



RIVER COMMUNITIES UPDATE April 2013

Stopping Illegal Coal Pollution

On April 2, Riverkeeper & allies sent a "60-day notice of intent to sue" to several coal companies and Burlington Northern Santa Fe for spilling coal into rivers and bays in Washington, including the Columbia River. [See photos & videos of the coal found](#). The Clean Water Act prohibits discharging pollutants unless the state grants a pollution permit. Here, the coal shippers are spilling coal. A lot of coal!

[Read More About Our Efforts](#)



Become a Riverkeeper WQM Volunteer!

We're looking for Columbia River water quality monitoring volunteers. Water Quality Training Workshops for all 2013 Adopt-a-River and WQM volunteers are right around the corner. Pick a training workshop convenient for you and register with Riverkeeper. Hope to see you on the river!

Training Workshops

- 1) Gresham, OR: May 13 (5:30-8:30pm)
- 2) Portland, OR: May 15 (5:30-8:30pm)

- 3) Longview, WA: May 20 (5:30-8:30pm)
- 4) Hood River, OR: May 22 (5:30-8:30pm)

[Learn More & Register for a Workshop](#)



A Cause for Concern & Questioning

The [news](#) that Hanford's double-shelled storage tanks holding nuclear waste could possibly explode was not an April Fools' joke. The concern came from a most reliable source, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board. As cleanup continues, the Department of Energy will attempt to balance the cost of Hanford's cleanup versus its benefits. And it is our public responsibility to demand that the cleanup decisions tip in favor of worker safety, a clean river, and healthy communities.

[Learn More](#)



Major Step Toward Victory Against LNG

On March 28th, the Oregon Supreme Court affirmed the right of the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners to make a final decision on the Oregon LNG project and its pipeline through rivers, farmland, and forests. The Supreme Court's decision sets the stage for a final Board vote on Oregon LNG's pipeline. Without approval of the pipeline, the proposal cannot move forward as currently proposed.

[Learn More About This Victory](#)



Earth Day: Get Involved in Your Community

Riverkeeper encourages you to give back to your community and our natural world by getting involved in Earth Day activities in your local area this April. If you're in the Gorge, there will be a weeding party at Hood River's Waterfront Park. And, while adults are beautifying the park, kids can enjoy fun and educational activities hosted by local organizations, including Riverkeeper. We will also be hosting an Earth Day river clean-up.



Saturday, April 20

9am-noon: [Weeding Party & Kid's Activities](#)

10am-noon: [Columbia River Clean-up at Squally Point](#)

[Join Us in the Gorge for 2013 Earth Day Events](#)

April is Aveda Earth Month

Get pampered while you support Riverkeeper & clean water! During the month of April, Aveda salons and experience centers all over Oregon and Southwest Washington will be raising funds for Riverkeeper. Join us at these special Earth Month events:

Thursday, April 18

Look Good, Feel Good Fundraiser at Aveda Institute (all day)

Monday, April 22

Aveda Cut-A-Thon (all day)

Clean Water Benefit Show at The Secret Society (8pm)

Wednesday, April 24

Catwalk for Clean Water (6:30 & 8:30pm)

[Support Riverkeeper & Enjoy Aveda Earth Month Events](#)

COME CELEBRATE EARTH DAY WITH THE
COLUMBIA RIVERKEEPER



LIVE MUSIC BY

**BROWNISH BLACK
& THE KEPLERS**

APRIL 22 • THE SECRET SOCIETY THE RIVERBELL ST., PORTLAND, OR

DANCE, DRINK & DONATE TO KEEP THE COLUMBIA RIVER CLEAN!
8-11: AVEDA WILL pamper you w/ SPA & HAIR SERVICES FOR DONATION
7:30-10: LIVE MUSIC & SILENT AUCTION
\$8 DONATION AT DOOR OR AT TICKETLY.COM ALL AGES.

An Unusual Sight

If you have walked along the banks of the Columbia this spring, you may have noticed an unfamiliar sight. Eulechon, also known as Pacific Smelt, once abundant in the Columbia but whose numbers have dropped dramatically since the 1990s, were spotted

washing up on the banks of the river in large numbers. This year the numbers of Eulechon returning to the Columbia River system exceeded anything we've seen in the past 20 years. [Continue reading...](#)



Photo credit: Andrea Pokrzywinski, Wikimedia Commons

2013 HANFORD PADDLE TRIPS
July 13-14 & July 27-28

- ❖ TOUR HANFORD'S B-REACTOR
- ❖ SPEND A FULL DAY ON THE RIVER
- ❖ MEET OTHER HANFORD ACTIVISTS

JOIN US ON THE HANFORD REACH OF THE
COLUMBIA RIVER THIS SUMMER!

SIGN-UP AT WWW.COLUMBIARIVERKEEPER.ORG

Logo for Columbia River Keeper, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

AARON BAUMHACKL
SOLSTICE WOOD FIRE CAFE
Bingen, Washington

Aaron Baumhackl has spent his life advocating for rivers and clean water. Aaron's love of rivers and passion for river conservation springs from the many years he spent as a guide on the South Fork American River in northern California. Aaron and his family now live in the Columbia River Gorge; they own and operate the local hot-spot Solstice Wood Fire Cafe. Over the years, Aaron

and Solstice have been great supporters of Riverkeeper, local organizations, and a clean Columbia.

[Read More About Aaron](#)



EVENT CALENDAR

APRIL 17

[Public Meeting: 2015 Hanford Budget and Cleanup Priorities](#)

3:00PM. Three Rivers Convention Center. Kennewick, WA. The U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operations Office, DOE Office of River Protection, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Washington State Department of Ecology will be holding this public meeting. The meeting is part of a public comment period, which is scheduled from April 11 to May 15, 2013. Can't be there in person? You can participate in this public meeting online.

APRIL 18

[Look Good, Feel Good Fundraiser at Aveda Institute](#)

ALL DAY. Aveda Institute of Portland. Portland, OR. Choose from any service on their menu all day Thursday and all proceeds will be donated to Riverkeeper. Plus, there will be a bake sale and raffle!

APRIL 20

[Earth Day Waterfront Weeding Party & Kid's Activities](#)

9:00AM. Waterfront Park. Hood River, OR. Roll up your sleeves, get your hands dirty, and give back to the community. While adults are beautifying the park, kids can enjoy a myriad of fun and educational activities. Riverkeeper will be hosting a scavenger hunt as well as providing several groups of children the opportunity to do some water quality testing in the Columbia.

[Earth Day Columbia River Clean-up](#)

10:00AM. Mayer State Park. Columbia River Gorge. Join Riverkeeper to help pick up trash and beautify the shorelines of the Columbia River. Meet at The Dalles Discovery Center, and then we'll carpool out to the clean-up site. All volunteers who attend the river clean-up will receive a free pass to the Discovery Center!

APRIL 22

[Cut-A-Thon for Clean Water](#)

ALL DAY. Salon Visio (Hood River, OR) & Aveda Pioneer Place (Portland, OR). Aveda locations across the country will attempt to break a Guinness World Record by having the most haircuts in one day. All proceeds this day from Salon Visio and Aveda Pioneer Place will go directly to Riverkeeper.

[Clean Water Benefit Show at The Secret Society](#)

5:00PM. The Secret Society. Portland, OR. The Aveda Experience Center at Pioneer Place has teamed up to put on a benefit show at The Secret Society. The evening will feature the gritty, vintage soul of [Brownish Black](#) and cosmic funk of [The Keplers](#). A special Earth Month

cocktail will be served and prizes auctioned off. Come early to enjoy wellness stations - get your hair and makeup done to party in grand vintage style! Tickets are \$8.

APRIL 24

[Catwalk for Clean Water](#)

6:30PM & 8:30PM. Aveda Institute of Portland. Portland, OR. A night of fashion, fun, and drinks. Join us to celebrate the cutting edge work of Aveda's students. Full Sail has donated some great beer, and we'll be auctioning and raffling off prizes throughout the night. This event has consistently sold out, so we're pleased to be offering two shows this year so more folks can attend. Tickets are \$20.

APRIL 26

[Filmmaker, authors present latest works & discuss river issues](#)

7:00PM. Pfriem Brewery. Hood River, OR. Filmmaker, Andy Maser, and authors, Brad Tyer and Steven Hawley, will join Riverkeeper to present their latest works and lead a discussion on river issues. Riverkeeper will also show two film shorts highlighting pressing issues on the Columbia River.

MAY 6

[Columbia County Land Use Hearing Near Proposed Coal Facility](#)

6:30PM. Columbia County Courthouse. St. Helens, OR. This is the new date for the Columbia County Planning Commission hearing on the proposed expansion of Port Westward. Join us to oppose the rapid approval of a land use change that could be used for coal export.

Stay Connected With Us



COLUMBIA RIVERKEEPER

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