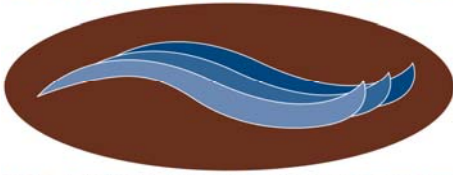


# WEST MULTNOMAH



SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 2, 2009

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

**To: Editor**

**Fr: West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District**

**Re: United Church of Christ Tryon Creek Stormwater Project**

The West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District (WMSWCD) applauds work by Lake Oswego United Church of Christ (Church) to improve drainage, reducing direct runoff and pollutant loading into the City of Lake Oswego stormwater system and eventually into Tryon Creek. This is a fine example of how private land owners and community volunteers can make significant environmental improvements by working together on a common goal. This project was made possible through a lottery fund grant from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, donations from private businesses and guidance and technical assistance from WMSWCD and Friends of Tryon Creek State Park.

Missing from the article in the Lake Oswego Review was recognition of significant support from Gary Wolff of OTAK, which donated \$10,000 in services; Dana Thompson of Tanks & Soil, which donated about \$5,000 in contracted services; and Richard Schmidt of ACF West, which donated \$75 in services. In addition, Cindy Ellison of the United Church of Christ worked many hours coordinating and scheduling work and Mary Logalbo of the WMSWCD worked some 20 hours on this project. The array of corporate support demonstrates that our environmental problems can only be solved by crossing political and geographical boundaries.

The project is key to the water quality of Tryon Creek because the Lake Oswego stormwater system sends runoff from the church property into Nettle Creek, a significant tributary to Tryon Creek. Runoff has caused channel incision and bank erosion; degrading the water quality of Tryon Creek below the confluence as well as habitat for fish and wildlife.

The Church improved drainage on its property, reducing the amount of direct runoff and pollutant loading into the stormwater system. Drainage improvement was accomplished through a variety of stormwater enhancements, including redirecting stormwater from the impervious areas (roofs and drives/parking areas) into a bioswale and rain garden prior to being discharged into the City stormwater system. The

2701 NW VAUGHN STREET, SUITE 450 ✦ PORTLAND, OR 97210

P: 503.238.4775 ✦ F: 503.326.3942

WWW.WESTMULTCONSERV.ORG

installation of these practices has increased infiltration and runoff retention, reducing both the volume and peak flows for runoff from the property. In addition, the bioswale provides water quality treatment.

The mission of the West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District is:

- To sustain, protect, and develop soil and water resources;
- To help with the development of all natural resources in the West County through education; and
- To develop and sustain a concern for protecting and caring for soil and water by creating a social interest and awareness.

###