Supporting Emerging Ag-Municipal Water Partnerships in OR & WA
We believe that healthy, equitable communities and healthy, resilient ecosystems are inextricably linked.
The Challenge

Aging water infrastructure

Water challenges that cross urban-rural lines

Producers need funding to take up conservation-based practices

Rural communities need capacity
The Opportunity

Leverage local, state, federal, and private $ to accelerate adoption of voluntary conservation practices

• Achieve water outcomes that communities need
• Often at a lower cost and with additional benefits
• New funding sources for practices
• Mix and match funding to get big projects done
Ag-Muni Water Partnerships

- Policy flexibility
- Relationships, collaboration
- Risk management
- Science linking actions & outcomes
- Financial mechanism
- Innovative engineering & design
NRCS Conservation Collaboration Grant

- Technical assistance to NRCS and emerging partnerships
- 6 pilots in Oregon & Washington
- Work closely with NRCS to align with priorities, find opportunities
- Support funding proposals to national programs
- 2020-2022
Ingredients of an Ag-Muni Pilot

1. Water quality, water quantity, and/or habitat issues with an agricultural intersection
2. Innovation and collaboration can help address complex water management issues using natural infrastructure solutions
3. Engaged stakeholders
4. Need for technical support (e.g. facilitation, research, policy and financing options)
NRCS Conservation Collaboration Grant

Goals:

1. Increase uptake of conservation practices
2. More & different funding for practices
3. Increase OR & WA proposals & competitiveness in NRCS national programs (RCPP, NWQI)
Thank you

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