

MARION COUNTY

VOLUNTEER REPORT

2008



Marion County
OREGON

INTRODUCTION

Marion County, Oregon, includes sixteen departments and offices of elected officials. The county's workforce consists of 1,590 employees and 1,159 volunteers.

The work of volunteers is highlighted throughout the year in a quarterly publication, *A Helping Hand*. During National Volunteer Week, the Board of Commissioners presents volunteer awards at its weekly board session, which is 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 or 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 at other times throughout the year.

This report describes the total number of volunteers during the 2008 calendar year and the hours they served. The tables in the 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 coordinator Glenis Chapin at either 503-588-7990 or volunteer@co.marion.or.us.



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DEPARTMENT	PROGRAM	VOLUNTEERS	HOURS	TOTAL	\$ *VALUE
ASSESSOR					
	DATA COLLECTION	NA	NA	0	\$0
BOC					
	CLERICAL	1	30		
	ECON. DEV. ADV. BOARD	14	178		
	CO. OF ECON. ADVISORS	4	12		
	FINANCE/BUDGET TASK FR	4	28		
	MWAC TRANSPORTATION	1	12		
	BUDGET COMM.	3	73		
	OPAL CREEK CO	2	16		
	NS WATERSHED CO	1	100		
	OR 150 COMMITTEE	13	370		
	PSCC	4	100	919	\$16,450
BUSINESS SERVICES					
	HR TRAINING - INTERN	1	44		
	VOL PROG ASSISTANT	1	221		
	COMPENSATION BOARD	4	30	295	\$5,281
CLERK-ELECTIONS					
	VOTER ASSISTANCE	6	77		
	BOPTA	4	224	301	\$5,388
DEPT. OF CHILDREN & FAMILIES					
	FOSTER ACTION TM	38	205		
	EARLY CHILDHOOD	47	218		
	FAMILY SYSTEMS	77	1,262		
	CALDERAZZO COALITION	15	119		
	CHILD&FAM COMMISSION	59	629		
	GREAT BEGINNINGS	60	470		
	HEALTHY START COMM	30	230		
	HUNGER GROUP	22	38		
	RUNAWAY/HOMELESS TM	19	29		
	ADVOCACY & COMM	2	11		
	READING FOR ALL	61	2,605		
	LDRSHIP & AGENDA PLAN	2	38		
	COMM. PROG. TEAMS	132	22,025	27,879	\$499,118
DA					
	INVESTIGATIONS	4	187		
	VAD CLERICAL	1	353		
	VICTIM ADVOCATES	53	44,585	45,125	\$807,738
EXTENSION					
	CASCADE SCENIC RLRD	15	140		
	YOUTH ENVRO SQUAD/W3	280	5,450		
	4-H LEADERS	243	41,310		
	4-H ADVISORY & OTHER	49	1,825		
	4-H FAIR SUPERINTENDENT	55	1,950		
	MASTER GARDENERS	203	10,574	61,249	\$1,096,357

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DEPARTMENT	PROGRAM	VOLUNTEERS	HOURS	TOTAL	\$ *VALUE
HEALTH					
	PREVENTION EDUCATOR	1	27		
	COMM. CARE PARTNERS	19	2,667		
	FLU & IMMUN. CLINICS	1	52		
	CLERICAL	1	59		
	WIC	NA	NA		
	HEALTH ADV BOARD	NA	NA		
	ALCOHOL/DRUG COMM	12	141		
	NEW SOLUTIONS MENTOR	4	45		
	HIV EDUCATION	1	17		
	PSYCH CRISIS CENTER	1	143	3,151	\$56,403
INFO/TECHNOLOGY					
	GIS	1	128		
JUVENILE					
	COUNSELING	3	693		
	DETENTION	NA	NA		
	TRAINING ASSISTANTS	4	224		
	ALTERNATIVE PROGS	4	336		
	PROBATION PRACTICUM	NA	NA		
	GAP MENTOR	12	588	1,841	\$32,954
LEGAL					
PUBLIC WORKS					
	AMERICORPS VISTA	2	1,624		
	PARKS	727	1,728		
	PARK HOST	2	1,953		
	PLANNING COMMISSION	9	96		
	PARKS COMMISSION	7	72		
	ADOPT-A-ROAD (groups)	82	1,853		
	MSTR RECYCLER	61	559		
	SWMAC	15	412		
	DOG SHELTER	76	2,918		
	DOG FEST	46	140		
	WEED CONTROL ADV	9	180		
	WEED OUTREACH	6	41		
	BUILDING INSPECTION	NA	NA		
	COUNTY FAIR & BOARD	832	9,984		
	ARES	50	169	21,728	\$388,935
SHERIFF					
	INSTITUTIONS	115	3,386		
	COLD CASE SQUAD	4	1,536		
	MCSO VOLUNTEERS	21	1,313		
	SEARCH & RESCUE UNITS	163	7,497		
	RESERVES	21	8,135		
	PAROLE/PROBATION	2	95		
	FORENSIC INTERNS	NA	NA		
	CADETS	5	2,499	24,461	\$437,852
Totals		3,849	187,077		\$3,346,474

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.

Budget Committee

Citizen members work in conjunction with county commissioners to recommend budgets for all county department operations and capital improvements. Committee members consider long-term financial management and responsibility, county goals, and public needs when recommending the final budget for adoption. Committee members ensure that all funds are balanced in accordance with Oregon municipal budget laws. Last year a budget committee work group reviewed the budget process and made recommendations for process changes and paperwork reductions for a more streamlined and efficient budget process.

The Council of Economic Advisors

The Council of Economic Advisors is comprised of Marion County staff, elected officials and community volunteers. The council meets annually to discuss significant financial trends and to project general fund and other revenues for the Budget Officer's use in the upcoming budget session.

Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB)

EDAB makes economic policy recommendations to the board of commissioners, evaluates video lottery grant applications and oversees the process for lottery grant requests. The board recommended approximately \$645,000 in economic development grants last year. Grants included support for tourism, training, private business development and comprehensive planning.

Mid-Willamette Valley Area Commission on Transportation (MWACT)

In February 2008, MWACT members received an update related to the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Public Involvement policy. Members of the commission were asked to review the policy and provide ODOT with their comments.

Commission members also reviewed four tasks related to the State Transportation Improvement Program Update (STIP) and Connect Oregon II applications during three meetings. In August, MWACT members continued to work on a federal earmark list of projects within the area to be submitted to ODOT for inclusion in a list of earmark projects to be advanced to the Oregon Transportation Commission.

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Public Safety Coordinating Council

The Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC) is charged with developing a countywide plan for public safety policy, planning and coordination and implementation of resources by working with all partners in the public safety sector, including the sheriff, local police chiefs, the district attorney, health department, juvenile department, Children and Families Commission and local businesses and citizen advocates. In 2008 PSCC volunteers assisted with: a Gang Identification Workshop for Educators, the annual Striking Out Meth event at Volcanoes Stadium, and a town hall meeting in Jefferson to discuss community crime. Additional town hall meetings throughout Marion County are planned for 2009.

North Santiam Watershed Council

The North Santiam Watershed Council consists of 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 summer 2008, two additional culverts on a North Santiam side channel were replaced along with other stream habitat improvements, including weed control and re-vegetation with native plants. These projects improve habitat conditions for salmon and steelhead, protect water quality and address landowner concerns, such as erosion. This coming summer, the Watershed Council is working with landowners on Stout Creek, a North Santiam tributary in the Lyons area, to complete similar activities to restore habitat and stream conditions.

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. Significant work accomplished last year included closure of several abandoned mines located in the SRA that posed hazards to the public.

Oregon 150 Committee

Thirteen volunteers served on the committee that met during 2008 and continues to meet to plan and implement a sesquicentennial event for Marion County. The county's committee developed 150 miles for 150 years, a tour route and passport through Marion County with suggested destinations in each city for people to visit. The sites are of historic value and are destinations and events important to the community. The route takes participants through every incorporated city in Marion County. People completing the tour and filling in the clue answers in their passports will be recognized in 2009 by the Board of Commissioners. In addition to the historical tour-passport activity, Marion County will also be hosting a 150 Miles for 150 Years relay event through each of Marion County's 20 cities and many of the 47 unincorporated communities.

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Business Services

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

Volunteer Program

A volunteer program assistant in Human Resources assists the volunteer coordinator with volunteer record management and year-end and quarterly reports. In addition to updating volunteer records, the volunteer program assistant developed and updated publications, assisted with mailings, helped with a conference registration, and assembled the volunteer orientation packets. Her assistance is of great value to the volunteer program by keeping data and supplies updated and accurate.

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 citizens of Marion County benefit from the board of property tax appeals. The board heard appeals of value for 139 properties in Marion County over a seven-day period.

Voter Assistance Teams (VAT)

In 2008 for the first time, teams of volunteers were trained and available to assist Marion County voters who had difficulty casting a ballot in the traditional manner. VAT members were paired with another volunteer of a different party affiliation and trained on the computer equipment and software used by voters. VAT members also helped voters register. Teams of two volunteers were available at pre-arranged, publicized locations for several days preceding the primary and general elections.

Children and Families

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

Foster Care

Foster Care Action Team addresses foster parent recruitment, retention and supports. The team works collaboratively with DHS, local foster parents and social service organizations to address the foster care crisis. Some of our achievements include:

- Launched the "Leaning In" program, which engages the faith community to support foster parents
- Established a Foster Parent Retention Plan, including 24-hour support and general respite care
- Increased the number of foster homes
- Established a Receiving Home to support sibling groups entering state care

Runaway Youth

This initiative gives targeted attention to the runaway and homeless youth population. It established a continuum of services and supports centered on programs provided by two main agencies: HOST and HOME. These two programs offer shelter beds and basic needs services for youth. This collaborative also builds upon the services of DHS, the Juvenile Department, Salem Police Department, Neighbor to Neighbor, and other appropriate local services. Some of the

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accomplishments of this initiative are:

- In 2008, it served 848 youth — at least 160 of those youth were homeless
- Partnered with public and private organizations to establish a comprehensive, systemic approach to serving runaway and homeless youth
- Certified youth advocate staff members to aid youth in completing and expediting food stamp applications
- Expanded existing mediation services to reunify youth with their families.

Early Childhood

“Great Beginnings” is Marion County’s initiative to promote healthy social and emotional development in children, ages zero to five. Over 25 organizations have joined forces to integrate innovative and effective early interventions, enrichment models and family-strengthening policies and practices. Some achievements include:

- Added social and emotional development language to temporary custody judgment orders
- Partnered with Chemeketa Community College and DHS to train unlicensed childcare providers on healthy child development and best practices. A Spanish cohort is being implemented
- Sponsored more than 75 childcare providers to complete college course work on healthy child development offered at Chemeketa Community College
- Providing “lending libraries” more than 55 childcare providers throughout Marion County

“Reading for All!” initiative incorporates reading and literacy into existing community programs and resources. The goal is to involve leaders across Marion County to make reading a priority. Research shows that reading skills help students be prepared to enter school and become self-motivated learners who thrive in school, succeed in life and become productive community members. Some achievements include:

- In 2008, collected 16,123 books to redistribute to children in our community (calculated value of \$52,443)



Volunteers sort books for children

- Partnered with Marion-Polk Food Share to collect books for the No Hungry Child Spring Break program. The Food Share also now includes books in food boxes going to families
- Actively partnered with six school districts and their surrounding communities to launch local literacy efforts (Cascade, Gervais, Mt. Angel, Salem-Keizer, Silverton and Woodburn). More efforts to be launched in 2009
- Garnered over 2,605 volunteer hours to sort books, launch local events, read to children, help with book distribution and other Reading for All! action team activities

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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

Volunteers served 3,149 victims, providing over 44,500 services such as accompanying victims to court, notifying them of their rights, providing appropriate resources for their needs, and helping them navigate and understand the criminal justice system. Volunteers responded to the emergency room at the hospital 105 times to assist victims of sexual assault and assisted more than 30 co-victims of homicide. Eight college interns obtained comprehensive and meaningful experiences that can be utilized to obtain employment in the criminal justice or social services fields.

Finance

Mission: Safeguarding the county's fiscal integrity.

A volunteer worked 40 hours at the end of August launching a project for scanning the county's contract documents into electronic format before sending the documents to archives.

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.

A Woodburn High School senior volunteered at the Woodburn Health Clinic during the summer 2008. She wrote a public service announcement for problem gambling awareness in both English and Spanish. With three friends she recorded the PSAs at KWIP and KBZY, and prepared and organized the materials for three Strengthening Families Program 10-14 series (9 sessions each). This involved making sample items like collages, family trees and family shields for the classes, gathering supplies, making copies, and assembling all materials in an easy to use filing system. The department was very fortunate and grateful to have such a capable volunteer.

Consumer Care Partnerships (CCP)

CCP is a nationally recognized Marion County program designed to assist consumers of mental health and/or chemical dependency services create an individual community-based support team. The goal of a CCP team is to support an individual in their recovery, assist them in reaching identified needs and goals, and help them build meaningful connections to their communities.

This innovative team-based approach has helped to end isolation, loneliness and despair for many individuals within Marion and Yamhill counties. Action plans have included such items as: opening checking accounts, budgeting assistance, maintaining a house and yard, rejoining a church, learning the bus system, and developing social skills. For example, one individual supported by a CCP team had become isolated, was unable to manage her medications, and afraid to stay in her home. Her team helped her identify some goals and assisted her with obtaining new housing where she felt safe and closer to family. She now is able to see her daughter on a regular basis, swim several times a week, and attend weekly Bible study.

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Local Alcohol and Drug Planning Committee (LADPC)

The LADPC completed several important projects in 2008. A detoxification protocol for first responders was developed and formally presented to law enforcement and ambulance service leaders. Currently the LADPC is working on a youth film project with local youth on drug and alcohol prevention. A local theatre group is assisting with the project.

The LADPC is also working on community education efforts in light of the very serious proposed cuts to alcohol and drug treatment services across the state.

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.

The program launched in March 2008. During the first year, two full-time mentors were matched to two youths, and two mentors completed training and orientation. The youths enjoyed activities such as bowling, visiting the library and the Chemeketa Community College campus, going to lunch, and much more. The mentors participate in monthly Child and Family Team meetings and spend one to two hours a week for six months with their youths. The program was able to purchase professional quality brochures through a partnership with the Visual Communications Program at Chemeketa Community College.

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.

A volunteer worked on Enterprise Geographic Information System (GIS) data mapping projects. These projects included converting hydrology (rivers and streams) data into a network, which describes how water flows through the county. This enables a complex analysis on river flow through the county. The other project completed by the volunteer was assisting with the alignment of the data required when the Clackamas portion of our County Boundary was realigned for accuracy. This benefits all county staff and citizens who rely on Marion County maps.

Juvenile

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

Counseling Services

The master of social work graduate interns spend the academic school year working 16 hours a week each. Through their volunteer field placement, they provide counseling services to children and families. Services include co-facilitating the parenting classes, individual counseling, family counseling, and co-facilitating treatment groups for the co-occurring disorders treatment group for adolescent girls. In addition, the MSW interns share their unique talents via mini-workshops, covering such topics as native culture, ethnicity, and gender-specific treatment.

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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 about agriculture, 4-H, horticulture, forestry, water and watersheds, nutrition education, and sustainable communities. OSU Extension Service trains volunteers and relies on them to support and extend the educational information into the community. The following summarizes the primary programs utilizing volunteers.

4-H Program

The Marion County 4-H Program is an informal, positive youth development education program for youth in K-12 grades. More than 4,400 youth in Marion County were involved in some aspect of 4-H during the 2007-2008 4-H year (October 1, 2007-September 30, 2008). The 4-H program helps young people learn and grow through an intentional process that builds competence, confidence, compassion, and character. Whether involved in 4-H clubs, in-school nutrition programs or other outreach programs, they are acquiring knowledge, developing life skills, and forming positive attitudes that will enable them to become self directing, productive, and contributing members of their community. The most prevalent programs, by size of membership, include: nutrition education, soccer, animal science (including horse, swine and veterinary science), communication and expressive arts (including photography, art, and public speaking), personal development and leadership, as well as science and technology.



Julia Galvin, Marion County 4-H Leader received the 2008 Oregon State University Cooperator Award for her involvement and service to 4-H at both the county and state level. She is receiving her award from Scott Reed, Vice Provost of OSU Outreach & Engagement and Director of OSU Extension Service

Master Gardeners

Home Garden Q&A Service

The volunteers in the Extension Office answered 2,742 inquiries on a wide range of topics from homeowners in Marion County in 2008. This is a free service by OSU Extension volunteers to the people of Marion County. In addition, the Master Gardeners staffed clinics at Ag Fest, the Yard, Garden and Patio Show, Earth Day at the Oregon Garden, the Oregon State Fair, and the Salem Saturday Market, among other venues, to answer home garden questions and provide information.

Demonstration Garden

The Master Gardeners have built and manage a three-acre demonstration garden behind the Extension Office on Center Street. It is utilized as a tool for master gardener training and public workshops on gardening topics, and is the only facility of its type in Salem for teaching

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sustainable gardening practices.

Oregon Garden

Maintenance continues at the Oregon Garden for the drought-tolerant shrubs display within the main garden as well as the research landscape in the upper parking lots.

Schools Program

Master Gardener volunteers provide education programs to elementary school students in the Salem-Keizer school district during April and May. In 2008 the volunteers visited six Title I schools, 12 classrooms, and provided educational enrichment to more than 300 young students.

KBZY and Speakers Bureau

Master Gardeners present a radio program each Thursday morning on KBZY 1490 in Salem. A total of 51 programs were presented in 2008. Master Gardeners gave presentations to various area clubs, charities, and other organizations on 23 other occasions during the year.

Community Landscaping

Projects this year involved planting a collection of drought-tolerant plants at the entrance to the Willamette Valley Humane Society.

Sustainable Communities

Youth volunteers through YES and W3 completed several service learning and restoration projects at many sites. At Bonesteele, Auburn and Joryville county parks volunteers improved the sites by removing invasive weeds, clearing brush, ivy and blackberries, and repairing trails.

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 Division

Planning Commission

During 2008, the Planning Commission held a joint meeting with the Board of Commissioners on the countywide Population Projection Project, reviewed changes to the countywide Sensitive Groundwater Overlay Zone Program, and three subdivision requests.

Marion County Fair

Fair volunteers are a vital part of producing the fair. With a limited budget, the fair relies on volunteer manpower to accomplish many of the tasks needing to be done. Volunteers assist with Open Class exhibits, entertainment, the Legislative Reception, set up, take down and grounds clean-up. The 4H and FFA programs also have volunteers who help with the variety of tasks

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required to exhibit and show youths' projects.

Environmental Services

NW Service Academy (AmeriCorps)

During the 2008 calendar year, Marion County Public Works—Environmental Services was fortunate to have two AmeriCorps volunteers serve in the department. These motivated volunteers worked concurrently on the same project as Multi-Family Recycling Program Specialists (MRPS). They spent approximately 70% of their time working on expanding the multi-family recycling program which entailed working with apartment managers, residents, and garbage/recycling haulers to develop an education and outreach plan. The remaining 30% of their time was spent attending and assisting with the department's Master Recycler program and the annual Earth Day festival, answering residents' questions at community fairs and events, developing outreach materials, and giving presentations to neighborhood associations and volunteer-based community groups.

Solid Waste Management Advisory Council

The Solid Waste Management Advisory Council spent the year focused on the county's Solid Waste Management Plan preparation, providing public comment opportunities and feedback to the county's consultant during plan preparation.

Parks Commission

The Parks Commission was involved in the ongoing development of the Parks Master Plan.

Dog Shelter

Volunteers at the shelter were part of many beneficial, positive and rewarding experiences in 2008. The year began with a bang with the first open house at the Dog Shelter. Volunteers helped assemble raffle baskets, create posters, act as guides during the event, welcomed the public, gave out information, and took in donations. In all, almost 250 people attended and \$1,038 was raised in raffle ticket sales and donations.

Volunteers continued to hold adoption/information outreach events throughout the year in a variety of venues. From April to October volunteers were busy each Saturday with outreach events at Petsense, PetSmart, Salem Saturday Market, and Petco, and during the winter months one Saturday outreach was held at Pet Etc. These outreaches have resulted in several dogs being adopted, donations collected, and valuable shelter information given out. Volunteers formed



Volunteer Lynnette Graves assisting a family with choices at the Dog Fest raffle ticket booth.

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relationships and partnerships with area businesses who assisted the shelter by donating items and inviting participation in special holiday events. Volunteers had a booth at Salem Holiday Market and received \$363 in raffle and craft sales; at Petsmart's Santa Paws which raised \$170; and participated in Petco's Giving Tree which raised \$110. A win-win for all involved!

The 3rd Marion County Dog Fest event was held in September with 46 volunteers participating. It was a successful event for everyone involved with more than 500 people and 337 dogs attending. Volunteers contributed 140 hours working dog activity areas, assisting with the registration, raffle, and license amnesty booths, performing grounds monitoring, and assisting with set-up and take-down. Additional hours were spent on the planning committee. It was a lot of fun for everyone and garnered the shelter \$1,898.85 from gate receipts, raffle tickets sales, and donations. The other big-ticket event was the Shopping Extravaganza at Woodburn Company Stores. Volunteers spearheaded participation and ticket sales. Ticket purchasers were entitled to huge discounts on purchases, raffle prizes, lunch, and wine-tasting! This event was so successful it raised \$3,820.83 for the Marion County Dog Shelter! All due to the hard work of volunteers!

Volunteers donate many hours in transporting animals to and from veterinarian appointments and rescues. Volunteers also help promote the shelter dogs by distributing the "Dog of the Week" flyers and posters around the community.

The shelter continues to have a very committed group of dog walkers who spend quality time with the dogs, walking and socializing them. During 2008, volunteers provided 735 hours of dog walking to 333 dogs. Every minute dogs spend outside their kennels with a human helps keep them mentally and physically healthy.

The dog shelter volunteer program continues to grow. It is a vital and important part of the success of the shelter.



Volunteer Jenn (right) poses with Cody and co-worker Edwin. Edwin adopted Cody from the Dog Shelter after learning from Jenn that Cody needed a home.

Weed Advisory Committee (WAC)

The WAC continued to act as a resource for valuable input on education and outreach documents. They also provided guidance for the creation of the Marion County Weed Control District's first public workshop. Several members volunteered extra time beyond the scope of the committee meetings to participate in the Ag Fest, State Fair, and the workshop. This entire group is remarkably dedicated, and each member offers unique perspectives based on their own experiences and world views. They also create a dynamic group capable of accomplishing any task set before them.

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Master Recyclers

In 2008, 60 volunteers participated in the Master Recycler Program which includes more than 30 hours of training in solid waste issues. Specific topics include:

- What happens to your garbage—an overview of Marion County's solid waste management system
- Recycling—what can and can't be recycled and why
- Waste reduction in industry, at the office, and at home
- Waste management, water, energy, and resource efficiency as it relates to residential and commercial construction
- The power of purchasing—a look at what you're buying
- Composting and vermicomposting (composting using worms)
- Household hazardous waste reduction and alternatives
- Use of native plants and beneficial insects to reduce pesticide use and protect the watershed
- Making fun stuff from "trash"
- Education and outreach techniques.

Upon completion of the class, Master Recyclers volunteer for a variety of outreach programs which can range from setting up or expanding a recycling program in their workplace, apartment complex, or school to staffing a recycling information booth at various community events to organizing a workshop in their neighborhood to working with businesses to set up recycling and waste reduction programs. The information that Master Recyclers bring to their homes, workplaces, neighborhoods, and schools helps Marion County residents and businesses make informed decisions about reducing waste.

Adopt-A-Road

Adopt-A-Road groups cleaned a total of 222.84 miles of county road during the year. One group, Chinook Estate Families, cleaned 14.04 miles of road.

Parks

Volunteers performed a variety of jobs in many different county parks during 2008. Groups that adopted parks provided essential services including litter pickup, painting, trail work and weed removal. Similar services were provided by "one time" volunteer groups with efforts that concentrated on noxious weed removal, trail maintenance and painting over graffiti.

Several volunteer groups stand out this past year. Covanta Energy provided and planted trees and plants on Earth Day at Joryville and Parkdale parks. Cascade High School worked diligently to improve Aumsville Ponds Park by removing noxious weeds, litter, and improving and rehabilitating the Western Pond Turtle nesting area. Roberts High School took on the task of improving the trails at both Joryville and Bonesteel parks and they are also worked at Auburn Park removing blackberries and other weeds.

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Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)

ARES provides emergency communications during a disaster when the phones aren't working. They were on stand-by during the flooding at the coast. They participated in various events throughout the year such as the Marion County Fair; Walk-Run Marathon in Turner; drills that Emergency Management conducted throughout the year and their own ARES drills. They continued to meet monthly for member meetings. ARES received \$20,000 in equipment through the governor's office to enhance the program by being able to communicate with every EOC in Oregon. Volunteers installed the emergency radio equipment at the Silverton Hospital to expand communications to that community in an emergency.

Sheriff

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

Sheriff's Office (MCSO)

A former volunteer program with the MCSO was restored in 2008. Of the 1,312 volunteer hours, half were spent doing marine safety at Detroit Lake. With volunteers conducting boat safety inspections, deputies were able to spend more time on the lake. In 2008 there were more BUI's (Boating Under the Influence of Intoxicants) issued and no reports of any thefts at the marinas. Volunteers also helped with several events, including Marion County Fair, Showbiz, Neighborhood Night Out, World Beat, and Shop With a Cop. The hours volunteers worked in the office provided added support to the regular MCSO employees. In 2009, the volunteers will start new programs such as Radar Speed Board and Disabled Parking Patrol along with added areas for Marine Safety at Detroit Lake.



Boat safety inspection on Detroit Lake by a Marine Safety Patrol member.

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Cold Case Squad

In 2008 the Cold Case Squad concluded an investigation into the 1986 murder of Edward Jeffery by arresting the suspect, Patrick McCearry. No further information is available on this case as it has not been adjudicated.

The Cold Case Squad revisited the 1975 murder of then 17-year old Tina Migas. This case is still pending.

They reviewed another 1980's incident that had been considered a homicide, but after an extensive review had been reclassified as an accidental death. The information on this case is not yet public as next of kin notification is pending.

Parole & Probation

The use of volunteers and practicum students has become a staple over years for the Parole and Probation Division. Volunteers are regularly used to assist the sworn Parole and Probation officers with their daily duties. Some of these duties include: interviewing offenders, entering vital data in the computer systems, filing, returning calls, writing reports, and learning the general case management strategies. This "education" often helps the volunteer determine whether this is type of work he or she is seeking a future career. The time volunteers serve with the division assists with the ever-increasing workload associated with supervising more than 4,400 adult offenders. During the last several years, many of the volunteers, because of their time with the division, seek continuing and increasing responsibilities by applying for paid intern positions or full-time work when opportunities arise.



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