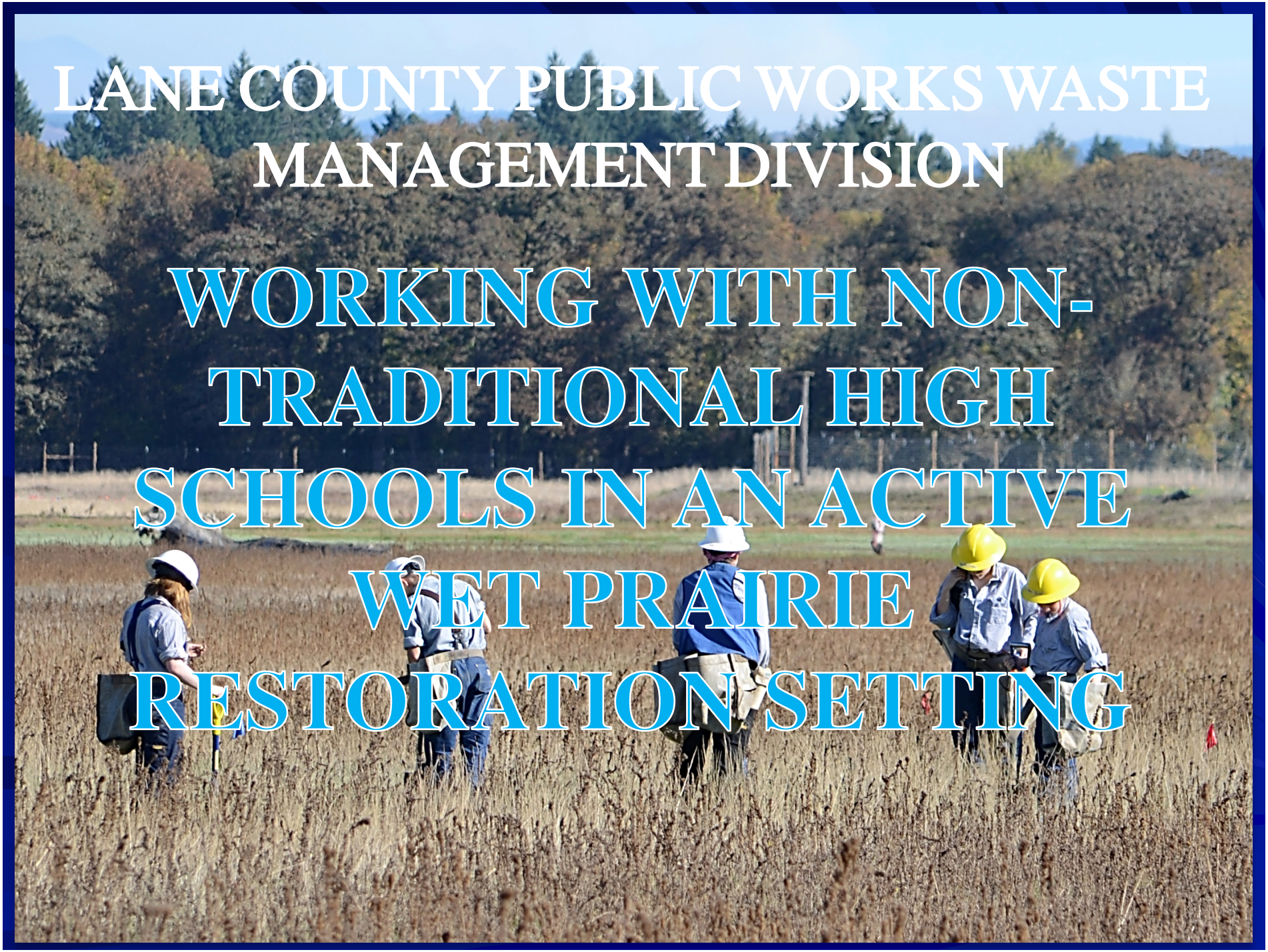

LANE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION
WORKING WITH NON-TRADITIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS IN AN ACTIVE WET PRAIRIE RESTORATION SETTING

Quamash Prairie Wetlands



Quamash Prairie Wetlands



- 86 acres of existing wetland mitigation areas, with over 120 acres of potential future mitigation development

Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Service Learning / Outdoor Classroom Opportunities

- Goal has been to create a service learning/outdoor classroom program at an actively managed landscape
- Provide field-based education of waste reduction, landfill operations, & environmental practices
- 600 student visits to Quamash Prairie/Short Mountain Landfill yearly





Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Service Learning / Outdoor Classroom Opportunities

- Al Kennedy High School
- Kalapuya High School
- Twin Rivers Charter School
- Lane Metro Youth Corps / Riverfront High School





Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Timeframe

- September – June (during the school year)
- Generally schools come out once a week

Partner Sponsorship & Funding Mechanisms

- Community Stewardship Corps (CSC) annual grant awarded through the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps
- Students gain school credit towards a diploma & OYCC scholarships



Quamash Prairie Wetlands

General Considerations

- Find a site that works for both the sponsor and school
- Develop projects where students can have a feeling of accomplishment and positive community involvement at the end of the day
- Recognize that different crews excel at different types of projects. Be adaptable and flexible with project types if possible
- Have reasonable expectations. Not a paid, trained summer crew



Quamash Prairie Wetlands

General Considerations

- Value of sponsor staff interactions with students
- Organize activities that promote job skills development
- Take time and allow for 'teachable moments'
- Take advantage of moments where students can have a connection with nature





Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Service Learning Activities

- Tarping for vegetation management





Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Service Learning Activities

- Native seed collection and dispersal









Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Service Learning Activities

- Native seed collection and dispersal



Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Service Learning Activities

- Native plant grow out and planting efforts









Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Service Learning Activities

- Camas salvage









Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Service Learning Activities

- Manual removal of non-native species





Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Service Learning Activities

- Building, installation, and maintenance of songbird boxes





Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Service Learning Activities

- Assist with other school visits









Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Service Learning Activities

- Other activities
  - Willow cutting harvesting, processing, and planting
  - Maintenance of native tree plantings
  - Maintenance of stormwater facilities
  - General site cleanup (removal of old fencing, flagging, etc)





Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Outdoor Classroom Activities

- Use of digital technology in the field









Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Outdoor Classroom Activities

- Introduction to stormwater and groundwater sampling techniques





Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Outdoor Classroom Activities

- Equipment demonstrations









Quamash Prairie Wetlands

Outdoor Classroom Activities

- Meetings with organization employees and other professionals
- Assisting with data collection efforts
- Clean Water Act Section 404 permitting
- Importance of wetlands (functions and values)
- Introduction to wetland delineation
- Endangered species
- Vegetation succession
- Ethnobotany
- Pond surveys



Quamash Prairie Wetlands








Youth Collaborations = Community Benefits

Quamash Prairie Wetlands





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