

The Lookout

News of the Tillamook Forest Center

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Find Your Fun in the Forest This Summer

Chris Friend

As summer approaches, many of us are itching to get out and enjoy the Tillamook State Forest. Whether you want to climb a mountain or just soak your feet in the Wilson River, there are plenty of fun opportunities for an adventurous forest explorer or for the entire family.

Make the Tillamook Forest Center your base for information and access to outdoor fun. It is located in the heart of the forest with many natural attractions close at hand. Visit www.tillamookforestcenter.org/visit_07.html for maps and information to help you get out in the forest and enjoy the forest, rivers and trails.

Consider the Wilson River Trail for starters, a 21 mile-long trail with the Center at its midway point. A 1.7 mile segment of that trail west of the Center will bring you to Wilson Falls, cascading gently over a tall, moss-covered canyon wall. Perhaps a longer leg-pumping mountain bike ride is what you're after. Try the section of trail east of the Center where you can ride for ten miles one-way to Elk Creek Campground.

If motorcycles or quads are your passion, the nearby Diamond Mill Staging Area now offers a kids track, an improved trials course and a host of challenging OHV trails.

For those who yearn for a Coast Range alpine adventure, hike the Kings Mountain Trail to the 3226' summit for great views and wildflower displays.

Picnicking sites are found at the Center and ½ mile east at the Smith Homestead Day-use Area or pack your picnic down to one of many small beaches and rocky outcrops along the Wilson River. Just remember to pack it in, pack it out.

Our newest campground can be found 4 ½ miles west from the Center at Keenig Creek with walk-in tent camping and access to river and trail opportunities.

If you park at the Center, please return before the gate closes at 5:00 PM. If you plan to be out later, park at the Jones Creek Day-use Area, ½ mile east.





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Tillamook Forest Center

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

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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

Memorable Visitor Experiences— *Even in Tough Economic Times*

It's clear that times are tough for everyone as we face the ongoing realities of a national and global economic downturn. Operating revenues are down throughout the State of Oregon, and the Tillamook Forest Center, too, has taken a major budget reduction for the coming year. For the Center this means fewer staff, fewer days and hours of operation and fewer programs for students and visitors. Thankfully, however, the Center will continue to be open with base funding from the Department of Forestry along with support from the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust, generous donations from visitors, and grants and support from various partner organizations.

Through these challenging economic times, even with reduced days and hours of operation, the Tillamook Forest Center will continue to offer quality experiences for all who come to visit.

From Memorial Day to Labor Day, the Center will be open Wednesday through Sunday, from 10 AM to 5 PM. Visitors will be able to enjoy our exhibits, our award-winning film, the lookout tower, the spectacular suspension bridge and the beautiful trails surrounding the Center. And, our staff and volunteers will offer a range of engaging walks and talks describing the beauty and diverse values of the Tillamook State Forest.

More than ever we appreciate you, the friends and supporters of the Tillamook Forest Center. Perhaps during the coming months you'll have opportunity to come and volunteer with us for a day, or make a donation into our new donation box, or just stop by to enjoy the Center and explore the forest.

We hope this newsletter finds you well and we wish you all the best during the months ahead.

From all of us at the Center,



This place is a must-see for Oregon visitors. It covers history and nature. Enjoyed it immensely.

—Visitor Quote



This awesome group from the Portland Chapter of the Oregon Hunter's Association volunteered their time to help clear an area and place benches for our amphitheater.

Valuing Volunteers Melyssa Graeper

Volunteers at the Tillamook Forest Center have always played a vital role in our small staff "family." Unfortunately, due to our current budget reductions, our staff family will be losing some of its members. Now, more than ever, the Center needs your help. We are open to many different types of volunteer opportunities, and are willing to work with you or a group to create the best experience for everyone. Opportunities available include, but are not limited to, RV hosting, day work parties or community service projects. Several of our volunteers work with us on a one-day-a-week basis, meeting

and greeting visitors. Whatever your interests are, the staff at the Center would love to work with you. Please call (800) 930-4646 to talk with our Volunteer Coordinator to see where you can help!

Be Our Lookout!

Chrissy Smith

Nestled in the Tillamook State Forest is **YOUR** Tillamook Forest Center. We welcome you to visit and learn about the story of this unique forest. With generous donations from our visiting public, we hope to continue to offer our services free of charge.

In honor of our past donors and future helpers, we now have a beautiful new donation box standing in our lobby. This donation box was artistically crafted by talented hands at South Fork Forest Camp, a camp managed in partnership by the Department of Corrections and Oregon Department of Forestry. A group of men from this camp worked with Mario Lara and our own Darryl Anderson to design and craft a beautiful donation box that is not only a replica of our lookout tower but a symbol of our goal — to lookout for the visitors of the Tillamook State Forest and to inspire them to lookout after us. We give our thanks to the men that devoted their creative abilities and wood crafting skills to help us design this new symbolic piece for the center. We could not have done it without the help of these talented men.



Chris Friend Photo

L to R: Jacob Henry, Christopher Lex, James Lefto, Darryl Anderson (Oregon Department of Forestry/Tillamook Forest Center), Mario Lara (Oregon Department of Forestry/South Fork Forest Camp), Michael Johnson and Jason Sauer. Mr. Lefto and Mr. Johnson were instrumental in the design and production of the donation box.

Please be our lookout the next time you visit your Tillamook Forest Center and donate what you can to help us stay open and free for years to come. Cheers to all our past and future lookouts!

Become a Center Supporter

If you'd like to join our ever-growing list of supporters, consider giving a Donor Tree. These gifts (see order form on this page) allow you to "plant 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. All donor tree gifts are acknowledged with an attractive certificate.



Many other donation opportunities are available; call us for details. As you make your charitable giving decisions, we invite you to keep the Tillamook Forest Center in mind. Please contact the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust at (503) 359-7474 for more information on various donation opportunities.

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 _____

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.

For more information on making a gift, contact the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust at (503) 359-7474.



CARING FOR THE FOREST

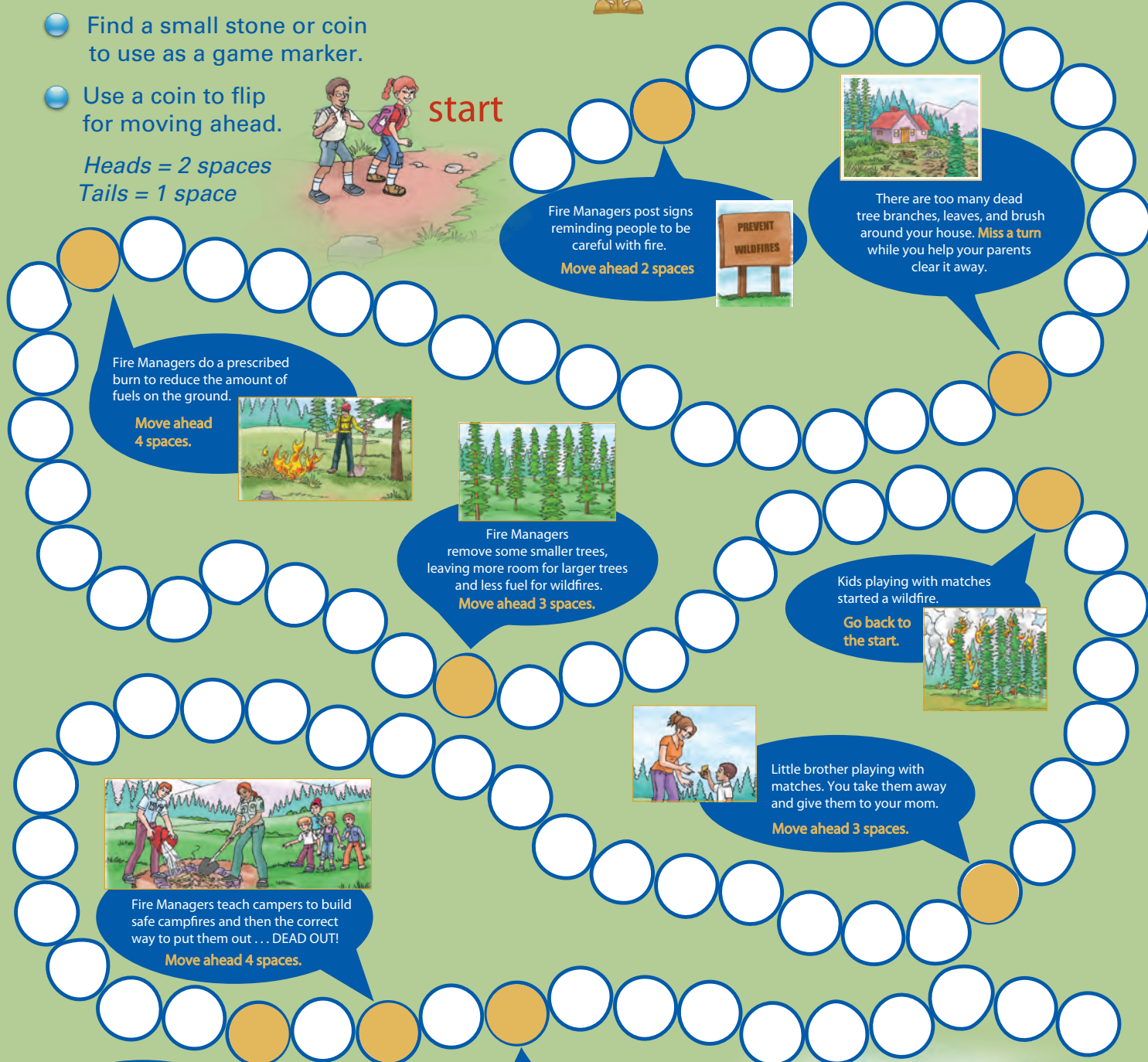


Play this game to find out how a forest manager takes care of the forest.

To Play:

- Find a small stone or coin to use as a game marker.
- Use a coin to flip for moving ahead.

Heads = 2 spaces
Tails = 1 space



Fire Managers do a prescribed burn to reduce the amount of fuels on the ground.

Move ahead 4 spaces.



Fire Managers post signs reminding people to be careful with fire.

Move ahead 2 spaces



There are too many dead tree branches, leaves, and brush around your house. Miss a turn while you help your parents clear it away.

Fire Managers remove some smaller trees, leaving more room for larger trees and less fuel for wildfires.

Move ahead 3 spaces.



Kids playing with matches started a wildfire.

Go back to the start.



Little brother playing with matches. You take them away and give them to your mom.

Move ahead 3 spaces.



Fire Managers teach campers to build safe campfires and then the correct way to put them out . . . DEAD OUT!

Move ahead 4 spaces.



Use of gas-powered equipment and off-highway vehicles is restricted due to wildfire danger.

Move ahead 2 spaces.



A smoker throws a burning cigarette out of a car window. Two hours later a wildfire starts.

Go back 3 spaces.



Finish!



KEEP OREGON GREEN ASSOCIATION
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Learn more about the Keep Oregon Green Ranger Program at www.keeppregongreen.org

Reprinted courtesy of Keep Oregon Green

June

Look for river otters in the Wilson River

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |



Strawberry Moon

Fire Tower Event
Summer Solstice:
 The 1st day of Summer.
 The sun is the farthest north

Stellar's Jays fledging



White-crowned sparrow

July

Enjoy wildflowers on Kings Mt.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |



Gentian at summit



Thunder Moon

Independence Day

August

Share your favorite swimming hole with summer steelhead

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

Admiral butterfly



Red Moon



NORTHWEST TRAIL ALLIANCE

Northwest Trail Alliance (formerly PUMP) Event

Perseid Meteor Shower

Return From the Burn

Return From the Burn

For more information about our special events go to www.tillamookforestcenter.org/events_05.html



Don't Plant 'em Fast, Plant 'em to Last

Kris Babbs



This was the advice given by ODF foresters sixty years ago as school children and other youth groups tumbled off the busses to plant trees in the Tillamook Burn.

We revived the citizen tree planting tradition by hosting a special event at the Tillamook Forest Center on April 4th and 5th. Seven hundred people gathered to celebrate the Great Oregon Tree Plant (an Oregon Department of Forestry- sponsored statewide tree planting event), Oregon Arbor Week, and the Center's third anniversary. Families,

Tree planters received a certificate (a replica of the original handed out in the 1950s and 1960s) and a tree token

scouting groups and ODF staff gathered under sunny skies to plant 1,000 seedlings in the Tillamook State Forest. Visitors enjoyed the scenery, music, and BBQ and were entertained by special exhibits, professional tree climbers and an occasional appearance by Smokey Bear. We want to thank all who participated in making this a fun, memorable and successful event.



Oregon Department of Forestry's Ian Yau and a young tree planter



Jeff Gerhardt displays his tree climbing agility and pruning ability

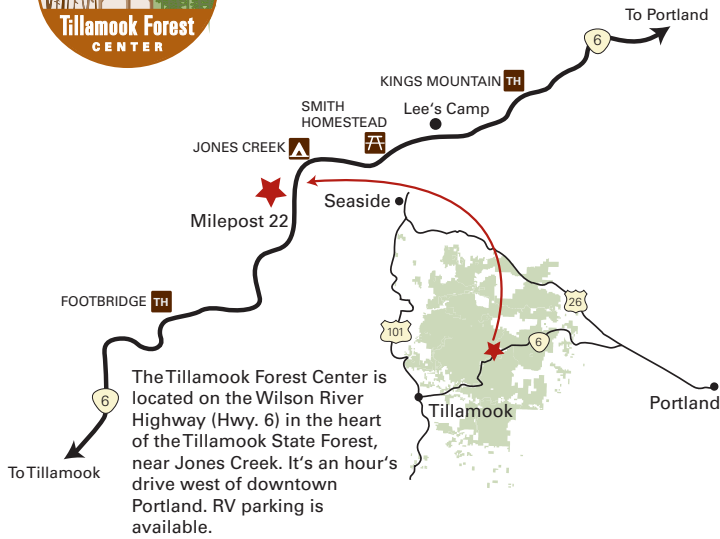


Mike Bruno provides hands-on tree climbing demonstrations for youth





Tillamook Forest Center



Tour de Tillamook:

A Weekend of Family Friendly Mountain Biking and Education! July 31 – August 2

Presented by the Northwest Trail Alliance [formerly Portland United Mountain Pedalers]

The weekend will feature a children’s mountain bike skills area and instructional sessions on basic bike safety, starting and stopping, maneuvering, and balancing on a bike. Additional activities include: mountain bike rides led by Northwest Trail Alliance members for all abilities (family friendly to longer distance day trips), mountain bike movies, camping at the Jones Creek Campground, basic bike maintenance presentation, and presentations on how to get involved with the Northwest Trail Alliance in the Tillamook State Forest and other areas close to Portland.

The goal of this event is to showcase Tillamook State Forest trail facilities, expose children and adults to mountain biking, and provide educational and fun activities that positively promote the Northwest Trail Alliance and mountain biking.

For more information, visit the Northwest Trail Alliance website at www.pumpclub.org/node/712.

45500 Wilson River Highway
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(866) 930-4646



NORTHWEST TRAIL ALLIANCE

Mark Your Calendar (see page 5 for complete program calendar)

Important DATES!

Fire Lookout Tower Weekend Event

Join us June 20th & 21st for a special weekend focusing on fire lookout towers and the lives of the men and women who staffed them. The event will feature Howard Verschoor of the Forest Fire Lookout Association and his traveling Red Mountain Lookout Cabin, along with the Tillamook Forest Center’s 40’ tall lookout replica.



Return From the Burn

Join us
we
Till



Save the Date!
Return from the Burn
August 22nd & 23rd

