



Spring 2024 | Volume 18, Number 1

**Tillamook Forest Center**

*Inspiring people to connect with the Tillamook State Forest*



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**State Forests Trust of Oregon, Executive Director**

Kelly Lau

**FULL STEAM AHEAD!**



The Tillamook Forest Center is back on track and pulling ahead at full steam toward another exciting season of learning, exploration, and fun!

For the first time since 2020, the Tillamook Forest Center will be operating at full schedule and capacity. On March 6th, 2024, we will be opening our doors to visitors looking for a meaningful experience in our shared forest. Our team is working hard to open the TFC, and thrilled at the progress we are making. We are very fortunate to have passionate and hardworking people, who are ready to make this the best year yet! Everyone at the TFC is also looking forward to your visit, so you can explore all that the Tillamook Forest Center has to offer.

While we do have fantastic staff, it wouldn't be possible to run at full capacity without our dedicated volunteers. If you are interested in donating your time at our award-winning facility amidst the towering trees of the Tillamook State Forest, please reach out to us at [INFO@ODF.OREGON.GOV](mailto:INFO@ODF.OREGON.GOV). Positions are available for day volunteers and one RV space for on-site hosts during the summer season.

And last, but certainly not least, we would like to recognize and say thank you to the incredible volunteers that have helped us toward our mission in 2023:

- Anita & Ben Higgins
- Barbara & John Casteel
- Mary & Ramon Ferguson
- Richard House
- Sachi Arakawa
- Steve Jarrett

We hope that you find yourself in the forest soon!

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## From the Director - New Growth, New Beginnings



It has been nearly three years since the Tillamook Forest Center has been fully staffed, and I am thrilled to announce we have a full team once again! As we push through the final throes of winter and look forward to flowers popping up on the forest floor, the 2024 season is promising as we spring back into full operations.

Along with the new growth of Douglas-fir trees reaching toward the sun, the new TFC team will also be growing and reaching toward the future while we also roll out a refreshed website. It is invigorating to have an energetic team ready to host excited visitors who are seeking to learn, explore, and connect with the Tillamook State Forest. We are also grateful for our long-standing partnerships, such as the State Forests Trust of Oregon, as we embark on new collaborations with other organizations and community members. Keep an eye out for special offerings throughout the season like the *Unearthing Forgotten Forestry Narratives* presentation on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

We hope you will find yourself in the Tillamook State Forest - our common ground.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Denise".

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## Join us for Spring Interpretive Programs and Events



After a long winter closure, we are excited to bring back interpretive programs and events. Like us on [Facebook](#) for program announcements including Trees of the Tillamook, where you can discover how our forest is just like a neighborhood!

Last year we hosted the traveling exhibit "Timber Culture" from the Maxville Heritage Interpretive Center with the help of Gwen Trice, the Executive Director. On April 27<sup>th</sup>, Gwen Trice in partnership with the Vernonia Pioneer Museum will be presenting "Unearthing Forestry Narratives" at the Tillamook Forest Center. More details coming soon!

Smokey Bear will be coming to visit on May 4<sup>th</sup> for Wildfire Awareness Community Day. Everyone is invited for a day of wildfire awareness, crafts, and more!

Join us on [Facebook](#) for updates on the steelhead eggs the TFC will receive in April. Follow along as the eggs hatch, grow into fry, and are released into the river. The date for the fish release will be announced once we receive the eggs!

We can't wait for you to join us!

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## Become Part of State Forests' Legacy



Did you know you can leave a lasting impact on Oregon's state forests? By considering a legacy gift to the State Forests Trust of Oregon (formerly Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust), you can support the Tillamook Forest Center and enhance recreation facilities and programs for all Oregonians on these public forests far into the future.

Your planned gift ensures that future generations can continue to enjoy and learn from these invaluable resources. Whether it's through supporting educational programs at the Tillamook Forest Center or improving recreational opportunities, your legacy gift can make a meaningful difference in preserving the heritage of Oregon's state forests for years to come. Consider the legacy you might want to leave. For more information, contact

[kelly.lau@stateforeststrust.org](mailto:kelly.lau@stateforeststrust.org).

### mark your calendar

**Tillamook Forest Center Hours**  
Spring (March 6 - May 19)  
Wed - Sun | 10 am - 4 pm  
Summer (May 22 - Sept 1)  
Wed - Sun | 10 am - 5 pm

**Save the Date**  
Unearthing Forgotten Forestry Narratives | **April 27th**  
Fish Release | **Details coming soon!**  
Wildfire Community Preparedness Day | **May 4th**

**Website Under Construction**  
Like us on Facebook for program and event updates!

**Reminders:**  
Spring field trip dates still available - Register your class today!  
Organized groups of 10 or more require pre-registration

**For more information contact:**  
TFC.InterpretationandEducation@cof.oregon.gov

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Please contact us to update your email.  
tfc.info@odf.oregon.gov

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