

# Rockaway Beach Citizens for Watershed Protection to discuss future of clean water and air

**Posted: Monday, August 31, 2015 9:32 am**

The Rockaway Beach Citizens for Watershed Protection, a grassroots association of citizens working to ensure clean, safe air and drinking water, is hosting a free town hall meeting on Thursday, Sept. 17, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at St. Mary's by the Sea Catholic Church in Rockaway Beach.

Join your coastal neighbors at 5:30 p.m. for an "Eat, Meet, and Greet" with soup from Fresh Café (a \$5 donation suggested).

Starting at 6 p.m. will be Shane Anderson's film premiere of "Behind the Emerald Curtain." Filmed in Oregon coastal communities, this film exposes current forestry practices that put at risk our air and water quality and offers a look at practices that are fish and drinking water friendly. Following the film, there will be a panel presentation with audience Q and A by experts in the fields of forestry and public health:

- Chandra LeGue, Western Field Coordinator for Oregon Wild
- Greg Haller, Conservation Coordinator for Pacific Rivers Council
- Deke Genderson, Ph. D., Toxicology, Environmental Science Professor
- Lisa Arkins, Executive Director of Beyond Toxics
- Geoff Wullschlager, City Manager of Wheeler, Oregon
- Shane Anderson, filmmaker and owner of Northfork Studios

Included will be reports from local communities and opportunities to document personal stories. For the past several years, RBCWP has been partnering with like-minded people throughout the north coast of Oregon via the North Coast Basin Coalition. A partial list of event sponsors include: Oregon Wild, Beyond Toxics, Pacific Rivers Council, Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition, Coast Range Association, and North Coast Basin Coalition.

The issue of aerial herbicide spraying on private timber lands has gained media attention in the past few years due to some high profile incidents resulting in illnesses, crop damage, and drinking water pollution.

An effort to reform aerial spraying practices to better protect fish-bearing streams, homes, and drinking water, to improve advance notification, and to require disclosure of sprayed substances stalled in the Oregon legislature earlier this year.

Concerned citizens and conservation groups are hopeful that meaningful reforms can still take place.

The town hall meeting will be at St. Mary's by the Sea Catholic Church, 275 S. Pacific Avenue, Rockaway Beach. Please contact the Rockaway Beach Citizens for Watershed Protection at 503-355-2516 or visit the Facebook page for additional details.  
<https://www.facebook.com/rockawaybeachcitizens>.