



Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District

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Learning and Sharing
May 2025

Let me know if you want to be ADDED or TAKEN OFF this email list! Ellen Hammond, ellen.hammond@jeffswcd.org.

May 20, noon

Jefferson SWCD Board Meeting Madras Airport

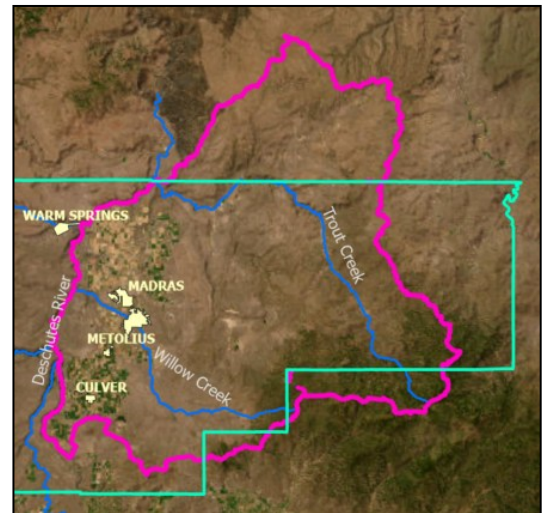
Learn about what the SWCD is doing for you. Contact [Kate Haarberg](#) for an agenda and to RSVP for lunch! Agendas and approved minutes are posted on our [website](#) when available.

Deadlines throughout the year, next deadline June 2025

\$: Small Grants

Do you farm or ranch within the pink boundary on the map? If so, you may be eligible for up to \$14,000 for projects that enhance watershed health and habitat for fish and wildlife. You provide 25% match in cash, labor and/or equipment. Recent projects included riparian plantings, juniper removal, upland seeding, and irrigation efficiency. These funds are available relatively quickly with minimal paperwork for you. If interested, contact Ally at coordinator@middledeschuteswc.org.

New eligibility requirements for irrigation runoff and efficiency projects will be completely unrealistic for us after June 30, 2025. If you want help with an irrigation project, contact [Ellen Hammond](#) ASAP!



FREE Agricultural Windsocks for spraying!

Recognize this truck? Be the next person in Jefferson County to get a free windsock to gauge wind speed before spraying chemicals! They are calibrated from 2-12 mph. By showing wind speed and wind direction, you will be able to better judge spray drift area and distance. *Remember, to minimize drift, it is prohibited to spray when wind speed is >10 mph.*



These windsocks were purchased with a grant from Oregon's Pesticide Stewardship Partnership (PSP). The Middle Deschutes PSP thanks you for helping keep pesticides out of local waterways.



To get your own, including mounting hardware, contact Ryan at weedcoordinator@jeffswcd.org.

Add some pizzazz to your spray rig!

MORE ON NEXT PAGE*

May 1, 1-2pm; virtual

ODA's Noxious Weed Program: Rangeland Health

ODA has hired a new Rangeland Health Specialist to focus on protecting rangelands from the impacts of invasive annual grasses. Meet Mark Porter, learn about the program, and provide feedback. Register [here](#).



May 28; 9:30-3:30; Brothers Rest Stop

Drone demonstration and workshop geared towards natural resource managers

Join ODFW and industry partners for an in-depth workshop on the use of drone technology in natural resource and agricultural management. Discover how advanced unmanned aerial systems (UAS) can enhance seeding efforts, manage invasive species, and improve land stewardship with high-precision techniques—especially in rugged or sensitive environments where traditional methods fall short.



Registration is limited! [Register here](#). Contact [Jessica Wilkes](#) or more info.

Agrivoltaics: new partner looking for projects

Limitless Solutions USA LLC is a local solar development firm and a certified Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business. It serves residential, commercial, and distributed-generation utility-scale markets. Limitless is currently developing a first-of-its-kind 900 kW floating solar tracking project for the City of Madras at its wastewater treatment plant — a pioneering effort in clean energy innovation.



In addition to cutting-edge solar applications, Limitless is committed to advancing agrivoltaics: the integration of agriculture and solar energy. By utilizing elevated dual-axis trackers, their projects allow landowners to lease land for solar while continuing farming or grazing operations, generating additional income without sacrificing productivity. Limitless

Solutions is proud to support sustainable land use, rural economic development, and the future of energy in Jefferson County and beyond. **They are especially interested in combining solar with cattle operations, placing the panels in non-irrigated parts of pastures or feedlots.**

If you are in **Pacific Power territory** and want to explore lowering your electric bill—residential or commercial—or see if your farm is a good fit for a small solar array, reach out to contact@limitlessolutionsusa.com to set up a meeting.

Fuels Reduction (FREE)

Does your property need fire fuels reduction like tree thinning, chipping, brush removal, and/or ladder fuels reduction to protect your home from wildfire? The Central Oregon Wildfire Workforce Partnership (COWWP) program provides free fuel reduction to create defensible spaces around your home or neighborhood. This is a training program for young adults.



Check out their [website](#) and fill out an application today! If you participate in their program, please let me know how it went.