



For Immediate Release – February 3, 2025

Oregon Coast Nonprofits Receive More Than \$75,000 in Donations from the BottleDrop Fund

Donation will support four local nonprofits in Coos, Lincoln and Tillamook Counties

CLACKAMAS, Ore. – The [Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative](#) (OBRC), which operates the [BottleDrop](#) network, announced today that it has donated more than \$75,000 through its BottleDrop Fund to four nonprofits operating on the Oregon Coast: Cape Perpetua Collaborative, Food Roots, Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition and Yakona Nature Preserve and Learning Center.

The recipient organizations plan to use funds in the following ways:

- [Cape Perpetua Collaborative](#), a nonprofit based in Yachats that is working to foster community engagement and environmental stewardship along Oregon’s Central Coast, received nearly \$25,000 to support the hiring of their first full-time director, a pivotal step in enhancing their organizational capacity and effectiveness.

“Being awarded this funding is such an immense boost to the work that we do and our ability to continue to facilitate and offer conservation focused programming in our coastal community,” said Talaina King, director of the Cape Perpetua Collaborative. “This grant has given us the extra support needed to hire and fund our director position, which will allow us to better facilitate everyday operations and expand our partnerships and funding resources going forward. We are ecstatic about putting this financial support to use in 2025 and thank the Fund for their generous donation.”

- [Food Roots](#), a nonprofit based in Tillamook that is growing a robust and equitable food system across the county through community engagement, education, food producer support and improved access to local food, received nearly \$25,000 to support their education programs in schools throughout Tillamook County.

"Thanks to generous support from the BottleDrop Fund, we are thrilled for the Learning Garden partnership between Food Roots and Tillamook County schools to continue in its second year of providing fresh produce to families who are experiencing food insecurity," said Lindsay Ward, executive director at Food Roots. "We are excited that passionate volunteers, both experienced and learning, will be vital to these gardens flourishing and providing nutrition!"



- [Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition](#), a nonprofit based in Coos Bay that is educating and empowering people to protect our coastal ecosystems and communities, received \$15,000 to expand their Art and Ecology Workshop project, which is part of the Coast-Watch in the Schools program that helps students explore coastal ecology through creative, hands-on learning along Oregon's North Coast.

"The CoastWatch Art and Ecology program embodies the heart of Oregon Shores' mission: connecting people to the coast through education and stewardship," said Elise Newman, executive director for Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition. "By engaging students in both science and art, we're inspiring the next generation of coastal stewards who will carry forward a deep understanding of and appreciation for Oregon's unique coastal ecosystems."

- [Yakona Nature Preserve and Learning Center](#), a nonprofit based in Newport that is protecting, preserving, and enhancing the natural ecosystems and cultural history of Oregon's Central Coast spruce habitat and its wildlife, received \$15,000 to support their Creating Connections environmental education program, which provides K-12 and postsecondary students the opportunity to learn in nature through STEAM-based educational activities.

"Teaching students, youth and families the importance of Oregon's native coastal forest while engaging them as scientists creates empowerment, responsibility and opportunity for this and future generations," said Dr. Natalie Schaefer, executive director of Yakona Nature Preserve & Learning Center. "We are grateful to the BottleDrop Fund and our other funders for supporting this important work."

"Supporting organizations like these reflect OBRC's commitment to enhancing environmental education and stewardship in communities throughout the state," said Devon Morales, vice president of external affairs at OBRC. "Oregon is well-known for its long-established legislation like the Bottle Bill and Beach Bill, which both promote a positive environmental legacy for Oregon, its coast and its residents."

The [BottleDrop Fund](#), created in partnership with Oregon Community Foundation, supports nonprofit organizations in Oregon that are operating in the spirit of the Bottle Bill through annual grantmaking. The Fund's priorities include litter and waste reduction, environmental conservation, environmental education, recycling, public-private partnerships that work to solve a community problem in Oregon, and skill-building and job training for low-income residents.

About BottleDrop and the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative

The Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative is the industry steward of Oregon's nationally recognized beverage container redemption system and the operator of the BottleDrop network. On behalf of the



beverage industry, OBRC helps Oregonians conveniently redeem and recycle more than 2 billion containers every year, dramatically reducing litter in Oregon’s special places and boosting the state’s recycling outcomes. To learn more, visit BottleDrop.com or OBRC.com

About Oregon Community Foundation

Since 1973, Oregon Community Foundation has worked to improve the lives of all Oregonians through the power of philanthropy. We partner with donors, volunteers and nonprofits to strengthen communities in every county in Oregon. OCF distributed more than \$220 million in grants and scholarships in 2024. Individuals, families, businesses and organizations can work with OCF to create charitable funds that support causes important to them. To learn more, please visit oregoncf.org.