

# CLACKAMAS SUBBASIN AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA PLAN AND RULES

In 2001, the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) developed the Clackamas Subbasin Agricultural Water Quality Management Area and Rules in accordance with the Agricultural Water Quality Management Act of 1993. The Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) and ODA worked with a local advisory committee to develop the Area Plan and Rules.

## ***What is the Plan?***

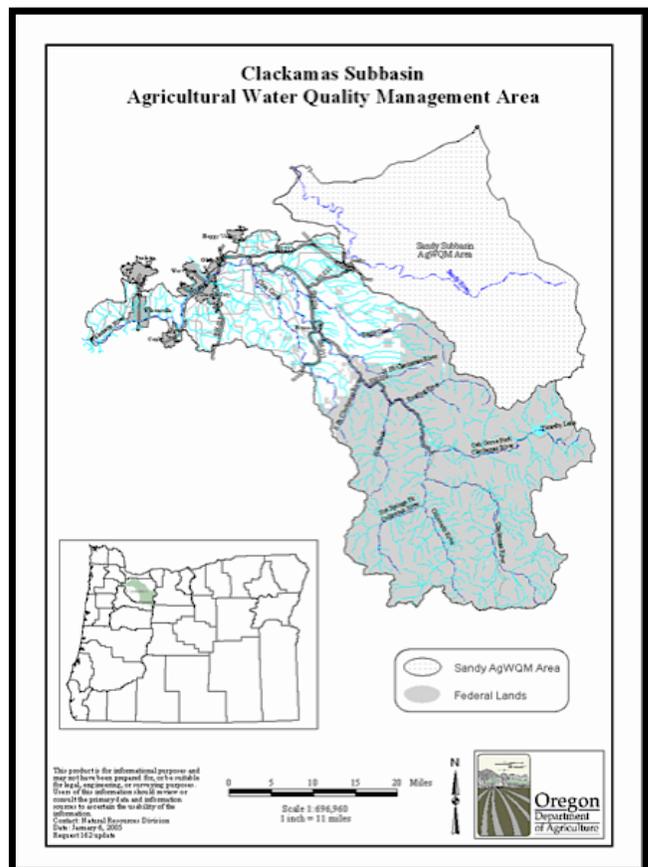
The Area Plan is a tool that provides agricultural water quality partners and landowners information about:

- The geographic area of the plan and its boundaries. (See map)
- Local water quality concerns in the plan area.
- Goals and implementation strategies to encourage conservation and improve water quality.
- Optional management practices that landowners may implement to improve water quality.

The Area Plan does not tell anyone how to farm, ranch, or otherwise utilize his or her natural resources. Rather it is a resource for landowners to address water quality issues. In it, they can find contacts for technical and financial assistance that will help them meet their business and conservation goals, and attain water quality standards at the same time.

The water quality concerns identified for the Clackamas Subbasin Management Area are:

- Temperature
- Bacteria
- Dissolved Oxygen



## ***What are the Regulations?***

The focus of the Agricultural Water Quality Management Program is on voluntary and cooperative efforts by landowners and others to protect water quality. However, the Agricultural Water Quality Management Act also provides for a regulatory backstop

to ensure prevention and control of water pollution from agricultural sources in cases where landowners or operators refuse to correct problem conditions.

Agricultural water quality regulations serve as this backstop while allowing landowners flexibility in how they protect water quality. Local Area regulations describe characteristics to be achieved on agricultural lands, rather than practices that must be implemented.

The following is a summary of regulations that apply in the Clackamas Subbasin Area.

Landowners and operators are required to manage their land to:

1. *Landowner actions may not cause pollution to any waters of the state or place any wastes in a location where such wastes are likely to escape or be carried into the waters of the state by any means.*
2. *Riparian vegetation along streams must provide the establishment, growth, and/or maintenance appropriate to the site.*
3. *In addition, there are rules specific to erosion, livestock waste, irrigation water, nutrient applications, and chemical application.*

### ***More information?***

If you would like additional information or technical assistance please contact:

Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District: (503) 210-6000

OR

Oregon Department of Agriculture North Coast/ North Willamette Water Quality Specialist:

Brenda Sanchez

Desk: (503)-986-4730

E-mail: [bsanchez@oda.state.or.us](mailto:bsanchez@oda.state.or.us)

Natural Resource Programs at (503)-986-4700

Visit the website for more information and copies of the Area Plan:

[www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/NaturalResources/AgWQ/Pages/AgWQPlans.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/NaturalResources/AgWQ/Pages/AgWQPlans.aspx)

### ***Do the Plan and Regulations apply to me?***

The Area Plan and associated regulations apply to all lands, regardless of size, in current agricultural use and those lying idle or on which management has been deferred. It also applies to agricultural operations within incorporated city boundaries within the designated management area boundary.

### ***What do I need to do?***

You should evaluate your agricultural activities and try to determine whether they might:

- 1) Pollute streams, canals, and groundwater, and
- 2) Prevent growth of appropriate vegetation along streams.

Then you need to change any problem practices to ensure compliance with the Area Rules.

