



June 12, 2025

BCC Agenda Date/Item: _____

Board of County Commissioners
Acting as the governing body of Water Environment Services
Clackamas County

Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with Clackamas Community College for educational programming on watershed health. Agreement Value is \$230,194 for 5 years. Funding is through WES Surface Water Operating Funds. No County General Funds are involved.

Previous Board Action/Review	N/A		
Performance Clackamas	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. This project supports the WES Strategic Plan goal that WES builds collaborative partnerships that result in a resilient clean water future where all people benefit and rivers thrive through proactive engagement, effective communication, public education, and community leadership.2. This project supports the County's Strategic Plan of building a strong infrastructure that delivers services to customers and honors, utilizes, promotes and invest in our natural resources.		
Counsel Review	Yes	Procurement Review	N/A
Contact Person	Ron Wierenga	Contact Phone	503-742-4581

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: WES' Watershed Health Education Program is intended to instruct and motivate people to take action in their daily lives to reduce human impacts on our water resources. Permits issued to WES also require the District to conduct education programs to protect water quality for public health and the environment. The Clackamas Community College Environmental Learning Center provides an ideal location to teach concepts of watershed science and health to students. Environmental Learning Center staff have the skills to develop curricula and teach them, making them an ideal partner for this program. WES has been successfully partnering with the college on this work since 2019.

Through the Intergovernmental Agreement Clackamas Community College will develop curriculum and provide watershed health-related educational field trips for school-aged children via the college's Environmental Learning Center, recruit schools from WES' service district and partner jurisdictions to participate, deliver the

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programs, and work with WES to provide internships to Clackamas Community College students. The agreement also includes recognition of WES as a sponsor in one of Clackamas Community College's Ecology Professional Trainings.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Board of County Commissioners of Clackamas County, acting as the governing body of Water Environment Services, approve the intergovernmental agreement between Water Environment Services and Clackamas Community College for watershed health education.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gregory L. Geist", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Gregory Geist
Director, WES

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN
WATER ENVIRONMENT SERVICES AND
CLACKAMAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

THIS AGREEMENT (this “Agreement”) is entered into and between Water Environment Services (“District”), a political subdivision of the State of Oregon, and Clackamas Community College (“Agency”), a political subdivision of the State of Oregon, collectively referred to as the “Parties” and each a “Party.”

RECITALS

Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 190.010 confers authority upon local governments to enter into agreements for the performance of any and all functions and activities that a party to the agreement, its officers or agencies have authority to perform.

The District has identified the need for watershed health education support throughout the areas it serves. As its population grows and becomes more urbanized, the already-impacted water resources face increasing pressure and are at risk of increased degradation. When customers are motivated, they can help the District both by supporting its programs and by the actions they take in their daily lives. Motivating them to do so will take a concerted effort that includes education, inspiration, and facilitating their actions. In addition, the District is required by its permits to conduct education programs to protect water quality for public health and the environment.

The Watershed Health Education Program (“WHEP”) is intended to instruct and motivate these behaviors among District customers. Student education is one component of the WHEP focused on the school-aged audience, which requires a teaching approach such that students understand the interrelated elements of systems from ecological, economic, and community perspectives. The goal of the WHEP is to develop a community that is aware of, and cares about, watershed health and the associated effects of human activity, including K-12 students. Customers need the knowledge, skills, attitudes, motivations, and commitment to work toward reducing impacts on water resources.

The Agency’s Environmental Learning Center (“ELC”) provides hands-on educational programming and field trips with similar goals and is an ideal location to teach the concepts of watershed science. In addition, Agency staff have both the technical and teaching skills needed to develop curricula and to teach these concepts. Therefore, a partnership between District and the Agency is proposed to develop and implement an educational program that will meet District’s needs.

In consideration of the mutual promises set forth below and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

TERMS

1. **Term.** This Agreement shall be effective upon execution and shall expire upon July 1, 2030.
2. **Scope of Work.** The Agency agrees to provide the services further identified in the Scope of Work attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein (“Work”).
3. **Consideration.** The District agrees to pay Agency, from available and authorized funds, a sum not to exceed two hundred thirty thousand one hundred ninety-four dollars (\$230,194.00) for

accomplishing the Work required by this Agreement. This total amount includes potential inflationary increases as may be allowed by the District pursuant to Section 4 below. Consideration rates are based on the Budget in Exhibit A.

4. **Payment.** Unless otherwise specified, the Agency shall submit quarterly invoices for Work performed and shall include the total amount billed to date by the Agency prior to the current invoice. Invoices shall describe all Work performed with particularity, by whom it was performed. The Agency will only bill for services performed regardless of the Work plan provided as part of this Agreement. Payments shall be made to Agency following the District's review and approval of invoices submitted by Agency. Agency shall not submit invoices for, and the District will not pay, any amount in excess of the maximum compensation amount set forth above.

Each July 1 starting in 2026, the rates charged by Agency may be modified by the Parties up to 4% per year if the increase in the cost of living, as defined in the Consumer Price Index Western Region, for the previous twelve (12) months equals or exceeds 4%. Any such modification to consideration must not exceed the actual percentage increase in the cost of living as measured by the Consumer Price Index or a comparable index mutually agreed upon by the Parties. Agency may submit a request for a rate increase to District in writing by June 1 each year for District consideration. If the District agrees to the increase the rates, it will notify the Agency in writing. Any increases in rates shall not increase the total not-to-exceed amount of the Contract stated in Section 3 above without an amendment signed by both Parties.

5. **Representations and Warranties.**

- A. Agency Representations and Warranties: Agency represents and warrants to District that Agency has the power and authority to enter into and perform this Agreement, and this Agreement, when executed and delivered, shall be a valid and binding obligation of Agency enforceable in accordance with its terms.
- B. District Representations and Warranties: District represents and warrants to Agency that District has the power and authority to enter into and perform this Agreement, and this Agreement, when executed and delivered, shall be a valid and binding obligation of District enforceable in accordance with its terms.
- C. The warranties set forth in this section are in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other warranties provided.

6. **Termination.**

- A. Either the District or the Agency may terminate this Agreement at any time upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party.
- B. Either the District or the Agency may terminate this Agreement in the event of a breach of the Agreement by the other. Prior to such termination however, the Party seeking the termination shall give the other Party written notice of the breach and of the Party's intent to terminate. If the breaching Party has not entirely cured the breach within fifteen (15) days of deemed or actual receipt of the notice, then the Party giving notice may terminate the Agreement at any time thereafter by giving written notice of termination stating the effective date of the termination. If the default is of such a nature that it cannot be completely

remedied within such fifteen (15) day period, this provision shall be complied with if the breaching Party begins correction of the default within the fifteen (15) day period and thereafter proceeds with reasonable diligence and in good faith to effect the remedy as soon as practicable. The Party giving notice shall not be required to give more than one (1) notice for a similar default in any twelve (12) month period.

- C. The District or the Agency shall not be deemed to have waived any breach of this Agreement by the other Party except by an express waiver in writing. An express written waiver as to one breach shall not be deemed a waiver of any other breach not expressly identified, even though the other breach is of the same nature as that waived.
 - D. The District may terminate this Agreement in the event the District fails to receive expenditure authority sufficient to allow the District, in the exercise of its reasonable administrative discretion, to continue to perform under this Agreement, or if federal or state laws, regulations or guidelines are modified or interpreted in such a way that either the Project under this Agreement is prohibited or the District is prohibited from paying for such work from the planned funding source.
 - E. Any termination of this Agreement shall not prejudice any rights or obligations accrued to the Parties prior to termination.
7. **Responsibility for Damages; Indemnification.** Agency shall be responsible for all damage to property, injury to persons, and loss, expense, inconvenience, and delay which may be caused by, or result from, the conduct of Work, or from any act, omission, or neglect of Agency, its subcontractors, agents, or employees. The Agency agrees to indemnify, hold harmless and defend the District and Clackamas County, and their officers, elected officials, agents and employees from and against all claims and actions, and all expenses incidental to the investigation and defense thereof, arising out of or based upon damage or injuries to persons or property caused by the errors, omissions, fault or negligence of the Agency or the Agency's employees, subcontractors, or agents.

However, neither Agency nor any attorney engaged by Agency shall defend the claim in the name of District or Clackamas County ("County"), nor purport to act as legal representative of District or County, without first receiving from the Clackamas County Counsel's Office authority to act as legal counsel for District or County, nor shall Agency settle any claim on behalf of District or County without the approval of the County Counsel's Office. District or County may, at their election and expense, assume their own defense and settlement.

8. **Insurance.** The Agency agrees to furnish the District with evidence of commercial general liability insurance, which includes abuse and molestation coverage, with a combined single limit of not less than \$1,000,000 for each claim, incident, or occurrence, with an aggregate limit of \$2,000,000 for bodily injury and property damage for the protection of District and Clackamas County, and their officers, elected officials, agents, and employees against liability for damages because of personal injury, bodily injury, death or damage to property, including loss of use thereof, in any way related to this Agreement. If self-insured, Agency shall provide documentation to the District of Agency's self-insured status by completing the Self-Insurance Certification form provided by the District.

9. **Notices; Contacts.** Legal notice provided under this Agreement shall be delivered personally, by email or by certified mail to the individuals identified below. Any communication or notice so addressed and mailed shall be deemed to be given upon receipt. Any communication or notice sent by electronic mail to an address indicated herein is deemed to be received 2 hours after the time sent (as recorded on the device from which the sender sent the email), unless the sender receives an automated message or other indication that the email has not been delivered. Any communication or notice by personal delivery shall be deemed to be given when actually delivered. Either Party may change the Party contact information, or the invoice or payment addresses by giving prior written notice thereof to the other Party at its then current notice address.

- A. Samantha Bachman or their designee will act as liaison for the District. Contact Information:

Samantha Bachman, Sr. Community Relations Specialist
Water Environment Services
150 Beavercreek Rd, Suite 430
Oregon City, OR 97045
sbachman@clackamas.us

Copy to: Alexa Morris, Water Environment Services
amorris@clackamas.us

- B. Heidi Blackwell or their designee will act as liaison for the Agency. Contact Information:

Heidi Blackwell, Environmental Learning Center Program
Director
Clackamas Community College 19600 Molalla Ave.
Oregon City, OR 97045
heidi.blackwell@clackamas.edu

10. General Provisions.

- A. Oregon Law and Forum. This Agreement, and all rights, obligations, and disputes arising out of it will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Oregon and the ordinances of the District and Clackamas County without giving effect to the conflict of law provisions thereof. Any claim between District and Agency that arises from or relates to this Agreement shall be brought and conducted solely and exclusively within the Circuit Court of Clackamas County for the State of Oregon; provided, however, if a claim must be brought in a federal forum, then it shall be brought and conducted solely and exclusively within the United States District Court for the District of Oregon. In no event shall this section be construed as a waiver by the District of any form of defense or immunity, whether sovereign immunity, governmental immunity, immunity based on the Eleventh Amendment to the Constitution of the United States or otherwise, from any claim or from the jurisdiction of any court. Agency, by execution of this Agreement, hereby consents to the in personam jurisdiction of the courts referenced in this section.

B. Compliance with Applicable Law. Both Parties shall comply with all applicable local, state and federal ordinances, statutes, laws and regulations. All provisions of law required to be a part of this Agreement, whether listed or otherwise, are hereby integrated and adopted herein. Failure to comply with such obligations is a material breach of this Agreement.

C. Non-Exclusive Rights and Remedies. Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, the rights and remedies expressly afforded under the provisions of this

Agreement shall not be deemed exclusive, and shall be in addition to and cumulative with any and all rights and remedies otherwise available at law or in equity. The exercise by either Party of any one or more of such remedies shall not preclude the exercise by it, at the same or different times, of any other remedies for the same default or breach, or for any other default or breach, by the other Party.

D. Access to Records. Agency shall retain, maintain, and keep accessible all records relevant to this Agreement ("Records") for a minimum of six (6) years, following Agreement termination or full performance or any longer period as may be required by applicable law, or until the conclusion of an audit, controversy or litigation arising out of or related to this Agreement, whichever is later. Agency shall maintain all financial records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. All other Records shall be maintained to the extent necessary to clearly reflect actions taken. During this record retention period, Agency shall permit the District's authorized representatives' access to the Records at reasonable times and places for purposes of examining and copying.

E. Work Product. Agency retains all rights to any intellectual property owned by Agency and developed independently from the Work or expressly identified as Agency intellectual property in this Agreement. Specifically, the deliverables set forth in Scope of Work Task 2 "Curriculum Development," as described in Exhibit A, shall be the exclusive property of the Agency. Agency hereby grants to District a nonexclusive, perpetual, royalty-free license to use, reproduce, distribute copies of, perform and display the materials during the term of this Agreement and exclusively for the purposes set forth in this Agreement. All other work performed under this Agreement not covered under the provisions above shall be considered work made for hire and shall be the sole and exclusive property of the District. The District shall own any and all data, documents, plans, copyrights, specifications, working papers and any other materials produced in connection with this Agreement not considered Agency intellectual property described above. On completion or termination of the Agreement, the Agency shall promptly deliver these materials to the District's Project Manager.

F. Reserved.

G. Debt Limitation. This Agreement is expressly subject to the limitations of the Oregon Constitution and Oregon Tort Claims Act, and is contingent upon appropriation of funds. Any provisions herein that conflict with the above referenced laws are deemed inoperative to that extent.

- H. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is found to be unconstitutional, illegal or unenforceable, this Agreement nevertheless shall remain in full force and effect and the offending provision shall be stricken. The Court or other authorized body finding such provision unconstitutional, illegal or unenforceable shall construe this Agreement without such provision to give effect to the maximum extent possible the intentions of the Parties.
- I. Integration, Amendment and Waiver. Except as otherwise set forth herein, this Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties on the matter of the Project. There are no understandings, agreements, or representations, oral or written, not specified herein regarding this Agreement. No waiver, consent, modification or change of terms of this Agreement shall bind either Party unless in writing and signed by both Parties and all necessary approvals have been obtained. Such waiver, consent, modification or change, if made, shall be effective only in the specific instance and for the specific purpose given. The failure of either Party to enforce any provision of this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver by such Party of that or any other provision.
- J. Interpretation. The titles of the sections of this Agreement are inserted for convenience of reference only and shall be disregarded in construing or interpreting any of its provisions.
- K. Independent Contractor. Each of the Parties hereto shall be deemed an independent contractor for purposes of this Agreement. No representative, agent, employee or contractor of one Party shall be deemed to be a representative, agent, employee or contractor of the other Party for any purpose, except to the extent specifically provided herein. Nothing herein is intended, nor shall it be construed, to create between the Parties any relationship of principal and agent, partnership, joint venture or any similar relationship, and each Party hereby specifically disclaims any such relationship.
- L. No Third-Party Beneficiary. Agency and District are the only parties to this Agreement and are the only parties entitled to enforce its terms. Nothing in this Agreement gives, is intended to give, or shall be construed to give or provide any benefit or right, whether directly, indirectly or otherwise, to third persons unless such third persons are individually identified by name herein and expressly described as intended beneficiaries of the terms of this Agreement.
- M. Subcontract and Assignment. Agency shall not enter into any subcontracts for any of the work required by this Agreement, or assign or transfer any of its interest in this Agreement by operation of law or otherwise, without obtaining prior written approval from the District, which shall be granted or denied in the District's sole discretion. District's consent to any subcontract shall not relieve Agency of any of its duties or obligations under this Agreement.
- N. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts (electronic or otherwise), each of which shall be an original, all of which shall constitute the same instrument.
- O. Survival. All provisions in Sections 5, 7, and 10 (A), (C), (D), (G), (H), (I), (J), (L), (O), (R), (T), and (U) shall survive the termination of this Agreement, together with all other rights and obligations herein which by their context are intended to survive.

- P. Necessary Acts. Each Party shall execute and deliver to the others all such further instruments and documents as may be reasonably necessary to carry out this Agreement.
- Q. Time is of the Essence. Agency agrees that time is of the essence in the performance this Agreement.
- R. Successors in Interest. The provisions of this Agreement shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the parties hereto, and their respective authorized successors and assigns.
- S. Force Majeure. Neither Agency nor District shall be held responsible for delay or default caused by events outside of the Agency or District's reasonable control including, but not limited to, fire, terrorism, riot, acts of God, or war. However, Agency shall make all reasonable efforts to remove or eliminate such a cause of delay or default and shall upon the cessation of the cause, diligently pursue performance of its obligations under this Agreement.
- T. Reserved.
- U. No Attorney Fees. In the event any arbitration, action or proceeding, including any bankruptcy proceeding, is instituted to enforce any term of this Agreement, each party shall be responsible for its own attorneys' fees and expenses.


IN WITNESS HEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement by the date set forth opposite their names below.

Water Environment Services

Chair

Date

Approved as to Form:



County Counsel

6/2/2025

Date

Clackamas Community College

Jeff Shaffer

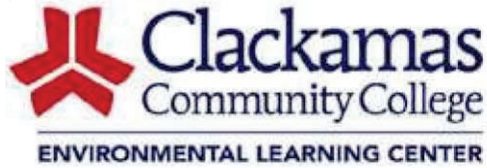
Digitally signed by Jeff Shaffer
Date: 2025.05.21 07:58:09
-07'00'

Title VP of Finance and Operations/CFO

Date 5/21/2025

Exhibit A

SCOPE OF WORK



Oregon City Campus
19600 Molalla Avenue | Oregon City, OR | 97045-7998
503-594-3015 | www.clackamas.edu/elc
Education That Works

Water Environment Services Education Provided by the Environmental Learning Center

IGA Period: July 2025 - June 2030

The Environmental Learning Center (ELC) will provide the following educational programs for Clackamas Water Environment Services. Programs that are provided for WES will be recognized as such on the ELC website and in any related marketing materials. Also, as part of our continuous improvement efforts, we regularly collect evaluations of programming, and summaries of any effectiveness evaluations will be shared with WES.

Programmatic Specifications:

- ELC will bill WES quarterly for completed curriculum development and program delivery. ELC will provide a progress report summarizing the work completed with each invoice.
- WES will pay the ELC an annual fee at the start of the fiscal year (July) for fostering internship connections between CCC and WES.
- WES will pay up front any desired sponsorship of Ecology Professional Trainings, prior to receiving any of those sponsorship benefits.

Scope of Work

Task 1: Program Management

This includes all activities needed to administer the programs in this agreement. The ELC will track expenses, coordinate scheduling and registration, purchase supplies, update its website with program offerings, and prepare and send invoices and progress reports.

Deliverables: Website updates; Invoices & Progress Reports sent quarterly

Task 2: Curriculum Development

When needed, ELC staff will research existing curricula and either modify them, or develop new curricula for any new or revised ELC programs. This will include development of supplementary educational materials. ELC will own newly developed curricula, and will be able to use it in other ways.

Deliverables: Regular updates to curricula as needed.

Task 3: Program Marketing

K-12 Programs: The ELC will develop marketing materials, contact schools, explain the program opportunities and their benefits, and coordinate with school staff to schedule delivery to students. The ELC will work with WES to maintain a list of priority schools in WES service area which will be updated yearly.

Stormwater Facility Management: The ELC will develop marketing materials, and reach out to potential landscape and public works audiences through a variety of methods. WES will be considered a co-sponsor for this workshop.

Wildlife & Water Friendly Gardens: The ELC will develop marketing materials, and work collaboratively with partnering organizations to market this series of online programs.

Deliverables: Marketing materials & outreach efforts

Task 4: Program Delivery

The ELC will provide programs for K-12 schools in the WES service areas, as well as other programs as outlined in the budget.

Deliverables: field trips; 20 Livestream programs, 7 Wildlife & Water Friendly Gardens sessions; One Stormwater Facility Management training

Task 5: Internships

ELC staff will facilitate development of a standardized system for the ongoing recruitment of students for WES internship opportunities, and work with CCC staff, as needed, to ensure that their students are encouraged to apply for these internships.

Deliverables: Outreach efforts; Referral of intern candidates to WES

Task 6: Sponsorship

ELC will recognize WES as a sponsor of Ecology Professional Trainings in the following ways: acknowledgement in our newsletter, acknowledgement on our website for one academic year, and a WES employee will receive one free day of training at an ELC professional workshop. In addition, for one professional workshop of WES' choosing, 1) WES logo will be displayed on marketing materials and the welcoming slide at the workshop, 2) WES will be acknowledged on a thanks to our sponsors sign, and 3) WES materials may be displayed on a Resource table.

Deliverables: ELC newsletter, website and workshop acknowledgment

Field Trip Programs

The Environmental Learning Center offers field trips for K-5 students on a variety of topics, with the goal of enriching student learning through their engagement with nature. All field trips are

structured to meet specific Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Students will be provided opportunities to explore, interact with, measure and create within the lush outdoor surroundings of the Environmental Learning Center, which contains both forest and wetland habitat. The variety of habitat present allows us to teach about interdependent relationships in ecosystems, water quality and stormwater management.

Our wetland, fed by underground springs and stormwater runoff from the Oregon City campus, provides critical habitat for wildlife and water quality improvement, making it the ideal location to study wetland habitat. And, as the headwaters to Newell Creek, it's also the perfect venue for watershed discussions.

Field trip offerings will include:

LET'S GET DUCKY: *Discovering Wetland Wildlife*

Grades: K-1

Wetlands make up only about 5% of the earth's surface, yet they are crucial habitat for a wide array of plants and animals. During their visit, students will learn about several species of wildlife that live in and around our wetland. Field trip activities include solving wildlife mysteries, playing wildlife games, and observing the wetland.

NGSS Alignment: K.LS1 From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes (K.LS1.1); K.ESS2 Earth's Systems (K.ESS2.2); K.ESS3 Earth and Human Activity (K.ESS3.1); K.PS3 Energy (K.PS3.1); and 1.LS1 From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes (1.LS1.1).

WELCOME HOME: *Exploring Wetland and Forest Habitats*

Grades: 2-3

Wetlands and forests are important habitats to a diversity of plants and animals. This field excursion will give your students a better understanding of how these habitats provide clean water, food, shelter, and space. Field trip activities include discovering macroinvertebrates in the wetland, going on a habitat safari, building wildlife shelters, and observing the wetland.

NGSS Alignment: 2.LS2 Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics (2.LS2.1); 2.LS4 Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity (2.LS4.1); 2.ETS1 Engineering Design (2.ETS1.2); 3.ESS3 Earth and Human Activity (3.ESS3.1); 3.LS1 From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes (3.LS1.1); 3.LS2 Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics (3.LS2.1); and 3.LS4 Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity (3.LS4.2, 3.LS4.3, 3-LS4.4).

HEALTHY WATERSHEDS: *How Do We Get There?*

Grades: 4-5

We all live in a watershed, but what does that really mean? In this field trip, a variety of hands-on activities will engage students in learning about the inter-connections that exist within a watershed, including how our actions can impact the water quality, the people, and the wildlife within it. Field trip activities include sampling for macroinvertebrates, measuring the quality of

water in our wetland, and experimenting with the role that soil plays in filtering pollutants from the water.

NGSS Alignment: 4.ESS2 Earth's Systems (4.ESS2.2); 4.ESS3 Earth and Human Activity (4.ESS3.2); 4.LS1 From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes (4.LS1.1, 4.LS1.2); 5.ESS3 Earth and Human Activity (5.ESS3.1); and 5.LS2 Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics (5.LS2.1).

Livestream Programs

Grade Levels: K-2 & 3-5

Length: 20-minute episodes for each grade level, each week, for 10 weeks

Location: Virtual from outdoors at the Environmental Learning Center

Description: Weekly episodes engage students virtually in learning about wetland ecology at the ELC. Each episode has an accompanying student activity sheet that students can fill out during or after the episode. Student Activity Sheets are designed to engage students with the content and help the teacher assess students' learning. In addition, students are encouraged to ask questions during the session. Recordings are available for classes to watch at a later time. There are two Livestream series that are offered on alternate years:

Wetland Wildlife – series focusses on 10 different species of wetland wildlife and their ecological connections to clean water and other wetland species; and

Wild About Water – series focusses on wetland ecology, including water quality, water flow, macroinvertebrates, wildlife, and wetland habitats.

Water Industry Career Exploration

Grade Levels: 6-8 & 9-12

Length: 2 hours

Location: Environmental Learning Center

Description:

Students will learn from professionals in the water industry about their jobs, including the skills/aptitudes necessary for success, the work environment and what they really like about their job.

Delivery to classes or AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) groups from schools in WES's service area (or other groups, if approved by WES).

AVID is a college readiness program designed to help students develop the skills needed for success in college and careers. Career exploration is an important part of this program.

These events will introduce middle and high school students to water industry careers via engagement with staff from WES, and potentially other agencies who may decide to participate in this program.

Essential Questions: What types of jobs exist in the water industry? What types of skills and training are needed for these positions?

Internship Connections

ELC staff will facilitate development of a standardized system for the ongoing recruitment of students for WES internship opportunities, and work with CCC staff, as needed, to ensure that their students are encouraged to apply for these internships.

WES will provide job descriptions for internship opportunities.

WES will provide the application form.

WES will screen all applications, interview candidates and hire as desired.

Professional Programs

Vegetated Stormwater Facilities

Audience: Landscape professionals, Parks maintenance, Public utilities staff, etc.

Length: 2-3 days

Location: Environmental Learning Center

Delivery of program once per year.

About two thirds of the time will be in the classroom, and one third focused on visiting and evaluating the variety of stormwater facilities that are located on the CCC campus. WES staff will co-lead the training, including the hands-on portion.

WES will be listed as a co-sponsor for the program.

Continuing Education Units available.

Potential to turn this into a non-credit certificate program.

Sponsorship of Ecology Professional Workshop

Audience: Wetland/River scientists or engineers, Fish & Wildlife biologists, Natural Resource managers, Construction managers, Environmental lawyers, etc.

Length: varies from 1-3 days

Location: Environmental Learning Center, and others off-site

The Environmental Learning Center is offering a variety of trainings designed to support the continuing education needs of professionals who work in positions connected with environmental health. Several trainings will be offered each year on topics that have been determined to be in-demand, with a focus on providing hands-on field experience whenever possible. Sponsorship dollars will provide a means for offering reduced pricing for college students and others who lack the ability to pay full price, as well as for supporting the overall education program.

Examples of upcoming trainings that we are currently planning, or have offered in the past: Wetland Delineation, Wetland Plant ID, Field ID of Fish in the Willamette Valley, Erosion Control, Managing Vegetation for Beaver.

Wildlife & Water Friendly Gardens

Wildlife & Water Friendly Gardens

Description: A series of seven weekly, online programs featuring presenters from both the water and landscaping industries. Experts will share their experience, stories, best practices, and expertise with attendees. There will be time for discussion, and recordings are made available to all who register for the events. Examples of past topics include: Gardening with Less Water, Non-Chemical Pest Control, and Soil for Watershed Wellness.

Qualifications of Key Staff

Program Lead: Heidi Blackwell, EdD; Program Director, Environmental Learning Center

Dr. Blackwell has over twenty years of experience working in K-12 educational settings as a special education teacher and school leader. She has her doctorate in Higher Education with a concentration in Instruction and Design.

K-12 Program Instructors/Coordinators:

Instructors will be chosen from a pool of qualified part-time instructors with outdoor education experience, for example:

- Sarah Bidwell: MS in Resource Management/Environmental Education
- Priscilla Plumb: MS in Urban Forestry, BS minor in Environmental Science
- Jessie Mulcahy: BA in Environmental Science
- Michelle Scholz: MS in Teaching, BS in Zoology
- Bethany Wray: BS in Natural Resources, BS in Community Education

Timeline

Activity	Annual Program Delivery Dates (2025-2030)
Field Trips - grades K-5 (as scheduled)	Sep-Jun
Internship outreach to CCC students & faculty (sharing information/making connections; not an actual program)	Nov & Feb
Livestream programs grades K-5 (weekly)	Dec- February
Vegetated Stormwater Facilities workshop	Dec-February
Wildlife & Water Friendly Gardens programs (weekly)	Dec-February
Water Industry Career Exploration field trips (as scheduled)	Sep-Jun

Budget

2025-2030 Budget, per year:

On-site Field Trips (grades K-5)	Field Trip delivery at the ELC (to up to 35 classes of up to 30 students) (\$500 per class)	\$17,500
Water Industry Career Exploration (middle & high school)	Program planning, outreach & delivery of 6 onsite (\$750 per class)	\$4,500
Interactive Livestreams - Fall		
Wetland Wildlife (grades K-2)	Program updates, marketing, delivery & teacher communication for 10 interactive virtual episodes for each of two grade levels	\$5,000
Wild in the Wetland (grades 3-5)		\$5,000
Fostering Internship Connections	Annual expense	\$1,000
Vegetated Stormwater Facilities Training	Program delivery annually-WES staff leads about ½ of training Organization, marketing & materials-partial support	\$2,000
Sponsorship of Professional Training Programs	Sponsorship of one workshop TBD	\$500
Community Education: Wildlife & Water Friendly Gardens	Program development and delivery of 7, 45-minute virtual sessions for community members	\$7,000
	TOTAL per year TOTAL over the term of the agreement.	\$42,500 \$212,500

