



TUALATIN RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL

Engaging The Community To Sustain Our Watershed

Strategic Plan 2024 - 2027

The Tualatin River Watershed Council proactively fosters better community stewardship and understanding of the Tualatin River Watershed resources, works to address issues and ensures resilient and sustainable watershed health, functions and uses.

We envision a balanced ecosystem that supports a healthy watershed and provides for an economic base and viable communities.



Image by Timothy Sautter

OUR ROLES

TRWC is a Trusted Voice

We gather and share resources about the importance of the watershed, and how to contribute to conservation efforts.

TRWC is a Convener

We seek to provide a safe and welcoming space where diverse perspectives can come together to tackle complex issues.

TRWC is a Champion

We seek to provide a safe and welcoming space where diverse perspectives can come together to tackle complex issues.

OUR VALUES

Community: We value and embrace all voices who live, work, and play in the watershed. We ensure that all voices are elevated, heard, and shared equitably to improve the relationship between people and nature.

Learning: We cultivate knowledge and share diverse views in support of a healthy watershed and community.

Responsibility: We have a strong sense of responsibility to our partners, community, and the watershed. We act with care, integrity, and respect.

Collaboration & Partnerships: We are co-leaders and supporters of the good work happening in the watershed. We bring people together and make things happen with a spirit of collaboration and partnership.

Connection: We believe efforts to conserve and connect with nature brings energy, joy, and fulfillment to people and communities.



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THREE YEAR GOALS & STRATEGIES

Grow and strengthen our role as a convener in the watershed.

1. **Ensure our convenings are welcoming and inclusive** by putting our equity commitment and lens into practice. Evaluate and shift our format and approach and identify topics that are relevant to all.
2. **Convene partners around basin-wide strategic topics** to foster effective partner engagement, collaboration, and knowledge exchange.
3. **Evolve monthly Council Meeting format** to be more strategic, inclusive, and focused around relevant, pressing watershed issues.

Focus our restoration work to be strategic and in collaboration with our partners.

1. **Continue to conduct ecological assessments** of the watershed's ecological needs to effectively prioritize conservation actions.
2. **Update existing action plans based on ecological assessments**, using them as a framework to guide and efficiently focus restoration efforts.
3. **Strengthen partnerships with governmental agencies, community organizations, and community members.** Explore opportunities for joint funding applications and shared resources with partner organizations.

Prioritize our outreach to communities who are currently and historically marginalized and under-represented in watershed programs and policies.

1. **Build relationships with marginalized communities in the watershed** to better understand their environmental needs and concerns and better connect TRWC to these communities. Explore opportunities for facilitating, convening, collaborating, coalition building, and coordinating.
2. **Improve multicultural accessibility to our resources and materials.** Review educational materials and address cultural and language barriers, promoting wider accessibility and understanding.
3. **Collaborate with community science partners** to identify ways that community science efforts we are involved in could be more equitable and inclusive to marginalized communities.



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Broaden and diversify the perspectives, skills, and experiences represented on the staff and Board to achieve more equitable environmental outcomes.

1. **Evaluate current recruitment and hiring practices with an equity lens.** Assess what the barriers are for currently and historically marginalized community members in TRWC employment and Council membership.
2. **Assess current Board make-up and create an equitable recruitment process** for vacant seats that meet our strategic goals and diversify our Board.
3. **Continue to build DEIJ collective awareness, analysis, and capacity** to improve environmental outcomes for marginalized communities and make our organization more just, equitable, and inclusive.

Strengthen and grow our funding model to be more stable, resilient, and diverse.

1. **Diversify our funding relationships and strategies.** Identify and cultivate relationships with a diverse range of potential funders and grants, including private foundations, corporations, and government entities.
2. **Expand our collaborative grant opportunities.** Develop partnerships with other non-profit organizations to co-apply for grants, fostering collaboration, and resource-sharing to enhance funding opportunities.
3. **Grow and leverage volunteer and intern support,** along with in-kind donations, to effectively reduce operational expenses and enhance financial resilience.



Image by Timothy Sautter