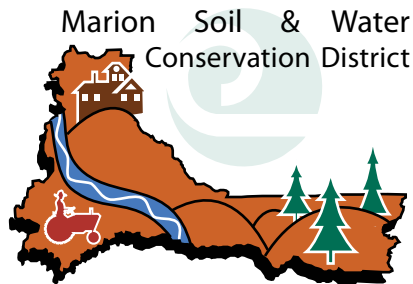


Marion County Rural Living Handbook

created by

Marion Soil and Water
Conservation District



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Purpose of the Handbook

With the population of Marion County and the Willamette Valley expected to double by 2050, the District recognizes a need to provide both new and current residents with up-to-date information related to living, engaging, and understanding rural Marion County. This need becomes even more pertinent because of the value that the county's natural resources provide to the region.

As more people move to the county the rural/urban buffers are shrinking, with some urban residents now living next door to rural agricultural producers. Due to this and the lack of understanding each other's perspective there is an increased need for both residents and agricultural producers to educate themselves on the other.

Information related to the diversity of issues that may arise for property owners of rural Marion County is scattered among many different government agencies, non-profits, academic institutions and text books. This can make it difficult for property owners to find answers or identify the proper agency to contact.

The Rural Living Handbook aggregates important basic information into one document that is easy to understand and identifies resources for property owners who would like additional information.

This document is primarily for small or new landowners, but does have value for the more experienced or large-scale agricultural producers. This document hopes to make life in Marion County for new and long term residents a more rewarding experience.



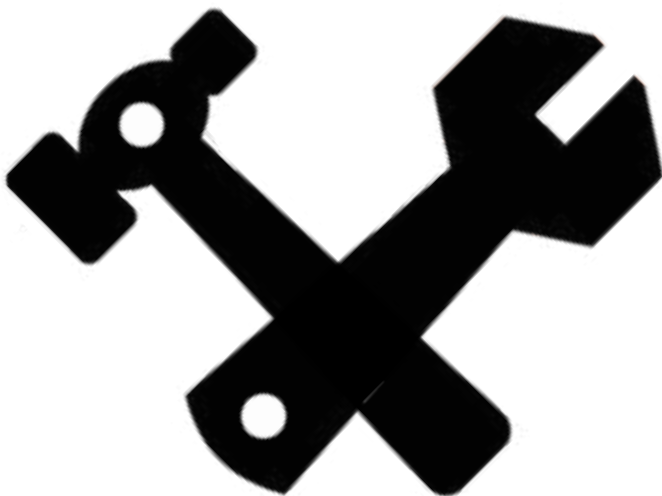
How to Use Handbook

Use this handbook as a jumping off point for beginning your transition to the county and to determine if living in rural Marion County is for you. This handbook will help clarify information about county regulations, policy, rights, and the administering agencies. It also provides general information about gardening, managing the land, wildlife habitat, and many other topics about which a rural resident may have questions.

The Rural Living Handbook has eight sections that address a broad range of topics related to rural living. Each section is then broken into chapters with detailed information on a specific topic related to the section heading. At the end of most chapters there is a list of resources that can provide additional information on the topics discussed in that chapter.

Phone numbers of local and state agencies are located on the last page of the document for quick access. Many of these agencies' websites are listed within the document in the Additional Resources box of the section related to that entity's mandates.

The District has made considerable efforts to validating the information in this document, especially regarding laws, codes and regulations. If any discrepancy exist between this document and the official wording, the official wording takes precedence. This document is not intended to provide legal advice. Always check with regulatory agencies before engaging in any significant projects.



Acronyms

This document uses acronyms frequently to denote government agencies or terms that are normally expressed as an acronym. These acronyms are also commonly used in local, state and federal publications.

AFO	Animal Feeding Operation
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CAFO	Confined Animal Feeding Operation
DEQ	Department of Environmental Quality
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FSA	Farm Service Agency
GMO	Genetically Modified Organism
NOP	National Organic Program
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
ODA	Oregon Department of Agriculture
ODF	Oregon Department of Forestry
ORS	Oregon Revised Statutes
OSU	Oregon State University
OWEB	Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
OWRD	Oregon Water Resource Department
ROW	Right-of-Way
SWCD	Soil and Water Conservation District
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture