



Volunteer News

Volume 1, Issue 3

October 2008

OSU College Forests

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Forest Information:

- **Downed Trees**

Please contact us if you encounter down trees across trails and roads. We will try to remove them as soon as we can.

- **Trail Closures**

Some trails will enter seasonal use on October 31st. Please read all posted signs.

Summer 2008

Welcome to the Fall newsletter from the OSU McDonald-Dunn College Forests volunteer and recreation program.

What a great summer we have had!

As of September 30th, 2008 we have logged **1,138.50 hours** of volunteer work. This is an incredible feat, and I look forward to more growth. Much of the work that we have accomplished is through a combination of the work crew and volunteers. This amount of hours is impressive, and we still have three months of the year remaining, and a couple of groups still scheduled to come out.

Inside this issue you will see what projects we have completed and what projects we will be working on for the next year.

Don't hesitate to contact me if you want to be more involved or would like further information.

Enjoy the forest this fall and winter.

All the Best!
Chris Jackson

Recreation Manager



Volunteer Appreciation Evening

On September 18th, we held our second annual Volunteer Appreciation Evening. This is the time where we reward the volunteers who have logged hours during the year. Volunteers were treated to a buffet and slideshow of photos taken throughout the season. Our two volunteers who logged the most hours were awarded a token of our appreciation.



The evening was capped off with a door raffle. We'd like to thank Bike 'N' Hike, Joes and The Inkwell Home Store for there kind donations.

Remember, logging hours at one of our events, earns you an invite for next year!

Thanks to.....

Volunteer groups have been working on a couple of trails this spring to maintain and rebuild them. We want to just send a big thank you to those involved...

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| John McNair | Clem La Cava |
| Dick Oughton | Cub Kahn |
| Julie Oughton | Nate Smith |
| Sally Stafford | Kara Smith |
| Dave Swanson | Nicholas Roberts |
| Craig Hyde | Paul Shaffer |

A special thank you to these organizations:

- Leadership Corvallis
- Corvallis Trail Runners
- Oregon Equestrian Trails (OET)
- OSU Recreation Resource Management Club
- Corvallis Youth Volunteer Corps (City of Corvallis)
- Hewlett Packard

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

Projects

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...



This is one of the most beautiful trails within the forest. The trail tread was deteriorating and in places it was difficult to walk as the trail was 'slipping' down the slope. The tread was cut and outsloped to drain water.

I hope you enjoy the improvements.

We will be adding some fine gravel to the trail surface to reduce the muddy areas and keep a solid trail surface through the wet season.

After...



Upcoming Work

Winter is a difficult time for trail work. Trails can be very wet, and any work can be more damaging than it is a benefit. As this is the case we are careful in selecting some of our projects.

Our provisional plans are to put the finishing touches to a few trails we worked on this summer.

Intensive Management Trail, Old Growth Trail and Alpha Trail will be the first trails we address.

We will be improving the quality of the kiosks around the forest, and we hope to install a few educational signs on the trails around the arboretum.

Again, if you are interested or would like further information, feel free to contact us.

Did You Know. . . .?

During the month of October we will be working on our most serious invasive plant problem – false-brome (*Brachypodium sylvaticum*). As many of you know, this grass is ubiquitous throughout the Oak Creek watershed and is spreading quickly to other parts of the forest. It poses a serious problem for western Oregon because of its ability to outcompete our native vegetation. With a grant from the Oregon Department of Agriculture we will be working towards eliminating populations of false-brome in areas of the forest where it is just getting started.



Please help us reduce the spread of false-brome by removing seeds from your boots, bike, and animals when leaving the forest.



For questions regarding volunteer days, or any other McDonald-Dunn Forest recreation-related topic, please contact Recreation Manager, Chris Jackson at:

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For other information, please contact our main office at:

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