



COLUMBIA COUNTY FLOOD RELIEF

939 Bridge Street, Vernonia, Oregon 97064
(503)429-4948 (503)429-1070 (fax)

October 15, 2008

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your support of the Columbia County residents affected by the December 3, 2007 flooding. Your generous donation was appreciated and we want to give you an update on what has happened, where we've been and where we're going as a county-wide community.

WHAT HAPPENED

On December 3, 2007, Columbia County experienced one of the most disastrous storms to ever hit the area – dramatic winds, and a deluge of near epic proportion, the second such 500 year event in 11 years. The remnants of two typhoons converged, stalling over the area and dropping over 11" of rain in 24 hours.

Over 825 homes in the Upper Nehalem River Valley were flooded. Less than 25% had flood insurance. Total damage to the homes was estimated at over \$50 million.

WHERE WE'VE BEEN

Over the past 9 months, there has been remarkable progress. Over 130 homes have been repaired through organized volunteer organizations. Columbia County Flood Relief, in partnership with Community Action Team, has worked tirelessly to assist the homeowners in working through the long recovery process.

WHERE WE'RE GOING

Some funding has become available through FEMA, Community Development Block Grants and other sources, allowing us to begin lifting and rebuilding some homes and building other homes outside of the flood zone. CCFR and CAT are working on lifting over 100 homes out of water's reach, some as high as 9 feet off the ground. This is in addition to 50 homes being lifted by owners. There are probably another 150 or more that should be lifted, but these simply don't qualify for any programs, nor do the owners have the funds to raise the homes on their own.

The road ahead is long, but we're grateful for continued support of the community.

For updates on what is happening, or to see what assistance we still need, please go to www.vernoniaflood.com. We have photographs, links and a great deal of other information to fill you in on where Vernonia and Columbia County are today, and where we yet have to go.

Again, we thank you for your support.

Best regards,

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COLUMBIA COUNTY FLOOD RELIEF

Handwritten signature of Tony Hyde, Commission Chairman.

Tony Hyde, Commission Chairman

Handwritten signature of Jim Tierney, Director.

Jim Tierney, Director

A Sincere Thank You From



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*In Appreciation For Your Support and Compassion
Shown by Your Donation and Assistance Following
The Devastation of The Columbia County Disaster
of Winter 2007*

Tony Hyde, County Commissioner

Sally Harrison, Mayor