Community Profile

- County: Hood River
- City: Hood River
- Population: 23,000

Assignment

- Organization: Hood River County
- Supervisor: John Roberts
- RARE Member: Marla Harvey

About Hood River County

While Marla’s position is financially supported by the City and Port of Hood River, the City and Port of Cascade Locks and Hood River County, she is housed and supervised by the Hood River County Planning Department. The Hood River County Planning Department oversees all unincorporated portions of Hood River County outside the City Limits of Hood River and Cascade Locks. The department provides technical assistance and information to the public and local officials, administers the county land use regulations, supports a variety of planning-associated programs, and generates citizen interest, input and participation in the planning process.

Marla will coordinate a steering committee of local leaders in creating an energy plan for Hood River County. She will also identify opportunities to spread the benefits of local renewable energy to more Hood River County residents. The Hood River County Energy Plan is intended to boost efforts and infuse additional initiatives into the community to establish rural resilience and energy independence. The Energy Plan will serve as blueprint to focus and guide local agencies and the private sector in their joint efforts to toward achieving a defined community energy vision.

Meet Marla Harvey

- B.A. in Environmental Studies-Politics – Whitman College
- People may be surprised when they learn that I’m an unapologetic dance and zumba enthusiast. I love learning new dance styles and rocking out around town. I can proudly say, that if I had kids, they would be profoundly embarrassed.
- I consider one of my most significant accomplishments, my semester studying abroad in Ecuador. When I arrived, I barely spoke coherent Spanish and had never been outside of the country. In staying, completing classes, and living in Spanish speaking households despite my fears, I learned that beautiful things can happen when you decide to persist.