

2010

MARION COUNTY



**VOLUNTEER  
REPORT**



*Marion County*  
OREGON

# INTRODUCTION

Marion County, Oregon, includes sixteen departments and offices of elected officials. The county's workforce consists of more than 1,500 employees and 1,500 volunteers.

During National Volunteer Week, the Board of Commissioners presents volunteer awards at its weekly board session, broadcast by a local access channel. Annual volunteer awards include the following categories: Judge Rex Hartley Volunteer of the Year, Commissioner Mary Pearmine Outstanding Volunteer Group, Advisory Board Volunteer, Youth Volunteer, and Program and Division Volunteer awards. In addition to the annual awards ceremony, all active volunteers are mailed a greeting and recognition item from the Board of Commissioners during National Volunteer Week. Departments and offices of elected officials are encouraged to individually recognize volunteers throughout the year.

The tables in this report indicate the numbers of volunteers and the hours they contributed to each county department. The tables are followed by a narrative of volunteer accomplishments reported by staff in county departments.

For more information about Marion County volunteers and volunteer programs, contact volunteer services coordinator Glenis Chapin, 503-588-7990 or [volunteer@co.marion.or.us](mailto:volunteer@co.marion.or.us).



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# HOURS

DEPARTMENT	PROGRAM	VOLUNTEERS	HOURS	TOTAL	\$ VALUE *
<b>ASSESSOR</b>					
	PROPERTY RECORDS ASST	1	216	216	\$3,990
<b>BOC</b>					
	ECON. DEV. ADV. BOARD	16	36		
	MWAC TRANSPORTATION	1	7		
	OPAL CREEK CO	1	0		
	NO. SANTIAM WATERSHED CO	1	95		
	PUBLIC SAFETY COORD CO	12	168	306	\$5,652
<b>BUSINESS SERVICES</b>					
	SAFETY INTERN	1	400		
	HR TRAINING - INTERN	1	200		
	VOL PROG ASSISTANT	1	266		
	COMPENSATION BOARD	4	30	896	\$16,549
<b>CLERK-ELECTIONS</b>					
	VOTER ASSISTANCE	NA	NA		
	BOPTA	5	462	462	\$8,533
<b>DEPT. OF CHILDREN &amp; FAMILIES</b>					
	CFC COMMISSION	36	679		
	CULTURAL CONSORTIUM	50	364		
	GREAT BEG. CONSORTIUM	53	738		
	FAMILY PRES. ACTION TEAM	14	322		
	YOUTH CONSORTIUM	62	573		
	COMMUNITY PROGRESS TEAM	40	30,591		
	READING FOR ALL	1610	1935	35,202	\$650,181
<b>DA</b>					
	INVESTIGATIONS	7	NA		
	VICTIM ADVOCATE	50	24,903	24,903	\$459,958
<b>EXTENSION</b>					
	SUSTAINABLE COMM YOUTH	310	7,019		
	4-H ADVISORY & FAIR	125	6,130		
	4-H CLUBS & SOCCER PROG	171	16,680		
	MASTER GARDENERS	110	13,620	43,449	\$802,503
<b>FINANCE</b>					
	ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT	1	609		
	COUNCIL OF ECON. ADVISORS	6	12		
	BUDGET COMMITTEE	3	90		
				711	\$13,132
<b>HEALTH</b>					
	PREVENTION EDUCATOR	1	40		
	COMM. CARE PARTNERS	NA	NA		
	PREVENTION PROGRAMS	3	931		
	FLU & IMMUN. CLINICS	31	118		
	STEP PROGRAM	1	717		
	CLERICAL	1	106		
	WIC	1	377		
	CHILDRENS BEHAVIORAL HLT	1	142		
	HEALTH ADV BOARD	NA	NA		
	ALCOHOL/DRUG COMM	9	180		

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DEPARTMENT	PROGRAM	VOLUNTEERS	HOURS	TOTAL	\$ *VALUE
<b>HEALTH CON'T</b>	PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATOR	1	19		
	EARLY CHILDHOOD	1	138		
	NEW SOLUTIONS MENTOR	15	656		
	MSM EDUCATION/OUTREACH	1	12		
	MED RESERVE CORPS	NA	NA	3,436	\$63,463
<b>INFO/TECHNOLOGY</b>					
	GIS	1	128	128	\$2,364
<b>JUVENILE</b>					
	COUNSELING	4	175		
	DETENTION	17	228		
	EDUCATION	1	27		
	TRAINING ASSISTANTS	4	194		
	ALTERNATIVE PROGS	3	198		
	CLERICAL SUPPORT	1	72		
	PROBATION PRACTICUM	3	211		
	GAP MENTOR	NA	NA	1,105	\$20,409
<b>LEGAL</b>					
<b>PUBLIC WORKS</b>					
	AMERICORPS VISTA	1	890		
	PARKS	290	2,495		
	PARK HOST	4	1,995		
	PARK ENVIRO SQUAD	120	1,448		
	PLANNING COMMISSION	9	96		
	PARKS COMMISSION	7	84		
	ADOPT-A-ROAD (groups)	72	1,776		
	MSTR RECYCLER	57	812		
	SWMAC	12	264		
	DOG SHELTER	118	4,289		
	WEED CONTROL ADV BRD	8	144		
	WEED RESEARCH	1	10		
	FAIR BOARD	NA	NA		
	WATER QUALITY ADV BRD	7	86		
	BLDG INSPECTION STUDENT	1	173		
	COUNTY FAIR VOLS	NA	NA		
	ARES	56	985	15,547	\$287,153
<b>SHERIFF</b>					
	INSTITUTIONS	122	3,407		
	COLD CASE SQUAD	4	1,560		
	PARENTING INSIDE OUT	1	110		
	MCSO VOLUNTEERS	36	2,891		
	SEARCH & RESCUE UNITS	165	14,875		
	RESERVES	12	2,308		
	PAROLE/PROBATION	1	400		
	FORENSIC INTERNS	1	70		
	CADETS	9	2,370	27,991	\$516,994
*\$18.47 an hour is the value of volunteer time in Oregon and is based on the average hourly earnings of all production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls and increased by 12 percent to estimate for fringe benefits.					
<b>Totals</b>		<b>3,906</b>	<b>154,352</b>		<b>\$2,850,881</b>

# PROGRAMS AND VOLUNTEERS

## **Assessor's Office**

*Mission: To continually improve service to the public while meeting statutory obligations, and to fairly assess the property in Marion County as required by Oregon state law.*

## **Board of Commissioners**

*Mission: To provide leadership that ensures fiscal accountability and enhances the health, safety and livability of our communities.*

### Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB)

The Marion County Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB) makes economic policy recommendations to the board of commissioners, evaluates video lottery grant applications and oversees the process for lottery grant requests. The county distributed approximately \$194,000 in economic development grants to local businesses and provided \$220,000 in continuing funding to regional tourism and economic development organizations. Highlights include:

### Mid-Willamette Valley Area Commission on Transportation (MWACT)

Throughout the year MWACT Steering Committee members reviewed the proposed seven eligible projects for ConnectOregon III funding within the area ranking as follows:

- Tier 1 High priority 1  
Salem Air Service Partnership
- Tier 2 High priority 2  
Aurora Airport
- Tier 2 High priority 3  
Rickreall Park and Ride
- Tier 2 Medium priority 4  
YCAP
- Tier 2 High priority 5  
WVCR Repair Bridges
- Tier 3 medium priority 6  
PWR Marion County Rail Replacement
- Tier 3 High priority 7  
Cherriots Trolleys
- Tier 3 Low priority 8  
Sportsman's Airpark

(Note: the top-ranked MWACT project was withdrawn by the project sponsors in August.)

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It was explained to the commission members that while there doesn't appear to be any modernization funding available, ODOT requested that each ACT prioritize their modernization factors that were developed and approved by ODOT for use in the prioritization process. MWMACT members completed the project prioritization process for modernization projects during their October meeting.

### Mid-Willamette Valley Community Development Partnership Board

The Mid-Willamette Valley Community Development Partnership Board is a regional economic development committee designed to address regional strategic economic development needs. The board is currently reorganizing and met once in 2010.

### North Santiam Watershed Council

The North Santiam Watershed Council is local volunteers who share an interest in improving the health of the watershed in partnership with interested landowners. The Council does this primarily by facilitating restoration projects with landowners and community members, developing resources to plan, fund and implement those projects.

During 2010, the Watershed Council partnered with landowners to restore approximately 25 acres of streamside native vegetation, placed large wood in Stout Creek to restore salmon and steelhead habitat and replaced an undersized culvert to improve fish passage and water flow on Snake Deford Creek.

The council also partnered with the Marion County Weed Control District, Marion Soil and Water Conservation District and landowners to inventory and treat high priority noxious weeds. These projects improve habitat conditions for salmon and steelhead, protect water quality and address landowner concerns such as erosion. This work is funded through Meyer Memorial Trust Willamette Model Watershed Program, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, The Nature Conservancy, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, City of Salem, City of Albany, Bureau of Land Management, and Oregon Governor's Fund.

To learn more about the Watershed Council, visit [www.nisantiamwatershed.org](http://www.nisantiamwatershed.org) or contact [nsantiam@peak.org](mailto:nsantiam@peak.org), 503-930-8202.

### Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area Advisory Council

The Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area Advisory Council serves as a consultant on matters relating to the management of the 13,408-acre Opal Creek SRA. The SRA management plan includes management direction on a broad range of land uses including recreation, harvesting of non-traditional forest products, and educational and research opportunities.

The council did not meet in 2010 while renewal of the federal charter was underway by the US Forest Service.

### Public Safety Coordinating Council

A total of 12 volunteers contributed approximately 168 hours of their time in 2010. The Marion County Public safety Coordinating Council is charged with developing

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plans for local juvenile and adult offenders involved in the criminal justice system. For juveniles, these plans include coordination of community-wide services involving prevention, treatment, education, employment resources and intervention strategies. For adults these plans include how state resources are spent on the local adult offender population.

The 25 member council is made up of key partners in the public safety sector including the sheriff, local police chiefs, the district attorney, health and juvenile department, as well as the Marion County Children and Families Commission, local businesses and citizen advocates. Volunteer members of the council not only attended the regular monthly council meetings in 2010, but also town hall meetings throughout the county, and the annual *Striking Out Meth in Marion County* event at Volcanoes Stadium.

### **Business Services**

*Mission: To provide a core foundation of business practices and consultation that assists Marion County departments to achieve their missions.*

#### Benefits

The volunteer services volunteer assisted with data entry, filing and preparing large mailings to be sent to employees. Her "as needed" assistance enables Benefits staff to meet important deadlines.

#### Risk Management

A volunteer developed an FMLA on-line interactive training using an articulate software program. And a safety intern assisted with the Wellness Web Page upkeep and Total Health Assessment data collection and analysis, coordinated and finalized MSDS forms for county-wide conversion from paper systems to an electronic version.

#### Recruitment

The volunteer services volunteer helped employee recruitment prepare files for archiving. She purged and reorganized recruitment files from several years past. She scanned test results and coded them for easy retrieval and performed other data entry projects for recruitment as needed.

#### Volunteer Services

The volunteer services volunteer entered new volunteer records into the database one day each week. Her attention to detail and logical solutions have allowed the county's process for volunteer records to become more organized and consistent. She brings many years of knowledge and expertise from her employment background and is a valuable member of the Business Services team.



Intern Brett Hatton relaxes after presenting his Family Medical Leave Act on-line interactive training software program for Human Resources staff to review.

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### Wellness

The volunteer services volunteer did data entry and sorting for the Total Health Assessment project. This involved entering data that allowed employee health risk factors by department to be analyzed. The same volunteer also entered all the recipes for the Healthy Soup Cookbook in a short time to meet a printing deadline. The project netted \$430 in cookbook donations for the Women's Crisis Center.

### **Clerk**

*Mission: Record, provide access, and preserve for prosperity those records entrusted in our care; and to promote public trust and confidence by our conduct of accurate, fair and open elections, which accurately reflect the intent of the electorate.*

### Board of Property Tax Appeals

The board hears petitions for the reduction of the real market, maximum assessed, specially assessed, and assessed values of property placed on the tax roll by the county assessor. The board also considers requests to waive the penalties assessed for the late filing of real and personal property tax returns. The function of the board is a very important part of maintaining a fair and equitable property tax system in Oregon.

Pool members are recommended to the Marion County Commissioners for appointment in October each year. Membership on the board is an important position that requires knowledge of the law, appraisal procedures and assessment practices, understanding, and a sense of civic responsibility. The Department of Revenue requires BOPTA members to attend training every other year. Hearings start on or after the first Monday in February. The Marion County Board of Property Tax Appeals heard 499 petitions between February 1 and April 8, 2010.

### **Children and Families**

*Mission: To assure every child and family an equal opportunity to attain their full potential.*

#### Children and Families

##### Commission

With more than 30 members, the commission addresses community problems that are beyond the scope of any single organization.

- Launched *Parent for the Future*, a grassroots initiative to make more educational resources available for parents.
- Hosted the first *Parent for the Future* conference in October 2010, "Talk So Kids (& Teens) Will Listen and Listen So They Will Talk" which was attended by several hundred parents.



Children and Families Commission members help out during spring break week activities at a local school.

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### Family Preservation Action Team (FPAT)

FPAT is a group of volunteers and representatives of key agencies that works to affect policies, align systems, and mobilize the community to preserve families.

- Works to reduce the number of children in foster care by providing support to at-risk families and creating safe alternatives to out-of-home placement.
- Improves the experience of children in foster care.
- Creates local supports to help retain foster families.
- Joined forces with the Great Beginnings Consortium to launch the Healthy Attachment project, which provided special training to 30 foster families who will specialize in care of young children.
- Developing supports to youth transitioning out of foster care to prevent them from becoming homeless.



Helpers at Lamb Literacy Night

### Reading for All

The Reading for All initiative is guided by a volunteer Action Team.

- Volunteers donate, collect, sort, and distribute books.
- More than 37,000 donated books were distributed to more than 60 community organizations, local schools and community progress teams through *Reading for All*.
- More than 34,000 books were donated to the 2010 Holiday Book Drive.

### Great Beginnings

The Great Beginnings Consortium is a group of individuals and organizations that promotes healthy social and emotional development and improves the system that serves young children and their families.

- Joined forces with the Family Preservation Action Team to launch the Healthy Attachment project, which trained individuals to provide Circle of Security training to Marion County parents.
- Began piloting an online developmental screening tool for parents of young children.
- Developed a Teen Parent Healthy Attachment project, delivering weekly workshops to 50-80 teen parents.

### Youth Consortium

The Youth Consortium is a group of individuals who work together to promote awareness of youth issues and better coordinate the work of youth-serving agencies.

- Hosted a Homeless and Runaway Youth Summit, attended by 125 people.
- Planned the development of a web-based network for resource sharing.
- Hosted two prescription drug turn-in events; collected over 2,000 pounds from local households.
- Utilized subcommittees to tackle issues including substance abuse, teen pregnancy, gang criminal activity, and homelessness.
- Laid groundwork for the 2011 launch of a community-wide approach to preventing teen pregnancy.

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## Guido Caldarazzo Cultural Consortium (GCCC)

The Children and Families Commission formed the GCCC to facilitate a range of culturally competent social services for children and families and provide policy advice to the Commission.

- Authored the Asset Champions for Cultural Proficiency report which guides principles, practices and policies of the Children and Families Commission and partnering organizations.
- Formed a Youth Advisory Council to give youth a voice in the community.
- Worked with the Family Preservation Action Team to address disproportionate representation of children of color in the foster care system.

## Community Progress Teams

- Provided training to 310 parents, 99% of whom report that their parenting skills improved as a result of the training. Classes were provided in English, Spanish and Russian.
- Supported peer courts.
- Sponsored book drives and other efforts to promote literacy, including Battles of the Books, book distribution at community events, literacy nights, tutoring and reading buddies.
- Organized suicide prevention activities and offered suicide prevention training.
- Organized and supported alcohol and drug prevention activities and campaigns.
- Operated a community center, offering English and Spanish classes, homework help, and meals.
- Organized school supply and coat drives.
- Arranged for dental van in rural areas.
- Sponsored a health fair.

## **District Attorney**

*"I believe that everyone should be held accountable. Justice must always be public, accessible and fair. Everyone is entitled to be treated with dignity and respect."*

## Victim Assistance

Volunteer advocates ensured that 4,725 victims were served, which includes 871 child abuse victims, 78 sexual assault victims, 1,438 domestic violence victims, 258 DUII assault victims, 48 elder abuse victims, and 1,183 property crime victims. Advocates responded 134 times to the emergency room to assist victims of sexual assault.

Three training sessions resulted in 24 new volunteer advocates during the year. Like many other agencies, changes in the past year impacted the work the department is required to do with the same amount of staff. Volunteers are integral to the work of the Victim Assistance Division.

## **Finance**

*Mission: Safeguarding the county's fiscal integrity.*

A volunteer assisted the Finance Department as an accounting assistant on a full-time basis from January through May, at which time she was hired as a temporary employee.

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## Health

*Mission: The Marion County Health Department, in collaboration with community partners, provides and purchases high quality services which promote individual and community health to all people in Marion County.*

### Flu Clinics

Volunteers helped vaccinate more than 1,000 people during 2010. It would not have been possible to vaccinate such a large number of people without the volunteer workers!

### Local Alcohol and Drug Planning Committee (LADPC)

The LADPC has been a strong advocate for alcohol and drug treatment services in Marion County and has played an integral role in reviewing applications for agencies seeking a letter of approval to provide treatment services in the county. Committee members have spent many hours during the year outside of monthly meetings working on a Gaps Analysis that sought to identify gaps in prevention and treatment services for substance abuse. Three priority gaps were identified and are believed to be in need of attention. A presentation was created and shown to the Health Advisory Board and will be presented to the Board of Commissioners in the near future.

The committee recommended an applicant for appointment by the Board of Commissioners in December, with anticipation that in January 2011 a member from a community-based recovery support group will apply to serve on the committee.

### New Solutions Child and Adolescent Mentoring Program

*Mission Statement: To connect positive community role models with children and teens to help them achieve their maximum potential through the development of trusting, responsible and supportive relationships.*

New Solutions Child and Adolescent Mentoring program has been operating successfully for three consecutive years. The program serves youth in Mid-Valley Wrap, New Solutions and Mission: Transition programs.

The mentoring program provides one-on-one mentoring to youth with severe mental health issues in a community-based setting. The mentors spend quality time getting to know their youth, engaging the youth in the community and broadening their interests by introducing them to art and culture.

The youth look to their mentors for advice on personal



Trailblazer Greg Oden poses with youths from mentoring programs at event that resulted from a partnership between Marion County New Solutions Mentoring program and Oregon Mentors.

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relationships, inspiration for their dreams, consistency in their lives and someone to come to their school games and cheer them on. Each mentoring relationship is different and valuable.

In the last year, the New Solutions mentoring program began a partnership with Oregon Mentors, which provides mentor training and tickets to NBA Portland Trail Blazers games, Oregon Zoo and OMSI passes. Our mentors and youth also had the opportunity to meet NBA Portland Trail Blazers player Greg Oden at a private pizza party. The mentors meet regularly with the Child and Family wraparound teams and are instrumental members of their youth's team. On average, mentors spend three hours a week with each youth. New Solutions also has mentoring programs serving New Solutions youth and families in Yamhill and Polk counties.

Last year mentor Jon Mangis, was recognized by Marion County Board of Commissioners for his dedication and commitment to mentoring a New Solutions youth. Also, New Solutions nominated mentor Traci Sharp an Oregon Governor's Volunteer Award. She was recognized at the Salem Conference Center in October. All mentors were recognized at the annual New Solutions family BBQ held in the summer.

New Solutions mentoring program continues to recruit mentors through Willamette University, Corban College and Chemeketa Community College volunteer and intern fairs. All mentors now receive Trauma Informed Care training. Beginning 2011, mentors will be invited to an arts and crafts group held every month at New Solutions, and training workshops held every other month called Building Connections to enhance their mentoring skills.

### Public Health—HIV Prevention

During 2010, volunteers assisted in reaching high-risk population groups with HIV prevention information and materials.

### Prevention

A volunteer helped complete data entry on a school health survey. This help was invaluable in getting data entered so it could be presented to an advisory board. The volunteer also helped create some health posters to share with other departments.

## **Information Technology**

*Mission: The Information Technology Department delivers efficient, cost effective technology services that meet the business needs of Marion County customers and provides overall technology strategy and direction for Marion County.*

## **Juvenile**

*Mission: To improve public safety by working with parents and the community to provide youth accountability and opportunities for positive change.*

### Alternative Programs

During fall term, a practicum student was involved in all four phases of the program. She spent the majority of her time in the Youth Community Service Program assisting with the wood deliveries and senior yard maintenance. She also worked in FUEL and Matrix by working with an supervising youth on various tasks, helped out at the market, and helped set up, organize and run the Senior/Youth annual Christmas party.

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One senior volunteer has donated hundreds of hours each year. She works in the greenhouses planting and overseeing many of the plants sold at the market or planted in the garden. Her expertise and experience has been a plus for the programs and the youths.

A Willamette University student volunteered at the Fresh Start market during fall term. Her previous experience working in a coffee shop and interaction with the youth was a benefit.

### Counseling and Education Services

Counseling remains a placement site for MSW graduate students each year. The students work two days a week in Counseling Services.

The volunteer tutor in Education Services worked once a week to provide individual tutoring to teenage boys in need of educational assistance.

## **OSU Extension Service**

*Mission: The Oregon State University Extension Service engages the people of Oregon with research-based knowledge and education that focus on strengthening communities and economies, sustaining natural resources, and promoting healthy families and individuals.*

OSU Extension Service provides education to communities on agriculture, 4-H, horticulture, forestry, water and watersheds, nutrition, and sustainable communities. OSU Extension Service trains volunteers on selected programs and relies on them to support and extend education into the community.

### 4-H Program

The 4-H program is an informal, educational youth development program that helps youth grow and develop into positive citizens by providing lifelong learning and life-skill development through a variety of trainings, clubs, and activities. Adult 4-H volunteers serve as soccer coaches, club leaders, event coordinator, teachers, and mentors. Adult 4-H volunteers work in partnership with youth at both the club and country level to plan and conduct programs which lead to the positive youth development outcomes of competence, caring, confidence, connection and character. These volunteers provide leadership in conducting over 25 county-wide educational events for 4-H members during 2010. The 4-H program engages young people through project exploration in animal science, communication and expressive arts, science and technology, family and consumer science, horticulture, leadership personal development, and citizenship. The 4-H program is inclusive to all audiences, making intentional efforts to reach out to the Latino community through bi-lingual, bi-cultural staff.

The largest event that culminates many of these activities is the Marion County Fair. The fair provides a unique multi-faceted educational experience for 4-H members and the public. The members gain experience and knowledge from experts in the field related to their project discipline and life-skills such as presentations, communications, reporting, and ethics. It also provides an opportunity for the public to become educated on a plethora of projects from agriculture to public speaking to arts and science.

In an effort to better reach Latino communities and introduce families to 4-H, several youth programs targeting these audiences have been created. These include soccer, Lego robotics, GIS/GPS, art, science and technology, leadership, and camp experiences. In addition to learning specific technical skills, these

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programs are designed to life-long learning skills, encourage participation in continuing education, and honor the Latino traditions and culture. Soccer volunteers teach youth many different values; they learn to be responsible, to trust and respect each other, and to be leaders. The value of the volunteers is immeasurable. They train more than 400 youth on teams once or twice per week, plus spend up to three hours on weekends overseeing team games. The benefits of playing soccer include not only helping kids stay active but also provide a productive way to invest their time.

### After-School STEM-Based Service Learning Programs and Caretakers of the Environment International Projects

For calendar year 2010, the combined after-school Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) based programs, including Roberts High School day programs in the field, engaged about 310 different middle and high school students, college students, and adult volunteers in 7,019 hours of adult volunteer education and youth service learning in 95 activities. This does not include 1,260 paid youth service hours of the work crew managed by an Americorps volunteer for a program that is part of the Oregon Youth Employment Initiative through the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps.

The student-based Youth Enviro Squad engaged in upland prairie and riparian restoration, and trail maintenance at city, county, state and federal sites, with 1,700 hours logged in Marion County parks. The high school leadership youth program Leadership, Stewardship, Partnership (SHIP 3) has eight students primarily focused on the ONE4ONE tree planting project for Oregon; they planted more than 30,000 trees and other native plants and shared the project at community events plus trained other youth how to develop their own community project. Three students presented this project and a reforestation project at the 2009 Caretakers of the Environment International Conference in Lawang, Indonesia.

Six youth on a leadership team assisted in putting together the first "Leading the Change" conference in November 2010. There were 46 youths and 14 adults in attendance, representing seven different schools in Marion County (South Salem, McKay, North Salem, Mt. Angel, Houck, Leslie and ECHS/TPP). Youth participants received in-depth training in two of the following areas: Growing Green Habits, Restoring Natural Places, Encouraging Acceptance and Tolerance, Youth Voice for Influence, and Life Decisions vs. Values. As a part of the conference, eight teams of youth presented an "Action Project" that they plan to take back and accomplish in their local school/community. The additional volunteer hours by these teams will be logged in the 2011 report.

### Master Gardeners

Master Gardener volunteers staff the Home Gardener help desk in the Extension office throughout the year and served 2,468 clients in 2010. They also staff clinics at various county venues throughout the year including Salem Saturday Market; the Yard, Garden and Patio Show; Earth Day; Ag Fest and the State Fair. They sponsor a school education program that in 2010 provided horticultural education on seed growing in 19 Salem/Keizer classrooms, reaching more than 500 first graders. The Master Gardeners continue to develop the Marion Garden, their demonstration garden behind the Extension office, adding a new rain garden in 2010 and utilizing the space for public workshops on fruit tree pruning, ornamental pruning, and beneficial insects.

Master Gardeners continue to offer presentations weekly on KBZY 1490 radio and also in 2010 provided speakers to 21 area organizations and to the WIC program's WIC-O-RAMA.

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The Marion County Master Gardener Association also provided direct financial assistance to the Extension Office in 2010 by purchasing a new digital camera as well as an LCD projector and covering one-half the cost of a new laptop computer.

### Public Works

*Mission: To utilize available resources as efficiently as possible; to serve the public works needs of the community including providing for the health and safety of its citizens; to maintain and improve the quality of life and improve the agricultural and forestry economies of Marion County; and to provide customers with an environmentally responsible and cost-effective system for reduction and disposal of solid waste through quality services, education, and involvement.*

#### Planning Commission

The Planning Commission reviewed the County Rural Zone Code and event permits request from citizens, with recommendations made to the Board of Commissioners. One subdivision application was reviewed.

#### Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWMAC)

The Solid Waste Management Advisory Council oversaw the completion and adoption of the Solid Waste Management Plan.

#### Water Quality Advisory Commission (MWQAC)

The Marion County Water Quality Advisory Commission provided input for two ordinances subsequently approved by the Board of Commissioners. The group directed county staff on strategies for education and outreach efforts all in its first year of existence as a county advisory board.

#### Weed Advisory Committee (WAC)

The Advisory Committee embarked on a mission to expand the Weed Control District program through stable funding and additional staffing. That mission is still in process, and has many challenges, but the group has steadfastly held to their goal and are proceeding with cautious optimism. In addition, the group has continued to provide dynamic solutions to some interesting programmatic challenges and has offered valuable input regarding the issues for citizens on-the-ground. The makeup of this committee is unique and they have demonstrated an ability to respond to ever-changing circumstances and well as the limitations of government policies and procedures.

#### Adopt-A-Road

During 2010, the Adopt-A-Road program had a total of 1,776 volunteer hours and 216 miles of county highway cleaned. Nine new groups joined the program this year for a total of 72. Seven groups performed an extra cleanup this year.

#### Dog Shelter

Volunteers at the dog shelter provide a wide array of services for the dog shelter and for the stray dogs that eventually call the facility a temporary home. The dog walkers help socialize the adoptable dogs, give valuable behavior information staff would not normally be able to assess, and give each dog the much-needed exercise and love to help them move toward a new home and new life.

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Dedicated outreach volunteers spend weekends in the community telling others about the services the shelter provides not only help get adoptable dogs adopted, they are spreading the word that if a dog is lost, this is where to look first. The sooner a lost dog is reunited with its family the healthier and happier everyone is. These same volunteers willingly raise their hands to assist with the Licensing Amnesty events, Woodburn Shopping Extravaganza fund raiser,



Volunteers staff the Marion County Dog Shelter area at the 2010 Marion County Fair.

and the new annual rummage sale. These events help the dog shelter bring in the much-needed funds to take care of the approximately 2,000 stray dogs that come in to the shelter each year.

The volunteer foster program is up and running at the shelter. Approximately 10 dogs were placed in foster care during 2010. Without these dedicated foster volunteers who spend many hours working with difficult social behaviors, administering needed medications or caring for a dog that has had major surgery, these dogs would not have been able to be placed in loving new homes.

The dog shelter relies heavily on the volunteer force. Without each and every one of them, 326 dogs might not have been adopted by new families, 244 dogs transferred to specialized rescues, or 793 dogs returned to their owners



Left to right: volunteers Gayle with Lola, Diane with Kearney and Chelsea with Willy

## Marion County Volunteer Annual Report 2010

### Parks

Volunteers worked a variety of jobs in many different parks during 2010. Groups that have adopted parks provided essential services. These services included litter pickup, painting, trail work and weed removal. Similar services were provided by "one time" volunteer groups. Group efforts were concentrated more in noxious weed removal, trail maintenance, and painting over graffiti. Several volunteer groups made an impressive contribution this past year.

The Northwest Youth Corps (NYC) provided two weeks of volunteer labor. They improved and finished the loop trail and removed noxious weeds at Aumsville Ponds. Blackberries were removed from Spong's Landing. Their major accomplishment occurred at Scotts Mills though where the group removed more than 50 years of ivy and blackberries, five dump truck loads!

Covanta Energy provided and planted 21 native trees on Earth Day at Spong's Landing Park.

Cascade High School continues to work diligently to improve Aumsville Ponds Park. They are removing noxious weeds and litter, and improving/rehabilitating the Western Pond Turtle nesting area. They have also planted native trees throughout the park.

Roberts High School undertook the task of removing blackberries at Scotts Mills Park and in their place have planted numerous Douglas Fir trees.

A new OSU Extension group, the Enviro-squad, began work in many of the parks improving trails and removing noxious weeds.

A private group has taken on the task of improving Spong's Landing Park. The accomplishments include weed removal, trail work and general maintenance.

In cooperation with BLM, a volunteer has maintained county six parks along Highway 22 and North Fork Road. Working from Memorial Day to Labor Day, the volunteer contributed 328 volunteer hours.

## **Sheriff**

*Mission: To provide the highest level of public safety services in partnership with our communities.*

### Sheriff's Office (MCSO)

The MCSO Volunteer program has now completed its third year of operation and currently has grown to a total of 38 volunteers.

The Disabled Parking Program is well established and providing good results. During 2010 the team wrote 62 citations and gave out 280 warnings. With the use of a vehicle from the Sheriff's Work Center, the team averaged three patrols a week during 2010, including weekends during back-to-school and holidays at the Woodburn Outlet Stores.

The Marine Safety volunteers started Boat Safety Inspections at Detroit Lake at the end of April, and continued through Labor Day. They were on duty at Kane's and Detroit Marinas, Mongold, and the State Park. The volunteers conducted more than 350 boat inspections, volunteering more than 500 hours. For the third year there were no burglaries reported at either marina. The Marine Safety

## Marion County Volunteer Annual Report 2010



Sheriff's Office Volunteer Coordinator Doc Nelson (left) with volunteers Denise Toman and Tim Ream at Detroit Lake.

volunteers received the 2010 Don Christensen Volunteer Team Award for their 821 volunteer hours of support of the Oregon State Marine Law Enforcement Program from the Oregon State Marine Board.

Community Events volunteers helped at Showbiz, Marion County Fair, Shop with a Cop, Detroit Fishing Derby, Strike Out Meth, Jefferson Safety Fair, and more than 75 other community events and safety fairs.

Volunteers also helped with office duties at the SO, CDO, and other divisions as needed.

During 2010, the MCSO volunteers contributed a total of 2,891 hours of service. This is equivalent to \$53,397.00 in working dollars. This final tally represents an increase of 431 hours from 2009 volunteer hours. Since the start of the program in 2008, volunteers have performed 6,663 hours of service with a total value of \$123,065.00. The department is very pleased with the accomplishments of the volunteers this past year and how the program has evolved since its start. With an increasing number of volunteers and added responsibilities, even better results are expected in 2011.

### Forensic Services Unit

The Forensic Science Intern who assisted in processing evidence from crime scenes and maintained the fingerprint card system during 2009 was available only the first month of 2010 due to being hired by Salem Police Department. As a result of the intern's departure, turnaround time increased from a week or less to sometimes more than three months. A new intern has been approved and will begin duties in February 2011.

### Parole and Probation

Parenting Inside Out is an internship program with Corban College. Parents who were formerly incarcerated benefit from the individual attention and coaching the intern provides. Both the department and staff benefit freed up staff time and resources available for other duties while supporting the efforts of a capable intern providing service to the Parenting Inside Out program.

## Marion County Volunteer Annual Report 2010



Newly trained Environmental Services volunteers celebrate their Master Recycler class graduation!

**Electronic version of this report available at:  
<http://www.co.marion.or.us/BS/VOL>  
and  
Click on Volunteer Annual Report**



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# Marion County Volunteer Annual Report 2010



*Reading For All* volunteers distribute books at *Striking Out Meth* event last



Sheriff's Office cadet

Cascade High School students at an Earth Day event for Aumsville Ponds Park

