Reedsport Urban Renewal District

Community Profile

County  Douglas
City    Reedsport
Population  4,150

Assignment

Organization  Reedsport Urban Renewal District
Supervisor    Jonathan Wright
RARE Member   Katharine Lockard

About Reedsport Urban Renewal District

Incorporated in 1919 near the confluence of three rivers – the Umpqua, the Smith, and the Scholfield – the City of Reedsport is located on the beautiful Oregon Coast on Highways 101 and 38 on the banks of the Umpqua River – the largest river between the Sacramento and the Columbia. Located in the heart of the Oregon Dunes National Recreational Area, Reedsport is in close proximity to over 17 freshwater lakes and is just four miles from Winchester Bay and the Pacific Ocean.

The RARE participant placed with Reedsport Urban Renewal will organize and coordinate short-term and long-term revitalization projects in order to show splash efforts and momentum through the Main Street Program. The RARE participant will also work on recruiting new volunteers with interest in participating in Main Street Projects, and will increase volunteer retention by promoting volunteer recognition and appreciation. In addition, the RARE participant will support existing fundraising efforts, provide event support, and apply for the “Transforming Downtown” level of the Main Street Program in order to demonstrate Reedsport Main Street’s progress. Finally, the RARE participant will work on strengthening the capacities of committees and the Board, and will support new and existing projects.

Meet Katharine Lockard

Katie received a bachelor’s degree in Biology from Seattle Pacific University and a bachelor’s degree in Classics and English from Oxford University. Katie has gained a desire to improve the health of people and environments from the various jobs she’s had; she has studied threatened rainforests, managed clients with mental illnesses in work-based therapy at residential treatment center Goud Farm, and taught environmental education in Port Townsend, Washington, among other things. Through the RARE Program, Katie hopes to convert her nominal involvement with state issues into a real understanding of what is going on in the system and how she can help. After her year with RARE, Katie wants to be in a position where she can make a positive, lasting impact wherever there is a need for one, and eventually establish a program similar to Goud Farm in Oregon.