



# DEQ's Collaborative Plan to Amplify Toxics Reduction Efforts

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September 2, 2026  
Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership Science to Policy Summit 2026  
Lacamas Lake Lodge, WA

# EPA Grant Acknowledgement

This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under assistance agreement # 44-02J54901 to DEQ.

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# Grant Structure

Federal funds support multiple projects led by DEQ and its partners to prevent or clean-up toxics in the environment:

1. Pesticide Stewardship Partnership Program
2. Focused Ag Solutions
- ~~3. Technical Assistance to Rural Willamette Valley Communities~~
4. PFAS Strategic Plan Implementation
5. Small-Scale Distressed Property Cleanups

# 1. Pesticide Stewardship Partnership

Partnership with Oregon Dept.  
of Agriculture

**Goal:** Keep current-use pesticides out of streams through voluntary actions using water quality monitoring and education/technical assistance.



# 1. Pesticide Stewardship Partnership

## Major Activities and Results:

- Enrollment of ~200 acres in the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Hazelnuts Program in the Yamhill PSP (near McMinnville, OR).
- Recruitment of landowners managing 80 acres in the Amazon PSP (near Eugene, OR).
- Eight Pesticide trainings/workshops in the Columbia R. Gorge (Hood River PSP) reached nearly 250 applicators managing over 9,700 acres.



Pheromone dispensers in hazelnut orchard (Yamhill SWCD)

## 2. Focused Ag Solutions

Partnership with Oregon Dept. of Agriculture

**Goal:** Reduce mercury discharges from agricultural lands within the Willamette River Basin to achieve the mercury TMDL load allocations.

ODA and OSU Extension will help publish, share and implement practices in three watersheds and develop a data portal that prioritizes agriculture's erodible lands.

Practices might include actions such as:

- improving riparian buffers,
- off-channel watering,
- upgrading irrigation efficiency, and
- planting cover crops.



Restoration to reduce erosion (ODA)

## 2. Focused Ag Solutions

### Major Activities and Results:

- Focus Areas: Polk, Yamhill and Tualatin SWCDs
- Conservation plan assistance with online ag practices planner
- On-the-ground landowner implementation in 2027
- Public data portal showing prioritized assessment of erodible lands



Polk SWCD Soil Health Workshop (ODA)

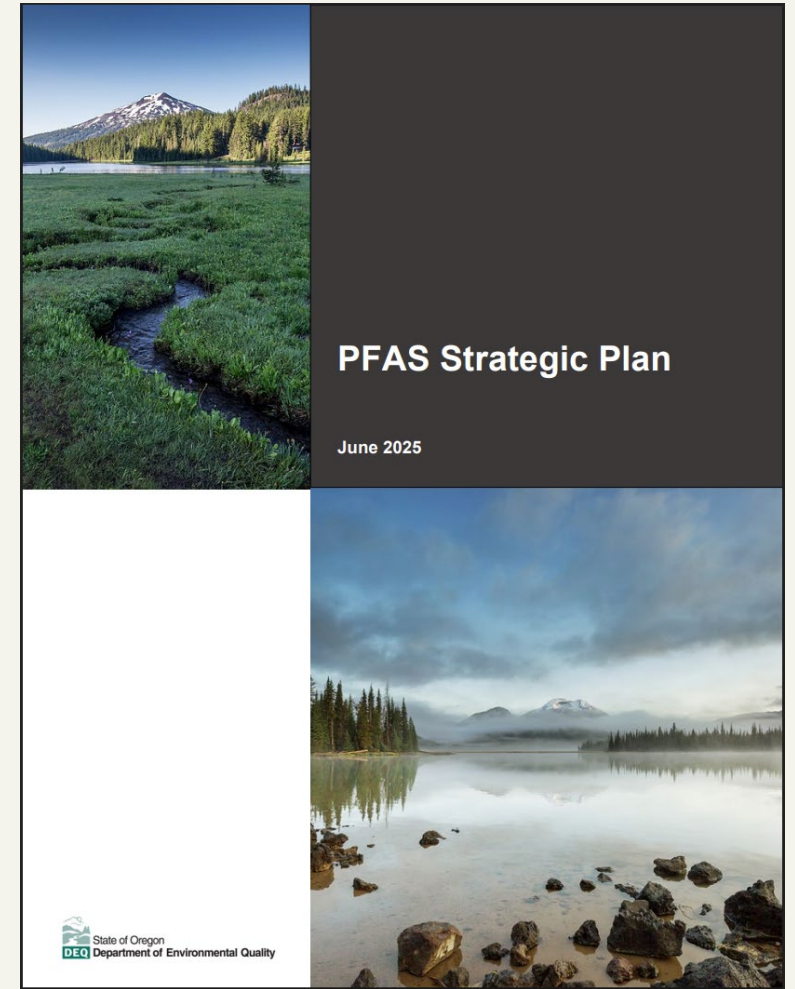
# 4. Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

## What are PFAS?

PFAS are a class of thousands of chemical compounds that have been used since the 1940s for a wide range of consumer and industrial products. PFAS are water soluble, highly mobile, and can accumulate in living organisms.

PFAS are referred to as “forever chemicals,” meaning that when they contaminate soil or groundwater, they do not easily break down or degrade into a less harmful chemical form.

**Goal:** Finalize and implement DEQ’s statewide [PFAS Strategic Plan](#).



# 4. Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

## Major Activities and Results:

- Finalization and publication of the [PFAS Strategic Plan](#)
- [PFAS Rulemaking](#) – Six chemicals designated as hazardous substances
  - PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA (or GenX), and PFBS
- Pesticide collection event in a partnership with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde:
  - 4,590 pounds of pesticides collected and responsibly disposed
- PFAS, Pretreatment, and Publicly Owned Treatment Works
- PFAS Cleanup Site Prioritization and Risk Assessment

# 5. Small-Scale Distressed Property Cleanups

Led by DEQ's [Environmental Cleanup Program](#).

**Goal:** Identify, prioritize, and remediate up to 10 contaminated sites to reduce human health and environmental risks.

Support small and underserved communities facing extreme weather risks and cumulative environmental burdens to achieve community benefits through site reuse.



Site undergoing cleanup

# 5. Small-Scale Distressed Property Cleanups

## Major Activities and Results:

- Site screening and prioritization; five Tier 1 sites:
  - City of Rainier Marina (Columbia County)
  - Viers Property (Marion County)
  - Pilot Rock School District (Umatilla County)
  - Hart-Swenson Property (Umatilla County)
  - Adrian School District (Malheur County)
- Cleanup contractor selected; initial site visits in June 2026
- Expected site investigation and cleanup timelines: August 2026 – December 2028



Viers Property

# More information

To learn more about DEQ's Columbia River Basin Restoration Toxic Reduction Lead Grant, visit our [web page](#).

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