

Marion Soil and Water Conservation District

Community Profile

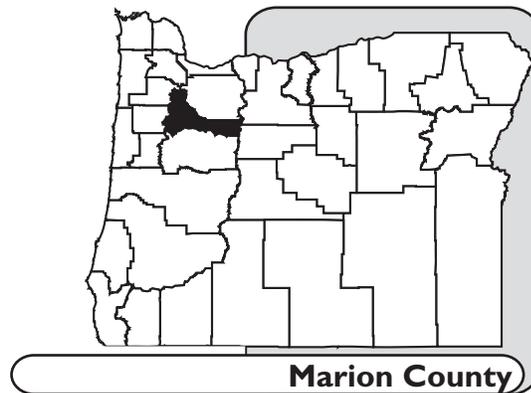
Population 284,834

Location Salem

Position Description

Sponsor Marion Soil Water Conservation District

Supervisor Jane Keppinger
District Manager



Assignment **Natural Resource Planning.** The Marion Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) encompasses the majority of Marion County, located in the northern portion of the Willamette River basin. The mission of the organization is to protect, conserve and improve the quality of soil and water in Marion County through planning, technical assistance and education. The SWCD staff provides technical assistance to landowners and operators regarding soil and water quality issues on their land. The district has no regulatory authority and is simply a resource for advice and consultation for the public. The staff also provides education and outreach to its members on various natural resource issues and topics.

The RARE participant placed at the Marion Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will be responsible for researching, designing, and publishing the Marion County Rural Living Handbook. The Rural Living Handbook will be a comprehensive guide for residents and landowners to better understand resources available to improve natural resource management. Additionally, the handbook will be used as a resource to highlight best practices of conservation and sustainability efforts and activities. Finally, the RARE participant will be charged with redesigning and expanding the Marion SWCD website in tandem with the resources presented in the Rural Living Handbook.

RARE Participant



Patrick Pirtle

Patrick Pirtle was raised in Bremerton, Washington and graduated from the University of Washington with a BS in Community, Environment & Planning. As a student, he worked for the City of Snoqualmie to create the city's Sustainable Strategic Plan. Following graduation, Patrick interned for the City of Snoqualmie in the recycling department. As an intern, he focused on redesigning the solid waste web page and developing community outreach materials. After his year of service, Patrick plans on attending the University of Oregon's Community and Regional Planning masters program.