

# Columbia Blue Mountain Resource Conservation and Development

## Community Profile

**Population** 17,260

**Location** Pendleton

## Position Description

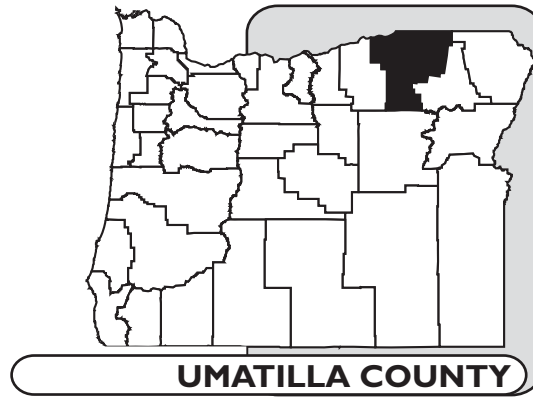
**Sponsor** Columbia Blue Mountain Resource Conservation and Development

**Supervisor** Kathy Ferge,  
Council Coordinator

**Assignment** The RARE participant is working on three projects for the Columbia Blue Mountain Resource Conservation Council (RC&D). For the first project, in conjunction with the Oregon State University Master Gardeners Program, the participant is developing two community gardens one in Umatilla County and the other somewhere within the multi-county district. The participant is collaborating with community members on all aspects of the gardens including siting, permitting, and production decisions. The gardens will serve as demonstration projects for backyard home gardeners, small farmers, and value-added producers.

The second project focuses on public education. The RARE participant is developing two public workshops for RC&D and is responsible for organizing all aspects of the events and in addition to providing specific outreach to underserved audiences. One workshop focuses on production issues while the other discusses small business issues.

Finally, the RARE participant is exploring Web 2.0 options for program outreach. The goal of this is to connect with and provide resources to the small farm community spread over a large geographic area.



## RARE Participant



Allison Arnold

**Allison Arnold** graduated from St. John's College with a BA in Liberal Arts. She also received a BS in Soil Science from the University of Maryland. Allison served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal focusing on sustainable agriculture and development. Prior to living in Senegal, Allison worked as a laboratory assistant, a carpenter's apprentice, and a construction associate. She sees her RARE experience as an opportunity to facilitate the development of sustainable communities by utilizing her diverse experiences in the complementary fields of community development, construction, and natural resources.