



Join the Columbia Slough Watershed Council as a Business Partner!



The Columbia Slough Watershed Council (CSWC) works to protect and enhance the Columbia Slough and its watershed through community engagement, education, and restoration.

- CSWC brings community members together to enhance the health of the Columbia Slough and expand free and accessible opportunities for people to enjoy this urban gem.
- CSWC works to improve water quality, build, and restore fish and wildlife habitats, increase public awareness and accessibility, create meaningful connections to the outdoors, empower youth, and advocate for a healthy watershed.
- The work of CSWC is possible thanks to the commitment of community members and the engagement of local agencies, businesses, and partner organizations.

The Columbia Slough Watershed is home to the most diverse population in the City of Portland. CSWC recognizes that historic land use, housing, economic, and transportation policies and practices have disenfranchised Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) community members, putting them at a disproportionately higher risk of environmental pollution, natural hazards, and climate change impacts. In addition, this has set up unique barriers to outdoor recreation and the safe enjoyment of natural areas. In response, the Council prioritizes programming that provides opportunities to historically excluded communities, including BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, immigrant, and low-income residents.

All proceeds from our business partnerships directly benefit the programs and work of the Columbia Slough Watershed Council – JOIN US IN 2023!

JEDI Programming Includes:

- Free paddle and naturalist outings for BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, and culturally specific groups, including POC Outdoors, Vive NW, Outdoor Afro, Black Men's Wellness, Outside In, Slavic Community Center NW, and Betties 360.
- Bilingual Paddle Leaders Training Program in partnership with the Slavic Community Center NW, and Vive NW, ensuring that our programming is accessible to the Latinx and Slavic communities within our watershed.
- Stewardship programming hires BIPOC-owned and led organizations for 75% of our contract work, prioritizing those with green workforce development elements to foster green sector job skills among low-income and communities of color.
- Environmental Education programming offers free in-class lessons, field trips and paddles to schools in the watershed, prioritizing Title I schools to help fill the gap in environmental education. Out of the over 4,000 student contacts per year, 88% qualify for free lunch and 69% are students of color.



Ways your company can support CSWC:

- Primary Sponsor: Support of all of our programs and events.
- Sponsor a Program: Direct your donation to a specific program.
- In-Kind Gifts: Donate items or services to an auction, raffle, event, or program.

Benefits for Your Company and Staff

- Volunteer Opportunities for you and your employees.
- Invitations to events for colleagues, staff, and clients.
- Your logo and name on the CSWC sponsor page with a link to your website listed in the monthly e-news in 2023 (reaching 3,500 people each month) and on all print and digital materials for our events throughout the year!
- CSWC will provide you or your company with the right to use the CSWC logo in your advertising and promotions.

Columbia Slough Watershed Council 2022 - 2023 Programming & Events



Annual Slough Celebration: May 20, 2023

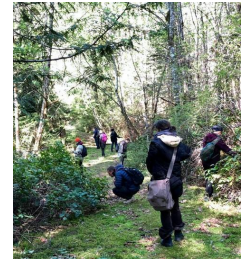
Each year the CSWC brings together community organizations, government agency partners, local businesses, and community members to celebrate the Columbia Slough Watershed. This event provides an opportunity to learn more about CSWC and all we do to protect and enhance the Columbia Slough through community engagement, recreation, education, and stewardship.



Programs and Partnerships Due to a myriad of racial and institutional barriers, including a lack of representation, access, safety, equipment, and financial capacity, populations of color are much less likely to seek recreation, adventure, and reflection in our wilderness settings. To address this need, the Council hosts over 20 free outdoor programs for our culturally specific community partners from May through October, including canoeing and kayaking sessions along the Columbia Slough, bird, and nature walks at Kelley Point Park, Whitaker Ponds Natural Area, and Smith & Bybee Lakes, as well as Forest Bathing workshops. *In 2023 we will offer at least 15 canoe and kayak events, four birding & nature walks, four mindfulness/forest bathing workshops, and 7 BIPOC youth paddle outings.*



Public Programming for Everyone CSWC organizes free outdoor programming and educational workshops, including kayak and canoe rentals, bird and nature walks, bike rides, creative writing workshops, forest bathing, mindfulness classes, and educational courses on bats, owls, and mason bees! *In 2023 we are planning to host 15 - 20 public paddles, 12 bird and nature walks, monthly Slough Science educational workshops, and three forest bathing workshops.*



Bilingual Paddle Program CSWC partners with Vive NW and the Slavic Community Center to recruit and train bilingual Paddle Team members to help increase Latinx and Slavic community member participation in our free public paddle events. Through this partnership, bilingual paddle leaders help facilitate paddle outings with Latinx and Slavic-speaking community members, creating a safe, welcoming environment for the respective community members. *The current 2023 schedule includes bilingual paddle training for Slavic & Latinx community leaders, multiple paddles for Slavic community members & for Latinx community members.*

The Great Slough Cleanup & Eyes on the Slough CSWC organizes monthly trash cleanups along and in the Columbia Slough, hosts the annual Great Slough Cleanup every July, and works with watershed residents to keep eyes on every mile of the Slough for trash and environmental hazards. Through these efforts, we partner with youth groups, community organizations, and our expansive list of paddle volunteers to remove as much waste as possible that is discarded into the Columbia Slough.



Environmental Education: Teaching the future stewards of our watershed Our Education Program, Slough School, helps youth understand their connection to the land and water in their communities while giving them opportunities to become environmental stewards of the Watershed. Slough School programming is free for all K-12 students who attend school within the Columbia Slough watershed. Our program helps fill the gap in environmental education opportunities by prioritizing Title I schools. In the classroom and out in the field, students explore the living and nonliving parts of this urban ecosystem, gain knowledge of current and past environmental issues, and participate in projects to improve their local environment. *During 2022, Slough School worked with 20 schools and organizations and 4,460 youth contacts.*





Environmental Stewardship and Restoration The Columbia Slough functions as a critical habitat corridor in the urban and industrial floodplain of north Portland, Fairview, and Gresham. Nestled between airports, highways, and businesses, the Columbia Slough is home to river otters, hundreds of species of birds, migrating salmon, and even the occasional sturgeon. Our Stewardship Program partners with community groups, government agencies, and businesses to help conserve habitats and improve water quality across the watershed. With hands-on support from volunteers and green workforce development crews, we build rain gardens and pollinator corridors, clean trash from the Slough, remove invasive species, and install thousands of native plants in natural areas. *In 2022 12,669 native plants were installed, and 16,000 square feet of invasive plants were removed from our watershed!*



Honoring History & Expanding Habitat Since 2018, we have been working to restore a riparian forest along Force Lake, an important stopover site for migratory birds, including waterfowl and pelicans. In the winter of 2021, we expanded the project to restore habitat along the adjacent Mud Lake and seeded 5 acres of native pollinator patches in out-of-play areas at Heron Lakes Golf Course. Each year, we've planted native shrubs

and trees in partnership with the Blueprint Foundation, which works to provide career-building opportunities for Black youth and communities of color. Ed Washington, Vanport Survivor, will join the event this year to provide historical context about the wartime city of Vanport, which once stood at this location and plays a huge role in the region's history.

Healthy Industrial Lands Initiative CSWC's Stewardship Program offers free site consultations to commercial and industrial properties to find ways your property can help enhance the health of the Columbia Slough. The Council provides technical assistance to implement projects like native habitat restoration, street or landscape tree installation/care, and stormwater mitigation projects, including rain gardens or erosion control. In addition, we help connect the landowner with financial incentives and cost-share opportunities to fund projects that enhance water and habitat quality. Take a look at some of our work in progress at the Level Beer (also a CSWC Sponsor) outdoor area (located on 148th and Airport Way)!



2023 Partnership Opportunities

Gold Sponsor: \$2,500+

General Benefits

- **Year-Long Name Recognition as “2023 Gold Sponsor”**
- Company logo on the CSWC sponsor page with a link to your website, listed in the monthly e-news in 2023 (reaching 3,500 people each month), and on all print and digital materials for our events throughout the year.
- Mentions in all PR materials, including Annual Report, e-news, and printed newsletters.
- Invitations to all CSWC events.
- Two volunteer opportunities for your staff.

Silver Sponsor: \$1,000+

General Benefits

- **Year-Long Name Recognition as “2023 Silver Sponsor”**
- Company logo on the CSWC sponsor page with a link to your website, listed in the monthly e-news in 2023 (reaching 3,500 people each month), and on all print and digital materials for our events throughout the year.
- Mentions in all PR materials, including Annual Report, e-news, and printed newsletters.
- Invitations to all CSWC events.
- One volunteer opportunity for your staff.

Watershed Sponsor: \$500+

General Benefits

- **Year-Long Name recognition as “2023 Watershed Sponsor”**
- Company logo on the CSWC sponsor page with a link to your website, listed in the monthly e-news in 2023 (reaching 3,500 people each month), and on all print and digital materials for our events throughout the year.
- Mentions in all PR materials, including Annual Report, e-news, and printed newsletters.
- Invitations to all CSWC events.

Event Specific Benefits Available, contact Heather King at Heather.King@columbiaslough.org

