



# Volunteer Briefings NOTES

August 31, September 1, 5:30-6:30

## September 1 - Agenda (notes follow)

### Introductions & topline questions (add now!) - 5-10 min.

1. Amy Barton - Stewardship manager at CRBC, from OR (lived in New Orleans for 7 years), event co-organizer with Matt
2. Matt Taylor - We Love Clean Rivers Board Chair/Stewardship Director - nonprofit manager for 15+ years in Maryland and OR, lifetime canoer (2X Olympian); event co-organizer with Amy
3. Justin Boyles - love the river! Canoe, couple of kayaks & kids (last weekend on the Deschutes) - excited, first cleanup.
4. Tim Chairet - commissioner at Sunrise Water Authority; first time doing the event. Done it in a raft and tube.
5. John Nelson - diver; with two others. Floated for a number of
6. Megan Thayne - recent graduate from PSU (Geography!) - list serves to volunteer (found this). Now have more time to dedicate time to giving back.
7. Gary Acker - floating the Clackamas for 10-12 years. Came down from Seattle. [stash the trash bags - massive change - four years ago
8. Andrew Hansen
9. Meagan
10. Keith Miller

11. Mike Ward

*Topline Questions and additional questions compiled below in Q&A section*

### **Map - 10-15 min.**

- Review GIS map of river, with compiled location data and ongoing documentation of key river attributes, access amenities. Map is live on the Event webpage.
  - Part of Clackamas Water Trail ([www.clackamaswatertrail.org](http://www.clackamaswatertrail.org)) project (with Clackamas River Water Providers), an informational website and map of the river focused on stewardship and low impact recreation.

### **Schedule - 10-15 min.**

- Review schedule as posted on the website

### **Roles - 10-15 min.**

- Reviewed roles as posted on the website.

Q&A - 10-15 (depending on time left: can follow up with written questions, and/or tomorrow evening) COMBINED AT END

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### **Introductions & topline questions (add now!) - 5-10 min.**

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3. Angela - Teacher in Clackamas (6th grade) - avid kayaker; trash picker
4. Joe - live in Portland; Old Town 17'! Trash picker!
5. Mark - SE Portland; from MD! Great falls area; favorite is the Delaware. 1st time Cleanup
6. Jen - Lake Oswego; 14' raft; big garbage scow (not possible) Onshore volunteer
7. Katie - Work for Warm Springs Tribe (property on the Clackamas) on Board of CRBC

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### **Schedule - 10-15 min.**

- On land volunteers need to plan for 8am arrival (and earlier for set up volunteers); more details to be spelled out in an update email (sent early next week).
- On river volunteers need to be at put-ins and ready to go at 10 am
- McIver lower launch (some will elect to drive around and put in at the upper launch, but registration is at the lower launch).

### **Roles - 10-15 min.**

- Reviewed roles as posted on website.

**Q&A - 10-15 (depending on time left: can follow up with written questions, and/or tomorrow evening) COMBINED AT END**

## Questions and Answers (combined from both briefings, updated 9/6/22)

1. Shuttling options?
  - a. As noted in registration, please make sure to arrange YOUR OWN SHUTTLE beforehand.
  - b. For anyone not able to find a shuttle, please fill out this [simple request form](#):
  - c. Parking is free at each of the parks for registered volunteers.
2. Can I do the cleanup solo in my own boat?
  - a. Yes! And you won't be alone because pods will stick together.
3. Should you bring a hook or net to pick up trash?
  - a. You do not need to bring nets or anything (although you can bring what you are most comfortable with if you have those things). We have a number of garbage pickers, lots of latex gloves and work gloves, and various containers for all the types of trash we might find.
4. What time should we be there?
  - a. See [Updated Volunteer Schedule Details on the website](#).
5. Are helmets required (it says it's required in the safety checklist)?
  - a. It is at the boater's discretion, but we generally recommend helmets for closed-deck boaters when they go down anything Class II or above. With few exceptions (see map), there are very few Class II rapids on the Lower Clackamas.
6. Where does all the garbage go?
  - a. Working with Clackamas County – Transportation & Development, Sustainability & Solid Waste
    - i. Trash sorting captains will have different bags (white for trash, yellow for recycling)
    - ii. Some sorting at site (not on river)
    - iii. They track (report) what we collect
    - iv. Compost taken home by staff and volunteers!
    - v. Dangerous substances? 2 liter bottles with drug lab chemicals
    - vi. Dump out bottles and cans filled with river water in case wildlife is inside (if unopened or full of drink, empty on land away from river)
  - b. Example of a dumpster with divisions of rubbish shown in Addenda.
7. Is there a garbage scow for each section?
  - a. YES, BUT WE NEED MORE! Particularly for McIver to Barton and Carver to Riverside.
8. What is a garbage scow?
  - a. Anything that is large enough to handle trash bags is a scow! Canoes, drift boats, rafts, even towed extra rafts (see picture in Addenda)
9. What time should we arrive?
  - a. See [Updated Volunteer Schedule Details on the website](#).
10. What do we provide for volunteers?
  - a. Gloves, bags for recycling, trash, garbage pickers.
11. Will we get an email specific to our role?
  - a. Yes, we will send out an email to you and your group specific to your role.
12. Some people will have multiple roles



- a. Not a problem, unless they are to be in two paces at once. We have checked so far and it all looks good.
- 13. What is protocol around houseless folks (and their stuff on the river)?
  - a. Health and Human Services suggests only to clean up obviously abandoned campsites.
- 14. How to put things into the Garbage Scow?
  - a. Sometimes kayakers waive you down; sometimes they come to you and offload stuff
  - b. 5 gallon buckets, tarps provided for sharp/dirty items
- 15. How clean is the Clackamas?
  - a. Pretty clean actually!
  - b. Many of us swim in it frequently (short of drinking the water directly, swimming is the real test of clean rivers).
- 16. Where is the BBQ afterwards?
  - a. Picnic area 1, big one on the left. We will have all the parking and lots of signage.
- 17. Land volunteers, when should folks show up?
  - a. See [Updated Volunteer Schedule Details on the website.](#)
- 18. Are we in the need for scows or safety captains?
  - a. Yes! Current (as of Sept 6) needs:
    - i. -Need more Riverside to Clackamette boater volunteers;
    - ii. -2 X Rubbish and Recycling Sorting at Barton
    - iii. -1 X Safety Boaters needed for McIver to Barton (only one now)
    - iv. -2 X Garbage Scows for McIver AND Carver to Riverside (ask Sam about Riverside to Clackamette)

## Addenda

Dumpster example:



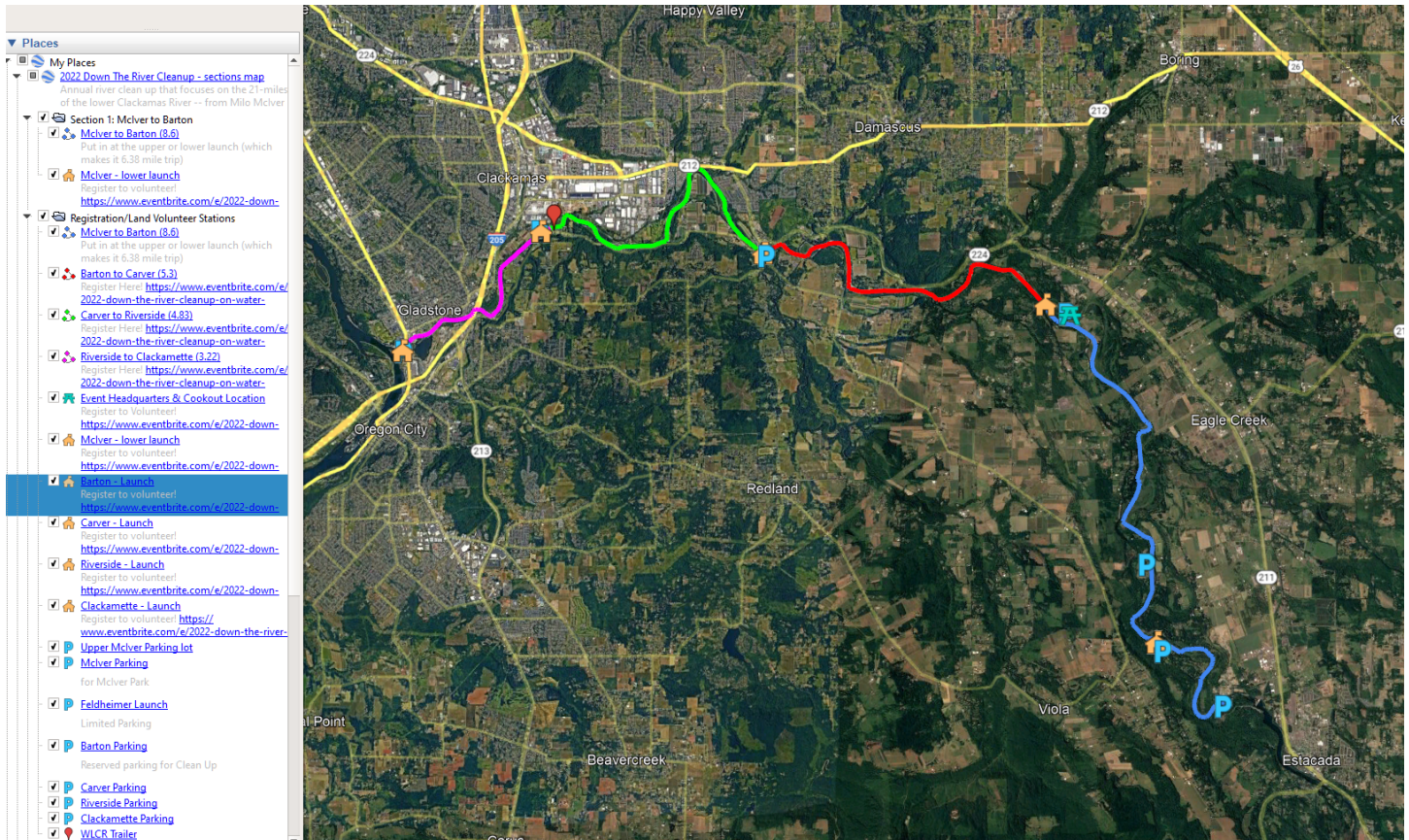


## Garbage Scow (tugged raft)





## Down the River Cleanup Map



Review of sections (with Google Earth) and active website map (MyMaps)

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1RNB9lDaHGyLYePeLWLvQtOIhLxjRW54&ll=45.35409458344202%2C-122.50013637756341&z=13>

## Schedule & details from website as of 9/1 - with updated information from briefings **highlighted** (Note: may have been updated since)

8:00 – 9:00 AM Volunteers check in at designated stations. Shuttles for paddlers should be completed by noon at the latest.

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Down the River Cleanup! Take your time. Look for all the litter, and perhaps find a treasure.

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM Free COOKOUT at Barton Park for all registered volunteers.

Local food, beverages from local breweries, live music and a silent auction to support future Down the River Cleanup efforts.

\*Depending on section you choose to float, total time may be more than 3 hours; be prepared to plan your shuttle and start accordingly.

### SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

1. Safety is of our utmost concern. We work hard to provide you with helpful info during the day of the event – however, this information is advisory only. There is an inherent risk in boating on a river and cleaning up debris, and you assume all risks.
2. On-river volunteers must absolutely be a confident class II+ boater and be equipped with **your own boat, paddle(s), life vest, whistle, helmet, and cellphone**. There may not be a garbage scow/drift boat while your group is on the water, plan to bring the best watercraft for hauling your collected trash out (bags will be provided for collection). And plan to work together, with other boats, and help as needed.
3. All volunteers MUST wear a life vest on the river! **[All Safety kayakers should have first aid kit, and water proof container and charged phone]**
4. In the event of an emergency dial 911.
5. We recommend bringing GLOVES, sunscreen, sunglasses, a light rain jacket, a warm layer, hat,
6. fast-drying/wicking clothes, adequate river shoes, a dry bag and a first aid kit.

### FOOD/DRINK

1. Please eat a hearty breakfast, bring lots of snacks, and a water bottle!
2. BBQ at Barton Park (music and food) will begin at 3PM **But ready at 2pm!**

### LAVATORIES

Restrooms are available at all parks. We recommend that you use one before you head down the river.

## Roles (from Event Brite)

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### General information at Registration

**\*\*\* Start your registration and you will be able to specify your role and choose a river section.\*\*\***

- This annual trash sweep at the end of summer covers a 20+ mile stretch of the Clackamas River from Estacada to the confluence with the Willamette River in Oregon City.
- The Clackamas Down the River Cleanup is the largest and longest-running on-water cleanup event of its kind in Oregon.
- Each year an average of 200 volunteers rally together in rafts, kayaks, SCUBA gear, drift boats and any other safe vessel to scour the stream bed and banks for trash, collecting an average of 2 tons with over half recycled.
- Since 2003, over 40 tons of garbage — well over the approximate weight of one gray whale — has been removed from the Clackamas River by more than 4,500 volunteers. We wrap up the day with a free BBQ for all volunteers, complete with music, a raffle, and a silent auction.

## Section Summaries

Sections range from 3.2 miles to 8.6 miles, with abundant natural splendor on all stretches. You can't lose choosing any section, but be mindful of the different float times and plan your shuttle and timing accordingly.

1. McIver to Barton - is 8.6 miles (starting from the Upper launch), and the most secluded section on the Lower Clackamas. Plan over 4 hours for this section.
2. Barton to Carver - is 5.3 miles and the most popular (and over-loved!) section on the river. Depending on your paddling and/or float speed, weather (wind) and river conditions, it usually takes about 3 hours or longer to complete.
3. Carver to Riverside - is 4.8 miles and almost identical (but less popular) to the Barton to Carver run. Plan 2-3 hours to complete.
4. Riverside to Clackamette - is 3.2 miles, and is the proverbial last leg of the river. While it passes more development (and under I 205), it offers a similar feeling of seclusion as the rest of the river and can be floated in less than 2 hours.

## On-Water Roles

On-Water Volunteers are boaters & floaters, swimmers and divers, who comb the shallows, shorelines, sloughs, drift racks, and other areas that potentially collect river litter.

1. Boater/Floater - the most common and needed volunteer role, bring your own vessel (appropriate for the low flows of late summer) and with many hands (and paddles and boats) cleanup the most popular section of the Clack.
2. Safety Kayaker - paddle with a group you know or with other volunteers, and provide back-up and additional eyes on the river. Kayaks can also be great for getting trash stuck in hard to get places on the river.
3. SCUBA diver - there are still treasures (piles of cans, other things) at the bottom of deep pools. Your skills are greatly needed. Please be certified and bring all of your own equipment!
4. Snorkel/freediving - all of the above, and free divers are more nimble in the shallows/shoals area. Be familiar with river swimming and use all safety precautions.
5. Garbage Scow - you know what this means: you have a boat (drift boat, raft, big canoe) that can hold large irregular items (like pieces of docks, appliances, old pieces of metal, etc.).



## On-Land roles

On-Land Volunteers are essential to a cleanup, and are stationed near the boat launch areas in each of the parks. Roles include:

1. Registration and outfitting - under a canopy tent and in the splendor of a park, check-in On-Water volunteers and outfit them with cleanup gear. Stations at McIver (lower), Barton, Carver, and Riverside
2. Rubbish and Recycling Sorter - be ready for what litter comes your way. Separate, sort, and document the river litter. Stations at ~~McIver (lower)~~, Barton, Carver, Riverside and Clackamette.
3. Cookout helper - to celebrate the cleanup, help prepare, cook and serve food at the Barton Group Picnic Area #1.