



# LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER



## HOME SEPTIC MAINTENANCE AND MONITORING

Public Meeting - Thursday, April 25th, 2024 | 5:15 - 7 p.m. | Konnie Room

Fern Ridge Library | 88026 Territorial Hwy, Veneta



Septic systems can seem a mystery to most of us. They can be one of those things underground and forgotten until they fail. Keeping your septic systems working correctly helps protect local water quality, keeping our streams and groundwater clear of bacteria, nitrates, and other pollutants that can be harmful to wildlife and human health. Most rural areas are outside of those served by central sewers and landowners must treat and dispose of wastewater on their own lots. Proper regular maintenance and monitoring can help keep your system working correctly and help eliminate surprise, and often catastrophic failures of septic systems. This workshop will help you know how to keep your system in good condition and will share resources for financing repairs and replacements when they are needed.

In this meeting, LTWC's Amanda Reinholtz will provide a local water quality context for the importance of good septic system health and Chrissy Lucas-Woodruff from OSU Extension will be sharing information to help you keep that catastrophic failure from becoming a reality by:



- *Learning about proper maintenance and monitoring of your specific type of septic system.*
- *Learning to ensure proper treatment of the effluent and a longer life of your system.*
- *Learning to protect the health of your family, neighbors, and animals as well as your property investment and the safety of groundwater resources.*

**Come get a FREE nitrate screening of your well water** (BRING: ½ cup untreated water in any clean container) to see if your septic might be leaching into your well and drinking water system.

Chrissy Lucas-Woodruff is an Outreach Program Coordinator for the OSU Extension Service Groundwater Education Program. Her primary expertise is working with domestic well and septic system owners to troubleshoot issues, interpret water quality results and promote appropriate maintenance and repair of these systems.

We will have light snacks and beverages available for those coming directly from work.

To register visit [longtom.org/HomeSeptic](http://longtom.org/HomeSeptic)

Chrissy Lucas-Woodruff,  
Outreach Program Coordinator for  
the OSU Extension Service  
Groundwater Education Program