

# SALMON CREEK



WATERSHED  
COUNCIL

*Purpose*

***SCWC exists to provide a forum for citizens and organizations residing in Clark County to participate and partner for on the ground restoration, water quality and advocacy of the Salmon Creek Watershed. The SCWC will act to provide citizens, businesses and governmental agencies the opportunity to leave a lasting legacy of clean water, healthy habitat and environmental stewardship for the benefit future generations.***

*Mission Statement*

***“To engage and inspire community investments in the Salmon Creek Watershed for the protection and enhancement of its natural resources.”***

*Vision*

***We envision a health Salmon Creek watershed that provides a natural sanctuary for people who live, work and play there. Fish and Wildlife will thrive. Salmon, Steelhead, and Sea Run Cutthroat Trout returning to Salmon Creek will find the clean water and exceptional habitat essential for maintaining their heritage. The watershed will be valued as an enduring community asset.***

**Contacted Partners**

- Clark Public Utilities
- Clark County Parks and Recreation
- Clark County Public Works Water Resources
  - WSU Watersheds Stewards Program
  - Rivernetwork
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
  - Clark Conservation District

**Potential Partners**

- Watershed Citizens
- The Regional Coalition for Clean Rivers and Streams
- Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
- The Water Resources Education Center
- Fish First
- US Dept. of Ecology
- Friends of Trees
- Columbia Land Trust
- EPA
- Streamnet
- For the Sake of Salmon
- Northwest Service Academy
- City of Vancouver
- City of Battleground
- DNR Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account
- Businesses

**SCWC**  
**Board of Directors**  
**2 Year Volunteer Commitment**  
**Mike Kerbs Chairman**  
**Ron Wierenga Vice-Chair**  
**David Page Treasurer**  
**Bill Owen Secretary**  
**(9-13)**

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|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Clean Water Commission Chair*</li> <li>•Clark County Water Resources*</li> <li>•WSU Watershed Stewards*</li> <li>•Clark Public Utilities*</li> <li>•Clark County Conservation District*</li> <li>•EPA</li> <li>•Fish and Game*</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Rock Creek Landowner</li> <li>•Mill Creek Landowner</li> <li>•Cougar Creek Landowner</li> <li>•Land Developer</li> <li>•Business Owner/Executive</li> <li>•Business Owner/Executive</li> <li>•Citizens within Watershed*</li> </ul> |
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## Organizational Committees

**Habitat Restoration/  
Volunteer Recruitment**  
**Randall Pearl**

- Partner with Clark Public Utilities to implement rehabilitation projects identified in the LCFRB's 2005 Habitat Work Schedule
- Actively recruit and organize volunteers from public service organizations. Boy Scouts, local schools, Friends of Trees, Americorps, other community service orgs.
- Restoration monitoring and project assessment. Efficacy measurements to ensure targeted and efficient resource allocations.

**Education/  
Community Outreach**  
**Tim Tolle**

- Work with landowner to minimize pond development and their temperature impacts.
- Partner with local schools, businesses and community service organizations, Water Resources Education Center and the Environmental Information Cooperative to educate community members on pollution control, conservation
- Place and monitor brochures on Salmon Creek trailhead and local businesses
- Storm Drain Stenciling
- Public relations/media coordination. Maintain I-205 Adopt a Highway section between 119th st. and I-5

**Water Monitoring/  
Enforcement**  
**Ron Wierenga**

- Partner with Clark County Water Resources and the Water Resources Education Center to monitor Salmon Creek and the sub watersheds of Salmon Creek.
- Utilize WSU's Watersheds Stewards Program to establish dedicated Watershed Monitoring Team.
- Work with Clark County Code Enforcement Officer to report degradation activity within the watershed.

**Fundraising/  
Administration**  
**David Page**

- Solicit public agencies and local business for funding to help fulfill SCWC vision.
- Appeal to public for financial contributions.
- Develop SCWC branded products for local sales and distribution.
- Apply for grant funding at the local, state and federal level.
- Maintain meeting notes, member subscriber lists, legal and accounting requirements.
- SCWC Web Site Development

# Board Bio's

SCWC Chairman- Michael Kerbs has been a professional river guide in Idaho and Alaska and has a deep passion for clean water, environmental protection and fish habitat. Michael works for WhiteWave Foods as the Western Regional Manager and is proud to work for an organization that reflects his values of sustainability, environmental stewardship and social responsibility. Michael has lived in Vancouver and along the banks of Salmon Creek for the past 10 years with his wife and two girls ages 2 and 6. Michael is a 1990 graduate of the University of Oregon and holds and MBA from George Fox University. Michael is also an avid fly fisherman.

SCWC Vice-Chair-Ron Wierenga is an Environmental Permitting Coordinator for Clark County Public Works. Ron has a graduate degree from WSU in Environmental Science and has over ten years of experience studying and managing Pacific Northwest streams, rivers, and lakes. For the past five years he has worked with Clark County's Clean Water Program as a scientist assessing the health of the county's waterways and watersheds. He has been an active volunteer coordinator for the County, as well as an active volunteer with watershed councils in Oregon. He is an avid fly fisherman and motorcycle enthusiast.

SCWC Treasurer- David Page graduated from the March 2006 WSU Clark County Extension Water Steward class and through mid-January 2007 has volunteered over 100 hours in outreach and restoration activities. David has owned and operated local software company Mekos Corporation and lived overlooking Salmon Creek in the Felida area since 1975. David is a charter member of the Salmon Creeks Lions Club and has served on a number of computer related advisory councils over the years. He is currently a member of the Clark County Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs committee. And, he is passionately awaiting the return of salmon, steelhead, and sea run cutthroat trout in high numbers to Salmon Creek.

SCWC Secretary- Bill Owen is the 2007 chair of the Clark County Clean Water Commission, an advisory group for the Board of County Commissioners. He is a professional engineer with over ten years of consulting and public service experience in water resources. He is currently employed as a Project Manager/Engineer for the City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services. In addition, he volunteers as a water quality monitor for the County and a youth coach for the Salmon Creek Soccer Club. He is an active member of Vancouver First United Methodist Church, where he has served in a variety of leadership roles over the past several years.

SCWC Volunteer/Habitat Committee Chair Randall Pearl- Randall has been a member of the board of directors of the Friends of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge since 2002. Randall has worked on numerous habitat restoration and enhancement projects, including ones with Fish First, Friends of the East Fork, and Clark Public Utilities. His project leadership on a habitat restoration project at Pleasant Valley Park led to him and his wife Mary Kay receiving a Certificate of Merit from the Clark County Commissioners in 2004. As part of his work at Pleasant Valley Park, Randall has mentored two Eagle Scout candidates. As a member of the Pleasant Highlands Neighborhood Association (PHNA), he is providing guidance on the environmental aspects of the Clark County Urban Growth Boundary expansion process. His involvement with PHNA has led to appointment as a member of the Clark County Habitat Conservation Ordinance stake holder's group.

SCWC Board Member- Rick LeBlanc is a semi retired business owner of a confection and snack brokerage business covering states of Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Northern Idaho. He spent the last 34 years in this sweet industry. Rick was selected in 2006 and presented the Lou Spector Candy Dish award which is the highest honor in his industry and votes received from all of his peers in the industry. Rick was also inducted into the Candy Hall of Fame in 2004 which includes him in a very elite group of about 1000 individuals inducted over the last 105 years. Rick now spends as much time as possible with his two young adult children and his wife of 35+ years. When he isn't working on a project of personal notation, he can be found on river fishing for that elusive Steelhead with a fly.

## Board Bio's

SCWC Community Outreach Chair Tim Tolle- Tim is a Retired Forest Service with work experience in several agencies including: NASA (remote sensing), OSU Cooperative Extension Service (hydrologist), Oregon Water Resources Board (analyst), Soil and Water Conservation Districts (Associate Supervisor). Held various positions in two regions, and three national forests, including: Regional Ecosystem Management Coordinator; technical lead of Adaptive Management Area network; US Field representative to the International Model Forest Network; regional monitoring coordinator; Forest Planning Staff; and Forest Hydrologist. Led several interagency teams in regional implementation of Northwest Forest Plan, including adaptive management areas and monitoring. Military included stint as personal aide to Commander of the Western Pacific, 1968. Most recently co-directed E-government research project with Dr. Delcambre, for four years. Ph.D. in physical hydrology, OSU. Over three dozen gray-literature papers in hydrology, planning, adaptive management and knowledge management. Original member of Forest Service's Knowledge Management team and Collaborative Stewardship team. Tim's work experience includes; Developed natural resource ontologies for 30 different fields from existing sources, expressing relationships between and among terms as well as related terms to documents, including manuscripts, maps, photographs, bibliographies and so forth. Identified documents that best serve as knowledge sources to specific audience. Led and participated in user studies to identify needed vocabularies and to identify needed knowledge and knowledge sources. Participated in usability tests to validate user reactions to application developed in response to these needs and sources.

Jeff Wittler is the Environmental Resources Manager for Clark Public Utilities. Jeff has been with the Utility for 10 years and manages the Utilities' Salmon Creek Watershed Restoration Program which has restored 15 miles of streams and planted over 700,000 trees. He has 15 years experience restoring streams in SW Washington. He is a past recipient of Vancouver-Clark Parks Evergreen Award for volunteer contributions to Parks. He has also been recognized by Clark County with it's Sammy Award for his volunteer and professional contributions to salmon recovery in Clark County. He is on the Board and help found NatureScaping 12 years ago. He also volunteers for the Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group and the regional Watershed Planning Unit. He is a 2006 graduate of Leadership Clark County.

Donna Hale –Washington State Department of Fish and Game- LCFRB Member

## Board and Council Development October 2006-Present

- Recruited Board and Elected Officers

- Chairman- Mike Kerbs
- Vice Chair- Ron Wierenga Clark County Public Works
- Secretary- Bill Owen Chair, Clean Water Commission
- Treasurer- David Page Landowner/Watershed Steward
- Randall Pearl- Landowner/Watershed Steward
- Rick Leblanc- Landowner
- Jeff Wittler- Clark Public Utilities
- Donna Hale- WDFW
- Tim Tolle- Clark Conservation District

- Assigned Committee Chairs

- Restoration/Volunteer Committee-Randall Pearl
- Education/Community Outreach Committee- Tim Tolle Chair
- Water Monitoring and Enforcement Committee-Ron Wierenga
- Finance/Fundraising Committee (Chaired by Treasurer) David Page Chair, Rick Leblanc
- Web-site Development Sub-Committee- Mike Kerbs, David Page, Tim Tolle

- Registered with EPA as Salmon Creek Watershed Organization

- Created Salmon Creek Watershed Council Logo

- Reserved Web-site- [www.salmoncreekwatershed.org](http://www.salmoncreekwatershed.org), [www.salmoncreekwatershedcouncil.com](http://www.salmoncreekwatershedcouncil.com), [www.salmoncreekwatershedcouncil.org](http://www.salmoncreekwatershedcouncil.org) and [www.scwsc.org](http://www.scwsc.org) Working with WSU to create website content and obtain free hosting service.

- Developed and adapted Mission Statement and Vision

- Developed and adapted By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation

- Adopted Board Policies

- Code of Conduct
- Conflict of Interest
- Corporate Donations

- Adopted (literally) I-205 Section over Salmon Creek

- Held first clean up December 2006.

- Brochure permission from Clark Parks and Rec.

- Obtained address and annual mailbox donation

- Established short term and long term priorities

- Registered with the State of WA and filed 501(c) 3 application with I

- Held first volunteer campaign with WDFW Fish Kids April 14th



## Priorities

### Short Term (complete by August 2007)

- Apply for non-profit status
  - Set up bank account
  - Develop Budget
- Go Live with Web-Site/Public Relations
  - Member enrollment and donations
  - Community and Watershed Links
    - CPU
    - Clark County
    - WSU Watershed Stewards
  - Recruitment statement-why get involved?
  - SCWS Clark County and LCFRB Documents
  - Map
  - Press Release
  - Post Brochures on Salmon Creek Greenway
  - Newsletter
- Community Integration
  - River Walk with Clark Parks and Rec.- Fundraiser/Education
  - WDFW Kline Line Fishing Event April 14th
  - Earth Week-April 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>
  - Down by the Riverside-Salmon Creek Clean Up-May 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Fundraising
- Identify and organize restoration projects for summer

### Long Term 1-3 years

- Become financially sustainable
  - Grants
  - Re-occurring Corp. Gifts
  - Member donations
- Hire Full Time Program Manager and staff
- Become deeply assimilated with restoration projects and issues that affect the watershed
- Coordination and advocacy with all stakeholders
  - Clark Public Utilities
  - Clark County
  - City of Vancouver
  - City of Battleground
  - LCFRB
  - Landowners
  - Businesses
- Heightened sense of urgency and community awareness

# Habitat Restoration

- Identify projects within the LCFRB's Habitat Work Schedule in conjunction with Clark Utilities to provide labor and volunteer efforts.
- Clark Utilities has agreed to provide plantings to projects coordinated by the SCWC.
- Recruitment efforts are key. We need to quickly identify, contact and enlist public service organizations to assist in restoration projects.
  - Boy Scouts, local businesses, Schools, Americorps, Friends of Trees, etc.
- Temperature concerns should be a priority for the organization.
  - Pond assessments
    - Illegal Ponds
    - Homeowner education
    - Point source degradation
  - Reconstruction of channel (Highway 99)
  - Shade Plantings

# Education/Community Outreach

- Enlist homeowners on and around Salmon Creek as advocates through membership drives.
  - Salmon Creek Trailhead brochure dispensers
    - Permission has been granted by Parks and Rec
  - Acrylic brochure stands in local businesses.
  - County Fair
  - Press Release
  - Web Site [www.salmoncreekwatershed.org](http://www.salmoncreekwatershed.org)
  - Community Meetings/Neighborhood associations
- Public relations should be developed within this committee.
  - Press releases
  - Media Coordination
  - Printing/Informational materials.
- Work with Clark Utilities to identify roles for the SCWC in the education of citizens.
- Contact “critical area” landowners to serve on SCWC Board
  - Rock Creek Area
  - Large Pond Owners
- Establish relationship with the Water Resources Education Center and identify roles for SCWC.
- Storm Drain Stenciling Drives with Boy Scouts.



# Water Monitoring/Enforcement

- Identify water temperature anomalies and location. Ensure anti-degradation policy is not violated.
- Work closely with Clark County Code Enforcement Office to report potential point source violations and illegal (non permitted) bank degradation activity.
- Monitor water levels to report stream health and unauthorized water use.
- Partner with Clark County, River Network and other Watershed Councils to develop best practice habitat restoration assessment template. This will be used to determine how successful rehabilitation efforts are and are a critical component for grant funding.
- Work closely with Clark County Water Resources to use water monitoring equipment and data compilation.
- Develop partnership with WSU's Watershed Stewards Program to engage and utilize graduates of the program.

# Fundraising

- Locate seed money is the priority- \$5,000-\$10,000
  - Incorporation/establish 501 3 C
  - Logo and letterhead
  - Recruitment expenses for Board of Directors
  - Membership recruitment
  - Mailings to notify community of SCWC.
  - Website Development. [www.salmoncreekwatershed.org](http://www.salmoncreekwatershed.org) domain has been purchased.
- Long Term Funding
  - Designate contribution levels and benefits
    - King Club \$10,000 +
    - Coho Club \$5,000-\$9,999
    - Steelheader \$1000-\$4,999
    - Rainbow Club \$500-\$999
    - Watershed Member \$1-\$499
  - Identify and contact Corporate Citizens for reoccurring donations & volunteer support
    - HP
    - Nautilus
    - Burgerville
    - Fred Meyer
    - Columbia Credit Union
    - First Independent Bank
    - Construction Companies
    - Real Estate Agencies
    - Papa Murphy's
    - Bonneville Environmental Foundation
    - Local Businesses
  - Office/equipment
  - Dedicated Staff
- Work closely with Clark Utilities, Clark County, River Network and other partners to identify restoration projects that would be suitable for grant funding.
- Identify SCWC Board Member or member at large who can assist in the navigation of grants and watershed funding.
  - Apply for local, county, state and federal grants depending on scope of project.
- Fundraising committee will be responsible for the administration of the board.
  - Accounting/Finance
  - Developing and maintaining member database.
  - Website development
  - Publication of meeting notes
  - Obtaining and administrating liability insurance/licenses