

# 2022 Pacific Botanicals Sustainability Report

*"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot,  
nothing is going to get better. It's not." – Dr.  
Seuss, The Lorax*







## Who we are

Since 1979, Pacific Botanicals has been a leader in the cultivation of organic botanicals in the United States. Located in the Applegate Valley outside of Grants Pass, Oregon, our 150-acre Regenerative Organic Certified® farm cultivates approximately 35-45 different botanical species every growing season. We highly value our connection to the land, the health of our soils, and our commitment to our workers and community.



# The Team

- Chair: Nate Brennan
- Treasurer: Dori Moran
- Pacific Botanicals' Sustainability Team was founded in March of 2021 with the idea that we, as an organization, could improve our impact on bettering the world around us. The team consists of seven members: Nate Brennan, Dori Moran, Kevin McBroom, Erika Christian, Dave Tetreault, Mikaylah Roggasch and Matt Dybala. The group is comprised of members of Pacific Botanicals that represent each sector of our business' operation: the farm, the shop, and the mill. All levels of job experience within Pacific Botanicals are also represented within the sustainability team.





## Pacific Botanicals' Sustainability Team's Vision Statement

- Pacific Botanicals strives to conduct ourselves with integrity, and honesty while we meet the needs of today, without negatively impacting the needs of the future generations. We do this by being good stewards of the land, our people, and our community; by focusing on our resource reduction, reusability of materials, and sustainable agricultural and business practices.



# Community Involvement



- Applegate River Cleanup
- Restoration work on Cheney Creek
- Native tree/shrub planting
- Food Drives/Donations to local Josephine County Food Bank
- Donations to local service and environmental oriented organizations
- Applegate Watershed Council Education Event
  - Land Stewardship Day Representation
- Xerces Society Education Event

# Applegate River Clean Up – Turtle Lane

- Applegate river is the source for our irrigation water.
- Important to keep the resource clean for all that rely on the waterway.
  - Recreation, wildlife, agriculture etc.
- Group of PB employees volunteered time to collect trash, keeping it out of the waterway.





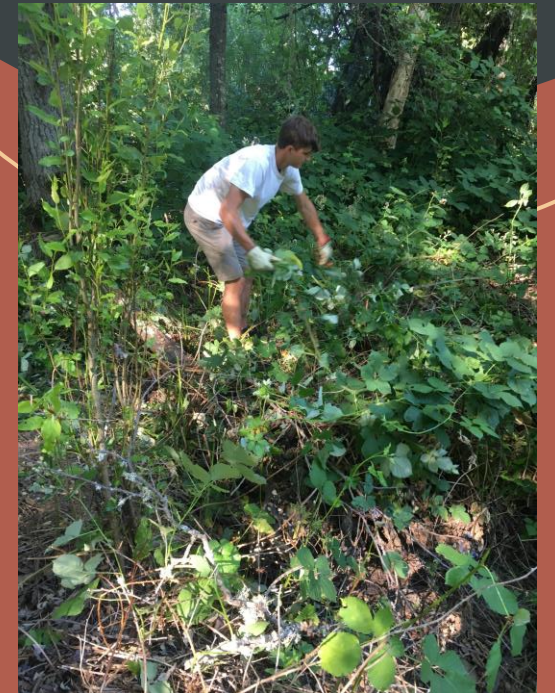


## Josephine County Food Bank Drives

- Multiple food drives in 2023 – spring and fall/winter
- 202 Pounds of food collected in December drive = 242 meals
- Donation of 580 lbs of fresh corn post Cornsilk harvest.
- Josephine county FB supports over 15,000 people every month.

# Cheney Creek Restoration Work

- Pulling Invasive species Himalayan Blackberry and Garlic Mustard
- Volunteers mostly come after work on own time to pull invasives.
- Continued commitment to our natural buffers on the farm, as local wildlife rely on these areas.





# Native Tree/Shrub planting (supported by PB)

- Paid volunteer time for PB Employees
- Planted Snow Berry, Ash Trees, Pacific ninebark, and Big Leaf Maple
- Continued restoration of Cheney Creek







# Bat Houses

- Team put up new bat houses around the farm to encourage higher population of bats on the farm.
- Increased biodiversity
- Continued acknowledgement that we share the land with others



# Educational Events



- Xerces Society Presentation
- Applegate Watershed Council Instream Restoration Work
- Cheney Creek/Land Use Stewardship Day





# Xerces Pollinator Presentation

- Xerces Society advocates for the protection of wildlife through the conservation of invertebrates and their habitats.
- Provided information for employees to plan their own pollinator gardens at home



# Applegate Watershed Council

- Working on creek restoration on Cheney Creek further up the waterway from Pacific Botanicals.
- Instream tree placement for Salmon spawning habitat
- Team was given tour of restoration site.



# Land Use Stewardship Event

- Pacific Botanicals represented at Land Use Stewardship Event located in Williams, OR.
- Shared with community our on-going efforts for conservation and restoration of natural buffers on farm.





# Donations



- The group donated to numerous environmental, and community focused groups throughout the year, including:
  - Josephine County Food Bank, Siskiyou Field Institute, Applegate Watershed Council, Xerces Society, Women's Crisis Support Team, Rogue Riverkeeper
- Herbal donations – Stone Cabin Collective, Street Level Project, Midwest Women's Herbal Conference, Women's Herbal Symposium, Partners in Prevention, Sierra Roots Wellness
- Goal of Sustainability Group to be good stewards to our land, our people, and our community.

# Donation Organizations

- Josephine County Food Bank:  
<https://www.jocofoodbank.org/>
- Siskiyou Field Institute: <https://thesfi.org/>
- Applegate Watershed Council:  
<https://www.applegatepartnership.org/>
- Xerces Society: <https://xerces.org/>
- Women's Crisis Support Team:  
<http://www.wcstjoco.org/>
- Rogue Riverkeeper:  
<https://www.rogueriverkeeper.org/>







# Herbal Donations

- Stone Cabin Collective:  
<http://stonecabincollective.org/>
- Street Level Project:  
<https://streetlevelhealthproject.org/>
- Midwest Women's Herbal Conference:  
<https://www.midwestwomensherbal.com/>
- Women's Herbal Symposium:  
<https://www.womensherbalsymposium.org/>
- Partners in Prevention:  
<https://partnersinprevention.org/>
- Sierra Roots Wellness:  
<https://sierrarootswellness.com/>

# Waste Streams



- Work with Terracycle to upcycle disposable gloves, hair/beard nets, and masks – Keeping them out of the landfill
  - 41 lbs of gloves collected
- Extensive recycling program on site.
- Compost food scraps, and paper towels to be used on farm



# Sustainable Energy

- Use of solar panels to offset ~30% of energy usage
- Blue Sky member through Pacific Power = 100% of required electricity is from renewable sources
- Carpool Program – Incentivizing employees to travel to work together



# Certifications & Memberships

- NOP Organic Certified through Oregon Tilth
- Regenerative Organic Certified® Silver Level through QCS.
- Salmon Safe
- United Plant Savers
- American Herbal Products Association
- B Corp
- Xerces Society
- American Botanical Council/Sustainable Herbs Program







**SILVER**

## Regenerative Organic Certified®

- New certification obtained by Pacific Botanicals in 2023
  - Silver level certified
- Certification's baseline is NOP Organic, and focuses on:
  - Soil health, Worker Fairness, and Animal Husbandry.
- Long standing practices on farm aligned well with certification
  - Cover cropping, crop rotation, on-site composting, no synthetic fertilizers, etc.



## By the Numbers - 2022

- Total Time Volunteered: 79 hours
- Total Diesel Usage\*: 2,440 gallons
- Total Propane Usage\*\*: 26,888 gallons
- Total Petrol Usage: 490 gallons

\*Use includes farm equipment and shop heat

\*\*Use includes dryers, shop, and forklift



# Carbon Scoping Exercise

- Used Cool Farm Tool to scope out carbon emissions for Ashwagandha Crop grown at Pacific Botanicals
- Found Tool was not best suited for botanical agricultural production.
  - Better for monocultured commodity crops
- Still good information was discovered
  - Identified drying as largest emitter
  - Implementing Air-Knife on wash-line in 2023 to help reduce propane



# Future Goals of Team

- Continued opportunities for employees to engage in volunteer activities, as well as educational events.
- Reduction of waste, and emissions generated on site
  - Find new streams to repurpose existing waste
- Complete scoping on more crops grown on farm, as well sourced ingredients.
  - Collaborating with industry partners
- Implementation of waste stream training for employees.





A landscape photograph featuring a vibrant rainbow arching across a blue sky filled with white and grey clouds. Below the rainbow is a wide, open field of dry, yellowish-brown grass. In the background, there are rolling hills covered in dense green and brown trees. A large, semi-transparent reddish-brown shape, resembling a stylized hill or a graphic element, is positioned on the left side of the image. A thin, curved yellow line starts from the top left and arcs across the scene. The text "Thank you!!!" is written in white, serif font within the reddish-brown shape.

Thank you!!!