

# CLEANING THE DRINKING WATER

The McKenzie River is home to a diverse collection of wildlife and is also the source of Eugene's drinking water. The 90-mile tributary of the Willamette is home to fish like rainbow trout, spring Chinook and mountain whitefish. Unfortunately, the wildlife, as well as anyone else drinking the water, shares the river with beer cans, mattresses and televisions among other waste that has been dumped into the McKenzie.

The McKenzie Watershed Council (MWC) is hosting its annual McKenzie River cleanup on July 9. The river cleanup will take place from 9 am to 2 pm and a celebration will follow at Hendricks Bridge Wayside in Springfield from 1 to 4 pm. The McKenzie River Guides Association (MRGA) and the McKenzie Flyfishers will cohost the event.

The McKenzie River cleanup has been an annual event for more than 40 years and was started by the MRGA, but MWC has been the main host in recent years.

The McKenzie River is the primary drinking water source for Eugene and is also an indirect water source for Springfield, which gets 90 percent of its drinking water from

wells that tap into water from the McKenzie. Springfield plans to use the McKenzie River as a direct drinking water source when its current sources reach capacity, according to the Springfield Utility Board.

The MWC, formed in 1993, is a nonprofit volunteer group that strives to restore and protect the McKenzie River's water quality and wildlife. MWC has an assortment of events, projects and programs throughout the year, like its Salmon Watch program, a children's education program for Lane County students.

"It's critical that we protect the

McKenzie," MWC Executive Director Larry Six says.

Volunteers will sign in at Hendricks Bridge Wayside, the event's headquarters, and be directed to their assigned location. Some people will go out on boats, while others will collect trash from the river's shores. Volunteers will cover 80 miles of the McKenzie. Last year's 120 volunteers collected more trash than the Dumpsters could hold, Six says.

"I'm really heartened by the volunteers that are willing to spend their Saturday to come down and help with this," Six tells EW. "It's a labor of love for everybody."

After the cleanup ends, volunteers are invited to a celebratory barbecue from 1 to 4 pm at the cleanup headquarters at Hendricks Bridge. There will be free food, prizes and T-shirts available at the site.

"It's a matter of civic pride to keep a clean, aesthetically pleasing river," Six says.

Go to [mckenziawc.org](http://mckenziawc.org) for a list of sections of the river and waysides, and boat launches to be cleaned and contact Amanda Wilson at [administration@mckenziawc.org](mailto:administration@mckenziawc.org) or by phone at 458-201-8150 to sign up. Hendricks Bridge is located at 38870 Hendricks Park Road in Springfield. ■

**'It's a matter of civic pride to keep a clean, aesthetically pleasing river.'**

— LARRY SIX,  
MCKENZIE WATERSHED COUNCIL

[eugeneweekly.com](http://eugeneweekly.com)

The Genuine. The Original.



**\$15 OFF A SERVICE CALL**  
with this coupon

THE OVERHEAD DOOR CO.  
OF EUGENE-SPRINGFIELD

541-686-8144

[www.overheaddoor-eugene.com](http://www.overheaddoor-eugene.com)



**RAIN**  
NORTHWEST

**SERVING THE BEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST CUISINE**

**25% OFF HAPPY HOUR MENU FROM 4PM - 5PM EVERYDAY!**



**COME IN WEDNESDAYS FOR 25% OFF ALL BOTTLES OF WINE!**

**HOURS:**

MON-THU: 4-9PM

FRI-SAT: 4-11PM

SUN: 4-9PM

**CALL: 541-246-8070**

**1190 CITY VIEW, EUGENE, OR 97402**

**WWW.RAINNW.COM**

**BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY IN FOR PRIME RIB ON SUNDAYS!**



believe in fit

**100% satisfaction forever guarantee**  
Sizes and widths to fit everyone

16 Oakway Center, Eugene  
541.683.4115 | [burchsshoes.com](http://burchsshoes.com)

**Show your Olympic trials ticket stub or hotel room key and get a free pair of socks valued at \$11.**

**Sale ends July 10.**

**SUPERfeet**  
Insoles  
**20% off!**

**Men's New Balance 860**  
D Width (8.5-13, 14, 15)  
4E Width (9-13)  
Gray  
**Sale \$79.97**  
Reg. \$130



**Custom orthotics on sale!**  
**Sale \$199**  
Reg. \$260

**Women's New Balance Fresh Foam Zante v2**  
B Width (5-11, 12)  
D Width (8-10, 11)  
Azalea/Black  
**Sale \$79.97**  
Reg. \$110



**Women's New Balance 720LP3**  
B Width (5.5-10, 11)  
D Width (6-10, 11)  
Gray/Pink  
**Sale \$59.97**  
Reg. \$90



**Men's New Balance 690R4**  
D Width (8-13)  
4E Width (8.5-12, 13)  
Black  
**Sale \$59.97**  
Reg. \$85



**Women's New Balance 720LP3**  
B Width (5.5-10, 11)  
D Width (6-10, 11)  
Gray/Pink  
**Sale \$59.97**  
Reg. \$90



**Olympic Trials Sale**



shoe outlet

One Club Road, Eugene