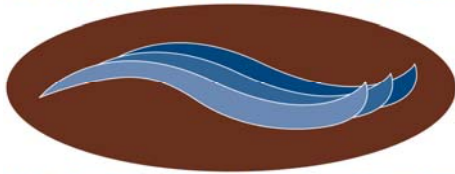
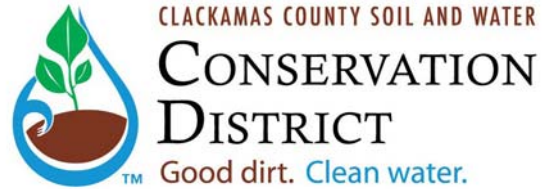


WEST MULTNOMAH



SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



September 1, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Carolyn Myers Lindberg,
WMSWCD, 503/238-4775, ext. 101

After the Storm – Rainwater Harvesting and Rain Gardens **FREE Rainwater Harvesting Class**

WHO: West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District, Clackamas County Soil and Water Conservation District

WHAT: Free Rainwater Harvesting Class

WHERE: Skyline Grange, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.

WHEN: September 28 & 29; 6-8:30 p.m. each day

Rainwater harvesting has been around for thousands of years to collect both irrigation and drinking water. While urban areas today have safe and reliable sources of drinking water, we can still harvest the rain to irrigate vegetables and for other gardening purposes. Rainwater harvesting in combination with rain gardens may also help decrease stormwater problems.

West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District (WMSWCD) in partnership with Clackamas County SWCD will be offering a Rainwater Harvesting class Sept 28 and 29 from 6-8:30 p.m. each evening. The class will emphasize the use of rainwater harvesting in urban and rural settings and will cover collection, storage and distribution systems. Case studies will be reviewed with the pros and cons of each and working systems will be showcased. Rainwater systems for safe drinking water will also be included.

Clair Klock of Clackamas County SWCD notes that, “runoff from an average house in the Portland area could produce as much as 40,000 gallons of water a year.” That amount of water poses the largest challenge to water harvesting; finding the space to store it! Not to worry; the use of rain gardens is a great way to deal with excess water. Rain gardens will be covered very briefly at a method to absorb excess rainwater.

Classes in Rain Garden design and construction are offered by both Clackamas and East Multnomah Conservation Districts. Visit the Clackamas County Soil and Water Conservation District web site at www.conservatondistrict.org for other class information and to access the full Rainwater Harvesting PowerPoint presentation that is used in the class as well as a Rainwater Harvesting calculator.

The class is free and no pre-registration is required. For more information, contact Clair Klock, Clackamas SWCD at 503/655-3144, ext. 105.

###

2701 NW Vaughn Street, Suite 450 ✦ Portland, OR 97210

P: 503.238.4775 ✦ F: 503.326.3942

www.wmswcd.org