

FEATURING:

Native Plants for
Riparian Buffers and
Erosion Control

Idaho State
Forestry Contest

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Contact us at:
(208) 263-5310

Native Plants

~ For Riparian Buffers and Erosion Control

If you live on the Pack River, you are likely aware that land along the River is prone to erosion. Maintaining a solid riparian buffer or area of native vegetated land right next to the water is an effective and affordable way to prevent this problem. The mix of roots from shrubs, groundcovers, and trees create a web-like network that stabilizes and reinforces the soil, reducing the risk of erosion.



(Red twig dogwood)

"Native plants" are what you find naturally growing along the Pack River. Some like shade, some like sun, some like water, and some like none. Once established, native plants are easy to care for and attractive. They will increase the value of your property by preventing your property from sloughing into the river.

Your property likely has one of three scenarios: a healthy riparian buffer with some natural erosion, lacks a riparian buffer with concerning erosion, or a

vertical cut bank which is continuously breaking off into the river. If you have a healthy buffer of vegetation...protect it! If your property is experiencing erosion, there are lots of local resources available to help you.

The following is a list of recommended riparian native plants, plant specialists, and free on-site consultants to help you protect your property from erosion.

Recommended Riparian Native Plants:

Snowberry, Douglas Spirea, Wood's rose, Scouler's Willow, Sitka Willow, and Red Twig Dogwood

Where to get Native Plants:

- University of Idaho Forest and Seedling Nursery – seedlings.uidaho.com
- Plants of the Wild – plantsofthewild.com
- Cedar Mountain Perennials – cedarmountainperennials.com
- All Season's Garden and Floral

On-Site Consultation, Engineering and Plant Design:

- Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District - bonnerswcd.org
- Natural Resources Conservation Service- 263-5310
- Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society-- nativeplantsociety.org

~ By Molly McCahon, Lake-a-syst Coordinator

Annual Idaho State Forestry Contest

The 33rd Idaho State Forestry Contest will be on May 14th at the Delay Farm in Careywood. The Forestry Contest is an annual event sponsored by the Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District, Idaho Dept. of Lands, and U.S. Forest Service to promote youth education in the area of forest science and management.

Competitions include timber cruising, plant identification, compass and pacing, map reading, silviculture, tree identification and health, soil and water quality, noxious weeds and scaling.

Anyone in grades 6 through 12 may compete individually or on a team. If you have an interested student, contact the BSWCD at 208-263-5310x100.

“The health of our waters is the principle measure of how we live on the land.”

~ Luna Leopold

Dover Wins Source Water Protection Award!

The City of Dover won the Source Water Protection System of the Year award! This means that the City of Dover has proven to the state of Idaho that they are actively pursuing measures to protect the public’s drinking water.

Along with Laclede and Priest River, Dover’s municipal drinking water is taken from the Pend Oreille River. So, the river is the “source” of the City’s drinking water. Keeping the water intake free from turbidity and hazardous wastes such as gasoline and oil spills, toxic substances,

and leaching septic tanks is the primary goal of the Source Water Protection Plan.

Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District helped the City of Dover to write a grant to improve their Source Water Protection Plan. Councilwoman Diane Brockway took the lead on developing a protective plan and she is instrumental to its success. Congratulations, and thank you to the City of Dover and the Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District.

~ By Molly McCahon, Lake-a-syst Coordinator

Pack River Watershed TMDL 5-year Review

The Pack River is currently included on the State of Idaho’s list of water quality impaired waterbodies. Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act requires states to develop a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for water bodies that are water-quality limited and do not support the beneficial uses designated to that water body.

Beneficial uses of the Pack River include cold-water biota, salmonid spawning, and primary and secondary contact recreation. These beneficial uses are currently impaired or not fully supported due to an excess of sediment, nutrients, and temperature.

The Pack River Watershed Management Plan and TMDL Implementation Plan was completed in

2006. This plan specifies actions that will be taken by various agencies to reach the goal of improving water quality to the level that beneficial uses are fully supported.

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) is required to meet with designated lead agencies, resource managers, and other stakeholders to review TMDL projects on a five-year cycle. This review ensures that projects are being implemented and monitored and that all agencies are held accountable for their respective projects.

The Pack River Watershed Council (PRWC) is currently involved in this 5-year review process. Our goal is to provide updates to the public and seek local community input on the on-going efforts of this Watershed Management /TMDL Implementation Plan.



Failing banks on the Pack

New AIS Boat Station

Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District will administer three boat inspection stations this year. A new station will be set up in Clark Fork, in addition to the stations at the Albeni Falls Visitor Center and the Samuels Service Station. The station will monitor boat traffic in both directions.

The stations are scheduled to open from Friday May 22nd through Monday September 7th, 7 am to 7 pm. AIS stickers will be sold at all three stations, \$22 for out-of-state motorized watercraft, and \$7 for non-motorized watercraft.

Celebrating the 20th Pend Oreille Water Festival

This year marks the 20th consecutive year of the Pend Oreille Water Festival. For the past nineteen years, the Water Festival has brought the classroom outside for Bonner County fifth grade students to learn about their corner of the 26,000 square-mile Clark Fork-Pend Oreille watershed.

The idea for creating a fun, educational event for youth to celebrate the waterways of the Clark Fork-Pend Oreille watershed was hatched at the University of Montana in 1994. Driven by their professional and personal passion for the Clark Fork River, a group of environmental science professors, graduate students, and advocates met in the evenings after work to brainstorm ways to inspire young minds. The result was the Water Festival.

The inaugural Water Festival was held in the spring of 1995, at Karas Park in Missoula, MT. One year later, the first ever Water Festival was held in Bonner County—a joint effort between the Pend Oreille Conservation Dis-

trict in Newport, WA and the Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District in Sandpoint, ID.

From that first year through present, the Festival has been enjoyed and remembered by students, valued by teachers, appreciated by parents, buttressed by school districts, and supported by community funders.

~ By Gail Bolin, Water Festival Coordinator



"The Water Festival is a hands-on outdoor science lab experience that students will remember for years to come."

~ Jennifer Cornelius, 5th Grade teacher, Sagle Elementary

Fly Fishing Film Festival... April 24th and 25th

Join the Panhandle Chapter of Trout Unlimited, North 40 Fly Shop, and the Pend Oreille Water Festival at the historic Panida Theater on April 24th and 25th at 7 pm, doors open at 6 pm. Once again we'll be showing two different films, F3T on Friday and If4 on Saturday.

The cost is \$12 in advance at North 40 Fly Shop and Eichardt's, \$14 online at www.flyfilmtour.com, and \$15 on the day of the show. This event is a fundraiser for the Pend Oreille Water Festival and the Panhandle Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Enjoy door prizes, raffles, booths and more!

Calendar of Events

April 7 th & 8 th	Bonner County SEEP Course: Contact Marie Pengilly, U of I, at 208-292-2540.
April 9 th	UI Ext. Weed Education Day: 8 to 12 at the Bonner County Fairgrounds.
April 10 th	Tree Seedling Pick-up Day: 9 am at the Delay Farm near Careywood.
April 24 th & 25 th	4th Annual Sandpoint Fly Fishing Film Festival: 7 pm at the Panida Theater.
May 6 th	SEEP Recertification Course: Contact Marie Pengilly, U of I, at 208-292-2540.
May 14 th	Forestry Contest: contact Linda O'Hare at the BSWCD at 208-263-5310x100 for more info.
June 13 th	UI Ext. Thinning and Pruning Field Day, Sandpoint, ID. Saturday, June 13 th from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. For more information call (208) 446-1680.
June 22 nd to 27 th	UI Ext. Natural Resources Camp: The program focuses on wildlife, rangeland, forests, soil, and water. The camp is for 12 to 14 year old students and is held north of Ketchum, ID. Tuition is \$235 before May 21st. Contact Linda O'Hare at the BSWCD at 208-263-5310x100 for more info.
Aug 14th	"Restoring Idaho's Streams" A workshop on forest stream restoration principles. Contact Chris Schnepf for more information @ 208-246-1680.
Monthly	Water Quality Monitoring: If you are interested in learning about water quality, please join us for our monthly water quality monitoring. Contact Jessica Erickson @ 208-255-5545.





Pack River Watershed Council

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“The mission of the Pack River Watershed Council is to improve water quality and riparian habitat in the Pack River watershed for people, fish , and wildlife through education, collaboration, and cooperative projects.”

Thanks to Avista Watershed Council Funding, we are able to print and distribute this newsletter.