

Earth Share of Oregon



Brown Bag Series

Earth Share of Oregon's member groups can offer your workplace fun, informative environmental experiences without having to leave the office. Employees enjoy audiovisual presentations, workshops, and speaker-led discussions on environmental topics of interest to them. Meanwhile, they learn about ways to create a better environment for Oregon, today and tomorrow.

If the length of the presentation is not specified below, it will be the length of a lunch hour, or can be tailored to fit your needs.

*To arrange for **Brown Bag Series** call: 503-223-9015 or aurora@earthshare-oregon.org*

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SPEAKERS

ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

"Renewable Energy - Green Power at Work in the Northwest"

Where does your electricity come from, and what are the problems with our current energy mix? Wind, solar and geothermal power are abundant natural resources in the Northwest, benefiting our environment and local economies. A representative from the **Renewable Northwest Project** will outline current trends in the energy industry and give an update on renewable energy projects in Oregon and the region. There will also be discussion on how your energy purchasing decisions can have a positive environmental impact.

HEALTH AND LIFESTYLE

"Pesticides and your Health"

The Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides (NCAP) is dedicated to promoting healthy solutions to pest problems. An NCAP representative is available to make a presentation on the adverse health and environmental impacts of many pesticides commonly used in homes, gardens, and schools and will provide information on healthy alternatives to many pest problems. Need: two week notice.

"Whistleblowing in the Government Workplace"

The Executive Director of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics (FSEEE) will speak about recent Forest Service whistleblowers and what was accomplished by their actions. FSEEE is a national organization of government employees and concerned citizens holding the Forest Service accountable for responsible land stewardship.

LAND USE AND PRESERVATION

"Green Landscaping"

Creating and maintaining healthy landscapes protects our rivers and our communities. Learn about "Eco-biz" certified landscapers that take pride in maintaining a clean and healthy environment, as well as steps your business and your employees can take to water wisely, use fewer chemical inputs, and attract beneficial birds and butterflies. Join the **Oregon Environmental Council** for this topic.

"Biscuit—What are Dead Trees Worth?" The Executive Director of **Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics (FSEEE)** will speak about the economics and ecology of salvage logging stemming from the Biscuit Fire. FSEEE is a national organization of government employees and concerned citizens holding the Forest Service accountable for responsible land stewardship.

"Restoration Ecology in Flood Meadows of the John Day" Restoration ecology is a field practice and a young science. After two growing seasons, recent Oregon Trout efforts to plant native trees, fence riparian areas, and restore wetlands has helped wild fish return to their historic habitat in Flood Meadows of Long Creek off the Middle Fork of the John Day River. Mark McCollister, **Oregon Trout** Fish Refuge Program Director will be the presenter.

“Saving Oregon's Last Great Places” (30 minutes) Since 1961, **The Nature Conservancy** has been preserving Oregon's plants, animals and natural communities by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. This presentation will introduce you to **The Nature Conservancy's** work in Oregon, giving an overview of our mission, preserves, partners, research projects, and goals for protecting Oregon's most beautiful, yet imperiled landscapes. The presentation will also introduce you to ways you can become involved in our Oregon program and lend your own hands to the task of preserving Oregon's last great places. Need: one month notice.

RIVERS, WETLANDS AND OCEANS

“Clean Water for Salmon”

The Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides (NCAP) is promoting adoption of salmon-friendly practices that reduce reliance on pesticides that harm Northwest salmon, contaminate water, and threaten human and environmental health. An NCAP representative is available to make a presentation on the adverse impacts of pesticide contamination, and the work we're doing to promote pesticide-free practices. Need: two week notice.

“Facts About the Crisis in the Klamath Basin” (30-45 minutes) The crisis in the Klamath River Basin has become ground zero in the national debate over water and endangered species. But this conflict didn't occur overnight--it has been a century in the making. At its root is one of the thorniest environmental problems facing the western states today: how to restore balance to a river basin where too much water has been promised to too many interests. A representative of the river conservation group **WaterWatch of Oregon** will explore the root causes of the environmental crisis in the Klamath Basin, its current status, and efforts to solve the situation. It will also examine the plight of the Klamath communities that don't make newspaper headlines--the Native American, commercial, and recreational fishing communities that depend on the region's fish and wildlife. Need: three week notice.

“Protecting Rivers as Oregon Grows” (30 minutes) The population of the Pacific Northwest is increasing at nearly twice the national rate. Portland State University projects that by 2025 Oregon's population will increase by nearly one million people. All this growth is leading to increasing demands for water, but unfortunately few rivers in the state have any water available for new uses in the summer and fall months, and Oregon's state government has no plan to ensure that new water development is sustainable. A representative of the river conservation group **WaterWatch of Oregon** will describe the challenges that growth places on our rivers, highlighting particular streams that are in trouble as a result, and what commonsense measures we can adopt that will help protect our rivers while allowing growth. Need: three week notice.

“Protecting the Beloved Deschutes River in Central Oregon” (30-45 min.) The Deschutes is one of Oregon's most beloved rivers. But for all its popularity, over a century of irrigation has robbed the Deschutes system of much of the water that gives it life. Now Central Oregon's booming population growth--and skyrocketing demand for water--threatens to make things even worse. Join **WaterWatch** for a presentation on the

Deschutes that highlights what's at stake, the threats facing this river, and solutions to meet Central Oregon's water needs without harming the river. Need: three week notice.

“Rivers Need Water! Preserving and Restoring Oregon’s Rivers and Streams” (30 minutes) The water flowing in our rivers and streams is one of Oregon’s most precious natural resources. It supports fish and wildlife, offers outstanding whitewater and fly-fishing opportunities, and provides much of Oregon’s scenic beauty. But every day billions of gallons of water are drained from our rivers and streams for irrigation and other uses. The results are often devastating: not enough water for endangered salmon, for fishing and boating, to dilute pollution. A representative of the river conservation group **WaterWatch of Oregon** explains how this public resource is managed, why flows are important for fish and recreation, and what you can do to help. Need: three week notice.

“Water in the American West” The culturally charged conflict in the Klamath Basin showed that water issues are hard to discuss and harder yet to resolve. But they are the tip of the iceberg in the American West. History, law, and economics have all played roles in creating the problem and will play roles in fixing it. **Oregon Trout’s** Executive Director, Joe Whitworth will be the presenter. Need: one week notice.

WILDLIFE AND HABITAT

“Planning for Salmon Recovery With Fish Refuges”

With decades of planning and billions of dollars behind us in the effort to recover salmon, we still have not employed one of the oldest tools: refuges. Over lunch we'll discuss the role protected areas might play in salmon recovery, how a network of refuges might be designed, and the creation of the first refuge for native fish in Oregon in the Donner und Blitzen River on Steens Mountain. Jason Miner, Conservation Director at **Oregon Trout**, will be the presenter.

POWER POINT PRESENTATIONS

ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

“Energy Conservation in the Ancient Forest”

Learn the secrets of how **Opal Creek Ancient Forest Center** operates its full-service education center at an old mining camp, deep in a remote forest. The center operates several rental cabins and educational buildings that are complete with hot water, electricity and heat. The center is constantly seeking new ways to conserve energy, to generate electricity more efficiently, and even to run one of its renovated cabins entirely on solar energy. Fascinating for anyone who wants to better understand how we create, conserve and use energy and resources in our own lives.

“For a Cool Climate”

Many people wonder how they can help solve global warming. This presentation focuses on four pathways for personal action: at home, when purchasing, on the go, and at work. It also alerts the audience to ways to influence climate policy at the local, state and federal level. Join the **Oregon Environmental Council** for this timely topic.

“The Hidden Costs of Driving”

Most Oregonians are aware of subsidies for transit. Few are aware of subsidies for automobile use. This provocative presentation by an **Oregon Environmental Council** representative exposes the hidden costs of driving and suggests fair and individualized fees that will result in a more efficient and environmentally friendly transportation system.

WORKSHOPS AND DISCUSSIONS

ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

“Applying the Three R’s to Residential Construction” (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) Are you planning to remodel your home? A representative from **Recycling Advocates** can teach you how to use the three R’s in your home construction project, from design to materials selection to construction whether it be a new or a remodel job. Need: 2 week notice.

“How to Recycle at Any Size Event”

Learn from an expert from **Recycling Advocates** how you can put on an earth-friendly event. Whether you are planning a family affair, a company function, or even a large public event such as Cycle Oregon, Recycling Advocates will provide you with the needed information for recycling at any size event.

“Product Stewardship”

Did you ever buy a product that was wrapped in so much packaging that you couldn’t figure how or what part to recycle? You’re not alone. Come join a representative from **Recycling Advocates** who will discuss the impact of a product from its production through the end of its life. What does it mean and whom does it involve? Need: 2 week notice.

“The Big Picture of the Recycling Process” Have you ever wondered what happens after recycling your common household materials? A representative from **Recycling Advocates** can help answer your questions. This presentation will cover collection, processing and end-use of household recyclable materials. Typical items include paper, metals, plastics and glass. You can also request discussion of a particular material of interest. Need: 10 day notice.

HEALTH AND LIFESTYLE

“Alternatives to Toxic Household Cleaners” (30 minutes) Are you looking for an alternative solution to those toxic household cleaners? Come join a representative from **Recycling Advocates** and learn about alternatives to the array of toxic cleaning products that most of us collect in our households. Using nontoxic alternative cleaners results in a safer home for your family and pets at less cost. Need: 3 - 4 day notice.

“Healthy family, healthy environment: How to vote with your food dollars”

You have the power to make choices that benefit your family's health that also shape our landscape, communities, and environment. Join a representative of the **Oregon Environmental Council** to cut through the different messages and advertising at the checkout counter and learn how to make sure your food dollars benefit your health and help

to support the Oregon you want to live in the future. Program is presented by Allison Hensey, Program Director.

“How to Commute by Bike” The Bicycle Transportation Alliance's

"How to Commute by Bike" workshop is designed to teach first-timers what they need to know to be safe, comfortable, and relaxed as bike commuters. The hour-long workshop covers such topics as what to wear, what to ride, how to combine bikes with transit, what the laws and important safety precautions are, and how to look professional when you arrive. The presentation is supplemented with written materials, free maps, and individual route-planning assistance for all participants.

“Eco-Healthy” Businesses and Homes”

The sources of toxic exposure are numerous, but even small, simple changes in lifestyle and purchasing habits can help reduce people’s chemical burden. In this presentation by the **Oregon Environmental Council**, learn what you can do in your workplace and at home to reduce your exposure to dangerous toxic chemicals.

“Pollution in People: the Health and Economic Costs of Toxic Chemicals in Our Bodies”

What is pollution doing in our bodies and what are the associated health costs? This presentation focuses on the latest scientific research linking exposures to chemicals found in everyday consumer products with an increasing number of health problems. The **Oregon Environmental Council** will also provide practical advice for lowering exposures to chemicals on a daily and on-going basis.

VIDEO PRESENTATIONS

FORESTS, DESERTS AND WILDERNESS

“Wild Connections: The Hells Canyon-Wallowa Ecosystem” (30 minute DVD/video) **Hells Canyon Preservation Council** Executive Director presents this documentary, which celebrates the stunning beauty and wildlife of Hells Canyon and the Wallowa Mountains. Local fishermen, hunters, scientists, and Native Americans offer their insights about the threats to the landscape and the opportunities we have to shape the future of this special place. Legendary conservationist, Martin Litton, and environmental studies student, Savanna Ferguson, narrate the film and help us understand this region's critical importance for fish, wildlife and people across the Northwest.

RIVERS, WETLANDS AND OCEANS

“The Tualatin River: A Success Story in Progress” (10-minute video) The Tualatin River is a clean water success story. The past decade has seen a public-private partnership restore a once polluted river into a valuable natural resource for drinking water, recreations

and wildlife habitat. Citizens are key to continued success, and the **Tualatin Riverkeepers** is leading the effort to activate hundreds of citizens to play stewardship roles in the watershed. Come learn the role you play in achieving a healthy watershed. Need: two week notice.

“Wetlands Restoration Steps to Success” (17-minute video) **The Wetlands Conservancy's** Executive Director will present an informative video that discusses some basic techniques of wetlands restoration and highlights several long-term western Oregon wetland projects. There are brochures and “how to” worksheets that come with the presentation. Come learn tips and helpful information of wetland restoration and stewardship. Need: one month notice.

SLIDE PRESENTATIONS

ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

“Using Solar Energy in Oregon's Homes & Businesses” (30 minutes) Solar energy is an abundant resource in Oregon. Blessed with mild cloudy winters, and also with mild, dry, sunny summers, both Western and Eastern Oregon make surprisingly good climates for using solar energy. This slide presentation by the **Solar Energy Association of Oregon** will illustrate how Oregonians are using these plentiful solar resources for solar water heating, day-lighting, passive solar heating, and solar electricity. Up-to-date information on new solar products and applications is included. Need: two week notice. (Note: SEA of O could also give talks and slide shows focused on particular solar topics.)

FORESTS, DESERTS AND WILDERNESS

“Forest Ecology and Opal Creek”

A naturalist from **Opal Creek Ancient Forest Center** will present slides showcasing the beauty and grandeur of the Opal Creek forest. This old growth ecosystem, protected in 1996 as a Wilderness and Scenic Recreation Area, is home to thousand-year-old trees, cutthroat trout, spotted owls, elk and giant salamanders. Discover the interesting ecological relationships between forests and their organisms. Need: slide projector and two week notice.

“Oregon's High Desert: A Land of Wild Majesty?” (30 minutes) Home to fleet-footed pronghorn, majestic bighorn sheep, remarkable birds, and rare plants, Oregon's high desert is like no place else on the planet. Yet it is imperiled by human activities that have destroyed vegetation, eroded soils, and reduced biodiversity. A representative from the **Oregon Natural Desert Association** will show slides showcasing its beauty and discuss a proposal to preserve some of the 13.5 million acres of public land in the high desert. Need: ten day notice.

HEALTH AND LIFESTYLE

“Design and Conserve a Greenbelt in Your Community” (15-20 minute slide show and talk) A representative from the **Greenbelt Land Trust** will give a slide show and talk on how to design and conserve a “greenbelt” system of lands in a community. The talk will focus on the 20-year effort of the Greenbelt Land Trust to work with local citizens, city and county parks departments and elected officials to design and purchase significant open space lands in and around Corvallis and Philomath, Oregon. This how to presentation will show that it is possible through a dedicated effort and citizen involvement to conserve lands that are critical to the “sense of place” for your community. Need: two week notice.

“The Hidden Costs of Driving” Most Oregonians are aware of subsidies for transit. Few are aware of subsidies for automobile use. This provocative presentation by an **Oregon Environmental Council** representative exposes the hidden costs of driving and suggests fair and individualized fees that will result in a more efficient and environmentally-friendly transportation system. Need: two week notice.