

FARM GRAM

Promoting, Protecting & Advancing Farm Interests in Marion County



A publication of the Marion County Farm Bureau

December 2022 • Volume 22, Issue 4

Get to know the Oregon Agricultural Trust

Andrea Krahmer
Oregon Agricultural Trust

Marion County is the heart of the Mid-Willamette Valley and home to the most fertile farm ground in the state. Upwards of 200+ different crop and livestock products are grown here, from grasses to wine grapes, wheat to hops, berries, vegetables, nursery, Christmas trees and livestock.

These all color the landscape that many farmers also call home. Maintaining farm ground in production is a high priority and one that takes concerted and collaborative effort among producers and service providers alike.

Oregon Agricultural Trust (OAT) is a nonprofit statewide land trust that partners with farmers and ranchers to protect agricultural lands for the benefit of Oregon's economy, communities, and landscapes.

The goal is to address the interrelated challenges of the loss of ag land to fragmentation and development, and the difficulty of passing ag land to the next generation



of farmers and ranchers.

While OAT serves the entire state, we focus on four regions: the north coast, mid- & south-Willamette Valley, mid-Columbia, and southeast Oregon.

Through a newly launched education program, OAT provides landowner education and support on succession planning, easements, and connecting with successors.

In addition, we work with service providers such as attorneys, accountants, and government

employees to become proficient in farm and ranch succession planning and supporting easement transactions.

If you 'd like to learn more about our educational programming, reach out to Andrea Krahmer at andrea@oregonagtrust.org or 503-789-2467.

If you are interested in learning more about our land protection work, reach out to us at hello@oregonagtrust.org or 503.858.2683.

You can learn more about our work and team at oregonagtrust.org.



Members Meet at Annual Dinner

The Marion County Farm Bureau met at Chemeketa Community Colleges Ag Sciences building in November for the Annual Meeting.

The evening, hosted by President Dana Estensen, was a chance for members to meet and learn about all

the MCFB has accomplished the past year.

After elections, members were treated to a tour of the new Ag Sciences building and music from the Mark Seymour Duo.

Thank you to everyone who attended!

Find us online anytime at: www.marioncofarm.com





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dana Estensen

President

Stuart Olsen

Vice President

DIRECTORS

Greg Bennett

Anne Krahmer-Steinkamp

Joe Ruef

Casey Stadel

Dylan Wells

John Zielinski

DISTRICT 15 DIRECTOR

Bruce Chapin

YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS

Claire Zielinski

WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL

Kathleen Carl

Jessie DeJager

VOTING DELEGATES/ ALTERNATES

Greg Bennett

Anne Krahmer-Steinkamp

Casey Stadel

Dylan Wells

STAFF

Jill Ingalls

Macy Chapman

Ashley Christie

MARION COUNTY FARM BUREAU

PO Box 12216

Salem, Oregon 97309

Phone: 503.877.1999

www.marioncofarm.com



A Message from the President

Hello again. I'm Dana Estensen, your Marion County Farm Bureau President, and I am privileged to begin my second term as your President, starting this month.

The helicopters are flying signaling the start of Christmas tree harvest, so it must be the holiday season. It's a reassuring sound and it's fascinating to watch the precision and speed with which they work. It was a little concerning that Christmas tree harvest started before we were halfway finished with our own grape harvest.

But, despite the late year, we had beautiful weather in October, a good team to work with, and were very pleased with the quality this vintage. We were happy to get it, "All in the Barn" as the saying goes, before the wet weather set upon us; as you all know, the weather is always a challenge here in Oregon!

We had our MCFB Annual Meeting at Chemeketa Community College in Salem at their new Ag building on November 9. We appreciated their hospitality and enjoyed a tour of the new facilities. Thank you to all our members who were able to join us. It is always special to see everyone and do a little socializing.

We are pleased that OFB's new Executive Director, Greg Addington, is on board full time as of Monday, November 21. I don't personally know him but have only heard positive reviews. We have lost some great employees at OFB this past year – it's always a challenge to keep smart and talented staff on board when other organizations are always trying to lure them away. But OFB is actively recruiting to fill the vacant positions and we are looking forward to a new and exciting future under Greg's leadership.

Looking forward to 2023, keep your eyes open for our Ag Tour set for March 2023. We'll get the information out early next year and hope many of you can join us. Once again, First Aid/CPR classes will also be offered in both English and Spanish.

The 2023 Oregon legislative session will be full of challenges and opportunities. There are many new legislators who need to be educated about agriculture and its importance to the state's economy. We all need to be as engaged as much as possible. When you sign up for OFB's advocacy alerts through oregonfb.org/advocacy, you will be notified when you, as an advocate for agriculture in Oregon, need to take action by writing in, testifying, or otherwise engaging our public officials. Every little bit helps.

This year has certainly had its challenges but let's hope it's been a successful year for everyone. We are thankful for all the good things in our lives. We wish you a wonderful Holiday Season and a happy, prosperous New Year!



Dana Estensen
MCFB President

Dana Estensen
Marion County Farm Bureau President

Broadband Planning for Marion County's Future

Support Agricultural Business and Innovation

Ensuring the agricultural sector has the services and connectivity they need to thrive in a digital world

Support Wildfire Recovery in the North Santiam Canyon

Developing an action plan for including broadband infrastructure as fire-affected communities recover and rebuild

Strategic Funding & Partnerships

Pursuing grant opportunities and developing key partnerships with broadband providers and stakeholders to deliver high-speed service

Expanding Broadband Access in Marion County

Marion County has partnered with Magellan Advisors to expand high-speed internet access in rural communities.

To best support our County's growers and agricultural businesses, Marion County and Magellan Advisors are conducting outreach to identify the importance of broadband for rural business viability and operations management.

By engaging industry, we also hope to locate gaps in coverage and learn how to best support agriculture in Marion County.

Scan this qr code to take Marion County's Internet Survey



To do this, we need your help. Between November 2022 and February 2023, Marion County and Magellan Advisors are seeking input about current and future broadband needs.

Information collected during this outreach will be used by Marion

County to apply for grant funding and to develop key partnerships with internet service providers to expand access to broadband.

For more information, contact Marion County at:

Frank Glover
fglover@co.marion.or.us
971-209-9606

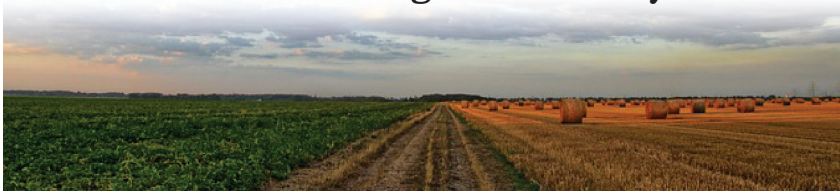
Greg Laudeman
glaudeman@magellan-advisors.com
706-271-5521



Farm Tour Returns this Spring

The Marion County Farm Bureau is excited to bring back the Farm Tour for the first time since the pandemic. The tour will be this March and visit several farms in the county.

More details coming soon so stay tuned!



Give the gift of Ag this season with a supporting membership to the Farm Bureau!

www.marioncofarm.com/join

**MCFB
Board Meetings**
Information subject to change.
Contact staff to confirm details.

January 11, 2023
6:30 p.m.
1320 Capital St NE,
Salem, OR

May 1
MCFB Scholarship
Deadlines

Other Events
Spring Farm Tour
CPR Classes
more info coming soon



- Multiple Scholarships
- Awards up to \$2500
- Deadline May 1

Apply Today! www.marioncofarm.com



PO Box 12216
Salem, Oregon 97309
Phone: 503.877.1999
www.marioncofarm.com

Marion County Farm Bureau – PO Box 12216, Salem, OR 97309