

The Lookout

News of the Tillamook Forest Center

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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.

TFC returns to seven day operation

Thanks to Local Partners, Volunteers and the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust

The Tillamook Forest Center is open this summer seven days a week through Labor Day. Summer hours will be 10 AM to 5 PM daily.

Center programming was reduced to five days per week during the summer of 2009 due to state-wide budget reductions. Budgets continue to be constrained, however, several new partnerships, along with continuing support from the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust, matching federal funds, and major assistance from a group of dedicated volunteers have provided the support needed to extend the Center's days of operation for the coming summer season.

A partnership with the Tillamook School District and the Oregon Youth Employment Initiative is providing a crew to work at the Center throughout the summer. Funded by federal stimulus dollars, this youth crew will provide much needed support maintaining Center trails and grounds, while also giving assistance to the overall visitor services program. These federal dollars are intended to boost the state's economy, and sustain and create jobs.

Generous funding support from the non-profit Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust has made it possible to obtain Federal matching funds from the Trade Act to provide an additional full-time staff position at the Center for the summer. Through the Act, the federal government provides aid to workers who have lost their jobs as a result of increased imports. Coordination of these supporting funds will be managed by MTC Works, a worker training program and Cardinal Services, a payroll and human resources firm, both serving the Tillamook County area.

We're extremely fortunate to have this broad support from our community partners, volunteers and the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust. Their support will allow thousands of additional visitors to enjoy the Center and learn more about this beautiful State Forest.



Youth crews provide valuable support to the Center while also giving students valuable training and work experience.

Jim Quiring, Director

The wonders of wildflowers

The Tillamook Forest Center is not just a place to watch the river flow; it is a great place to see the flowers grow. The summer season is a great time to visit our trails to see an ever-changing cascade of color. The variety of species found here abounds due to the close proximity of rocky and rich soil habitat, river and forest and the contrast of sun and shade. You can head out for an easy stroll around the level trails of the Center or hike farther to higher elevations and find even more spectacular displays of forest wildflowers. Beat the summer's heat in the coolness of the forest and enjoy the view.

Here are a few of our favorite wildflowers that can currently be seen around the Center:

Tiger lily:

This orange-yellow lily stands up to 5' tall and lives in forests or drier coastal meadows from the lowlands up to sub alpine settings. Swallowtail butterflies help to pollinate the tiger lily. Legend has it that smelling the tiger lily, with its spotted petals, will cause freckles.



Inside-out flower:

This tiny white flower's petals and sepals bend backward so far that it appears to be turning inside out. It grows 8"-16" in moist, shady forests where its seeds are sometimes dispersed by ants and wasps.



Fireweed:

One of the pioneering species that establishes quickly in open, disturbed areas. This rose to purple colored flower belongs to the evening primrose family and likes moist to dry habitats where it grows on a stalk 2'-5' tall.



Red columbine:

This showy member of the buttercup family likes partly shaded to open areas where its nodding flowers are highly attractive to hummingbirds and butterflies and grows from 8" to 48" tall.



Long-tailed ginger:

This secretive flower grows on patches of evergreen, heart shaped leaves up to 6" tall. The dark maroon-brown, bell-shaped flower is often hidden beneath the leaves and has three flaring lobes that taper to long tails. Ginger grows in moist, shaded forests and its leaves smell like ginger when rubbed.



A wildflower guidebook is recommended to identify these blooming beauties and many more that you may find across the forest. Visit the Center's gift shop before heading out to choose from a few excellent guidebooks.



The Lookout
Summer 2010 Issue
Volume 4, Number 3



Tillamook Forest Center
Inspiring people to connect with the
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What you can do to support the Tillamook Forest Center

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 (see order form on this page).



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 to the Wilson River and the surrounding forest. An attractive brass 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.

For more information on making a gift, contact the Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust at (503) 701-0236.

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.



The most awful rides in the world:

Toll roads over the Coast Range to Tillamook

Transportation for the vibrant and growing coastal community of Tillamook was a big problem during the mid-1800's. Travel by ship was often prevented for months due to rough bar conditions at the mouth of Tillamook Bay. The overland trail through the steep and rugged coast range was dangerous and nearly impassable during the winter months.

Finally in 1870, James Quick, surveyed a route up the Trask River and over the mountains to North Yamhill (currently the community of Yamhill). With daily service beginning in 1874, it was a two day trip for passengers on the North Yamhill and Tillamook Stage Line and cost \$5.00 one-way. Train service from Portland brought passengers into North Yamhill where they caught the stage to Fairdale, where they spent the night. At 6:00 am the stage departed for Tillamook and arrived at 4:00 pm. The trip from Tillamook also included an overnight stay at the Trask House, the hotel situated at the bottom of the ascent over the mountains, with a scheduled arrival in North Yamhill at 2:00 pm.

The contract for mail delivery required daily service which proved extremely challenging during frequent heavy snows at the summit during the winter. A way station was constructed near Trask Mountain called the Summit House to provide fresh horse teams to the stage line and as a possible lay-over for the mail carriers during the harsh winters. Use of the Trask Toll Road was limited due to the steepness of the route and narrowness of the road. It could accommodate small freight wagons and countless stock drives, passengers, and mail bags made their way over the 45-mile trek.

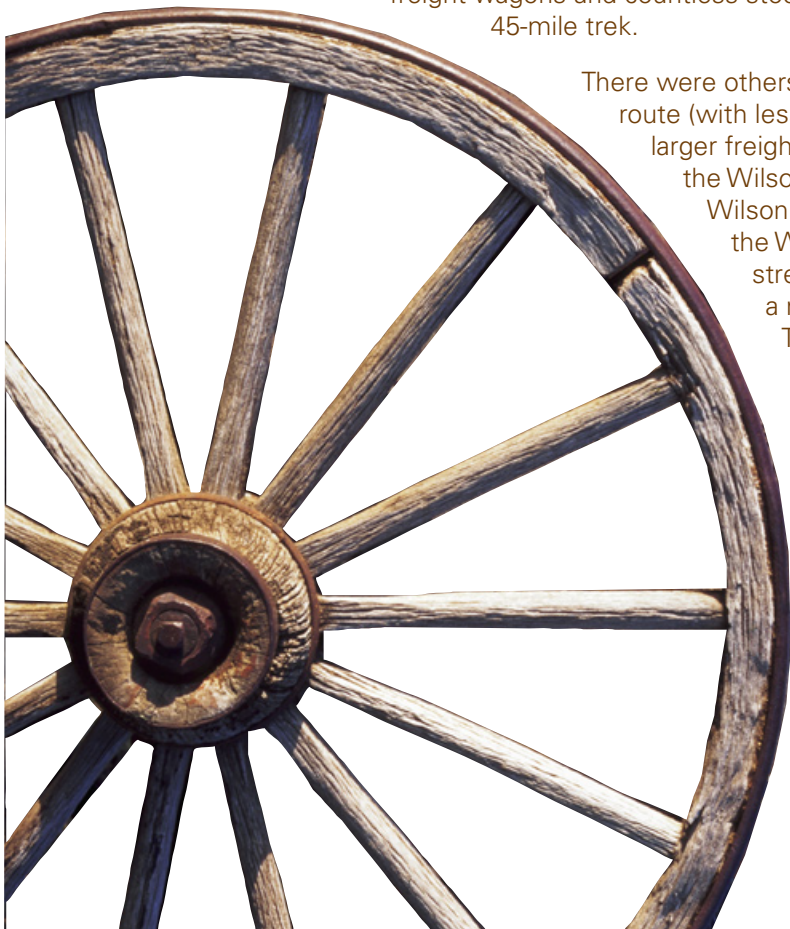


A rustic overnight stop on the Wilson River Wagon Road – McNamers Camp. This site is easily accessible on Highway 6 (MP 27.8) just west of the Elk Creek Campground access road. Look for the large pull-off and dirt road between the highway and the river.

There were others in Tillamook who demanded an easier and lower elevation route (with less snow in the winter) to Portland that could accommodate larger freight wagons and more comfortable stagecoaches. This route up the Wilson River and into Gales Creek began operations in 1893 by the Wilson River Boom, Toll Road and Improvement Company. Although the Wilson River Wagon Road could be rocky and was plagued with stretches of deep mud, especially during the winter months, it was a much more pleasant ride for stage passengers than the Trask Toll Road, as witnessed from this newspaper article account: "At the summit you have a chance to feast your eyes on all you wish to see. The road meanders along the Coast Range for about four miles when the coach turns and the dash down the west side is made. From the comparatively open country on the east, one turns to view the primeval forest." Much of the original toll road along the Wilson River is now the route of Highway 6.

Once rail service began in 1911 by the Pacific Rail and Navigation Company (now the Port of Tillamook Bay Railroad), the passengers and freight service over the toll roads disappeared while the mail delivery contract was

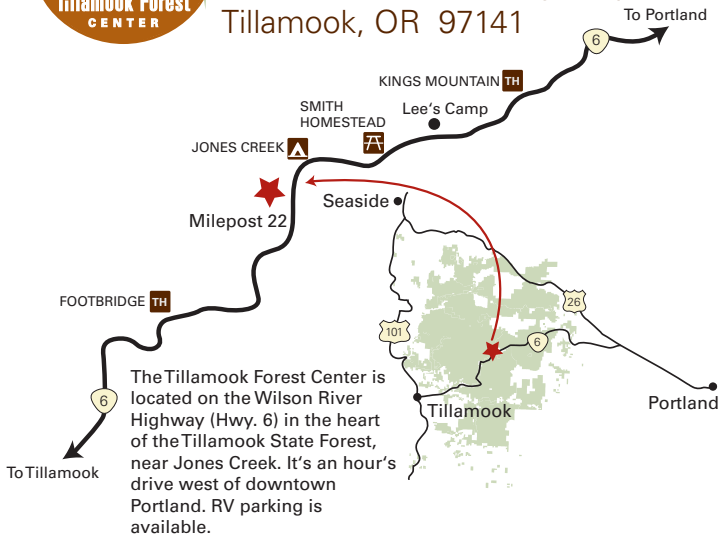
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Tillamook Forest Center

45500 Wilson River Highway
Tillamook, OR 97141



Mark Your Calendar



Return from the Burn
All day, August 14 & 15

Save the date for our biggest event of the year—Return from the Burn. Seventy-seven years after the start of the Tillamook Fire, we invite you to join us for two days of fun activities for all ages. Check our [website](#) in coming weeks as we post a range of activities like our energetic kids' firefighter relay or a panel of reminiscing loggers who will share their nostalgia of working in the woods. Smokey Bear will make special appearances.

Toll Roads

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also lost to the railroad. The hotels and boarding houses along the way, such as the Trask House and the White House in Glenora (currently Lees Camp) that had flourished for nearly 40 years went out of business and although some portions of the toll roads now serve as forest access roads or recreational trails, most of the routes are now obscured under thick growths of salmonberry, vine maple, and blackberries.

Learn more about these early transportation routes by visiting the Tillamook Forest Center and one of our helpful staff will provide you with additional exciting details and show you where you can hike or bike portions of the Wilson River Wagon Road.



Photo courtesy of Tillamook County Pioneer Museum



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

Travelers and horses stop for a rest along the Trask Toll Road