

NORTH COAST COMMUNITIES FOR WATERSHED PROTECTION

# Winter 2023 Newsletter

**Safeguard and Restore Our Drinking Water Sources**

What Do Timber Practices Cost Us? | Mary Wood Replay | How Monsanto Sold Us Poison



Winter Greetings, North Coast Community!

We hope you're enjoying these short winter days and long winter nights. NCCWP has been busy this year expanding many of our efforts, thanks to the support of our community.

We were proud to host a number of wonderful speaker events, most recently an inspiring environmental law talk, "The Oregon Forest Trust: From Commodity to Commonwealth," by Professor Mary Wood of the University of Oregon School of Law. In case you missed it, here is the link to watch the [replay of Professor Wood's talk](#). The talk brought in over 150 attendees. Mary Wood is the Faculty



Director of the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center and serves as faculty leader for the ENR Center's Conservation Trust Project and the Native Environmental Sovereignty Project. You can learn more about Professor Wood's research [here](#).

We would also like to share with you a talk presented by the Forest Carbon Alliance which took place Wednesday, December 14:

## **“What are Industrial Forest Practices Costing Us?**

### **The Climate and Societal Costs of Logging”**

Renowned economists Ernie Niemi, Dr. John Talberth, and Dr. Kate Anderson gave presentations about the detrimental effects on climate of industrial forestry practices and the economic imperative of moving away from these practices towards available alternatives. There are hard-dollar costs from logging, but there are also climate and societal costs affecting us all. Specifically, what are they and what can we do about it?

Watch replay here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqGPA75u2hA> to find out.

#### **Speakers:**

**Ernie Niemi, who spoke this summer with the NCCWP community about “[The Truth about the Economics of Logging](#),”** helped establish the Forest Carbon Coalition in 2013 and has co-directed the Coalition since 2019 with John Talberth. He currently is President of Natural Resource Economics, a consultancy located in Eugene, Oregon. For 40 years he has helped communities in the U.S. and other countries understand the economic costs imposed on them by actions that degrade forests and other ecosystems and provided guidance for their efforts to halt these actions or secure compensation for the harms. He also has helped communities understand and pursue the economic benefits that they and future generations might enjoy from conservation or restoration of these ecosystems. Ernie holds a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from Harvard University.

**Kathryn (Kate) Anderson** leads the Farms & Forests research program at Sightline Institute. She has a Ph.D. in Sociology, a Ph.D. in Environment & Resources, and a M.S. in Agricultural and Applied Economics. Kate is an expert on institutional tools that jointly promote vibrant rural communities and environmental sustainability. She has researched climate, biodiversity, water, and land use for the NSF Long-Term Ecological Research Program, the United Nations Development Program, and the Brazilian Government.

**John Talberth** is President and Senior Economist at Center for Sustainable Economy (CSE), an environmental economics think tank based in Portland, Oregon, and co-director of the Forest Carbon Coalition. He focuses his work on forest carbon policy analysis and advocacy based on the underlying science and economics. His environmental economics career began

by working to protect ancient forests of the Pacific Northwest in the late 1980s through CSE's predecessor, Forest Conservation Council, which he directed. John holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of New Mexico and a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Oregon.



## **New Report Details How Monsanto Popularized Poisonous Chemicals**

You might also want to read a report released in December by Stacy Malkan, co-founder of US Right to Know, and Kendra Klein, senior staff scientist with Friends of Earth, about the shameful methods by which chemical giant Monsanto popularized toxic, cancer-causing chemicals: [Merchants of Poison: How Monsanto Sold the World on a Toxic Pesticide](#). Here is an article from USRTK announcing the report: [New report reveals pesticide industry's disinformation and science denial playbook](#).

## **Upcoming NCCWP Reports on Water Quality Testing and a Helicopter Photo Shoot of Clearcuts, Plus a Preview of the New “Salt & Stumps”**

In our next newsletter, we'll have a story about the results of recent testing for pesticides in local water and another about a helicopter photo shoot of the clearcuts in Northwest Oregon. Also, there'll be a preview of the latest edition of Mike Edwards' "Salt & Stumps!"

## Please Reach Out to Us to Volunteer!

We are a volunteer-run organization and would love to have your help. Here are some of the things we could use assistance with:

**PETITION and AWARENESS CAMPAIGN: Safeguard and Restore our Drinking Water Sources.** Because of drought, seasonal water shortages, and industrial forestry practices, our coastal drinking water quality and quantity are being seriously compromised. **As a matter of necessity and regardless of land ownership, we demand no more logging and no more pesticide spraying within our drinking watersheds, since drinking water is rightfully part of the public trust.** We all deserve access to clean air and water.

We are looking for people willing to help us canvas in-person, door-to-door, at farmers markets, and, possibly, in front of supermarkets. Please contact us if this is something you would be comfortable and willing to help with in 2023!

The aim of our current petition is to spread awareness throughout our community—and beyond—and to begin to build a massive wave of public support. We will present the petition to local and state elected officials and relevant organizational leadership. If you haven't yet, please [sign our petition](#) and share it with your friends!

**GRANT WRITER(S):** If you have grant writing experience, we could use some help writing grants to help us raise funds to expand the work we are doing.

**VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR(S):** Since we are seeing increased community involvement with NCCWP, we could use help from someone interested in coordinating volunteers! This would involve emailing and calling folks, keeping track of who is doing what, and reporting back to our core team.

**SOCIAL MEDIA STEWARDS:** We are looking for a dedicated social media intern/volunteer to help us build social media presence so that we can reach more people with our messages. If you have experience growing social media platforms or are enthusiastic about social media, please contact us!

**COMMUNITY / CAMPAIGN ORGANIZERS:** We are also looking for a volunteer, or two, with **campaign organizing experience** who has time and energy to help us with our awareness campaign, petition efforts, and more. Please contact us if this is something you are interested in doing!

**CITIZEN SCIENCE:** We are also looking for volunteers to help with our efforts to monitor turbidity and test for chemicals in our forest waters in 2023.

If you are interested in helping with any or all of the above volunteer opportunities, please email us directly: [rockawaycitizen.water@gmail.com](mailto:rockawaycitizen.water@gmail.com). (Also, if you would like to be removed from our subscription list, let us know.)

With gratitude, NCCWP.

*North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection (formerly Rockaway Beach Citizens for Watershed Protection) is a grassroots group working, through education and advocacy, for better protections of the water we drink, the air we breathe, and the forests that sustain us.*

[healthywatershed.org](http://healthywatershed.org) |

[www.facebook.com/NCCWATERSHEDPROTECTION](https://www.facebook.com/NCCWATERSHEDPROTECTION)

**Comments or questions? Contact Nancy Webster:  
[rockawaycitizen.water@gmail.com](mailto:rockawaycitizen.water@gmail.com)**

