



*Working Together to Create a Sustainable
Community*

P.O. Box 2310
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www.sustainablecorvallis.org

Dear AASHE and STARS Review Team:

I'm writing in support of OSU's Innovation Credit submission of their Rainwater Resources Guide.

I have been involved as a community volunteer in the creation of the OSU Rainwater Resources Guide. I prompted OSU to consider consolidating information about its stormwater management practices throughout campus into one place so that the campus community – and beyond – could see information about sustainable stormwater mitigations in one place and in an accessible format. I am not aware of similar brochures or resources in this region and feel this effort qualifies OSU for an Innovation credit because of the significant positive outcomes that have resulted from the brochure. I was also impressed with the development process for the brochure.

The creation of this brochure brought together faculty and staff from engineering, horticulture and other academic programs, with operational units in Capital Planning and Development and the Sustainability Office. Because of this resulting relationship, a collaboration of OSU faculty, students and staff has teamed to perform critical research and design projects that have solved some intrinsic stormwater problems. The innovative designs developed from this new relationship have also poised OSU to view future development in a new manner. And it all started with the research and development performed to create and distribute this one brochure.

I have been involved in water related issues and education for 26 years and have produced 5 documentary films regarding the environmental and cultural impacts of urban stormwater and how we can mitigate those impacts. I believe my experience is sufficient to verify the outcomes and impacts of the work noted above. I have led the Water Action Team of the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition since its formation in 2010. The team advises Corvallis residents, businesses and institutions regarding ways to mitigate stormwater, tapwater and wastewater concerns. I work closely with OSU Engineering and Horticulture Departments, sponsoring senior Capstone projects and Master's-level projects focused on stormwater and tapwater management. I also work at the community level with other non-profit organizations and local agencies to reduce municipal water consumption, reduce wastewater treatment demand and restore local watersheds to support healthy habitats.

I was surprised with the sudden and longer-term impact this one simple brochure has had on the OSU culture. I recommend its consideration for an innovative credit.

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