



Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District

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June 2026

Let me know if you want to be ADDED or TAKEN OFF this email list or have something to add: ellen.hammond@jeffswcd.org

All newsletters are now available on our website www.jeffswcd.org! Don't know why it took me so long to think of the obvious...

July 28, noon-1:30pm

Jefferson SWCD Board Meeting
Madras Airport

Learn what the SWCD is doing for you. Contact [Kate Haarberg](mailto:kate.haarberg@jeffswcd.org) for an agenda and to RSVP for lunch! Agendas and approved minutes are posted on our [website](http://www.jeffswcd.org) as soon as available.

ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY SWCD

On November 3, 2026, an election will be held to elect board directors to the following positions for the JCSWCD:

- Zone 1: Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (2-year term)
- Zone 2: North of Culver area (4-year term)
- Zone 4: Trout Creek/Ashwood area (4-year term)
- At Large #2 (4-year term)

Zone boundaries, eligibility requirements, and copies of the required elections forms may be obtained at the SWCD Office located at 625 SE Salmon Avenue #6, Redmond, OR 97756. Please call 541.208.2207 in advance to set up an appointment or have the forms mailed to you. Election forms and information may also be found at: <http://oregon.gov/ODA/SWCD/services.shtml>

Each candidate must file a "Declaration of Candidacy" and a "Petition for Nomination Signature Sheet" with the Oregon Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Division. The filing deadline is 5:00 PM on August 25, 2026. The filing deadline for an elected incumbent district candidate seeking re-election to the same office is 5:00 PM on August 18, 2026.

Oregon Farmer and Rancher Survey 2026: Extreme Weather and Digital Tools

Oregon State University researchers are conducting a statewide [survey](#) of Oregon farmers and ranchers about managing drought and other extreme weather and using digital tools.

The survey takes about 15-20 minutes, and participants may enter a drawing for one of ten \$100 cash vouchers. Your input will help shape future support and programs.

Hey! Next time don't wait until Farm Fair to find out what our friends at the Central Oregon Ag Research Center are doing to help you during times of water scarcity.

The June 18 Field Day featured the following research plots: reducing verticillium wilt resistance in peppermint, 54 winter wheat varieties, Kentucky blue grass trials, supporting pollinators, alfalfa weevil resistance, perennial grain varieties, different irrigation scenarios for grass hay and Kentucky blue grass, and 50 varieties of orchard grass! There's nothing like seeing the plants in the ground and talking with tour attendees.

Plus, COAREC is trying to add an Agrimet weather station in the Culver area to help landowners optimize irrigation scheduling. The only current Agrimet weather station is at COAREC north of Madras.



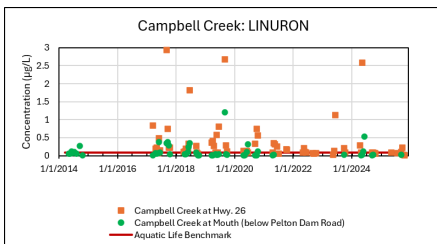
Middle Deschutes Pesticide Stewardship Partnership (MDPSP)

The MDPSP receives funding from ODA and DEQ to track pesticide concentrations in local waterways, reach out to pesticide users, and implement projects to reduce pesticides in our streams and drains.

The SWCD has been assessing waterways draining to the Deschutes River since 2014 for over 130 pesticides. Pesticide concentrations are compared with levels set to protect aquatic life. "Pesticides of Concern" are detected most often and/or at concerning concentrations. See 10-year monitoring report on our website at [MDPSP 10-year summary](#).

Pesticide of Concern in Jefferson County	Common Trade Names	Type ¹	Common Local Uses	Where of Most Concern?
Dimethoate	Dimate	I	Grass seed, alfalfa, wheat	Campbell Creek
Diuron	Direx, Karmex	H	Bluegrass seed, alfalfa; fencerow, stackyard, right of ways (ROWs), etc.	Campbell Creek, Culver Drain, Mud Springs, Rattlesnake Drain
Imidacloprid	Admire, Gaucho, Merit, Premier, Provado	I	Vegetables	Culver Drain
Linuron	Lorox	H	Carrot seed	Campbell Creek, Culver Drain, Rattlesnake Drain
Oxyfluorfen	Galigan, Goal	H	Carrot seed, bluegrass seed	Campbell Creek
Prometryn	Caparol	H	Carrot seed	Campbell Creek

¹ I = Insecticide, H = Herbicide



Pesticide concentrations and detections at the mouth and Hwy 26 in Campbell Creek have generally decreased over time. Likely reasons are a combination of: less runoff due to conversions to more efficient irrigation, less runoff due to reduced irrigation water deliveries because of drought and the Oregon Spotted Frog Habitat Conservation Plan, and more careful pesticide applications due to technological advances and outreach from the MDPSP on pesticide concerns. However, there is more that needs to be done.

WHAT YOU CAN DO!

Irrigation runoff from farm fields is a likely source of pesticides in our waterways; convert to more efficient irrigation systems and reuse irrigation runoff on your fields. Also, to minimize drift, it is prohibited to spray when wind speed exceeds 10mph.

Example: Pumpback pond to prevent runoff from 90 flood-irrigated acres from reaching Campbell Creek. Funding contributed by the Oregon PSP Program and OWEB's Small Grant Program.

Left: drain to Campbell Creek and approximate location of new buried pipe to an existing pumpback pond.

Right: Two pipes now provide water to the original pumpback pond. The pipe on the right is the original pipe that provides delivery water; the pipe on the left is the new pipe that is preventing that sediment-laden water from entering Campbell Creek.

