



City of Portland, Oregon
RIVERS OFFICE
Office of Healthy Working Rivers



River News Digest: August 26, 2011

River News Digest is a compilation of interesting items and announcements relating to rivers—with a focus on better understanding, enjoying, and caring for our local rivers, while touching on items from around the country and the world. Please note much of the information is from sources other than the City of Portland [like news media, non-profit organizations, and other government agencies]. The Rivers Office lists these items for information purposes only and is not responsible for their content

Coming Right Up!...

SUNDAY, August 28--Catch Salmon at Sunday Parkways: Join the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) in celebrating watershed health at [SE Sunday Parkways](#)! Visit them at Colonel Summers Park for family activities and lots of fun and exciting watershed health ideas!

SATURDAY, August 27th! Hayden Island Neighborhood clean up- East and West: In the morning, East Hayden Island Litter Patrols will clean up East Hayden Island. In the afternoon, the clean-up offers a rare opportunity to see West Hayden Island natural areas. Refreshments available 9am to 11am. Litter Patrols will be 9 am to 12:30 pm. Contact: Mary Jaron Kelley, 503-823-4099, <http://www.npnscommunity.org>

SEPTEMBER 10th—A Skiff is born! The [Wind and Oar Boat School](#) proudly announces the launch of its first vessel, an all-women-built St Ayles Skiff. The public is invited: Saturday, September 10th; at 10 a.m.; Willamette Sailing Club, 6336 Southwest Beaver Avenue.

Saturday, September 17th SOLV Beach and Riverside Cleanup: Presented by the Oregon Lottery, the annual SOLV Beach and Riverside Cleanup is expected to attract thousands of volunteers working toward trash free seas at nearly 150 sites across Oregon to clean up trash and enhance watershed health. Most projects run from 10 am to 1 pm. To volunteer, register online at http://www.solv.org/programs/fall_beach_cleanup.asp or contact Brett Lyon, SOLV's Outreach Coordinator at brett@solv.org or 503-844-9571 x 332.

September 20th—River In Focus brownbag: Beyond the Spill: This 30-minute documentary takes a penetrating look at impacts of the 2010 Gulf oil spill, the largest accidental marine oil spill in the history of the petroleum industry. Beyond the Spill examines the devastated environment and economy of the Gulf Coast; the personal choices leading to this catastrophe; and actions to take to move beyond the spill.

1. News In Our River Neighborhood...

Portlanders should rethink, reclaim our Willamette River: Guest Opinion: City known for being green has neglected its downtown waterway. *Portlandtribune.com, August 18*

Portland Harbor Superfund

[Oregon delegation tours polluted Portland Harbor, urges cleanup plan](#)

Members of Oregon's congressional delegation toured the Willamette River by tugboat Wednesday, getting a first person view of cleanup spots in the dirty Portland harbor.
OregonLive.com, August 17

[Oregon Delegation Trying To Scrape Together Funds To Clean Portland Harbor](#): "Oregon's Congressional delegation wants to finish the job of cleaning up the Portland harbor Superfund sites. It's not an easy time to go in search of money - public or private. But the players say a confluence of events has made these sites a problem the region must address now." *OPB.org, August 25*

[Portland Harbor Cleanup Site Proving a Model for Other Communities](#): "...[At] the McCormick & Baxter Superfund Cleanup site, ... as much as 2 million gallons of creosote used to treat lumber ... soaked the shore and gummed up the river sediment. It was there in 2004 and 2005 that an old product with great environmental promise — organophilic clay — was used in a new way: under water instead of on land. And the experiment appears to have worked." *OPB.org, Aug. 25th*

[19,000 cycle, walk over Portland's bridges during Sunday's Providence Bridge Pedal](#): "Nearly 19,000 people rode or walked one of four courses in a tour of up to nine of the Willamette River crossings. ... Among the stand-out sights were hand-pedaled reclining bikes, a pink-skirted posse towing a matching boom box, helmets with sun hat brims and flowers, a woman riding in a '50s-style party dress with pearls, a family dressed in tie-dye, a lone unicyclist, a tall rainbow mohawk, and a pair of bicycles with pink flamingos and bubble machines attached to their back ends." *OregonLive.com, August 14*

2. Up the Willamette and Columbia...and more

[Willamette Plan Released; Calls For Reintroducing Salmon, Steelhead Above Santiam, McKenzie Dams](#): "The state of Oregon late last week released a conservation plan for Upper Willamette chinook salmon and steelhead, fish that have been protected under the Endangered Species Act since 1999. The plan calls for actions to restore natural production of spring chinook salmon and winter steelhead in the Willamette River and its subbasins. ...In addition to habitat and hatchery improvements, the plan includes substantive efforts to reintroduce chinook and steelhead into habitat above dams in the North and South Santiam, McKenzie and Middle Fork Willamette rivers." Based [on] comments, the final Plan places additional emphasis on: "*-- the long-term challenges associated with setting priorities to protect existing salmon and steelhead habitat and restoring the additional habitat needed to recover these two species, including the high priority habitat in the North and South Santiam, Middle Fork Willamette, and McKenzie subbasins, and the rearing habitat in the entire mainstem Willamette River (including the lower Willamette River below Willamette Falls).*" *Columbia Basin Bulletin, August 12*
[Click here](#) for final plan.

[11th annual Paddle Oregon welcomes sunny skies, calm waters and Grand Ronde Tribe](#): About 175 participants gathered in Corvallis earlier this week to start the 11th annual Paddle Oregon, a five-day, 105-mile excursion down the Willamette River ending at West Linn on Friday.
OregonLive.com, August 17

[Dundee Mayor leads Paddle Oregon contingent](#): "Dundee Mayor Ted Crawford led a Dundee contingent from Chehalem Paddle Launch to Champoeg State Heritage Area as part of the recent Paddle Oregon event. The Chehalem Parks and Recreation District operates the launch, which offers canoes and kayaks for rent from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays." *Yamhill Valley News-Register Aug 24*

[Car-Boat Classic in LO is biggest show ever](#): Multi-faceted event on land and water draws an estimated 5,000 people to the city over weekend. *Lake Oswego Review, Aug 25*

[Salem's forgotten river race makes a return](#): The Great Willamette River Raft Race reborn: from Independence to Salem's Wallace Marine Park. *StatemanJournal.com, August 14*

[Adopt-A-River Program Does a Waterbody Good](#): This popular [program](#), sponsored by SOLV and the Oregon State Marine Board, supports individuals and organizations in cleaning and preserving their favorite stretch of waterway. Over 600 miles of river have been adopted since the program's inception in 1993. ...The Legislature recently expanded the Adopt-A-River Program to remove invasive species from river banks. *Oregon State Marine Board, August 16*

[Do the crime, pay for the sublime? Polluters' fines benefit Oregon watershed and habitat restoration](#): "Fines paid by prosecuted polluters are being put to use healing Oregon's watersheds and wildlife habitat. At a ceremony Thursday in Portland, Gov. John Kitzhaber will award grants totaling \$481,690 to 13 projects throughout the state." Recipients include: Mary's River Watershed Council, for habitat and floodplain restoration; The Nature Conservancy - for floodplain restoration work at up to 11 sites in the upper Willamette River basin of Lane County; Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation and Development Area Inc. to work with landowners to help steelhead and chinook salmon in the Calapooia River and the North Santiam and South Santiam watersheds; Salmon-Safe Inc., to improve "fish friendly" farming practices at Willamette Valley hop farms; Clean Water Services, for water quality trading projects; West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District to pay for a pesticide collection event on Sauvie Island, allowing farmers free and anonymous disposal of outdated or banned substances. *OregonLive.com August 25*

[Northwest Tribes See Changes In Sacred 'First Foods'](#): "Northwest tribal leaders say they're seeing climate change affect food sources that are vital to their culture." *OPB.org, July 28*

[Long-neglected L.A. River now open to paddlers](#): "For the first time in decades the Los Angeles River, once polluted and ridiculed, is open to kayakers and canoeists this summer under a federally authorized two-month program." *CNN.com, August 21*

For more river-related news and information, visit www.portlandonline.com/river 503.823.0275, or [email us](#).

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