

# Illinois Valley Soil and Water Conservation District vs. watershed council

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IVN Contributing Writer

The Illinois Valley Soil and Water Conservation District (IVSWCD), which is closely related, yet separate from the Illinois Valley Watershed Council (IVWC), do their best to spearhead local efforts to conserve, restore and enhance natural resources for the environmental and social benefit of the Valley. The IVSWCD is currently in their 68th year of service and functions solely by the acquisition of grants. It operates as a special district of local government much like the fire department does and they provide free, nonregulatory services and consultations to landowners. Their primary focus at

the moment is water quality issues like elevated stream temperatures, fertilizer and pesticide runoff as well as dealing with sediment runoff and erosion—problems that can be created by agricultural endeavors.

“We have different focuses,” Tracey Brandt said, comparing the IVSWCD to the IVWC under Kevin O’Brien’s leadership and continued with, “me being with the IVSWCD it’s more about agriculture and water quality and Kevin with the IVWC is more about watershed improvements and salmon.” The staff of both organizations amounts to three employees who share the same building, one for each department and a shared office manager Amy Britt who helps with day-to-day operations. “We’re both improving the watershed,” Brandt

said, further trying to differentiate the two organizations, “but different projects would go to one or the other to match what our missions are.”

The primary grant that’s active for the IVSWCD is from the Oregon Department of Agriculture. It’s a two year grant which funds water quality improvement work but will soon end. However, the IVSWCD plans on reapplying in July and Brandt holds that they’re, “not really at risk of not getting it.” Additional grants are available through the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board’s (OWEB) Small Grant Program which funds small projects on public or private land like restoring streams, improving irrigation or planting trees. According to Brandt, these grants have a quicker turn around and she is personally on the review

team which chooses proposals to submit to the OWEB. So, for those who are interested in making improvements, the IVSWCD may be able to provide grant funding and assistance.

In one of two closing statements about upcoming events Brandt urged cannabis farmers to keep their eyes open for an educational seminar, which at this time has yet to receive an official date, and will highlight water quality issues that may emerge from their activities because of pesticide and fertilizer runoff. “I know that’s been an issue,” Brandt said. Brandt continued on to mention that the event will also include information as to how to create an efficient watering regime aimed at creating sustainable practices.

The second event highlights that there is currently an issue of stream water being hotter than usual due to a variety of factors but primarily from land being overly developed. “If the water’s too warm the salmon cannot survive,” Brandt said of the fish, some species of whom have been placed on the endangered species list. The main way to fix this issue is the practice of streamside planting, otherwise known as riparian planting, and as such the IVSWCD will be hosting an event that will sell plants to the public that are perfect for creating shaded streams. Although this event also has yet to have a date set those who are interested should keep an eye out for updates.

## IVCDO wins development grant from Banner Bank

On Jan. 17 the Illinois Valley Community Development Organization (IVCDO) announced receipt of a grant of \$5,100 from Banner Bank. The grant is part of Banner Bank’s ongoing commitment to the communities in which they do business through the Community Reinvestment Act. IVCDO will use the funds to support the Individual Development Account (IDA) Savings Program for small business and post-secondary education. The IDA Savings Program is available to low-moderate income individuals or families and utilizes state and federal tax credits to reward qualified IDA Program participants with \$3 for every \$1 they save for their business or education goals.

The award check was presented by Jodi

MacDonald, vice president and branch manager of both Banner Bank locations in Grants Pass, (1689 Williams Hwy. and 1409 NE 7th St.), who said, “We are proud to award this grant to Illinois Valley Community Development Organization for continuation of the IDA Savings Program to support asset savings for entry level entrepreneurs and small business growth.”

Receiving the award on behalf of IVCDO was Kenny Houck, community development manager, who explained, “We want to thank Jodi MacDonald for promoting the IVCDO and its work throughout the community. The funds will be used to help our IDA clients with the financial education and business planning necessary to successfully complete the program.”

It was MacDonald who initiated contact with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Rogue Community College and IVCDO with recommendations for the successful application. She added, “Banner Bank appreciates the opportunity to give back to our local community by supporting the IVCDO and other civic organizations. We wish you continued success throughout the coming year.”

The IVCDO’s IDA Savings Program is able to accept between five – 10 new participants each year. For more information about the program call 541-956-7400 or email: khouck@roguecc.edu.

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## More participants equals more effective treatment and more lives saved

We as a community are dedicated to eliminating cancer. We can achieve far more in reaching this goal with each other than anyone can alone. This week, We come together as a nation to show our commitment to saving lives from cancer by bringing people to the Relay For Life movement!

How can you help?

1. Recruit: Engage new team members and survivors to join your team

and/or your Relay event!

2. Register: Encourage all new (contact Team Development, Lorraine Matt, 541-479-0232 to learn how to sign up a new team) and returning team members to sign up online by Jan. 22.

3. Promote: Talk to everyone you know about joining Relay For Life! Wear a Relay shirt or purple during the week. Take a selfie and share on social media with the

#RelayForLife and a link to your local Relay event website. You might win something fun!

The top 10 Relay For Life events with the largest overall growth of participants registered online between Monday, Jan. 16 - Sunday, Jan. 22 will be eligible to win an Inflatable Relay Arch.

And to make it even better, the No. 1 event in each of the two categories

above will also win Relay For Life sunglasses for all event participants. Please review the leader board and complete rules at [www.relay.acevents.org](http://www.relay.acevents.org).

The only thing better than making an impact in saving lives from cancer is sharing the experience with others (while wearing really cool Relay For Life sunglasses).

### 2 WEEK SPECIAL



# Gooseberries

Real Food Market

**Dessert Essence Oil**  
For skin, hair, body, face & scalp  
**\$11.49** ea.  
Reg. \$16.39

Garden of Life  
**Fuco Thin**  
Non-stimulant, natural fat burner  
**\$36.69** ea.  
Reg. \$52.29

### Special Features

**Smart Chicken Bone-In Thighs**  
A free range bird. Non GMO.  
**\$3.39** lb.  
Reg. \$3.99 lb.

**Kids Menu Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwiches**  
**\$2.99** ea.  
Reg. \$3.99 ea.

**Westbrae Corn or Green Beans**  
**\$1.99** ea.  
Reg. \$2.79 ea.

**Red Onions**  
**89¢** lb.  
Reg. \$1.19 lb.

### Meat

**Diestel Turkey Chunks** ..... **\$7.99** lb.  
Fully cooked. 3 different flavors. Reg. \$9.99 lb.

**Niman Maple Bacon** ..... **\$5.99** pkg.  
No added nitrates or nitrites. Reg. \$7.29 pkg.

### Frozen

**Amy's Asstd. Bowls** ..... **\$4.89** ea.  
Reg. \$6.09 ea.

**Talenti Asstd. Ice Creams** ..... **\$4.99** ea.  
Reg. \$6.19 ea.

### Groceries

**Imagine Asstd. Broths**  
2 for **\$5.00**  
Reg. \$4.19

**Woodstock Cranberry Sauce**  
Whole & Jellied  
Reg. \$4.79 **\$3.49** ea.

**Spectrum Skillet Spray Canola Oil**  
**\$5.39** ea.  
Reg. \$7.49

**Asstd. Knudsen Sparkling Juice**  
Reg. \$4.49 **\$2.19** ea.

### Produce

**LOOK! NEW Lower Prices!**

**Gala Apples** ..... **\$1.19** lb.  
Reg. \$1.39 lb.

**Russet Potatoes** ..... **59¢** lb.  
Reg. 79¢ lb.

**Broccoli**..... **\$2.09** lb.  
Reg. \$2.39 lb.

**Vine Tomatoes** ..... **\$2.19** lb.  
Reg. \$2.59 lb.

### Bulk

**Natural Walnuts** ..... **\$3.99** lb.  
Great for snacking. Reg. \$5.59 lb.

**Carob Peanut Clusters** ..... **\$4.29** lb.  
Reg. \$5.99 lb.

**Yellow Popcorn** ..... **99¢** lb.  
Reg. \$1.79 lb.

### Deli

**Grill Menu Pulled Pork Sandwich** **\$4.99** ea.  
With side salad. Reg. \$5.49

**Vegetarian or Breakfast Salad Case Frittata** **\$5.49** ea.  
Eggs, heavy cream, cheese, meat or asstd. vegetables. Reg. \$5.99

**Grab-N-Go Bagel Sandwiches** **\$3.49** ea.  
Asstd. meats with cream cheese. Reg. \$3.99

**Vegetarian Menu Garden Burger** **\$5.49** ea.  
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\*Start-up, existing, home-based or other business enterprises

\*\$200 minimum to \$25,000 maximum

\*Apply at the IVCDO office - 201 Caves Hwy.

\*Questions? Phone 541-592-4440

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17 GAMES 6:30 - 9:30PM

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\$3 - 12 & under

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