



## Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District

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Learning and Sharing  
December 2025

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

**December 5, 1-3pm**

### Middle Deschutes Ag Water Quality update

COAREC, 850 NW Dogwood Lane, Madras

Interested in current and planned water quality monitoring efforts and results in the waters east of the Deschutes River? Learn about sediment, nutrients, pesticides, flows and more. Video option:  
<https://zoom.us/j/3103247170?pwd=bnpsVUFnbngwaThNaWEvYkdzQW1wUT09>

**December 9, 9-10:15am**

### Webinar: New Invasive Annual Grass Research

Learn the latest research on invasive annual grasses in this webinar hosted by Envu, the manufacturers of Rejuvra. To register and for more info, go to:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/62728780-0701-4efa-bcce-1e652fd70726@c4dedb74-d916-4ef4-b6b5-af80c59e9742>.



**December 9, noon**

### Jefferson SWCD Board Meeting

Madras Airport

Learn what the SWCD is doing for you. Contact [Kate Haarberg](mailto:Kate.Haarberg@jeffswcd.org) for an agenda and to RSVP for lunch! Agendas and approved minutes are posted on our [website](http://www.jeffswcd.org) as soon as available.

**December 12, noon**

### Middle Deschutes Watershed Council mtg: DEQ water quality presentation

Madras Airport, unless a larger room is required

Join us for our Board meeting and science presentation from DEQ about water quality data and issues in the Deschutes Basin. Lunch is included, so RSVP with [coordinator@middledeschuteswcd.org](mailto:coordinator@middledeschuteswcd.org)

**December 13, 9am-2pm; MAY BE CANCELLED DUE TO INADEQUATE RESISTRATIONS**

### Free Pesticide Collection Event

Deschutes County Expo Center, 3800 SW Airport Way, Redmond

For more information or to register: [www.oregon.gov/oda/pesticides/water/Pages/pesticide-stewardship.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/oda/pesticides/water/Pages/pesticide-stewardship.aspx).

**January 6, 11am-1pm**

### ODA's Middle Jefferson County Strategic Implementation Area (SIA)

Jefferson County Public Health Meeting Room, 500 NE A St, Madras

The Oregon Department of Agriculture will host an open house to provide information, answer questions, and get feedback on the Middle Jefferson County Strategic Implementation Area. Lunch provided.

*More meetings on next page! It's that time of year...*

January 6-7

## NWMVCA Annual Drone Round Table Conference

Pasco, WA

Hosted by the Mosquito Control Association, they welcome anyone interested in drones. The Union County Weed Supervisor says it is excellent and focused on drone operation, licensing, pesticide applications, new UAS technology, issues people have run into, and what they've found works best for them. Info at: [Drone Roundtable](#)

### PROJECT UPDATES

#### Lateral 43 Farm Modernization Planning

In partnership with COAREC and NUID, we are providing irrigation water management plans and inventorying your needs to maximize use of pressurized delivery water. Remember, this is Technical Assistance funding, not implementation funding. We will use the results to seek funding for implementation. Ellen is contacting landowners in the Lateral 43 service area to discuss their goals and needs for irrigation modernization and management of fallow fields, referring interested landowners to COAREC for technical assistance.



#### Fireline Reseeding

The SWCD finally received almost \$20,000 for reseeding firelines in the Cram, Flat, McNamee, and Alder Springs fire scars. We are in the process of distributing 2200 pounds of Upland Native Seed Mix to 12 landowners to seed 50 miles of firelines. We also have a seeder that attaches to a pickup/ATV/side-by-side to borrow.

#### Fire Recovery and Prevention

Over 115,000 acres burned in Jefferson County this summer in four major fires. Ellen is working with a bunch of partners to strategize both recovery and prevention efforts. A multi-agency group is looking at recovery of rangeland health after the Flat/Alder Creek Fires, and by extension the Cram Fire. Researchers at the OSU Eastern Oregon Ag Experiment Station developed a "threat-based assessment" to address invasive annual grasses both pre- and post-fires. This assessment is being used frequently in southeastern Oregon, but not yet in north Central Oregon. The multi-agency group is hoping to evaluate its usefulness in our area and is potentially pursuing some large grants.

#### John Day Watershed

The John Day portion of Jefferson County has long been neglected as we focused on NUID, Trout Creek, and Willow Creek. To remedy this, the Jefferson County SWCD just started working with Wasco and Wheeler SWCDs, Mid John Day and Middle Deschutes Watershed Councils, ODA, ODFW, OSU, and others to identify and address instream, riparian and upland needs for interested landowners. Contact [Ellen](#) for more info!

#### OAHF Henderson Flats Conservation Management Plan

The SWCD received final approval to begin developing a management plan for the Henderson Flats area near Lower Bridge. This new program ([Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program](#)) pays to develop Conservation Management Plans and implement practices that contribute to carbon sequestration, including cover cropping, reduced tillage, prescribed burning, windbreaks, streamside vegetation improvements, range plantings, wildlife habitat management, etc. The Henderson Flats Plan will cover about 900 acres and, if successful, will hopefully be a template for development of further such plans in Jefferson County, if the Legislature starts funding the program again.