

Columbia County 4H and Extension Service District

Columbia County, OR



Proposed Budget

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

4H and Extension Service District FY2026-2027 Proposed Budget

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AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

State of Oregon, County of Columbia, ss I, Deseri Cerruti, being first duly sworn, depose and say that I am the Principal Clerk of the **Columbia County Spotlight**, a newspaper of general circulation, published in Columbia County, Oregon, as defined by ORS 193.010 and 193.020, that

Owner: Columbia County Finance
Description: NOTICE OF 4H BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
Ad#: 383818

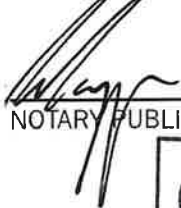
A copy of which is hereto annexed, was published in the entire issue of said newspaper for 1 week(s) in the following issue(s):

04/17/2026

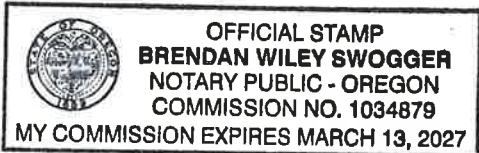


Deseri Cerruti (Principal Clerk)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 04/17/2026.



NOTARY PUBLIC FOR OREGON



Acct #: 123248
Attn: Lindsay Elder
COLUMBIA COUNTY FINANCE & TAX
230 STRAND ST
ST. HELENS, OR 97051

EXHIBIT A

NOTICE OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

A public meeting of Columbia County 4-H and Extension Service District, Columbia County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, will be held at 251 Saint Helens Street, St. Helens, Oregon 97051. The meetings will take place on May 05, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the budget.

This is a public meeting where deliberations of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee.

A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after May 06, 2026, at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/columbia>.

**Notice: Budget Committee Meetings will be conducted as hybrid sessions. In addition to the in person location listed above, the meetings will also be available on the web as follows: www.columbiacountyor.gov/meetings
Meeting ID: 280 843 252 531 58
Access Code: AZ9Cs3LQ**

Publish April 17, 2026

CCS383818

4H and Extension Service District Budget Committee Members

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>TERM EXPIRATION</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Kathy Syrstad | December 31, 2028 |
| Melinda Bernert | December 31, 2026 |
| Steve Reed | December 31, 2026 |
| Casey Garrett | December 31, 2028 |
| Kellie Jo Smith | December 31, 2026 |
| Margaret Magruder | December 31, 2028 |

Budget Officer Julie Scism

Pursuant to Oregon Budget Law ORS 294.403, this proposed budget portrays the expected financial performance for the fiscal year 2026-27 budget for consideration by the Columbia County 4-H and Extension Service District budget committee. The proposed budget funds the District to provide educational services and continue operations through June 30th, 2027.

When preparing this budget, the long-term financial sustainability of the District, along with Extension's outreach, program, and educational priorities and goals, were considered.

The proposed FY 2026-27 budget totals \$1,978,496 for all funds, roughly \$20,961 higher than the 2025-2026 budget. The proposed General Fund budget is \$1,726,815. I will now offer a short review of past budget actions and proposed activities that will impact our balance.

Looking back

- Last September we saw the final cut of all Federal SNAP-Ed funding. This caused a loss of one full time position and the knowledge we would not be rehiring for an unfilled position. SNAP-Ed was a highly popular program where we were able to extend our reach far into schools, community centers, and food banks. The Extension Service is feeling the loss of this position in the office personally and financially, as we did support three percent of this position's OPE and their travel.
- Our Forestry and Agriculture Faculty have completed their needs assessments, gotten connected with landowners, and are providing Columbia County residents with targeted workshops and resources based on this. The Extension Service is now leasing an OSU Motor pool Vehicle for faculty to share as we travel around the county and to statewide events. This has been a long needed addition to the office as employees no longer have to use their personal vehicles for all the travel they do.
- A large and unexpected expense this year was the pipe replacement for our water system in the building. The section of the building constructed in 2000 had copper pipes, but the rest of the building was still using galvanized piping. This year our sinks and toilets started to fail due to buildup of sediment from old pipes and the required long-term fix was a complete replacement.

Looking forward

- Our extension office is the last office with 10Mbps service and we were using all the bandwidth available to us, causing dropped video calls and slow internet. This year we are working with Link Oregon to install a fiber line that will start our internet speed at 500Mbps, a 50x increase to what we had! There will be an installation fee and this will increase our monthly CN charge slightly.
- Increased workshops happening- Basic Forestry Shortcourse, Master woodland Manager, In partnership with NRCS and SWCD, 4-H and OMIC. In addition to the wonderful community workshops provided this year, we are looking forward to expanding the partnerships that the county faculty and staff have started this year with PCC OMIC, NRCS, CCSWCD, and more, to provide even more opportunities for county residents to engage with our services!

We also could not serve this community without Amy, Lindsay, and their team's partnership and guidance.

Respectfully submitted for your consideration,

Julie Scism



OUR MISSION

The OSU Extension Service engages the people of Oregon with research-based knowledge and education that strengthen communities and economies, sustain natural resources, and promote healthy families and individuals.

HOW WE SERVE

Youth education and outreach

Unlocking the potential of young people to learn, grow, and thrive

Resilient and productive ecosystems

Sustaining a vibrant economic and ecological future

Agriculture, food security and gardening

Enhancing farming practices and profitability, and strengthening community horticulture

Lifelong health and well-being

Building thriving, equitable and healthy communities



Faculty & Staff

Woody Davis (4-H Youth Development)

4-H Youth Development Professional

Kara Orr (4-H Youth Development)

Administrative Program Specialist

Dr. Jahnvi Pandey (Agriculture)

Horticulture Specialist

Jake Barker (Forestry & Natural Resources)

Regional Forestry Specialist

Aaron Groth (Fire)

Regional Fire Specialist

Emily Reilly (FCH & SNAP-ED)

Outreach Program Coordinator

Julie Scism

Administrative Office Manager

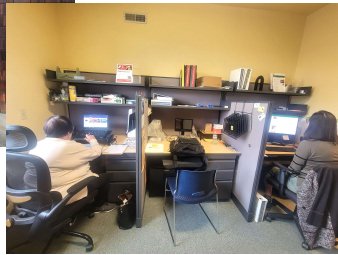
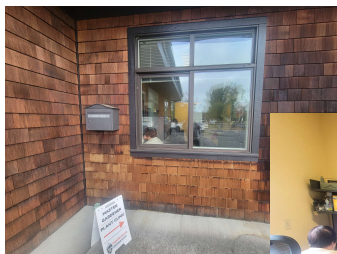
Wiley Thompson

Regional Director

OSU EXTENSION SERVICE | COLUMBIA COUNTY

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS – FY26 | Columbia

Small Farms and Master Gardener Janhvi Pandey



- Countywide gardening support expanded through the in-office Plant Clinic, increasing access to reliable, research-based gardening guidance for community members with a free soil pH testing service for the gardeners.
- The St. Helens Seed Library started in collaboration with St. Helens library has now started serving as a replicable model for other Columbia County communities such as Clatskanie and Rainier where seed library projects are beginning to develop.
- A comprehensive Small Farms Needs Assessment and gardener needs assessment were completed across the county, ensuring that future programming is guided by local priorities and grounded in real community needs. The full report will be released soon.
- Partnerships and technical capacity were strengthened through collaborative workshops, policy-relevant water education, and participation in statewide integrated projects, with additional cross-sector collaborations already in development for 2026.
- Food security and foundational gardening education saw significant growth, with Seed to Supper classes being again delivered at five locations across the county and achieving a record number of (70) registrations. This is being complemented by Master Gardener Program classes offering volunteer training as well as hands-on community workshops in pruning and grafting.
- Shared two summer interns with Family Community Health program. These interns assisted with gathering data for the needs assessment, working in the school garden at Lewis and Clark Elementary, and worked with Master Gardeners at the Farmers Market Booths in Scappoose and Clatskanie.



Oregon State University
Extension Service

OSU Extension Service | Columbia County
505 North Columbia River Highway
St. Helens, OR 97051
(503) 397-3462

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS – FY26 | Columbia

4-H Youth Development

Woody Davis and Kara Orr

Columbia County continues to have a robust 4-H program! We were recognized at a Regional 4-H meeting with having one of the highest member/volunteer retention rates in the state. We continue to have a strong program because of the dedicated leadership of our adult volunteers who are willing to share their knowledge and skills with the youth in Columbia County.

We partnered with PCC OMIC to provide our members and leaders with all the opportunities that they provide at the Fab Lab in Scappoose. This is an amazing opportunity with state-of-the-art equipment! We look forward to many workshops at the Fab Lab in the future.

We continue to fill our year with youth-based educational programming including horse knowledge events, small animal clinics, and static clinics to name a few. We hosted a sheep clinic led by one of our graduating seniors. Watching the youth give-back to the 4-H program is amazing!

We continue to grow our Cloverbud (children ages 5 to 8) clubs. These clubs were drastically reduced in 2020 with the Covid restrictions and each year since then we have added more. We are looking forward to hosting a Cloverbud clinic at the fairgrounds in May.

We are very proud of the community service projects our 4-H clubs participate in. They have volunteered at the Columbia Pacific Food Bank, served at the Toy 'n Joy Auction, and made Valentine cards for the Vernonia Senior Center just to name a few. They have also participated in local community parades. 4-H in Columbia County is something to be proud of!



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS – FY26 | Columbia

Forestry & Natural Resources

Jake Barker



In 2025, Jake hosted workshops, classes and tours across his counties, including: the Tree to Timber Tour (45 contacts, \$1,500 funding from Oregon Small Woodlands Association); three digital mapping workshops (59 contacts); Basic Forestry Shortcourse class series (14 contacts, \$420 revenue); and Forestry For The Birds workshops with Forest Stewards Guild (3 workshops, 83 contacts)

He connected with landowners and communities in various educational formats, including 52 site visits (159 contacts), 89 emails, three webinars (160 contacts), and three podcast episodes (921 listens).

He supported education and provided leadership for Emerald Ash Borer, by organizing 2 workshops (39 contacts), serving on 3 regional committees, and restarting the Wood Waste and Utilization Subcommittee.

Jake pursued research and publication goals, including publication of a peer-reviewed article in *Frontiers for Forests and Global Change* (6,200 views/downloads), presentations at regional and national forestry conferences, and revisiting and updating research started by his predecessor, Amy Grotta, in partnership with a local landowner.



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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS – FY26 | Columbia

SNAP-Ed and Food Preservation

Emily Reilly

As of Sept 30th SNAP-ed federal funding ceased. There is no longer a SNAP-ed Education Program Assistant serving Columbia County on a ¾ time basis. Health related programming continues in Columbia County, and the Coastal Health Extension staff program prioritizes health promotion, disease prevention, and programs that support health equity and improve quality of life. Programming priorities are developed following guidance from local CHIP and CHNA

In 2025, staff served Broadleaf Arbor with youth programming focused on healthy eating and physical activity.

Mentored Broadleaf arbor adults in managing the raised beds. These Gardens produced food that was then free for the residents, and SNAP-ed Staff used the produce in community cooking demonstrations.

Supported Head Start Classrooms with classroom lessons focused on tasting new foods, and trained kitchen staff in basic nutrition, trauma-informed eating, and nutrition science.

Held a Master Food Preserver course out of the Clatskanie Food Hub that graduated seven Master Food Preserver Volunteer trainees. These trainees supported food safety and science based food preparation and safety education in Columbia County libraries, at farmers' markets, food banks, and pantries, and with local food preservation classes. Collaborated with MG and Small Farms Program to hire two part-time summer student interns who then staffed a recipe sampling and food security information table at Broadleaf Arbor's summer lunch program, assisted with the monthly "cooking from our pantry" SNAP-ed Cooking class, and shadowed the SNAP-ed Education Program Assistant in summer activities.

Columbia Projected Family and Community Health activities for next year (FCH) –

Contributing nutrition health systems expertise to community coalitions and focusing on intersections between nutrition, mental health, disaster preparedness/response/recovery and physical activity.

Training the Spring Master Food Preserver Volunteer course and mentoring Community Food Preservation Partners to better serve the community with science-based information on food security, food preservation trainings, and food safety procedures.

Acting Point of Contact for OSU Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN), this position also interfaces with specialists at the county, region, and state levels of government.

Fire

Aaron Groth

- At the request of Lynn Chiotti, Aaron gave a talk to garden club members from Columbia, Washington and Yamhill Counties regarding fire preparedness and defensible space during their annual luncheon (Scappoose). Aaron shared a program describing the danger, risks and behavior of forest fires in Northwest Oregon.
- In 2025: With Columbia County Small Woodland Association, Aaron did deliver and evaluate program describing the danger, risks and behavior of forest fires in Columbia County in the context of changing conditions; described the criteria for a red flag warning to be declared and appropriate actions to undertake; and how to manage your home and property with fire in mind (e.g., home hardening and defensible space).



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| L I N E # | HISTORICAL DATA | | | FTE 2025/2026 | L I N E # | RESOURCE/REQUIREMENT DESCRIPTION PROPOSED Account Description | FTE 2026/2027 | Budget for next Year 2026-2027 | | | L I N E # | |
|-----------------------|--|---|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---|------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------|----|
| | Actual | | Adopted | | | | | 2026-2027 Proposed by Budget Officer | 2026-2027 Approved by Budget Committee | 2026-2027 Adopted by Governing Body | | |
| | Second Preceeding Year 06/30/24 | First Preceeding Year 06/30/25 | Budget This Year 06/30/26 | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | | | | 1 | COLUMBIA COUNTY 4-H AND EXTENSION SERVICE DISTRICT | | | | | 1 | |
| 2 | 349,448 | 363,650 | 375,000 | | 2 | Property Tax-Current | | 395,815 | | | 2 | |
| 3 | 6,566 | | 5,000 | | 3 | Property Tax-Prior Year | | 5,000 | | | 3 | |
| 4 | 523 | 15,000 | | | 4 | Fees and Other Services | | | | | 4 | |
| 5 | 19,198 | 12,000 | 20,000 | | 5 | Forest / Land Sales / SIP Distributions | | 15,000 | | | 5 | |
| 6 | 67,868 | 3,000 | 50,000 | | 6 | Interest Allocations | | 20,000 | | | 6 | |
| 7 | 546 | 500 | 225 | | 7 | Interest-Unsegregated Tax | | 1,000 | | | 7 | |
| 8 | 1,221,278 | 1,100,118 | 1,254,400 | | 8 | Beginning Fund Balance | | 1,300,000 | | | 8 | |
| 9 | 1,665,427 | 1,494,268 | 1,704,625 | | 9 | TOTAL RESOURCES | 10 | 1,736,815 | - | - | 9 | |
| 10 | 115,633 | 136,500 | | 2.3500 | 10 | Wages | 0.0000 | - | - | - | 10 | |
| 11 | | 10,000 | | 0.0000 | 11 | Misc Short Term Help | 0.0000 | - | - | - | 11 | |
| 12 | | 9,000 | | 0.0000 | 12 | Grant Hire | 0.0000 | - | - | - | 12 | |
| 13 | 86,655 | 104,470 | | | 13 | Payroll Costs | | - | - | - | 13 | |
| 14 | 202,288 | 259,970 | - | 2.3500 | 14 | TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES | 1 | 0.0000 | - | - | 14 | |
| 15 | 6,528 | | 1,500,000 | | 15 | Professional Fees` | | 370,000 | | | 15 | |
| 16 | 15,803 | 30,000 | | | 16 | Telecom/OSU Computer Services | | | | | 16 | |
| 17 | 5,169 | 25,000 | | | 17 | Mileage/Lodging | | | | | 17 | |
| 18 | 8,000 | 15,000 | | | 18 | Governmental/NWREC | | | | | 18 | |
| 19 | 10,493 | 41,000 | | | 19 | Office Supplies | | | | | 19 | |
| 20 | 20,031 | 28,000 | | | 20 | Utilities & Maintenance | | | | | 20 | |
| 21 | - | 40,000 | | | 21 | Professional Services | | | | | 21 | |
| 22 | 2,389 | 18,000 | | | 22 | Non-Capital Furniture and Equipment | | | | | 22 | |
| 23 | - | | 38,000 | | 23 | Admin Allocation | | 13,500 | | | 23 | |
| 24 | 68,413 | 197,000 | 1,538,000 | | 24 | TOTAL MATERIALS & SERVICES | 2 | 383,500 | - | - | 24 | |
| 25 | 12,000 | 15,000 | | | 25 | Capital Outlay | | | | | 25 | |
| 26 | 12,000 | 15,000 | 0 | | 26 | TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY | 3 | - | - | - | 26 | |
| 27 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 25,000 | | 27 | Transfer to Building Fund | | 15,000 | | | 27 | |
| 28 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 25,000 | | 28 | TOTAL TRANSFERS | 5 | 15,000 | - | - | 28 | |
| 29 | 70,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | | 29 | Contingencies | | 100,000 | | | 29 | |
| 30 | 70,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | | 30 | TOTAL CONTINGENCIES | 6 | 100,000 | - | - | 30 | |
| 31 | 785,000 | 897,298 | 41,625 | | 31 | Reserve for Future Expenditures | | 1,238,315 | | | 31 | |
| 32 | 785,000 | 897,298 | 41,625 | | 32 | TOTAL UNAPPROPRIATED | 8 | 1,238,315 | - | - | 32 | |
| 33 | 1,152,701 | 1,484,268 | 1,704,625 | 2.3500 | 33 | TOTAL REQUIREMENTS | 9 | 0.0000 | 1,736,815 | - | - | 33 |
| 34 | 512,726 | 10,000 | 0 | | 34 | CONTRIBUTION TO/(FROM) FUND | | - | - | - | 34 | |

| L I N E # | HISTORICAL DATA | | | FTE 2025/2026 | L I N E # | RESOURCE/REQUIREMENT DESCRIPTION PROPOSED Account Description | FTE 2026/2027 | Budget for next Year 2026-2027 | | | L I N E # |
|-----------------------|--|---|--|------------------|-----------------------|---|------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------|
| | Actual | | 3 | | | | | 2026-2027 Proposed by Budget Officer | 2026-2027 Approved by Budget Committee | 2026-2027 Adopted by Governing Body | |
| | Second Preceeding Year 06/30/24 | First Preceeding Year 06/30/25 | Adopted Budget This Year 06/30/26 | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | | | | 1 | CC 4-H AND EXTENSION SERVICE DISTRICT BUILDING FUND | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 15,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | | 2 | Transfer From General Fund | | 15,000 | | | 2 |
| 3 | 232,518 | 277,518 | 252,910 | | 3 | Beginning Fund Balance | | 226,681 | | | 3 |
| 4 | 247,518 | 302,518 | 277,910 | | 4 | TOTAL RESOURCES | 10 | 241,681 | | | 4 |
| 5 | - | 6,000 | | | 5 | Repairs and Maintenance- Building | | 5,000 | | | 5 |
| 6 | - | 8,000 | | | 6 | Gutters | | | | | 6 |
| 7 | 33,434 | 13,000 | | | 7 | Exterior Painting | | | | | 7 |
| 8 | 33,434 | 27,000 | 0 | | 8 | <i>TOTAL MATERIALS & SERVICES</i> | 2 | 5,000 | | | 8 |
| 9 | - | 50,000 | | | 9 | Capital Outlay-Building Improvement | | | | | 9 |
| 10 | - | 50,000 | 0 | | 10 | <i>TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY</i> | 3 | | | | 10 |
| 11 | - | 171,518 | 50,000 | | 11 | Contingencies | | | | | 11 |
| 12 | - | 171,518 | 50,000 | | 12 | <i>TOTAL CONTINGENCIES</i> | 6 | | | | 12 |
| 13 | - | 54,000 | 227,910 | | 13 | Reserve for Future Expenditures | | 236,681 | | | 13 |
| 14 | - | 54,000 | 227,910 | | 14 | <i>TOTAL UNAPPROPRIATED</i> | 8 | 236,681 | | | 14 |
| 15 | 33,434 | 302,518 | 277,910 | | 15 | TOTAL REQUIREMENTS | 9 | 241,681 | | | 15 |
| 16 | 214,084 | - | 0 | | 16 | CONTRIBUTION TO/(FROM) FUND | | - | | | 16 |
| 17 | | | | | 17 | | | | | | 17 |
| 18 | | | | | 18 | FUND CC 4H & EXTENSION SUMMARIES | | | | | 18 |
| 19 | | | | | 19 | | | | | | 19 |
| 20 | 1,912,945 | 1,796,786 | 1,982,535 | | 20 | TOTAL FUND RESOURCES | | 1,978,496 | | | 20 |
| 21 | 1,186,135 | 1,786,786 | 1,982,535 | 2.3500 | 21 | TOTAL FUND REQUIREMENTS | 0.0000 | 1,978,496 | | | 21 |
| 22 | 726,810 | 10,000 | - | | 22 | TOTAL CONTRIBUTION TO/(FROM) FUND | | - | | | 22 |
| 23 | | | | | 23 | | | | | | 23 |
| 24 | | | | | 24 | CC 4H & EXTENSION Summary | | | | | 24 |
| 25 | 202,288 | 259,970 | - | | 25 | 1. Total Personal Services..... | | - | | | 25 |
| 26 | 101,847 | 224,000 | 1,538,000 | | 26 | 2. Total Materials and Services..... | | 388,500 | | | 26 |
| 27 | 12,000 | 65,000 | - | | 27 | 3. Total Capital Outlay..... | | - | | | 27 |
| 28 | - | - | - | | 28 | 4. Total Debt Service..... | | - | | | 28 |
| 29 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 25,000 | | 29 | 5. Total Transfers..... | | 15,000 | | | 29 |
| 30 | 70,000 | 271,518 | 150,000 | | 30 | 6. Total Contingencies..... | | 100,000 | | | 30 |
| 31 | - | - | - | | 31 | 7. Total Special Payments..... | | - | | | 31 |
| 32 | 785,000 | 951,298 | 269,535 | | 32 | 8. Total Unappropriated / Reserved for Future Expenditure..... | | 1,474,996 | | | 32 |
| 33 | 1,186,135 | 1,786,786 | 1,982,535 | | 33 | 9. Total Requirements..... | | 1,978,496 | | | 33 |
| 34 | | | | | 34 | | | | | | 34 |
| 35 | 1,912,945 | 1,796,786 | 1,982,535 | | 35 | 10. Total Resources Except Property Taxes..... | | 1,978,496 | | | 35 |
| 36 | - | - | - | | 36 | 11. Property Taxes Estimated to Be Received..... | | - | | | 36 |
| 37 | 1,912,945 | 1,796,786 | 1,982,535 | | 37 | 12. Total Resources (add lines 10 and 11)..... | | 1,978,496 | | | 37 |
| 38 | 726,810 | 10,000 | - | | 38 | | | - | | | 38 |