

Yamhill County Comprehensive Land Use Plan

Revised Goals And Policies - Adopted December 30, 1996
Incorporating Goal and Policy amendments through Ordinance 618

SECTION V. Environmental Quality

A. Air, Water and Land Resources Quality

SUMMARY

Yamhill County has retained an overall high-quality natural environment, yet the impact of human activities on the environment has upset the natural ecological balances and the high aesthetic quality of the county in the past, and poses the threat of future deterioration. The increasing demands put upon the air resources of the county affect the capability of those resources to provide for a clean, enjoyable and safe environment. The Willamette Valley is prone to air pollution as a result of climatic and physiographic conditions. Suspended particulates from a number of sources, including automobiles, dust, field and slash burning, and industry process losses, pose the largest air pollution problem for Yamhill County.

GOAL STATEMENT

1. To conserve and to protect natural resources, including air, water, soil and vegetation and wildlife, from pollution or deterioration which would dangerously alter the ecological balance, be detrimental to human health, or compromise the beauty and tranquility of the natural environment. (189)

POLICIES

- A. Yamhill County will cooperate with the State Department of Environmental Quality in enforcing state and federal regulations designed to achieve high air quality. (189) R
- B. Yamhill County will, in making land use decisions relative to industrial or other uses likely to pose a threat to air quality, consider proximity of the proposed use to residential areas and meteorological factors such as seasonal prevailing wind direction and velocity. (190)
- C. Yamhill County will cooperate with the State Department of Environmental Quality in implementing noise control regulations. (192)

- D. Consideration will be given to adopting an ordinance requiring environmental impact review of all major public and private development proposals and the social and economic costs and benefits associated with any particular development proposal will be properly evaluated prior to public endorsement or approval. (196)

- E. In order to maintain and improve the quality of the county's air, water and land resources, Yamhill County will seek to minimize irreversible and other long-term impacts in its development of energy resources; support efforts, where feasible, for the appropriate and efficient recovery of energy as a means to reduce waste problems; and encourage a program to recover and recycle used motor oil.

GOAL STATEMENT

- 2. To preserve and enhance the charm and amenity values of the county, while accommodating change, through ensuring harmony between urban development and the natural environment, at the same time cultivating more attractive urban environments in which to live, work and play. (193)

POLICIES

- A. Yamhill County will, in cooperation with the cities, work to establish high standards for urban development and redevelopment, initiate incentives and regulatory programs to achieve such standards and seek abatement of the aesthetic degradation of the environment resulting from conflicting land uses and blighted neighborhoods, indiscriminate waste disposal, offensive outdoor storage and advertising, and the lack of adequate natural and landscaped open space. (193)

- B. Yamhill County will work to maintain a healthy natural balance among the many life forms existing together within the region. (192)