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**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* For Immediate Release\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Join us for a turtle-y awesome show and tell!**

VANCOUVER, WA (May 3rd, 2021) – In the seemingly endless sea of webinar offerings it can be difficult to determine what is worth your time. If you’re looking for a fun, educational online presentation from local organizations you trust, you’ve come to the right place! Come Meet Our Local Freshwater Turtles on Thursday, May 13th at 6:00 p.m.

There are two species of freshwater turtles that are native to Washington. These ancient species spend their time in wetlands and slow-moving streams, where they use their sharp, toothless jaws to munch on aquatic plants, macro-invertebrates (like insects, bugs, and snails), fish, and tadpoles. To learn more about these amazing animals and the lives they lead, join us for a virtual show and tell and Q&A with native freshwater turtles! Clark Conservation District’s resident turtle expert Ashley Smithers will teach us all about the freshwater turtle species native to Clark County: what they look like, where to find them, and more fun turtle facts—featuring live native turtles. The event will include a Q&A session, so come prepared to get all your turtle questions answered. Register yourself and your household at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/52zpt6p8>

This is a family-friendly event co-hosted by [Columbia Springs](http://www.columbiasprings.org) and [Clark Conservation District](https://clarkcd.org/). Our presenter, Ashley Smithers, is a Resource Specialist at Clark Conservation District where she works with local landowners to implement conservation practices and coordinates workshops. She has a Master’s in Environmental Management from Portland State University, where her studies focused on urban turtle conservation. In addition to her expertise in turtle conservation, she has spent many years studying amphibians in urban and rural communities. Contact Ashley if you would like to schedule a site visit or have questions about watershed stewardship: asmithers@clarkcd.org.

Clark Conservation District connects Clark County residents, farmers, small-forest owners, and others with the knowledge and project funding they need to conserve our natural resources. Clark Conservation District is voluntary and nonregulatory.

Columbia Springs is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit on the Old Evergreen Highway in Vancouver, WA. Its mission is to offer a unique setting and educational experiences that foster greater awareness of the natural world and inspire stewardship.