

The Lookout

News of the Tillamook Forest Center

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You Can Help

Lisa Gibson

Many of us who treasure the beauty and tranquility of the forest search for that special campsite, trail, or picnic site that inspires or renews our spirit. We treasure those spots where nature is predominant and nearby visitors are quiet and respectful. The Tillamook State Forest is one of those natural refuges. Because it is so close to a major metropolitan area, new visitors discover it every day.

Those that do find a wide variety of activities available in the forest including mountain biking, hiking, camping, off-highway vehicle riding, fishing and watching wildlife. While we find that most visitors are respectful of the forest, some leave behind unpleasant tell-tale signs of their presence.

Imagine arriving at your special place to find a pile of garbage, trampled vegetation, a toilet paper garden or some of the following:

- Litter and dumping (including large items, such as washing machines and tires)
- Tree damage from nails, spikes, target shooting, and hatchets or saws
- Unattended fires or fires burning at times or areas that are not allowed
- Damaged vegetation and streams caused by vehicles traveling off-road or off-trail
- Paper signs in places other than designated forest message boards
- Vandalism to trails and recreation facilities (e.g. carved, painted, or damaged signs)
- Unapproved trails that create erosion and other problems
- Pet and human waste

If you care about the forest like we do, please help prevent behaviors that cause the damage listed above. How can you help? Here are some great ways:

1. Read posted rules and signs to be aware of the current regulations in the area where you are recreating. Alert others with you to also follow the rules.
2. Be a good neighbor. Clean up after yourself and your pets and don't disturb others.
3. If you observe prohibited activities in the forest, help law enforcement by writing down license plate numbers, date, time and a description of what you observed. Provide this information promptly to forest deputies, Oregon Department of Forestry staff or camp hosts.
4. Get involved! Visit www.oregon.gov/odf/tillamookstateforest/pages/volunteerhome.aspx to learn about volunteer clean-up events in the Tillamook State Forest.

Thank you for helping take care of the Tillamook State Forest by leaving no trace of your recreation activities! Your efforts make the forest cleaner and safer for everyone.



Which of these sites would you prefer?





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Tillamook Forest Center

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

(503) 815-6800
(866) 930-4646

tfc.newsletter@oregon.gov
www.tillamookforestcenter.org

Staff

Director

Fran McReynolds

Programming Coordinator

Chris Friend

Programming Specialists

Denise Berkshire
Lisa Gibson
Brian Moore

Intern

Shawn Bray
Bonnie Gisler

Visitor Services Coordinator

Jen Warren

Visitor Services Assistant

Camie Westfall

Facilities Coordinator

Darryl Anderson

Facilities Assistant

Nick Stanger

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

Notes from the Director

Fran McReynolds

A snapshot of a retiring Friend

The next time you drive through the Tillamook State Forest on the Wilson River Highway (Hwy. 6), you might stop and appreciate the view at the Gales Creek overlook. Although you might not have paid attention to the interpretive panels or the design of this site, the Gales Creek Overlook and other waysides are among the many legacies that Chris Friend, Tillamook Forest Center Program Coordinator and Assistant Director, created during his nearly 20-year tenure with the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF).

Chris was the first interpretive program coordinator hired by ODF. In 1995, he left his job with the US Forest Service in southern Oregon and began working for Doug Decker (now Oregon's State Forester) to begin implementing the ODF interpretive plan. Chris, along with a team of other ODF employees, architects and designers, saw these efforts come to fruition after over 10 years. The result is our award-winning Tillamook Forest Center (TFC), made vibrant by rich, interactive displays and a robust interpretive and educational program.

In addition to his work on the TFC infrastructure and program, many other projects have kept Chris busy. Chris oversaw the design, fabrication, and installation of most of the interpretive signs for the Northwest Oregon Area of ODF, several waysides and forest entry signs, and started the TFC low-power radio broadcasts (available along Hwy. 6). Chris also coordinated the development of trail guides, recreation guides, and a detailed large-scale map guide for the Tillamook State Forest. Perhaps he is most widely known for his photographs of the forest and its inhabitants along with striking images of ODF fire crews.

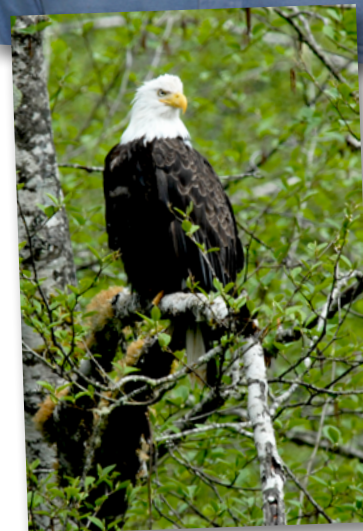


Danger! Entering active fire zone

and recreation information. He spends many of his off hours out in the forest and his reservoir of knowledge about Tillamook Forest history is extensive.

Chris is proud of being part of the TFC from the beginning. He notes that over the years he has been able to work on a wide variety of projects. He says his time here at the TFC has been "fun, challenging, and cool."

And now, Chris has decided it's time to move on; as of July 1, he will officially retire from ODF. He has several ideas for where his next adventures will take him. We wish him the best!



It's always a thrill to find wildlife to photograph just outside the back door of the center.

A volunteer's walkabout

Shawn Bray & Jim Reeher

From blossoming flowers adding splashes of color to the landscape to the songs of newly arrived migratory birds, the Tillamook State Forest has become a veritable feast for the senses. In light of the ever-changing forest, long-time Wilson River resident and Tillamook Forest Center volunteer Jim Reeher began providing us with weekly walkabout reports to share with visitors and staff. The excerpts from Jim's report included on this page highlight changes and other interesting notes on the local flora and fauna.

The goal of these walkabouts is to develop a record of local phenology. Right now you might be asking yourself, "what the heck does phenology mean?" Essentially, it's the study of seasonal changes in plant and animal patterns. This information will allow us to better predict the timing of plant and animal activity in the Tillamook State Forest; this information will ultimately help us develop interpretive and education programs and better serve our visitors.

If projects like this sound interesting to you, please consider becoming a center volunteer. You can start by filling out a volunteer application at: www.tillamookforestcenter.org/resources/VolunteerApplication.pdf

March 28th

"The white fawn lilies or dogtooth violets in the [parking lot] island are just beginning to bloom. These white lilies are common in the [Willamette] valley but not native here. The local fawn lilies are pink and found usually along the waterways. The fawn lilies at the top of King Mountain are a golden yellow."



Pink fawn lilies along the trail in spring

April 11th

"...side of the [steam donkey] deck toward the lookout tower is a burned stump with small bushes growing out of the top. This nurse stump is western redcedar and the plants are red huckleberry. The huckleberries probably grew from seeds deposited in bird droppings."



A male common merganser (USFWS photo)

April 18th

"The white bodied ducks that can be seen in the river from time to time are [common] mergansers or fish ducks. Their main food item is small salmon or steelhead. Years ago, they were not common, the result of fishermen thinning their ranks" (to reduce competition for the fish)

May 2nd

"The chittam [cascara tree] produces an abundance of wildlife food on a consistent basis... the coyotes take advantage of the dropped berries."



Cascara berries

A rare breed

Matt Gostin

The new owl in the Forests of Today and Tomorrow exhibit at the Tillamook Forest Center is a relatively unique and thought-provoking critter. The owl was the victim of an apparent vehicle strike on Hwy 6. ODF biologists discovered and collected the specimen roadside and obtained proper permission for the Tillamook Forest Center to put it on display. The taxidermy work was donated by Christensen Taxidermy of Tillamook. Initially, there was some mystery and confusion regarding the species identification of this owl specimen due to the lack of distinctive and diagnostic plumage characteristics. Biologists at ODF and other agencies have since concluded this is a hybrid spotted owl/barred owl, also known as a "sparred" owl. One preeminent owl biologist stated his belief that it may be a sparred owl that has back-crossed with a barred owl. Only genetic testing can solve this mystery.



Juvenile spotted owl being banded by the author on the Elliott State Forest



Hybrid or "Sparred" owl on the Astoria District

Barred owls are originally native to eastern North America. Their range has expanded across Canada and down the West Coast, and there is uncertainty as to whether this was a natural or human-caused range expansion or some combination of the two. Barred owls are slightly larger than spotted owls and eat a more diverse prey base than the somewhat selective spotted owl. The barred owl population has steadily increased on the West Coast. Individual barred owls are known to aggressively confront and displace spotted owls and the two species will occasionally interbreed.



Barred owl in Portland (note light belly with barring)

The result of one such rare event is the "sparred" owl on display at the Tillamook Forest Center. Pressure from barred owl competition for nesting, roosting and foraging habitat is thought to be a major factor, and perhaps now primary factor, in the continuing decline of the spotted owl.

For more information on Oregon's owls please visit the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's page at: www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living_with/docs/Whooo_Am_I_Owls_Bro.pdf





Spotted owl on the Elliott State Forest (courtesy of Tom Baxter)

Matt Gostin is a biologist with the State Forests program. He oversees the wildlife survey program with a focus on spotted owls marbled murrelets.



2015 Tillamook Forest Center Summer Program Calendar

june

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 11:30 Bird Walk 1:30 Creature Cabins	8	9	10 <i>Pollinator Week</i>		12	13 11:30 Tillamook Tales (Butterflies)
14 1:00 Shrubs to Know Workshop \$15 registration required includes book	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 11:30 Fish Release 12:30 Creature Cabins 1:30 Bird Walk 2:30 Bats	27 11:30 Fish Release 12:30 Tree Walk 1:30 Creature Cabins 2:30 Bird Walk
28 11:30 Fish Release 12:30 Bats 1:30 Tree Walk 2:30 Creature Cabins	29	30				

july

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
		Monday - Thursday Naturalist Choice Programs at 11:30 and 1:30			11:30 Woodpeckers 12:30 Plant Walk 1:30 Bald Eagle 2:30 Bats	11:30 Bats 12:30 Woodpecker 1:30 Plant Walk 2:30 Bald Eagle
5 11:30 Bald Eagle 12:30 Bats 1:30 Woodpecker 2:30 Plant Walk	6	7	8 Monday - Thursday Naturalist Choice Programs at 11:30 and 1:30	9	10 11:30 Tree Walk 12:30 Owls 1:30 Insects 2:30 Cougars	11 11:30 Tillamook Tales (Bats) 12:30 Tree Walk 1:30 Owls 2:30 Insects
12 11:30 Insects 12:30 Cougars 1:30 Tree Walk 2:30 Owls	13	14	15 Monday - Thursday Naturalist Choice Programs at 11:30 and 1:30	16	17 11:30 Butterflies 12:30 Berry Walk 1:30 Coyotes 2:30 Water Wonders	18 11:30 Water Wonders 12:30 Butterflies 1:30 Berry Walk 2:30 Coyotes
19 1:00 Guest Presenter: Dorothy Brown-Kwaiser Hiking the PCT - The Good, the Bad & the Unforgettable	20	21	22 Monday - Thursday Naturalist Choice Programs at 11:30 and 1:30	23	24 11:30 Woodpeckers 12:30 Tea Time 1:30 Bald Eagle 2:30 Bats	25 11:30 Bats 12:30 Woodpeckers 1:30 Tea Time 2:30 Bald Eagle
26 11:30 Bald Eagle 12:30 Bats 1:30 Woodpeckers 2:30 Tea Time	27	28	29 Monday - Thursday Naturalist Choice Programs at 11:30 and 1:30	30	31 11:30 Butterflies 12:30 Beavers 1:30 Berry Walk 2:30 Cougars	



august

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 11:30 Cougars 12:30 Butterflies 1:30 Beavers 2:30 Berry Walk
2 11:30 Berry Walk 12:30 Cougars 1:30 Butterflies 2:30 Beavers	3	4	5 Monday - Thursday Naturalist Choice Programs at 11:30 and 1:30	6	7 11:30 Frogs 12:30 Bears 1:30 Coyotes 2:30 Rainforest Walk	8 11:30 Till. Tales (Berries) 12:30 Frogs 1:30 Bears 2:30 Coyotes
9 11:30 Coyotes 12:30 Rain Forest Walk 1:30 Frogs 2:30 Bears	10	11	12 Monday - Thursday Naturalist Choice Programs at 11:30 and 1:30	13	14  Return From the Burn	15  Return From the Burn
16  Return From the Burn	17	18	19 Monday - Thursday Naturalist Choice Programs at 11:30 and 1:30	20	21 11:30 Woodpeckers 12:30 Tea Time 1:30 Elk 2:30 Cougars	22 11:30 Cougars 12:30 Woodpeckers 1:30 Tea Time 2:30 Elk
23 11:30 Elk 12:30 Cougars 1:30 Woodpeckers 2:30 Tea Time	24	25	26 Monday - Thursday Naturalist Choice Programs at 11:30 and 1:30	27	28 11:30 Frogs 12:30 Owls 1:30 Berry Walk 2:30 Water Wonders	29 11:30 Water Wonders 12:30 Frogs 1:30 Owls 2:30 Berry Walk
30 11:30 Berry Walk 12:30 Water Wonders 1:30 Frogs 2:30 Owls	31	 sala!				

september

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Monday - Thursday Naturalist Choice Programs at 11:30 and 1:30	3	4 11:30 Butterflies 12:30 Tea Time 1:30 Killer Birds 2:30 Cougars	5 11:30 Cougars 12:30 Butterflies 1:30 Tea Time 2:30 Killer Birds
6 11:30 Killer Birds 12:30 Cougars 1:30 Butterflies 2:30 Tea Time	7 11:30 Killer Birds 1:30 Butterflies	8 Fall Hours Begin Wed - Sun 10 am - 4 pm CLOSED	9	10	11	12 11:30 Tillamook Tales (raptors)

For more information on special events and daily programs visit www.tillamookforestcenter.org/events_05.html





Your gift supports center programs

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

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.

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.

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...

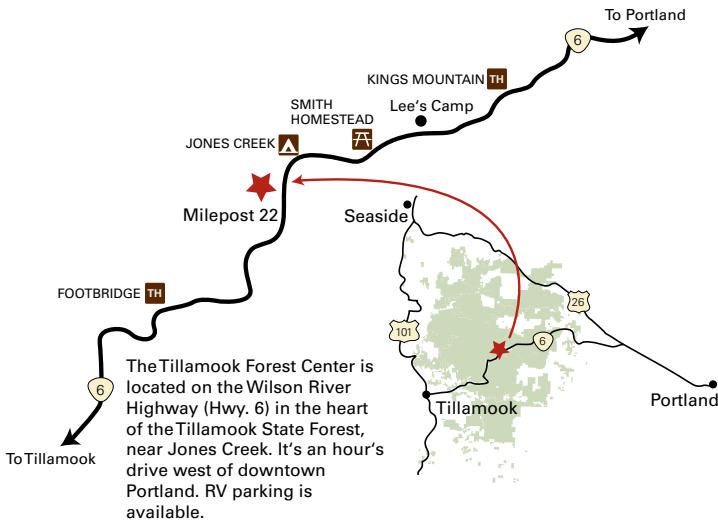
Keep in mind that the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust is a qualified partner in the Oregon Cultural Trust, an innovative and widely supported program for strengthening and preserving Oregon's arts, heritage and culture. Gifts to the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust, made in concert with a gift to the 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



Tillamook Forest Center

45500 Wilson River Highway
Tillamook, OR 97141



Please note!

Summer hours
(through Labor Day, Monday, September 7th)
we are currently **OPEN**
7 days a week
10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Fall schedule begins on September 8th
We will be **OPEN**
Wednesday – Sunday
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

The center will be **CLOSED** on
November 26th for Thanksgiving

mark your calendar

Save the date!

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

Hiking the Pacific Crest Trail
July 19 @ 1:00 pm

Return from the Burn –
A Step Back in Time Event
August 14 – 16, all day

Education Program Registration
Begins Monday, August 25

Moore Northwest Images
photography exhibition
Month of October



Share your TFC
adventures and
photos on our page!

[www.facebook.com/
tillamookforestcenteroregon](http://www.facebook.com/tillamookforestcenteroregon)



A fun summer of programs
ahead! Calendar on pages 6-7

Hiking the Pacific Crest Trail
The Good, the Bad, and the Unforgettable

6 Million Steps
2669 Miles
152 Days
Mexico to Canada on Foot

Heard of the PCT?
Wondering what it's
like?

Sunday, July 19, 2015
1–2:30 PM
Tillamook Forest Center
45500 Wilson River Hwy, Tillamook, OR 97141

Join Oregon State Parks Ranger Dorothy "Bacon Ba" Brown-Hawiser to hear about the glamour, guts, and tears of her 2012 thru-hike of the Pacific Crest Trail.

Sponsored by
Tillamook Forest Center & Oregon State Parks

Questions: (866) 930-4646, denise.berkshire@oregon.gov



Watching American dippers
in the Wilson River

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