

# Ashland Watershed: From Mt. Ashland to Bear Creek

## Our creeks are healthy!

Key indicators of water quality are the abundance of aquatic insects and naturally formed pools.

The stoneflies, mayflies and caddisflies found in the five branches of Ashland Creek only survive in healthy creeks with minimal pollution.

Our work will help evaluate future changes in water quality and maintain Ashland's clear, clean water.

**Mayfly**  
*Ephemeroptera*



**Damselfly Nymph**  
*Zygoptera*

## Did you know



Restoring fire is a critical step to protecting abundant clean water.

**Frequent mild fires are essential** for healthy forests, and community and watershed protection.

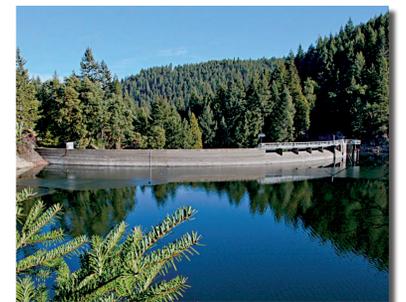
**Water quality has been measured** by monitoring partners, including Southern Oregon University students, every year since 2010.

**Stop and listen:**  
Do you hear the creek?



## The Ashland Watershed

The Ashland watershed encompasses 15,000 acres of forested slopes, seasonally snow-covered open ridges, and tumbling streams. The 5,800' climb from the Ashland Plaza up to Mt. Ashland's 7,533' summit encompasses a diverse array of forest types across an eight-mile span. Clear, clean water springs from the slopes feeding Ashland Creek and Reeder Reservoir, the city's water source. Ashland Creek flows through Lithia Park, and finally to its confluence with Bear Creek.



## Involved citizens



### Youth Training and Employment

Hundreds of youth aged 15-24 participate in hands-on ecosystem restoration designed to foster interest in natural resource careers.

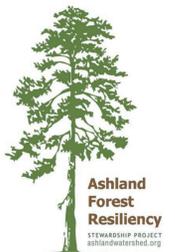
### Tours, classes and hikes

AFR partners have educated 2,500 students.

### Southern Oregon University students

More than 11 SOU class projects and capstones have been completed since 2010, crossing over many disciplines from economics to entomology, forest ecology to fire history. Students have also collected water bugs to assess aquatic habitat quality.

Ashland Forest Resiliency Project Partners:  
ashlandwatershed.org



**Our stewardship project protects our water source.**

**The Ashland Forest Resiliency Stewardship Project (AFR)** is a collaborative forest restoration project that reduces the risk of severe wildfire across public and private land in and around the Ashland Watershed.

We work to protect old trees, wildlife habitat, homes, trails, and our water source by thinning overcrowded forests and conducting controlled burns.