

The Lookout

News of the Tillamook Forest Center

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Community

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TFC welcomes new Director

Andy White, Northwest Oregon Area Director

I am pleased to announce that Fran McReynolds has accepted the Tillamook Forest Center Director position and began working at the Center in mid-February. Fran comes to us from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point where she was the program manager and coordinator for their graduate program focused on residential environmental education. Prior to working for the University, Fran spent many years at the Plains Conservation Center in Colorado in the capacity of the director of education and center director.

Fran received her Bachelor's Degree in Biology with a minor in Earth Science from the Metropolitan State University of Denver and also has a Master's Degree in Natural Resources with an emphasis in Environmental Education and Interpretation from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point.

With over 20 years of experience as an interpretive naturalist and environmental educator, Fran is well-prepared to guide the Tillamook Forest Center into its 10th year of operation. She holds several certifications through the National Association for Interpretation including: Certified Interpretive Trainer, Master Trainer, and Interpretive Manager.



Greetings from Fran

Reflections from a new Director on a bright and beautiful day in the forest



Walking on the Riverview Trail to the overlook on an early March morning is a treat for the senses. A Pacific wren weaves a song through the firs, accompanied by the tumbling sound of water over rocks. Dippers dart low across the river. Scents of red-flowered current, Indian plum, and Douglas-fir waft on a light breeze. Conifers, maples, mosses, and ferns enfold the trail.

Overlying the natural beauty are incredible stories of destruction and rebirth of this forest. Stories of people who have made it their life's work to ensure the health of the forest now and into the future. Of patience and determination and hope. These stories create powerful connections.

... Reflections, page 2



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Tillamook Forest Center

*Inspiring people to connect
with the Tillamook State Forest.*

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Staff

Director

Fran McReynolds

Programming Coordinator

Chris Friend

Programming Specialists

Denise Berkshire

Lisa Gibson

Intern

Shawn Bray

Visitor Services Coordinator

Jen Warren

Visitor Services Assistant

Lauren Miles

Facilities Coordinator

Darryl Anderson

Executive Director, Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust

Ross Holloway



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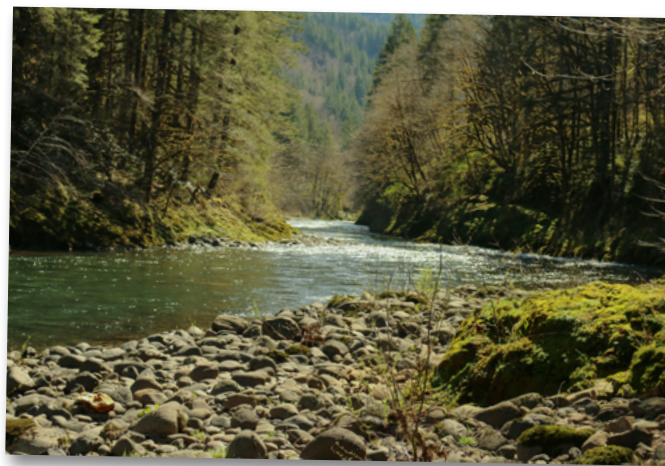
To regularly receive this free quarterly newsletter, please contact us. We appreciate your comments or questions on this publication or other forest activities

Reflections (continued from page 1)

After just a few weeks of working here, I am hooked. And the best part is that I have the joy of working together with the dedicated and talented TFC staff who are equally passionate about finding ways to help people forge connections to the forest and other landscapes.

I am excited to explore and discover more stories of the Tillamook. I look forward to being part of the fabric of the community here. Although I am new to living and working in NW Oregon, it feels as though I have come home.

I hope that you'll visit the Tillamook Forest Center this spring and create or renew your connections too.



Fran McReynolds, Director



Join the forestry conversation from your living room

As the seasons change, more people head to the woods, and Oregon Department of Forestry leadership tackles a number of management challenges. You can stay current with the latest news, events, and ways to get involved by signing up for the State Forests Online Community. The community is the online mailing list for the State Forests Division at the Oregon Department of Forestry. By signing up you become part of the ODF team and gain access to everything state forest-related, from recreation opportunities and ideas for weekend trips, to online surveys and information for important decisions affecting the future of how state forests are used and explored.

ODF will never share your email and we won't clutter your inbox. The State Forests Online Community provides convenient options to join

the forestry conversation from your home and on your time. It allows everyone to take seat at the table and shape state decisions now and tomorrow.

We look forward to hearing and talking with you more. Please contact Tony Andersen at (503) 507-4481 or tony.andersen@oregon.gov if you have technical issues, or trouble signing up. Sign up here: <http://bit.ly/1cwZnnD>



Support us with your financial gift



If you have enjoyed or been touched by a program, exhibit or special moment at the Tillamook Forest Center and want to make sure the center can continue to provide excellent forest education opportunities, please consider offering your financial support. One hundred percent of all gifts go directly to education programs and activities at the center. Here is a menu of ideas...every gift counts.

Donor Trees: A great gift idea...

The Trust invites you to show your support for the Tillamook Forest Center by "planting your tree" in a unique forest landscape sculpture located in the center's entry plaza. In recognition of your \$75 gift, your name or the name of the person you honor or memorialize will be engraved on a tree medallion which will be set against the forest backdrop created by the sculpture

Tillamook Forest HERITAGE TRUST

sculpture located in the center's entry plaza. In recognition of your \$75 gift, your name or the name of the person you honor or memorialize will be engraved on a tree medallion which will be set against the forest backdrop created by the sculpture

Trailside benches available for sponsorship...

Made from Douglas-fir trees grown in the Tillamook State Forest, these benches provide visitors a moment to pause, rest and reflect with views of the Wilson River and the surrounding forest. An attractive bronze plaque is inset into the back of the bench and can be used to honor or memorialize individuals or organizations. A limited number of rustic benches

are available for a sponsorship gift at the \$2,500 level.

Consider a planned gift...

A charitable gift may play a part in your overall estate plan. The Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust's experienced team is pleased to work with donors on life income gift plans, such as charitable remainder trusts, or estate gifts and bequests. Our team can also assist with charitable gifts of specialty assets.

Cultural Trust partner means tax credit...

Keep in mind that the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust is a qualified partner in the Oregon Cultural Trust, an innovative and widely supported program for strengthening and preserving Oregon's arts, heritage and culture. Gifts to the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust, made in concert with a gift to the Oregon Cultural Trust, qualify you for a tax deduction for both gifts and a tax credit, all while supporting important work related to our state's culture and arts.

To make a gift, or for more information contact the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust at (503) 815-6800 or on the web at: www.tillamookforestcenter.org/about_04.html

Donor Tree Order Form

Yes! I want to help support the Tillamook Forest Center

Name _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

Phone () _____ Email _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ tree(s) @\$75 per tree

Here is my check

Please charge my Visa/Mastercard

Card # _____ Exp _____ CCV _____

Signature _____

In Memory of... In Honor of... Name Only

Name to appear on tree:

Line One:

Line Two:

Line Three:

The Trust is pleased to recognize donations made as gifts, or to honor or memorialize a special person. Send recognition of this donation to:

Name _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

All gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law. Donor trees are available on a first-come basis. If requesting more than one tree, please make photocopies of this form.



Naturalist Notes

Lauren Miles

12/31: December rainfall was 22.5", however, nearly half of that (10.54") was received in a four day deluge from December 18 - December 22! The mosses are plumping up and diamonds drip from their thin stalks.



diamonds encrusting the mossy carpet

1/17: The Wilson River is gorgeous today. Sunlight sparkles on the ripples of water, revealing a beautiful shade of jade and jewel-colored river rock underneath.



jade water and jewel-colored rocks



ants writhing and boiling with energy

1/30: Our resident Western thatching ants are very active in this unseasonably warm weather (mid-50s). They were writhing and boiling with energy on their three-foot-tall mound of forest debris. Glad I was not wearing sandals.



beautiful blossoms of red flowering currant

2/19: Spring queen wins yet again as the first flower of the season to bloom. This was soon followed by spring beauty, Oregon grape, red flowering currant, wood violets, kinnikinnick, and salmonberry nearly three weeks early.

2/25: Large splatters of whitewash and several bone-filled pellets under the lookout tower lead us to believe that



a bone-filled pellet left as a gift on the lookout tower steps

owls, crows, or ravens are roosting there at night. I wish we had an animal cam...



who dunnit?

Leave No Trace program focuses on Tillamook State Forest

With increasing numbers of visitors finding fun in the Tillamook State Forest, we are seeing a rise in resource damage, sanitation problems, litter and overcrowding in some of the areas of concentrated recreational use.

We recently received great news that could help with some of the recreation use challenges occurring on the forest. The Tillamook State Forest was selected as one of 12 *Hot Spots* nationwide by the national Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics. Specifically, the Highway 6 corridor was chosen as the focus of the Hot Spot. The Leave No Trace program teaches people how to enjoy the outdoors responsibly.



A special summer display at the center helps to illustrate Leave No Trace ethics and give visitors a chance to identify what's wrong with this campsite.



Practicing Leave No Trace ethics not only reduces impacts on the environment, but also keeps the forest clean, safe and fun for the future.



The Hot Spot designation recognizes areas that have been impacted by recreation use and are in need of action to repair or mitigate the damage and that will benefit from the application of the Leave No Trace principles, training and activities.

One of the benefits of the Hot Spot designation is that we will host a week-long visit from one of the expert Subaru/Leave No Trace Traveling Trainer teams. This will occur from June 1 – June 8.

As summarized on the Leave No Trace web site, the 2015 Hot Spots will receive:

- Consultation on solutions and program implementation from the Leave No Trace Center;
- Training workshops for volunteers, employees and key members of the community;
- Locally-tailored programs to meet site-specific needs;
- Educational materials;
- Volunteer citizen monitoring programs; and
- Assistance in putting the Leave No Trace program into action.

By identifying and working with Hot Spots across the nation, we rapidly move toward recovering and protecting the places we cherish for future generations.

Contact Macy Yates, Tillamook District Recreation Specialist, for information on how to get involved: (503) 815-7065 or email macy.yates@oregon.gov.



Become a volunteer naturalist with us!

If you enjoy nature, and like working with children, the Tillamook Forest Center can use your help! Thousands of school children visit the Tillamook Forest Center each spring and fall to learn and connect with the outdoors. Volunteer naturalists are needed to assist with environmental education programs Wednesdays – Fridays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Volunteers are provided training to lead the field trip program

activities including opportunities for mentoring and shadowing of experienced staff. No specific prior experience is required, but any experience in biology, natural history or working with youth groups is helpful.

Get more information about all of our volunteer opportunities and download our volunteer application on our website at: www.tillamookforestcenter.org/about_05.html or contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Jen Warren, at (503) 815-6808.



"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart." ~ Elizabeth Andrew

Remember us with a special gift

You may not associate forest adventure with shopping, but the next time you visit the Tillamook Forest Center, stop in our gift shop before heading back on the road or hitting the trail. Choose from hundreds of distinctive items, many created by local artisans and retailers of the Pacific Northwest. Each gift tells a story of the Tillamook State Forest. Shining hand-dipped leaf ornaments remind you of the hike you took with your sweetheart in autumn; colorful handmade mugs tell a story of shared cider after the long climb to the top of Kings Mountain; board games remind you of the laughter shared around a campfire at Jones Creek campground. Memories are personal and come in different forms, so find that tangible memento that reminds you, each time you look at it, of your adventure in the Tillamook State Forest.

All proceeds from the gift shop directly support the Tillamook Forest Center's programs and facilities.



march

2015 Tillamook Forest Center Spring Program Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 CLOSED	3 CLOSED	4	5	6	7 11:30 Spring Hike
8 1:30 Spring Walk	9 CLOSED	10 CLOSED	11	12	13	14 11:30 Tillamook Tales (Forest Bright, Forest Night)
15 1:30 Creature Cabins	16 CLOSED	17 CLOSED	18	19	20	21 11:30 Forest Defense
22 1:30 Forest Defense	23 CLOSED	24 CLOSED	25 11:30 Forest Defense 1:30 Creature Cabins Spring Break	26 11:30 Nature's Yucky! 1:30 Bunny Craft	27 11:30 Bald Eagles 1:30 Bunny Craft	28 11:30 Flower Walk 1:30 Bald Eagles
29 11:30 Bald Eagles 1:30 Flower Walk	30 CLOSED	31 CLOSED				

april

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Easter 11:30 Forest Bounty 1:30 Forest Bounty	6 CLOSED	7 CLOSED	8	9	10	11 ARBOR WEEK CELEBRATION Group Registration Required
12 ARBOR WEEK CELEBRATION Group Registration Required	13 CLOSED	14 CLOSED	15	16	17	18 11:30 Insects 1:30 Owls
19 11:30 Owls 1:30 Insects	20 CLOSED	21 CLOSED	22	23	24	25 11:30 Wildflower Walk 1:30 Bird Walk
26 11:30 Bird Walk 1:30 Wildflower Walk	27 CLOSED	28 CLOSED	29	30		

may

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 1:30 Naturalist Choice	4 CLOSED	5 CLOSED	6	7	1 WILDFIRE AWARENESS MONTH	2 10:30 & 11:45 Guest Presenter John Kallas Wild Food Foraging Registration Required \$15
10 Mother's Day 1:30 Wildflower Walk	11 CLOSED	12 CLOSED	13	14	8	9 11:30 Tillamook Tales (The Singer in the Stream)
17	18 CLOSED	19 CLOSED	20	21	15	16
24 11:30 Bears 12:30 Bird Walk 1:30 Nature's Yucky!	25 Memorial Day 11:30 Bird Walk 1:30 Bears	26	27	28	22	23 11:30 Bird Walk 12:30 Nature's Yucky! 1:30 Bears
			29	30	29	30

Open 7 Days a Week Through Labor Day

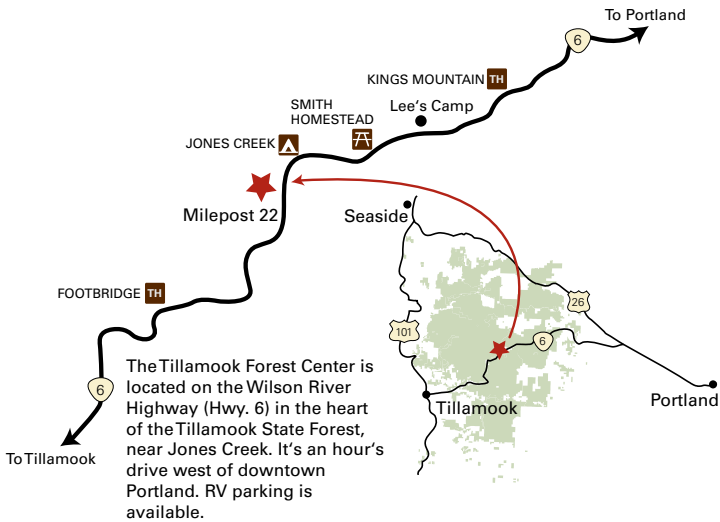
Visit www.tillamookforestcenter.org/events_05.html for details





Tillamook Forest Center

45500 Wilson River Highway
Tillamook, OR 97141



Like the spring buds...

we are currently
OPEN

Wednesday - Sunday,
10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Summer schedule begins
on Memorial Day and
runs through Labor Day.
We will be **OPEN** 7 days
a week,
10:00 am to 5:00 pm.



mark your calendar

Upcoming Programs!

Tillamook Forest Wild Food Foraging
May 2 @ 10:30 am and 11:45 am
\$15 registration required

Arbor Week Celebration
celebrate trees with us!
All day, April 11 & 12
You are guaranteed to have a tree-mendous time.
Visit our website for specific details

Shrub Walk with Dr. Ed Jensen
Sunday, June 14 @ 1:00 pm
\$15 registration required
includes a copy of
"Shrubs to Know in PNW Forests"



Learn how to forage for
wild foods May 2nd

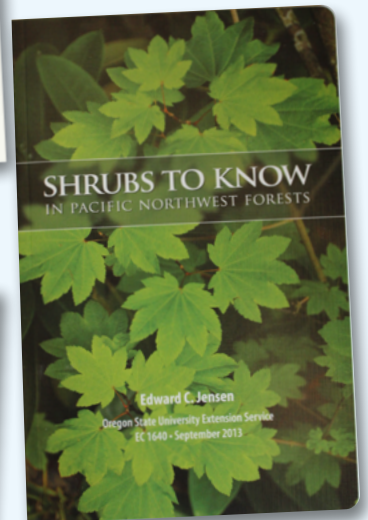


Plant a tree with us!
April 11 & 12

Be sure to...

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Don't miss an issue!

Please contact us to
update your address.