



Sound Stewards

April 2023

go with the flow - free the Deschutes!



Hello and happy spring!

It's the season of renewal, and we at DERT want to thank everyone who called their legislators to demand funding for estuary restoration and the removal of the 5th Avenue Dam. Your support and advocacy make a huge difference in our efforts to restore and protect the watershed. And, there is still time to make your voice heard- you can continue to call your legislators until April 23rd to urge them to support this important project.

[Read the full message from our Board President here.](#)

As the weather warms up, it's also a perfect time to explore the beauty of the Deschutes watershed and visit some of the parks along the river that make this area so special. In this newsletter, we'll highlight some of the amazing outdoor spaces that the Deschutes has to offer. And, as always, we encourage you to continue supporting DERT's work to restore and protect this precious natural resource. Check out our new volunteer opportunity below!

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team - Free the Deschutes!

You are part of the vision and hard work that guarantees the Deschutes River WILL meet Puget Sound without a barrier. Together, we will continue to advocate for the restoration of our urban estuary. Please consider donating to DERT today.

DONATE TO DERT

DETR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Interested in monitoring microplastics around Puget Sound?

Looking for a meaningful way to give back to the environment and contribute to scientific research? DERT could use your help! We are looking for a few dedicated volunteers to receive a training on microplastics sediment sampling for an upcoming study.

The training will be provided by **Puget SoundKeeper**, a respected environmental organization dedicated to protecting the health of the Puget Sound, on **May 20th from 11 AM to 3 PM in Seattle, WA**, and DERT will cover all of the travel expenses.

The volunteers who complete the training will work with DERT to conduct a microplastics survey in our area over the summer.

As a volunteer, you'll have the opportunity to make a real difference in the fight against microplastics pollution, and all expenses will be covered. Sign up today, space is limited!

For questions and to receive the registration link, please email Sue at olydert@gmail.com



Do you have an event or volunteer opportunity to share?
Send it to us at olydert@gmail.com

EXPLORE THE DESCHUTES



Tumwater Historical Park

802 Deschutes Way SW, Tumwater, WA 98501

Bring the kids out to the playground and enjoy the historic view of the old 1906 Brewery from across the river.

Open sunrise to sunset

[Learn more on the Tumwater city website](#)

**Brewery Park at
Tumwater Falls
(formerly Tumwater**



Falls)

110 Deschutes Way SW, Tumwater, WA 98501

Beautifully maintained and freshly renovated, this park offers walking trails along either side of the river. Check out **the hatchery** while you're there and, during the right time of year, see some salmon!

Open 8 AM to 8 PM

[Learn more on OTF's website](#)



ATTENTION K-12 Teachers: Are you looking for ways to tie your environmental science lessons to art and writing activities that align with the state Common Core, Next Generation Science Standards, and the Oregon Environmental Literacy Plan?

If yes, submissions are open for *Honoring Our Rivers*, a collection of K-12 student-generated art, photography, poetry, and prose focused on rivers and watersheds.

[Learn more](#)

Submission deadline is Friday April 28, 2023.

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**DONATE TO
DERT**

EXPLORE THE DESCHUTES

Pioneer Park

5801 Henderson Blvd SE, Tumwater, WA



98501

A playground, wide open fields, and a river to cool off in- come explore Pioneer park!

Open sunrise to sunset

[Learn more on the Tumwater city website](#)



Deschutes Falls Park

25005 Bald Hill Rd. SE, Yelm, WA 98597

This hidden gem offers serenity and wonderful scenic views. Enjoy a walk through the woods and finish with a view of a 25 foot waterfall.

Open 9 AM to dusk

[Learn more on the Thurston Co. website](#)

NEWS IN THE WATERSHED

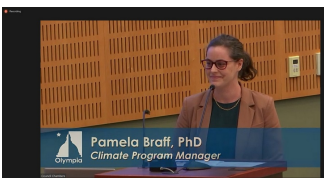


No Bags in the Bin! Plastic Bags Contaminate Recycling System

"Plastic bags are one of the largest sources of contamination in Washington's residential recycling stream. These bags can clog recycling machinery, contaminate other recyclable materials, and lead to more potentially recyclable material ending up in the landfill."

Submitted by Washington Department of Ecology

[Read more](#)



Olympia launches Energize Olympia; helping homeowners get ductless cooling and heating system

"Climate Program Director Dr. Pamela Braff has announced the launch of Energize Olympia, an initiative to promote energy-efficient ductless heat pumps (DHP) through a group purchase campaign."

By Lorilyn Lirio

[Read more](#)



Capital Mall Triangle to become 'more people-oriented' over next 20 years

"In a meeting on March 16, the Olympia Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee discussed an update on the Capital Mall Triangle Subarea Plan and the environmental impact statement."

By Sage Hamilton

[Read more](#)

Do you have watershed news to share?
Send it to us at olydert@gmail.com



Facebook Recurring Donations

Are you an estuary enthusiast?

Consider becoming a recurring DERT donor on Facebook! Facebook routes donations through Network for Good so we receive 100% of your donation - no fees!

With monthly donations from caring supporters like you, we can do more good, every day, for the health of our Deschutes estuary and watershed.

[Become a donor on Facebook!](#)

POLLUTION REPORTING RESOURCES



As a community dedicated to protecting the Deschutes watershed and South Puget Sound, we must all keep an eye out for potential pollution incidents when we are out and about.

To report suspected pollution in your community, email olydert@gmail.com.

DERT's South Sound Healthy Watershed Program operates thanks to our sponsoring foundations and donors like you. Did you know that donors are now able to set up automatic recurring monthly donations in any amount? Follow the link to the right to get set up. Thank you for working with us towards a free Deschutes!



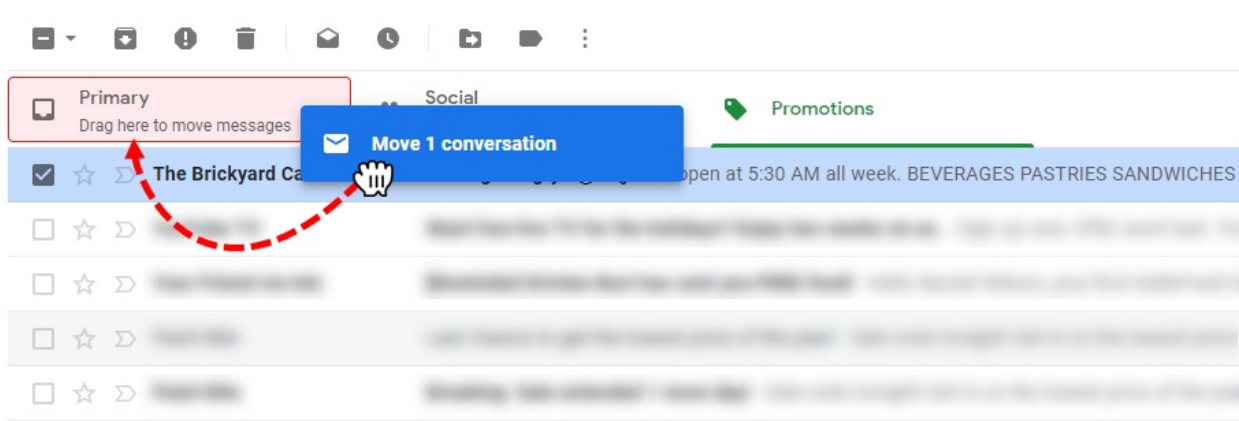
[Donate Today!](#)

MANAGING YOUR INBOX

Do our emails get lost in your promotion tab? Here is a quick trick to make sure our newsletter goes directly into your primary inbox*. Simply click on the email in your promotions tab, and drag it up and over to your primary tab. Voila! From now on, every DERT email will go directly to your primary tab!

For more information [CLICK HERE](#)

*This tip is for those who use Gmail, but it may be applicable to other platforms.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBE



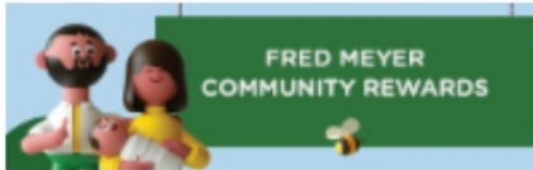
THE RUSSELL
FAMILY FOUNDATION



PUGET
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Nisqually Indian Tribe



Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team | PO Box 11093, Olympia, WA 98508

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