

# Re-Investing for Healthy Rivers



## Wastewater and Surface Water

[www.oaklodesanitary.com](http://www.oaklodesanitary.com)

### Surface Water Management Strategic Plan Launched



The Board of Directors took action in February to accept the District's Surface Water Management Strategic Plan. The Plan was strongly supported by the Surface Water Management Community Advisory Committee, a 15-member citizen panel that advises the Board.

Many of the top priorities are already underway:

- ✓ Launching the Boardman Creek Basin Initiative (see article)

- ✓ Updating development code provisions that safeguard streams
- ✓ Investigating the feasibility of a systems development charge (SDC)
- ✓ Developing an Intergovernmental Agreement with Clackamas County
- ✓ Assuring compliance with the new Oregon Department of Environmental Quality stormwater permit
- ✓ Focusing immediate attention on public education

*"It's great to live in a community where special districts involve members of the community in decisions that affect their lives".*

*- Myron Martwick, OLSD SWM Citizen Advisory Committee*

**Learn more about the Strategic Plan at [www.oaklodesanitary.com/swmccac](http://www.oaklodesanitary.com/swmccac).**

### Introducing the Boardman Creek Basin Initiative:

Oak Lodge Sanitary District's SWM Strategic Plan identifies the Boardman Creek Basin Initiative as the plan's centerpiece and a crucial step leading the District and its streams to a better future.

Decades ago, much of the Boardman drainage was devoted to agriculture – farm fields and pastures. In the memory of a few area residents, Boardman Creek was a fish-bearing stream all the way to its upper reaches.

As twentieth century urban development gradually covered most of the basin, streambeds, already channelized by agricultural activity, were replaced by pipes and culverts. The spread of pavement and other

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Over the past year the District's Surface Water Management (SWM) Citizen Advisory Committee, staff and the Board have been working on a SWM Strategic Plan. Adopted at our February Board meeting, this plan will serve as a guide to better manage resources, comply with regulations, and meet customer expectations over the coming years.

There is much work ahead of us. We need to better educate our customers about surface water issues, including tips on how you can help improve water quality and stream habitat. We also need to address SWM rates. State and federal regulations require that we do more testing, which is costly, and there are several improvement projects that the District must address. The \$6 monthly SWM fee has not increased in over a decade.

I encourage you to get involved as a volunteer, come to a District Board meeting, or visit our web site at [www.oaklodesanitary.com](http://www.oaklodesanitary.com) for more information.

William Wild  
President, Board of Directors

## GET INVOLVED

District customers are invited to attend the regular monthly meetings of the Oak Lodge Sanitary District Board of Directors.

Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month, starting at 6:30 pm, at the District administration office. Announcements and agendas are posted on-line at [www.oaklodgesanitary.com](http://www.oaklodgesanitary.com)

### Board of Directors:

William Wild, President  
Jim Martin, Vice President  
Terry Gibson  
Tom Foeller  
Ginny Van Loo

## LEARN MORE

To find out more about Oak Lodge Sanitary District and its programs, visit the District's website at [www.oaklodgesanitary.com](http://www.oaklodgesanitary.com) or phone (503) 653-1653.

Oak Lodge Sanitary District  
14611 SE River Road  
Oak Grove, Oregon  
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impervious surfaces channeled heavier storm flows to Boardman Creek and undersized culverts caused flooding; fish became a distant memory.

The Boardman Creek Basin Initiative pinpoints the projects that are critical to the basin's health and safety to: address chronic water quality and quantity issues; improve fish and wildlife habitat; restore migratory fish passage; and leverage resources through partnerships. Stringfield Family Park already serves as a model in the basin for successful partnership projects.

### Boardman Creek Basin Initiative



## Do your part!

- ✓ Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly and consider composting!
- ✓ Select native plants and grasses.
- ✓ Sweep up yard debris, rather than hosing down areas.
- ✓ Don't overwater your lawn.



### What is Green Day?

Green Day is a community driven volunteer effort on April 16<sup>th</sup>! Jennings Lodge and Oak Lodge Community Council are spearheading this with the solid support from Oak Lodge Sanitary District, Clackamas County, SOLV, and Oak Grove Disposal.

### What is happening on Green Day?

Volunteers will gather from 9am-1pm to help clean up our neighborhood in a small but measurable way. We will help keep litter and chemicals out of our creeks and rivers. Green Day is a chance to celebrate Earth Day within our own neighborhoods to Reduce – Reuse – and Recycle.

### Here's what's in store:

#### At the old "JOE's" site on McLoughlin Blvd:

**Litter Patrol** - Numerous routes will be identified for volunteers to walk and pick up wayside litter. SOLV will provide supplies such as bags, gloves, safety vests, etc. For each route, a crew of volunteers will be dispatched, with a crew leader and map. The "haul" from each crew can be brought back to the Joes site, where we Oak Grove Disposal will have a drop box (only for litter patrol).

### Green Day Activities and Information

**Booths** – Local students will provide demonstrations of composting and other activities for kids! Non-profits and organizations from the area will have booths to provide valuable info for families to make every day Green Day/Earth Day.

**Plant Swap** – Area gardeners can bring plants to swap, especially natives!

**At the Clackamas Fire Station on Oak Grove Blvd:**

**Drug Take Back** – Based on the success of last fall's event in Clackamas County, our neighborhoods will be able to bring prescription medication and other substances that should not be dumped in garbage or through the sanitary system. It's critical to the health of our ecosystems to keep these chemicals out of our surface water systems (rivers, streams, creeks).

### How can you help?

Share this information with your neighbors, schools, and area businesses!

### Questions?

Contact Leah Robbins at [leahnjimmy@comcast.net](mailto:leahnjimmy@comcast.net) or Kay Deines at [kldeines@olsd.net](mailto:kldeines@olsd.net).

### Get more info:

[http://www.solv.org/programs/solv\\_it.asp#sitelist](http://www.solv.org/programs/solv_it.asp#sitelist)

**We hope to see you there!**

