

September 6, 2024

Dear CoosWA Supporter,

Last year, vital financial support from you and others bolstered our efforts to help our local watershed ecosystems, communities, and economies thrive. Specifically, community donations from 2023 helped fill in the gaps with our grant funding to pay for the following:

- **8th annual Mayfly Festival:** the 2024 Mayfly Festival drew 400+ community members to Mingus Park to learn about science and stewardship in the Coos watershed. With over 20 activity booths, this was our biggest Mayfly yet!
- **8th annual Teddy Villers scholarship:** we awarded this year's scholarship to Ava Thomas, a Marshfield High graduate on her way to study zoology and biology at OSU.
- **Outreach map project:** we worked with local artist Hustle and Flow to design custom magnets for our interactive watershed dry-erase board map. These magnets help the watershed come to life at our events!
- **Matson feasibility study** – fundraised dollars helped us hire Civil West to carry out the necessary studies and draft conceptual designs for the future establishment of a new community center at the Matson Creek Wetland Preserve.

*Your financial support fills a critical need: special opportunities that don't have ready grant sources. **This year, we need your financial support for the following projects:***

- Funds for continuing the design phase of the **Matson Community Center** building. When constructed, this will be a place for the community to gather for watershed education and natural resource job training activities.
- Support for the annual **Mayfly Festival** that provides a fun and dynamic place for families to learn about watersheds and the connection between the community, environment, and water.
- Funding for the **Teddy Villers Scholarship**. This scholarship honors the life of Teddy Villers (Oct. 7, 2004 – Sept. 4, 2015), son of Mark and Adela Villers, who had a strong curiosity and deep passion for the natural world. We award it each year to a local individual who exemplifies the spirit of the award and is pursuing education in the field of natural resources. Applications for the 2025 scholarship will open in March of next year.

How you can help

You can make a tax-deductible donation by **sending us a check** to the address on our letterhead or through the **donation button on our website** (www.cooswatershed.org; please type your mailing address and phone number into the notes field so we can send you a tax-deductible receipt). Or you can **donate in person at this year's fundraising event!**

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Please Join us for Our 30th Birthday Bash Fundraiser: Saturday, October 12, 5-8 PM, Bristol Event Center, Coos Bay

This year is the Coos Watershed Association's 30th anniversary, and we are celebrating with our biggest birthday bash yet! There will be live music by "The Peanut Gallery," catered food from Coach House, live and silent auctions, and a beer and wine wall (beverages available for purchase). You'll be having fun while supporting your local, non-profit watershed association!

This is our only fundraiser of the year, and our goal is to hit **\$30K for our 30th!** All proceeds will go towards organizational needs and special opportunities that *don't* have grant sources and funding for a variety of projects such as the Matson Community Center, the 2025 Mayfly Festival, and the 2025 Teddy Villers Scholarship.

We need your support to hit our \$30k fundraising goal and appreciate your contribution greatly. This will be a wonderful and exciting way to give back to your community!

Thank you so much for continuing to be such a valuable part of the Coos Watershed Association!



Haley Lutz, Executive Director

We would like to extend a huge thank you to this year's Birthday Bash sponsors!



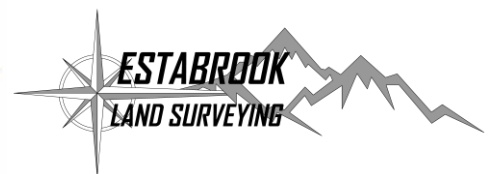
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