

# Clark County's CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2000 - 2011



Carrie Otter Wetlands

Annually, over 240 dump truck loads of oily sediment, metals, litter and debris are swept from our streets and roads.



### Projects

Since the inception of the Clean Water Program in 2000, more than 30 stormwater projects have been built. These projects help protect streams, rivers, lakes and wetlands from pollutants. In addition, they reduce erosion and sediment in the water.

### Maintenance

Since 2000:

- 65,000 inlets and 9,000 drywells have been inspected and cleaned
- 1,200 stormwater cartridge filters have been changed
- 30 miles of piping have been cleared
- 90,000 miles of streets and roads have been swept
- 1,300 private stormwater facilities and 746 public facilities have been regularly inspected

### Monitoring

Between 2000 and 2011, the Clean Water Program compiled 35 stormwater needs assessments covering every sub-watershed in Clark County. Developing these detailed assessments requires walking the streams and testing water to identify what needs to be done and where. In addition, the program collects data from 10 long-term water monitoring sites to evaluate current conditions trends. The county is also currently monitoring three different types of treatment facilities for effectiveness in different land use areas. Much of this information was pulled together for the 2010 Stream Health Report ([www.clark.wa.gov/water-resources/stream.html](http://www.clark.wa.gov/water-resources/stream.html)), which assesses stream conditions across the county in easy-to-understand language and graphics.

### Regulation and Enforcement

New construction practices require that any off-site flows meet standards for volume and quality. Development proposals are reviewed to calculate the amount of runoff that will be generated and to ensure there are adequate collection and treatment facilities.

*Continued on back*

**A healthy community needs clean water.**

## Education and Outreach

Raising awareness about the health of our streams and what individuals can do is vital to protecting and improving our water resources.

- More than 300 Watershed Stewards have been trained and have contributed 25,000 hours of community service on behalf of clean water.
- More than 3,000 people have been trained through the Small Acreage Program to manage their land and animals to help protect streams and other waterways.
- More than 42,000 children have been reached to raise awareness of the importance of keeping water clean.
- Over 2,000 dog owners have signed pledges to pick up after their dogs.
- Technical assistance has been provided to about 1,000 businesses.



About 400 tons of dog waste per year has been kept out of storm sewers by dog owners who participate in the Canines for Clean Water program, implemented in 2008.

## Growing Green

The Growing Green program enhances county properties by planting them with native vegetation. As the plants mature, the ecological benefits of the sites are greatly improved. Both mitigation and permit mandates are met while increasing stormwater control and habitat functions for fish and wildlife.

Since the start of Growing Green activities in 2010, 113 acres of and over 60,000 trees have been planted on county lands. Plantings occur across the county in the East Fork Lewis River, Burnt Bridge Creek, Lacamas Creek, Upper Whipple Creek, Vancouver Lake, and Salmon Creek watersheds.

Community volunteers play an invaluable role in the program - planting thousands of trees and helping to keep program costs low. In the 2011-2012 planting season alone, county residents were engaged in 10 different volunteer planting events.



*Growing Green tree planting*

# Growing Green



Clark County Environmental Services | P.O. Box 9810 | Vancouver, WA 98666-9810  
[www.clark.wa.gov/environment](http://www.clark.wa.gov/environment) | [cleanwater@clark.wa.gov](mailto:cleanwater@clark.wa.gov) | (360) 397-2121 | Printed February 2012



For other formats, contact the Clark County ADA Office: **Voice** (360) 397-2322;  
**Relay** 711 or (800) 833-6388; **Fax** (360) 397-6165; **E-mail** [ADA@clark.wa.gov](mailto:ADA@clark.wa.gov).