



Recreation News

Volume 2, Issue 1

Winter 2009

OSU College Forests

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Forest Information:

Winter weather is upon us...Please exercise caution when hiking in the winter months

We recently updated the look and layout of our forest's signboards. Please enjoy the information!

Welcome...

This is the first newsletter of 2009. Inside you will find a review of the work that we completed in 2008. I certainly hope that you continue to enjoy the trails and recreation here on the forest, and find the improvements and work we have done greatly improve your recreation experience.

All of us are facing some difficult economic times right now, and the OSU College Forest is one of those. 2009 will see 5 full time positions eliminated and an 85% reduction in the recreation operations budget. We try to continue providing the best service we can, at reduced levels. You may notice that garbage cans have been removed at some trailheads, and that information brochures cannot be stocked as frequently as in the past.

Now is the time that your help could really be utilized, and I look forward to hearing from you.

I wish you all the best for the upcoming year.

Chris Jackson

Donations...

Did you know you can make a donation to the OSU Foundation specifically to the College Forests Recreation Program?

Donations to this account can be used in trail improvement projects throughout the forest and help pay for the portable toilets.

If you are interested in making a donation, please contact me at 541-737-6702

2008 Recreation Highlights

2008 proved to be an outstanding year of volunteerism on the McDonald-Dunn forests. By December 31st, our volunteers recorded **1,838 hours** of service! The diversity of our volunteers ranged from the ROTC, Northwest Youth Corps, several dedicated HP retirees, the Youth Volunteer Corps of Corvallis, Benton County Corrections Crew to Leadership Corvallis. We hope to continue this success in 2009. If you are interested in your organization having your own volunteer day next year, please contact us! There is also a very successful Trail Patrol Volunteer program if you would like to log your hours and help us be the eyes and ears on the forest.

Improved trails completed in 2008:

- Alpha Trail
- Intensive Management Trail
- Old Growth Trail
- Forest Discovery Trail
- CFRP Trail
- Calloway Creek

Depending on the quality and popularity of the trail, improvement can entail many activities. On the aforementioned trails volunteers and staff worked together to recut and regrade trails which helped improve drainage and runoff. Finally, rock was added to stabilize trail tread.

Information Kiosk Improvements



Signboards and Information Kiosks

Starting this summer, forest recreation staff painted the twelve wooden signboards beginning the update project. The goal was to make all the signboards in the forest, including the four plexi-glass cases, look the same and be consistent with the placement of the signage and posted information. You will notice that the seasonal updates and temporary notices will always be in the same spot when they are updated. Now that they are finished, we hope you enjoy the change and find them easier to read.



Contact us and have your organization have their own volunteer day next year!

Projects - Completed!

Intensive Management Trail

719 linear feet of trail was turnpiked. Turnpikes were needed because this area is very wet during the winter months. This turnpike will keep users out of the water, stopping trail widening, and reduce resource damage to the area. We hope that you enjoy it this winter.



Old Growth Trail

Before...



Head out and take a look at the completed work.

On a cool, crisp, rain-free November day a group of 23 people including Leadership Corvallis members along with recruited friends and family members, forest volunteers and staff worked together to continue the improvement of Old Growth Trail, considered to be one of the most beautiful trails within the forest. Fueled with hot coffee and bagels, on November 22nd, 2008 more fine gravel was added to the trail surface to reduce the muddy areas and keep a solid trail surface through the winter season. It was difficult work as the east end of the trail was unsuitable for the powercarriers that are often used in trail improvement. This meant rock was carried the old-fashioned way: fire-bucket brigade and wheelbarrows. The volunteer group was larger than is normally recommended for trail work, but the 23 people worked together for nearly four hours and saw drastic improvement. The trail no longer 'slips' down the slope and traction has multiplied due to the rock. We hope you notice a difference while you are enjoying the trail! We would also like to thank Valley Catering for supplying the hot coffee!

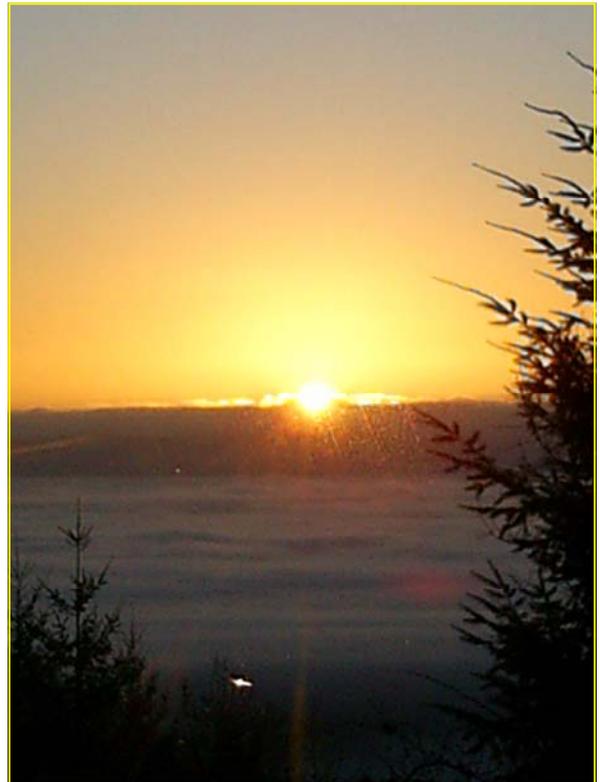
Alpha Trail

Thanks to the work of Northwest Youthcorps and dedicated volunteers, yet another trail has been completely rocked in time for the winter season. Alpha Trail should now maintain drainage and be a successful multi-use, year-round trail.



Did You Know. . . .?

- The mission of the OSU College Forests is to be a teaching, research and demonstration forest.
- There are **11,250 acres** of forest.
- **The College Forests receive NO public funding.** The funding needed to support our staff, recreational program and other activities come solely and directly from the proceeds of timber harvesting on the forest.
- You can sign-up and join the **Volunteer Trail Patrol program**. Do you hike the forest on a regular basis? Help us be the eyes and ears of the forest on your hikes by logging your hours and recording any downed trees or suspicious behavior.
- **Maps are available for sale**...Waterproof and tear resistant . Get yours at these local stores: Bike N Hike, Grassroots, The Book Bin, Five Star Sports



College of Forestry

For questions regarding volunteer days, or any other McDonald-Dunn Forest recreation-related topic, please contact Recreation Manager, Chris Jackson at: christopher.jackson@oregonstate.edu
541-737-6702

For other information, please contact our main office at:

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