

Increased water runoff poses problems, solutions for ELC, Clackamas

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Staff Writer

The college is looking into different plans to deal more effectively with storm water and increased water runoff, said Peter Angstadt, outgoing dean of college services. The project, which is still in the early stages, involves many members of the community.

Besides receiving water from much of the college, the ELC gets the runoff from Oregon City High School's Moss Campus by way of Newell Creek.

"Oregon state law requires property owners to accept upstream water," Angstadt said. Because OCHS is expanding at Moss, he added, less exposed soil is free to absorb the rainwater, meaning the college will have more water running through the ELC in coming winters.

Though the ELC's ponds are low right now, getting more water than usual isn't necessarily a good thing, said ELC director John LeCavalier. The runoff is piped from drains beneath parking lots and roads and brings contami-

nants to the ELC's ponds: fertilizers, detergents and oil. LeCavalier said this form of pollution, called non-point source pollution, is the biggest threat to water quality today.

Water pollution "is no longer the green gook that's coming out of a pipe somewhere," LeCavalier said. "We are the problem; it's a case of 'we have seen the enemy, and he is us.'"

Details are still sketchy, said both Angstadt and LeCavalier, but solutions could include installation of swales, special drains that would allow rain water to be treated before transportation to Newell Creek.

Whatever plans are considered, the college hopes to become an example of good water management. "We would like to become a model for the state, if not the nation," said Angstadt. "Of course, that's expensive."

The project directors do not now have a determined budget to use for planning, said Angstadt, but money would come from the college's bond measure passed last year.



MICHAEL POLLOCK / Clackamas Print

Plans are in the works to help alleviate some of the problems that the Environmental Learning Center faces when it comes to storm runoff in the area. Areas around the ELC, including this pond, have come under attack by unusual forms of pollution, including runoff from the construction site of the new Oregon City High School, just south of the CCC campus.

Books purchased for FRC

LEAH BOERINGA
Staff Writer

The Clackamas Community College library purchased 87 new children's books for the teacher assistant program over the summer. The program, run through the Family Resource Center, is designed to develop new teacher assistants.

The 87 books purchased at the Clackamas Barnes and Noble cost \$1,000. The money was taken from the library's yearly book allotment of \$7,900 dollars.

"The people at the bookstore were really helpful in finding what we needed. They also gave us a 10 percent discount, which was wonderful," said Katie Hovanic, library coordination manager.

The books were chosen from a list compiled of Caldecott medal-

lists, Coretta Scott King award winners, the New York Public Library's top 100 picture books, the National Education Assistant Teachers top 100 books, and library staff selections. The books featured include such titles as "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" and "The Very Quiet Cricket," both written by Eric Carle.

While sifting through the lists of award-winning books, the library staff tried to keep the main focus on picture books and multicultural theme books, mostly consisting of African and Hispanic stories.

"We hope to eventually take a batch of about 50 to 75 books over to the Family Resource Center's daycare center to make them more available to parents to check out and take home for their kids," Hovanic said.



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Katie Hovanic holds up some of the books bought for the teacher's assistant program at the Family Resource Center

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