



Fall 2024 | Volume 18, Number 3

Tillamook Forest Center

*Inspiring people to
connect with the
Tillamook State Forest*



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Recharging Rain Flows Through the Forest



When rain returns, many of us in the Northwest find ourselves cozying up with our favorite things. Maybe rain means brewing your favorite tea, getting out that fluffy blanket you miss during summer heat, or preparing a hearty soup. The rain flow of fall offers a chance to slow down and recharge.

When the rains return to the Tillamook Forest Center, the trails, the Wilson River, and even our programs are recharged. The river's flow and water level increases. The river gets louder, and energizing rushing water signals that logs, rocks, and sediments are moving downstream. The water is flushing, cleaning, and recharging the watershed. On trails, moss that was crunchy from summer heat becomes lush and carpets the forest floor. Our programs become focused on all that the flow of fall brings to the forest.

You're invited to visit the Tillamook Forest Center this fall and experience the magic of the handplanted temperate rainforest. Walk the trails during a downpour to hear the water flow recharging the forest as raindrops *tap tap tap* on leaves and the hood of your rain jacket. And when you're soaked to the core, the warm visitor center with indoor programs offers shelter to relax, recharge, and explore.

From the Director | A Rippling Effect



This summer brought unimaginable wildfires across the state and the TFC team answered the call to support suppression efforts. Fall rains trigger the return of salmon and animals which depend on them, the end of wildfire season, and petrichor – the smell of rain. This season provides time to slow down, reflect, and appreciate the rippling effect of collaborative teamwork and the revitalizing energy visitors bring.

Just like the rain recharges the forest, fall provides time to celebrate our diverse forest connections, an array of colors, and continuing traditions. The incredible TFC team is here to welcome you this fall to enjoy our autumnal favorite things: falling leaves, festivals, and some very special fish.

"Even the seasons form a great circle in their changing and always come back to where they were".
~unknown



A Fond Farewell to REI Program Manager, Laura Fredrickson



After more than four years as Oregon Department of Forestry's (ODF's) [Recreation, Education & Interpretation Program](#) Manager, Laura Fredrickson is pursuing a new chapter in her career. Laura left the department in August and has begun her next adventure.

Laura started in 2020 as the inaugural Recreation, Education & Interpretation Program Manager. She unified ODF's Recreation Program and the Tillamook Forest Center's Education & Interpretation Program. One of Laura's achievements is her leadership in developing the strategic plan which guides the program's mission, values, and vision. The plan's goal is to create lasting and diverse recreation, interpretation, and education opportunities to inspire visitors to enjoy, respect, and learn about our State Forests. Laura says, "Being an avid outdoors person, I think our State Forests are hidden gems."

Thank you, Laura, for your dedicated service, empathetic and mindful approach, holistic and strategic thinking, and strong leadership. We wish you the best!

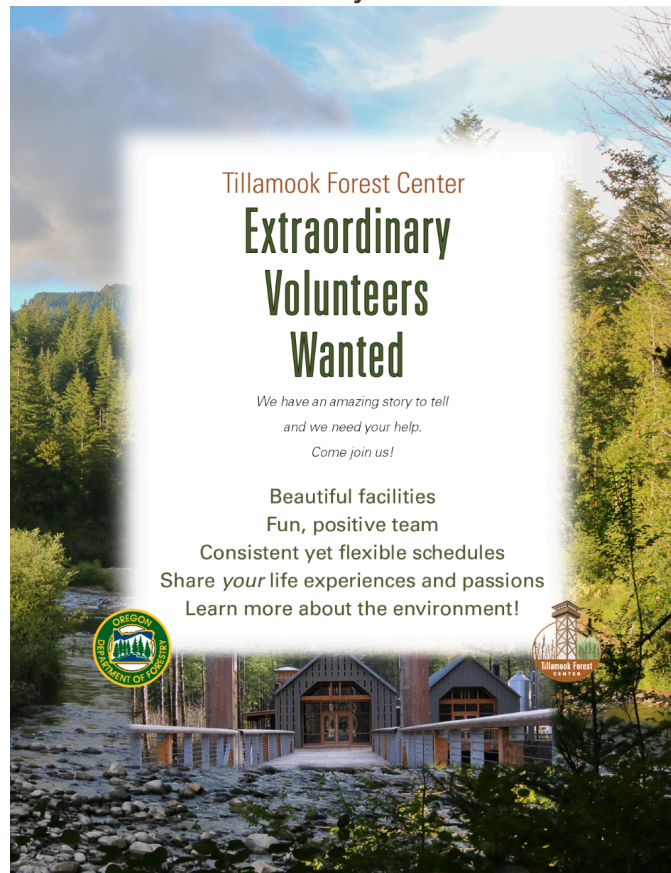
Upcoming Programs and Events



Fall in love with rain, salmon, and creating traditions at the Tillamook Forest Center. Don't miss your last chance to explore the ROOTS exhibit, featuring BIPOC outdoor recreation leaders. The ROOTS exhibit is available for viewing until September 15th. Show your love for the forest at the Wilson River Cleanup on September 28th. Register for the river cleanup on SOLVE's website [HERE](#). Join Park Ranger Dane Osis for "Mysterious Mushrooms of the Tillamook State Forest" on October 13th. Space is limited, and registration fee is required. Don't miss the Rain Festival on November 16th - 17th where you will have the opportunity to join us for the salmon release, crafts, and more! To close out the year, the TFC will hold its annual Holiday Wreath Making event from Nov 29th - Dec 1st. Registration fee is required. We hope you will join us to recharge this fall season!

For more information on program registration and upcoming events, check out our website [HERE](#).

Gratitude for Our Extraordinary Volunteers



A special exhibit, engaging programs, and memorable visitor experiences filled a busy summer at the Tillamook Forest Center. We would like to express our gratitude for three extraordinary volunteers who contributed this season. Maybe you have met Barb Casteel or Sachi Arakawa at the information desk, providing friendly customer service. Or maybe Steve Jarrett is familiar, who can often be found showing visitors how to use the fire finder in the lookout tower. Everyone at the TFC would like to say thank you to our invaluable volunteers, you make the TFC shine!

We are looking for additional volunteer field trip assistants, information desk greeters, and trail ambassadors. Interested? Start by filling out a volunteer application:

<https://www.tillamookforestcenter.org/about/jobs/volunteer>

Exciting New Partnership to Expand the Wilson River Trail

The State Forests Trust of Oregon is excited to announce a new partnership with [Trailkeepers of Oregon](#) (TKO) to build a five-mile extension of the Wilson River Trail. The Trust invested \$40,000 of the \$75,000 needed to extend the trail from Idiot Creek Loop Road to Drift Creek Trailhead. This new section will provide non-motorized trail users with stunning creek and forest vistas. There are several places to access the Wilson River Trail including the Tillamook Forest Center where you can pick up a [trail guide](#) to plan your hike.



TKO will host volunteer trail party events, consisting of 6-12 participants. Visit TKO for information about [volunteer opportunities](#). You can also make a gift to the [Trust's Recreation Fund](#). Together, we can make this dream a reality.

State Forests Trust of Oregon (SFTO) is a non-profit that serves as a catalyst for public/private partnerships to support the Recreation, Education & Interpretation (REI) Program at the Oregon Department of Forestry. SFTO also develops tools and experiences that help Oregonians better understand and appreciate Oregon's State-owned forests.

mark your calendar





Reminder
2024 - 2025 Field Trip
registration is open!
Register on our website

Fall Events
SOLVE River Clean Up* | **Sep 28th**
Mysterious Mushrooms* | **Oct 13th**
Rain Fest | **Nov 16th - 17th**
Holiday Wreath Making* | **Nov 29th - Dec 1st**
*** Registration required for these events**

ROOTS
Last chance!
Exhibit available for viewing until
September 15th

Fall Hour Change
Sep 4th - Dec 1st
Open 10 am - 4 pm
(Closed Monday & Tuesday)



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