

The Lookout

News of the Tillamook Forest Center

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Salmon are Hatching at the TFC

Jim Reeher & Melyssa Graeper

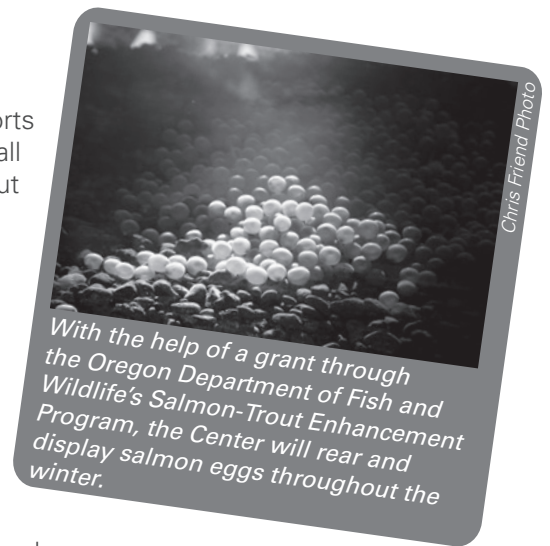
In 1886 Walter and Alice Smith staked the first homestead claim along the upper Wilson River. The river was a natural play area for their four children. They swam, played and captured all sorts of critters like water dogs, mud cats, frogs, small eels, water bugs, clams, young salmon and trout for their "aquarium" of jars, pans and buckets.

Spawning salmon held a special fascination for the children. Each fall hundreds of pairs would be seen digging redds in the gravel of the main river and even the smaller streams where the water flow and gravel deposits were suitable.

One fall two of the children, Sam and Toby, decided to play "Mother Nature" by trying their hand at hatching some salmon. They built a hatching trough with hand split cedar boards and submerged it in a small creek where it was safe from the winter storms.

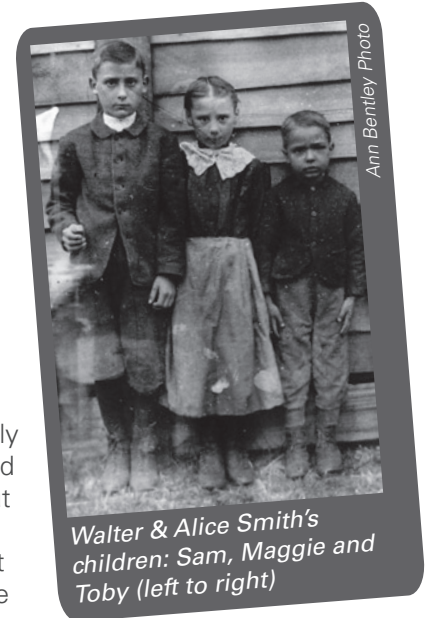
After partially filling the trough with suitable gravel they went looking for a pair of volunteer coho. Once found, the eggs were stripped from the female and placed in the trough's gravel bed. Then the eggs were fertilized by adding the males "milt." The eggs were covered with a light layer of gravel and left for the wonder of nature to progress. The boys visited the trough throughout the winter to make sure the water was flowing over it. From time to time their patience would wear thin and their curiosity would require they find out what was happening under the gravel. Carefully they would remove some of the gravel. First they found a pair of black eyes in each egg. Later the fish were out of the egg with the yolk sack attached. As the winter progressed the yolk sack became smaller. On their last visit hundreds of small fish were swimming around the trough. Sam and Toby's experiment was a success!

Visit the Tillamook Forest Center during the winter months to relive Sam and Toby's experiment, providing a glimpse into what is happening in the streams and rivers throughout the forest.



Chris Friend Photo

With the help of a grant through the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Salmon-Trout Enhancement Program, the Center will rear and display salmon eggs throughout the winter.



Ann Bentley Photo

Walter & Alice Smith's children: Sam, Maggie and Toby (left to right)



Winter 2009 Issue
Volume 3, Number 1

Tillamook Forest Center

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

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Executive Director, Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust

Doug Decker

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

Thoughts from the Director

Celebrating the Richness and Diversity of the Forest

Looking out my window at the Tillamook Forest Center, I'm reminded of the richness, diversity and beauty of our State Forests. And, as I reflect on the many days our staff enjoys viewing elk, eagles and spawning salmon, I affirm once again how fortunate we are to have these wonderful forested landscapes as part of our life and experience.

As Oregonians, we value our forests for the wide range of benefits they offer us. We recognize the important environmental values they provide us, including diverse habitat for wildlife, fresh flowing streams for our wild salmon runs and abundant water for our communities. We clearly treasure our recreational opportunities, historic sites and scenic areas as part of our forest fabric. And, we deeply appreciate the economic values provided by our forests in the form of jobs in the timber industry, lumber for our mills, wood products for our society and revenues for our counties. Altogether, these rich forest resources have nurtured our families and communities for generations.

Our Tillamook Forest Center is a place in which we celebrate our Tillamook State Forest and all of our forests in Oregon. I hope that during this winter season you will have the opportunity to make a trip to the Center. Your visit to the Forest and the Center can be an easy get-away, a day of fun and learning and an opportunity to celebrate the richness and diversity of the forest.

Jim Quiring



As part of a trip to the Center, visitors find opportunities to enjoy the Tillamook State Forest while also learning about the wide range of benefits the Forest provides.

Governor's State Employee Food Drive 2009

Gail Barnhart

The Oregon Food Bank distributes food to more than 919 hunger-relief agencies in Oregon and Clark County, Washington. These agencies distribute food in the form of meals or emergency food boxes.

Each February State of Oregon employees hold a month long food drive. Last year, the food drive was an outstanding success. Your help can make 2009 even more successful. We will have barrels available here at the Center to accept generous donations of non-perishable food items or money for the food bank.

Hunger has become an epidemic in our nation affecting friends, neighbors, and family members. Please consider donating, and help us stop hunger in Oregon.



Watch the Winter Weather or Enjoy a Center Program

Chris Friend

Winter transforms the forest with a stark beauty that few people experience. Once the vivid red and yellow autumn leaves float to earth the hillsides of conifers still reflect an emerald scene. The white trunks of alder stand out against the background of green firs and moss.

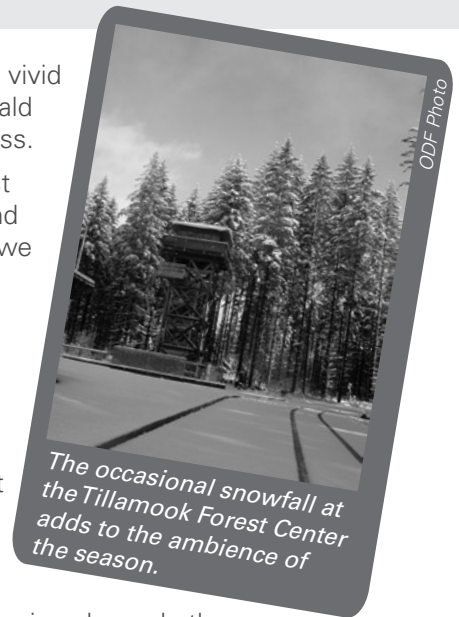
Many thanks to Christine Phillips for her generous donation to help light up the tower in honor of her husband Douglas R. Phillips.

It is a time when nature and people slow down. The Tillamook Forest Center offers an inviting refuge from which to view the season. Find the comfy glow of a fireplace and sip a warm drink with us as we celebrate the winter holidays that bring our friends and family together.

Join us on December 6th as we offer our final holiday wreath-making workshop. All supplies are provided so you can craft a decorative wreath of your own design using a variety of forest materials. Sign-up early as registration is required. In addition,

on December 6th you can help us celebrate the season with a special event we call *Light of the Forest*, which features a holiday lighting of our lookout tower.

With sustainability as one of our leading values here at the Center, we offer a special sustainable gift wrapping workshop on December 13th and 14th. Bring your own gifts to wrap or shop our gift store for a wonderful selection of forest-themed books, clothing, jewelry and other cool items. Please visit www.tillamookforestcenter.org for more program details.



Holiday Greetings from the Trust

Doug Decker



A special thanks to all the donors to the Trust who continue to support the Tillamook Forest Center, particularly recent major donors Epson Portland Inc.,

Miller-Hull Architects (*they designed our building!*), and the N.B. Giustina Foundation.

We're preparing to offer the second annual James E. Brown Forest Education Grant. This grant is designed to help teachers or youth leaders plan, develop or conduct forest learning activities associated with the Tillamook State Forest. The scholarship honors former State Forester James E. "Jim" Brown, who has been a strong advocate for the role of education and interpretation in helping the public—particularly school children—understand and appreciate the wonder and importance of Oregon's forests. More information—and grant application forms—on the Tillamook Forest Center website: www.tillamookforestcenter.org.

A reminder that Donor Trees make a great holiday gift item, and a nice year-end charitable deduction: We'll send you or your intended recipient an attractive certificate recognizing the gift. Then, after the holidays, you can come up to the Center and see your tree.

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 _____

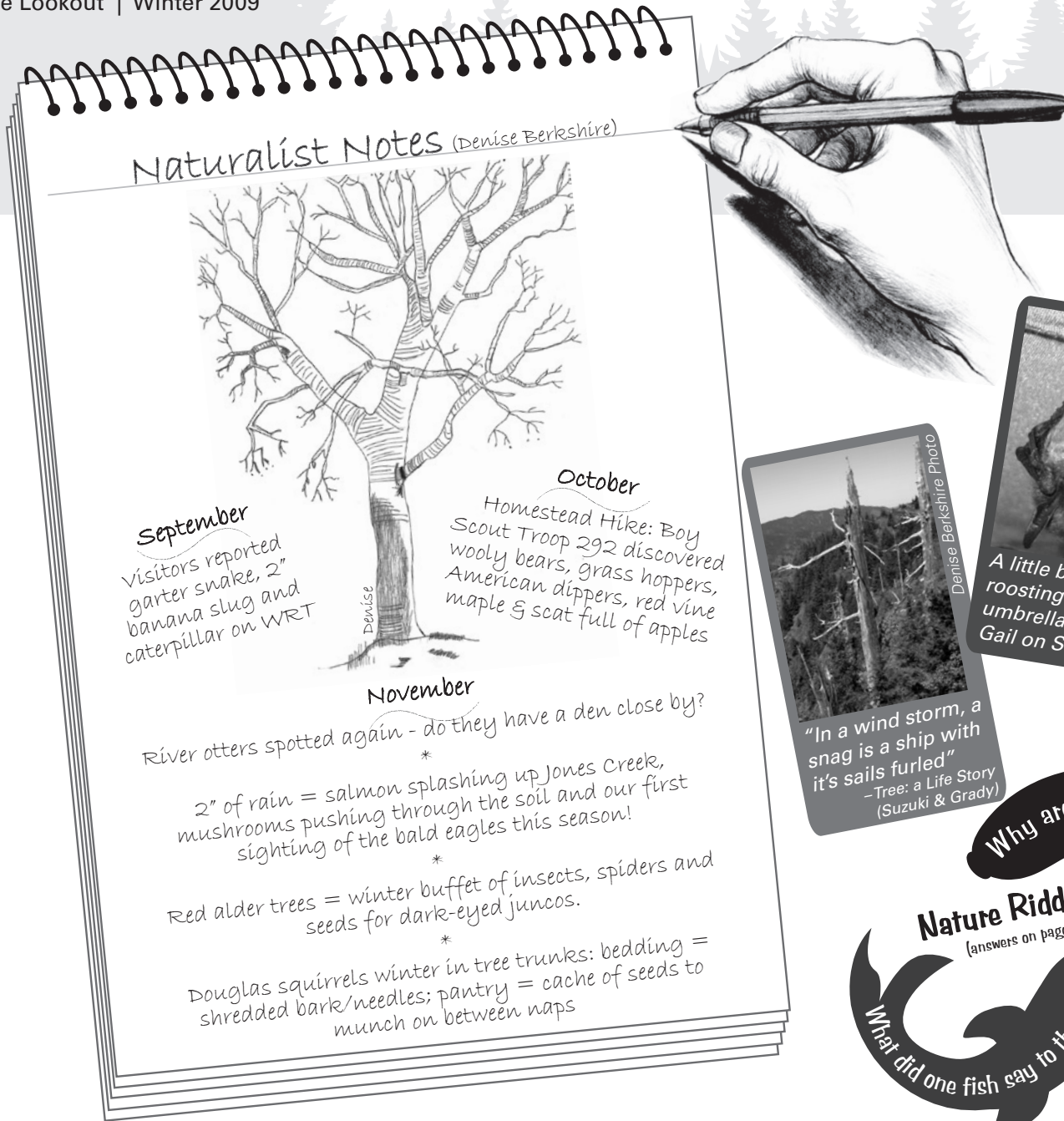
Address _____

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.



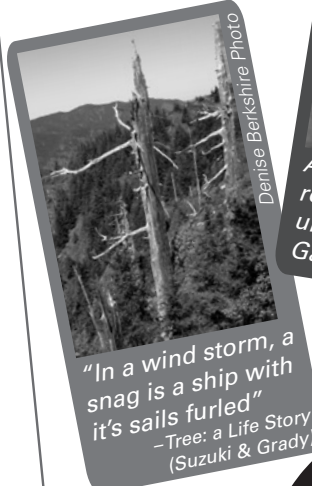


Naturalist Notes (Denise Berkshire)

September
 Visitors reported garter snake, 2" banana slug and caterpillar on WRT

October
 Homestead Hike: Boy Scout Troop 292 discovered woolly bears, grass hoppers, American dippers, red vine maple & scat full of apples

November
 River otters spotted again - do they have a den close by?
 *
 2" of rain = salmon splashing up Jones Creek, mushrooms pushing through the soil and our first sighting of the bald eagles this season!
 *
 Red alder trees = winter buffet of insects, spiders and seeds for dark-eyed juncos.
 *
 Douglas squirrels winter in tree trunks: bedding = shredded bark/needles; pantry = cache of seeds to munch on between naps



"In a wind storm, a snag is a ship with it's sails furled"
 -Tree: a Life Story (Suzuki & Grady)



A little brown bat roosting in a deck umbrella surprised Gail on September 7th.



Tillamook Watershed Puzzle

Find the answers to the clues below in the word-search to the right.
 (Solution on page 7)

The seven major rivers of the Tillamook:

- Another name for Hwy 6: _____ River Highway
- A city in Florida: _____ River
- "Land of Many Waters": _____ River
- Once a toll road: _____ River
- Sometimes this stream is called: "Big" _____ River
- Chief of the Indians of the Tillamook Bay Region: _____ River
- "The place where people live": _____ River

The four components which make up a watershed:

- A long, narrow elevation of land; a chain of hills or mountains: _____
- Ground that has a natural incline, as the side of a hill: _____
- A natural, hollow place containing water: _____
- An area where water meets is called a: collection _____

N I B T Q D I C L K I E K Z B
 B M Y V B P R R N I O M S C V
 E K D E Z T Z Z Q L T J A Y R
 T I L L A M O O K C D C R I L
 N O R Y Y I U Q Y H B L T I M
 Y E Z J C P N O G I R I D P T
 B K S M B E H O V S C H I O A
 P P L T H M W Y Z B F W T M K
 R H I A U S L O P E A T G E E
 X G L F F C H T O U E S G L N
 F E C O Y A C R I T Q D I C B
 M A X L T E F A N O I S L N Y
 Z B A P Y N Z D T R M N H M S
 N O S L I W I M I I O A G F W
 G D T W T Q W I K X O R F A U

Upcoming Programs

Join our staff this winter for family-friendly programs at the Tillamook Forest Center and in the Tillamook State Forest. We are offering a selection of **Programs, Guided Hikes, and Special Events.**

Forest Guided Hikes

Come hike the trails of the Tillamook State Forest! Our guided hikes are offered one Saturday each in January and February. **Registration is required.** The registration deadline is Friday at noon the day before the hike. Our hikes require a **minimum of eight total participants** so hikers will be notified on Friday afternoon if attendance has been met. For detailed information and to register, please call (866) 930-4646 or visit www.tillamookforestcenter.org. Wear sturdy hiking shoes, dress in layers, bring water and a lunch or snack. Optional equipment: rain gear, binoculars, camera, field guides. Families with **children over eight years of age** are always welcome!



The suspension bridge takes on a new look covered in snow.

ODF Photo

Check our website at www.tillamookforestcenter.org or call (866) 930-4646 for all the details. In the event that we have to cancel a program, we will post the notice on our website.

December 2008

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| 1 st | Kalapuya Exhibit <i>(through January)</i> | ALL DAY |
| 6 th | Holiday Wreath Making Registration & small fee required by 12/3/08 | 11:30 AM |
| 6 th | Lookout Tower Light Up | 3:30 PM |
| 7 th | Country- Folk Music Jam | 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM |
| 13 th & 14 th | Forest Holiday Gifts & Sustainable Wrapping | 11:30 AM – 3:30 PM |



Immerse yourself in a temperate rainforest on a guided hike.

Jim Quiring Photo

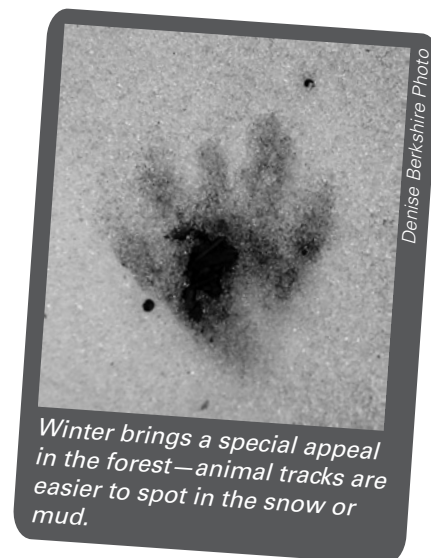
January 2009

| | | |
|------------------|---|--------------------|
| 3 rd | TFC Winter Walk* | 11:30 AM & 1:30 PM |
| 4 th | Country- Folk Music Jam | 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM |
| 17 th | Temperate Rain Forest Guided Hike* Registration required by noon, 1/16/09 | 11:30 AM |

February 2009

| | | |
|------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1 st | Country – Folk Music Jam | 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM |
| 14 th | TFC Bald Eagle Walk* | 11:30 AM & 1:30 PM |
| 28 th | Early Signs of Spring Guided Hike* Registration required by noon, 2/27/09 | 11:30 AM |

***Please note:** TFC Program Walks (e.g. TFC Winter Walk) are short walks near the Tillamook Forest Center that do not require registration. Forest Guided Hikes are longer, more strenuous hikes that take place on trails throughout the Tillamook State Forest.



Winter brings a special appeal in the forest—animal tracks are easier to spot in the snow or mud.

Denise Berkshire Photo



Where Does the Money Go?

Kate Skinner, Assistant District Forester, ODF Tillamook District

State Forest management offers a variety of benefits. One of the economic benefits is revenue generated from state forest activities like timber sales, wood cutting permits or campground fees. These monies help fund county governments, schools, and even recreation districts.

There are two-types of state forests managed by the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF); Board of Forestry lands and Common School lands.

The Common School Lands were granted to Oregon by the federal government at statehood. After the cost of management, timber sale revenue becomes part of the Common School fund which supports education programs throughout the state. Over the last five years, ODF management of Common School lands has generated an average of \$8.2 million per year.

Board of Forestry (BOF) lands were deeded to the state by the counties after private owners abandoned them. Two thirds of the revenue generated from BOF lands goes to the county where the trees were harvested or activities occurred. Counties distribute the money to their general funds and to local taxing districts. Those dollars support schools and teachers as well as roads, deputies, and jobs. The five year average revenue to Oregon counties is \$52.6 million dollars per year.

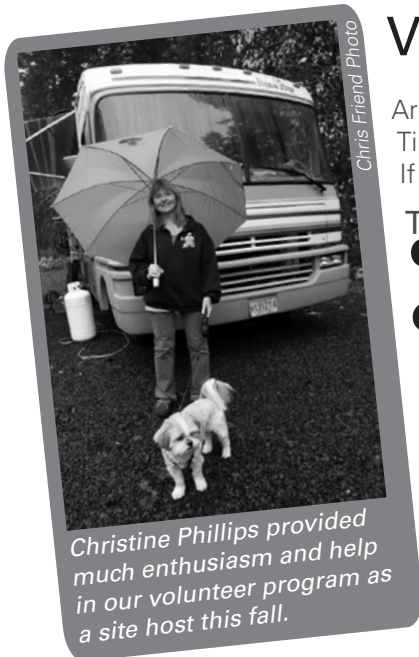
One third of each dollar goes back to ODF for future management of the lands. This means no state General Funds are used for the management of your state forests.



In 2007 Revenues to Tillamook County amounted to approximately \$15 million.



Some of the revenue generated on State Forest lands helps to fund school services.



Christine Phillips provided much enthusiasm and help in our volunteer program as a site host this fall.

Volunteer Opportunities

Are you looking for a rewarding way to share your love of forests? Did you contribute to the Tillamook Burn in any way? Are you a retired forester? Do you have a special skill or interest? If so, have you considered volunteering at the Tillamook Forest Center?

There are two types of volunteer opportunities:

- ① A **Day Volunteer** works a flexible schedule and may use Center transportation from the Forest Grove or Tillamook areas.
- ② An **On-Site Host Volunteer** lives in their own RV at a full-hookup facility on the Center grounds. Space is available now.

Volunteer Positions

A few of the exciting opportunities at the TFC include:

- Leading school groups through our state-of-the-art exhibits and trails
- Giving nature presentations about salmon, homesteading, forestry and more
- Helping answer questions about the local area, forests and history at our gift shop/ reception desk
- Maintaining the beautiful building and native landscaping
- Serving as a local historian including capturing, cataloging and archiving historic materials

If you are interested in joining our team, please contact us for a Tillamook Forest Center volunteer application. Call (866) 930-4646 or stop in and see us at the Center.

Winter Weekend Adventure Ideas!

Kris Babbs & Melyssa Graeper

Take advantage of this winter's rain, best prices, and empty highways and hit these suggested locations along highways 6, 101 and 26, a loop within 2 hours of Portland! Start by taking Highway 26 west to the Wilson River Highway (Hwy 6) toward Tillamook. (See map on back page)

Highway 6 Attractions










Breakfast at Colemans' Shady Rest (Hwy 6, MP 42)

Foodies will appreciate their *incredible* breakfast and vegetarian options. The mural on the wall will prepare you for your next stop, the Tillamook State Forest.

Lunch Options

-  Alice's Country House Restaurant (Hwy. 6, MP 9)
-  Fisherman's Korner for People's Choice all-you-can-eat fish and chips (Garibaldi)
-  Pirate's Cove for a great bay view and clam chowder (Garibaldi)

Other Attractions

-  Tillamook Bay Boathouse for fresh, local fish (Garibaldi)
-  Barview jetty for storm watching! (Barview)
-  Neakahnie Mountain trailhead (Neakahnie)
-  Elk viewing at Jewell Meadows Wildlife Area (Jewell, off Hwy 26)
-  Camp 18 (Hwy 26)
-  Four County Point trailhead (Hwy 26)
-  Nehalem Bay Winery (Hwy. 53)
-  Feed fish and view spawning at ODFW's North Nehalem Fish Hatchery (Hwy 53)
-  Soapstone Lake trailhead (Hwy 53)

Overnight Options

-  Twin Rocks Motel (Rockaway)
-  Nehalem Bay State Park yurts (Nehalem)

Highway 6 Waterfalls

Two waterfalls are accessible right off the highway: Fern Rock Falls (between MP 29 and 30 and Bridge Creek Falls (between MP 19 and 20)

Tillamook Forest Center (MP 22)

Follow the Wilson River Trail 1.7 miles to Wilson Falls. Salmon are migrating, eagles are perching, river otters are playing and elk abound. Check the website for family programs.

Highway 101 North Attractions

Blue Heron Cheese Factory

Sample local Oregon berry preserves, dips, and excellent cheeses. Enjoy the county's award-winning clam chowder. Kids can pet and feed the farm animals.

Tillamook Cheese Visitors Center

Dessert and restroom stop! 37 flavors of ice cream and squeaky cheese!

Nehalem Bay State Park

Here, you will find paved bike trails, hiking and horse trails, beach access, a playground and overnight options. There are family nature programs on the weekends.

Whale Watching

Volunteers are ready (Dec 26 - Jan 1) to assist with binoculars and whale information at Highway 101 overlook (MP 40.5).

Oswald West State Park

Check out a coastal old growth forest.

Hug Point

Clean flush toilets! Check out the tidal caves, a waterfall hike and a visible old roadbed that once forced travelers to hug the rock to get around the point at low tide. (MP 33.7)

Cannon Beach

Ecola State Park (see the trees on stilts!), tidepools and many options for food and an overnight stay or head home via Hwy. 26.



Take advantage of one of Oregon's beautiful, if mythic, winter weather days and enjoy the quiet highways, parks and views along Highway 101. You may be surprised at who else enjoys these quiet places!

Solution to Nature Riddles & Word Find

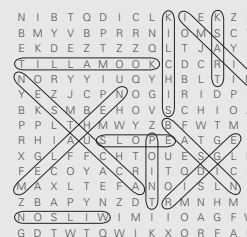
Because they live in schools!
If you keep your mouth closed you will not get caught!

Tillamook Rivers

- Wilson
- Tillamook
- Nestucca
- Nehalem

Watershed Components

- Ridge
- Basin
- Slope
- Point



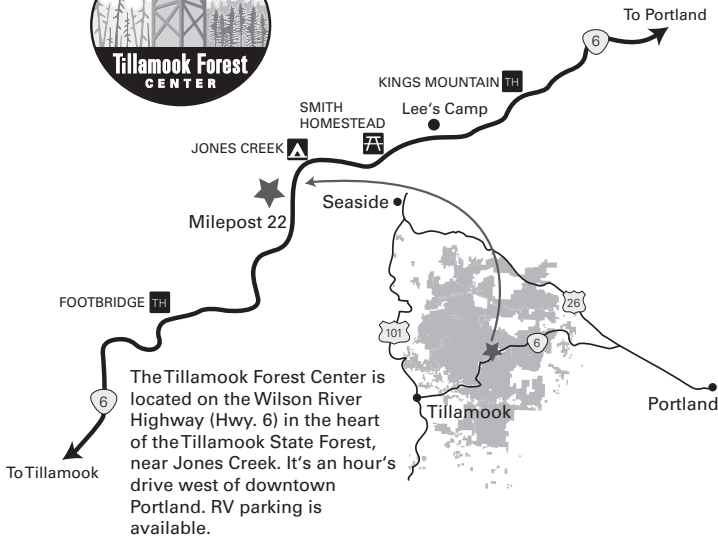
We all live in a watershed! Please remember to:

- Pick up all fishing supplies when departing. Items such as fishing line and litter can be deadly to wildlife.
- When riding off highway vehicles, use designated trails and bridges to reduce erosion in waterways.
- Burn only paper and wood. We breathe what we burn! What goes up in smoke returns in the rain.





Tillamook Forest Center
 45500 Wilson River Highway
 Tillamook, OR 97141



Winter hours:
 Wed - Sun
 10 AM - 4 PM

www.tillamookforestcenter.org
 (866) 930-4646

Don't miss an issue!
 Please contact us to update your address.

Printed on recycled paper
 Please share your copy with others!

Mark Your Calendar (see inside for complete program calendar)

Important DATES!

Forest Holiday Gifts & Sustainable Wrapping
 December 13th & 14th, 11:30—3:30

Visit our gift shop for unique forest-related books, clothing, jewelry and other great gift ideas. Then join us for creative ideas on how to sustainably wrap your presents. Tools and materials will be provided to create attractive alternative wrapping that even kids can make!

Temperate Rainforest Guided Hike
 January 17th, 11:30
 Registration required by noon 1/16/09

Early Signs of Spring Guided Hike
 February 28th, 11:30
 Registration required by noon 2/27/09

You can always tell what kind of weather we are having by viewing our webcam on the website. Image is from the fire lookout tower.

To save paper and costs, consider receiving this newsletter by email in the future. Contact us at tfcnewsletter@odf.state.or.us to sign up.