Longer story on website at www.trlc.org)

VOTE YES ON MEASURE 49 (the fix for Measure 37)

This November, help fix Measure 37 by voting YES on Measure 49.

Three Rivers Land Conservancy endorses Measure 49 because it protects Oregon's farmlands, forests, water and wildlife habitat, and the rights of families to build one or a few homes on their own property. It fixes flaws in Measure 37 that allow large housing subdivisions, big-box stores and strip malls where they don't belong. Measure 49 restores balance by helping small property owners and preserving Oregon's special quality of life for future generations.

Kate Brown chooses Three Rivers for \$5,000 Spirit Mountain Community Fund award

At their 10th Anniversary celebration at the Oregon Gardens, Spirit Mountain Community Fund gave each of their trustees an opportunity to make a special award of \$5,000 to his or her favorite charity. Trustee Kate Brown designated Three Rivers as the recipient of her award. Kate said, "There are so many very important causes out there, and I really appreciate the incredible work Three Rivers is doing. I'd read about the turtle project that was in need of research dollars. We tend to forget about the turtles and newts and little creatures, but they're important, too. Three Rivers can have an impact that spreads beyond its membership because they're doing really critical work."