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Clackamas County Salmon Conservation and Recovery



Trillium Creek Restoration Project

Trillium Creek is a tributary of the Clackamas River in the Carver area (see the map below). This stream flows through the Anderegg Parc subdivision, which is home to over 200 CCSD#1 residents. When the subdivision was created, separate tracts of land that included the stream and riparian (streamside) zones were set aside for environmental conservation. Invasive species, such as Himalayan Blackberry, have infested these riparian zones, threatening the native trees that are in these areas. Mature native trees are an important component to a stream system, because they function in many ways to cool the water, and provide habitat for fish and wildlife who call the stream and stream corridor their home.

Why Trillium Creek?

Trillium Creek is important to the Clackamas River watershed because the water that flows out of the neighborhood and into Trillium Creek also flows into the Clackamas River. The Clackamas River is not only home to fish species such as salmon and steelhead, it is also the source for the municipal drinking water of several areas, including the Clackamas urban area. Keeping the water in Trillium Creek clean and cool helps everyone, including you (if the water for your house comes from the Clackamas River. If you don't know where your drinking water comes from, ask your water provider!)

Accomplishments to Date

The restoration project focuses on removal of the blackberry and establishing the native trees and shrubs in the environmental conservation areas over time. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provided a monetary grant to WES for removal of the blackberry and replanting the site with native trees and shrubs. Throughout the fall of 2001, WES partnered with the Clackamas County Community Corrections department to bring work crews to cut down the blackberry bushes. Over the course of several days, the walls of blackberry bushes disappeared, and the stream began to emerge. Then, on January 26, 2002, WES, the Friends of Trees, and the people who live in the subdivision planted 800 trees and shrubs. The species of trees that were planted include Western Red Cedar, Douglas Fir, Oregon White Oak, Oregon Ash, and Big Leaf Maple trees. Shrub species include salmonberry, Nootka Rose, Snowberry, and Pacific Ninebark. For more information on native trees and shrubs, contact the Friends of Trees at www.friendsoftrees.org.

We Need Your Help!

Maintenance events such as watering and mulching will happen through the next three summers-- if you would like to get involved, please contact Karen Streeter at WES, 503-353-4597.

Scientific Experiment

An exciting experiment is going on at this restoration project site. Typically, soil is disturbed in residential subdivisions as a part of the construction process. Nutrient rich, organic topsoil is often removed, and underlying clay soils remain on the site. At Trillium Creek, we created four experimental plots (one control, and three test plots) where we have placed compost mulch in varying depths and locations. The soil will be tested annually in order to learn the degree to which compost mulch can amend and enhance nutrient deficient soils. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service agreed to fund this experiment at Trillium Creek, as

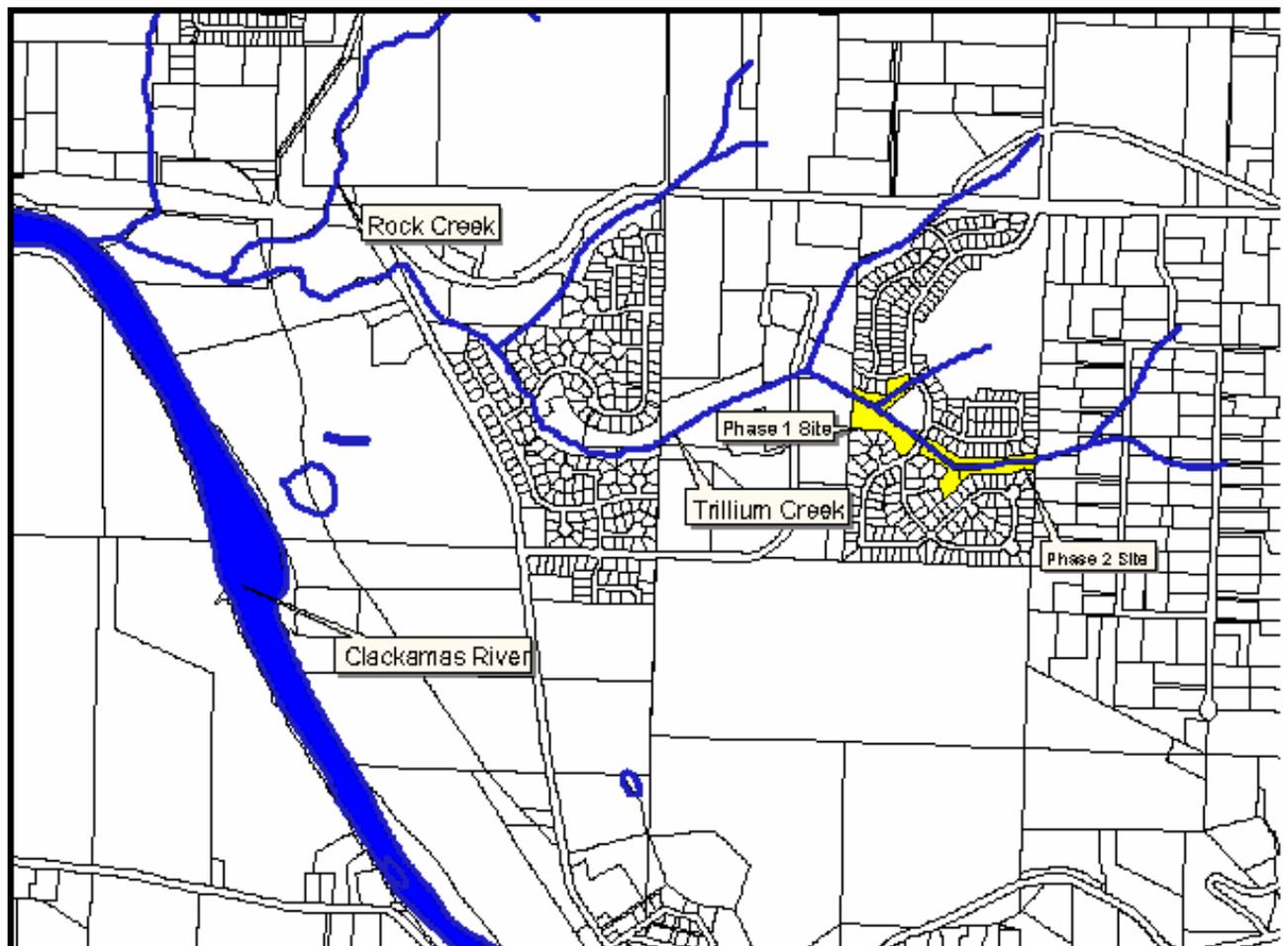
many agencies such as WES and the Friends of Trees have the same questions about how to properly amend and enhance disturbed soils for the purposes of tree planting.

Thank you for your support

Trillium Creek is home to numerous species of birds, small mammals, deer, coyote, fish, and aquatic invertebrates. The community has been very supportive of WES' effort at Trillium Creek, and as a result of that support, WES is looking to expand the restoration project to include an area upstream that is also in the subdivision.

Project Partners for the Trillium Creek Restoration Project include the following:

- [Friends of Trees](#)
- [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#)
- [Metro Greenspaces](#)
- [Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife](#)



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