



May 16, 2019

Lori Bell
City of Oregon City
625 Center Street
Oregon City, Oregon 97045

Dear Ms. Bell,

I am pleased to submit this application for the 2019-20 Enhancement Grant Program on behalf of the Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides (NCAP). We respectfully request \$24,850 to support the Pesticide-Free Neighborhoods OC / Soaking it In for Spanish Speakers project. This project will share information with hundreds of City residents on methods for conducting home, lawn, and garden care pesticide-free, and ask residents to make voluntary pesticide-free pledges. We look to build on momentum and successes gained in 2018-19 to further engage the community and volunteers at community events and meetings, distribute alternative pest management resource packets to 750-plus more households, and pledge 100-200 additional households to go pesticide-free.

In addition, we plan to offer a field demonstration workshop for homeowners, training Oregon City homeowners how to: a) grow a healthy lawn and tackle weeds in lawns with widely available, easy to use tools that are easy on the back and hands; b) manage ornamental beds and hardscapes with mulching, steam weeders, and weed wrenches; and c) manage those semi-wild spaces that often get overtaken with blackberry thickets and ivy, disseminating effective cutting, digging, and smothering methods.

Building on previous work, NCAP will work with partners to condense, translate, interpret and offer our Soaking It In workshop to 40 local Spanish-speaking landscape professionals. This training will improve the skills of local underserved Spanish-speaking landscape professionals in the design, installation, and maintenance of low-impact development facilities (these are a key municipal strategy for diminishing high stream flows and decreasing pollutants in streams).

Our project will enhance Oregon City by helping families feel secure knowing they are providing healthy environments for children, pets, and pollinators, putting tools and techniques directly in the hands of residents, and improving water quality in Oregon City creeks. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tony Brand
NCAP Board President

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