

CCC to offer environmental certificate program

Clatsop Community College has partnered with the Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition to develop an environmental steward certificate program.

The initial goal is to boost the skills of volunteers in the coalition's CoastWatch program, provide classes to learn from environmental scientists and enrich the experience of other students who may become future conservation leaders.

The program begins fall quarter, with classes starting Monday, Sept. 23.

Mega campus: Plans phased in

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the addition.

The school district intends to submit a land-use application to the city for a 10-year school campus master plan. It will show the middle school and future elementary and high schools, in conjunction with a specific development plan for the middle school and its support facilities.

The district can grade and extend sewer and water lines to serve the entire site and future uses, Winterowd said. And the master plan approach to building will help as the district goes through the difficult wetland impact mitigation process with the Department of State Lands and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Approval through the master-plan process also entitles the school district to rely on land-use regulations in effect on the date the preliminary plan is submitted, which gave Planning Commission Chairman Paul Mitchell pause.

"In 10 years, a lot more cars will be going down that road," Mitchell said. "In three phases a lot of things are going to happen."

The larger goal is to extend the program to colleges throughout the coast.

Environmental Steward Certificates are awarded to those who complete 12 credit hours of environmentally focused classes, and complete 30 hours of participation in CoastWatch monitoring and citizen science projects.

CoastWatch is a program through which volunteers

adopt one-mile coastal segments to monitor for both natural changes and human impacts, filing reports on a quarterly basis. The program also sponsors a number of special citizen science projects.

For additional information, contact Ed Joyce, an Oregon Shores board member who also is an adjunct faculty member at CCC, at 503-468-0995 or edjoyce1@verizon.net.



Marine debris survey trainees line up to practice.

Jesse Jones

Surveying sea stars is part of the new program.

Courtesy ODFW

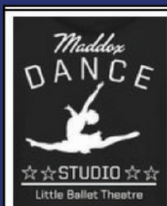
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