

Family Friendly Hikes on the McDonald Forest

Welcome to the McDonald Forest!

- Our hours of operation are 5:00AM-9:00PM
- This forest will always be available free of charge. There are parking areas at each trail head.
- Pets must be on leash or under vocal command.
- Shooting, camping, alcohol, and campfires (including barbecues) are prohibited on the College Forests.
- Please practice Leave No Trace etiquette with your family or group. Visit Int.org for more information.
- Please leave flowers where they are so other visitors may enjoy them as well.

Peavy Arboretum Area

Driving Instructions: From downtown, head north on Highway 99 via 3rd street. Continue on Highway 99 for 5.7 miles, and then take a left turn onto NW Arboretum Rd. Continue for 0.8 miles, then turn left at the signs for OSU Research Forests and Peavy Arboretum. Stay to the right on the paved road to access the parking area for the Intensive Management Trail. Follow the gravel road on the left to access parking for the Forest Discovery Trail. Both parking areas include picnic table, trash cans, port-a-potties, and bags for dog waste.

Forest Discovery Trail

Hiking Area: Peavy Arboretum

Open to: Hiking only

Length: 1.3 Miles

Description: This loop trail can be accessed from Peavy Arboretum's western parking lot, accessed by the gravel road. The beginning of this trail is located on the southern end of the parking area, and is marked with a post. Follow this loop trail up into the forest to experience different forest habitats native to the Pacific Northwest. Take the right fork to hike in a counter-clockwise direction. The first part of the hike will take you through areas which have been managed in different ways to grow large trees. As you walk, notice nurse logs, which are fallen trees that provide habitat for mosses, insects, amphibians, rodents, and other forest creatures. As you follow the trail up the hill, look up to see standing dead trees, or snags, that provide habitat for insects, other plants, and cavity nesting birds.

At the top of the long climb, you will come to a four way intersection that can be a little confusing. To continue on the Forest Discovery Trail, turn to the left. As you start to descend

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on the second half of your hike, you will pass through a beautiful grove of majestic Port-Orford-cedars, a wonderful place to cool off on a hot day. Notice a change in vegetation that favors water-loving tree and plant species as you pass over a bridge that crosses a creek. The trail will continue to lose elevation as you slowly descend back into Peavy Arboretum.

Intensive Management Trail

Hiking Area: Peavy Arboretum

Open to: Hiking year-round, mountain biking April 15 – October 31 only

Length: 1.1 miles

Description: This loop trail starts from Peavy Arboretum's northern parking lot, accessed by the paved road. The beginning of the trail is located to the right of the information kiosk farthest from the entrance to the gravel parking lot. This trail was built to allow forest visitors an opportunity to observe some of the many forest practices that have been developed by Oregon State University forest managers to improve forest health, provide sustainable harvests, and increase biodiversity. Read the interpretive signs and follow the brochures along the trail to learn about the different forest management techniques demonstrated around you. Besides the stands of Douglas-fir trees, you will also see Pacific madrone, ponderosa pine, and understory species such as vine maple and California hazel. If you are feeling adventurous, you may also choose to extend your hike an additional 2.3 miles along the Calloway Creek Trail.

To print a self-guided tour brochure of the Intensive Management Trail, visit <http://cf.forestry.oregonstate.edu/intensive-management-trail>



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Arboretum Trails

Hiking area: Peavy Arboretum

Open to: Hiking year-round, mountain biking April 15 – October 31 only

Length: 1.1 Miles

Description: Peavy Arboretum provides a number of short, wide, and generally flat walking paths weaving past trees native to the Pacific Northwest as well as trees from other parts of the world. Walk through a giant grove of sequoias, admire the towering western red cedars along Redcedar Run, and visit the Firefighter Memorial shelter that is surrounded by a field of blooming purple camas in May. Trees are marked with identification posts so you can learn a little bit while you're having some fun. Stop by the firefighter memorial shelter for a picnic or to sit and watch the rain.

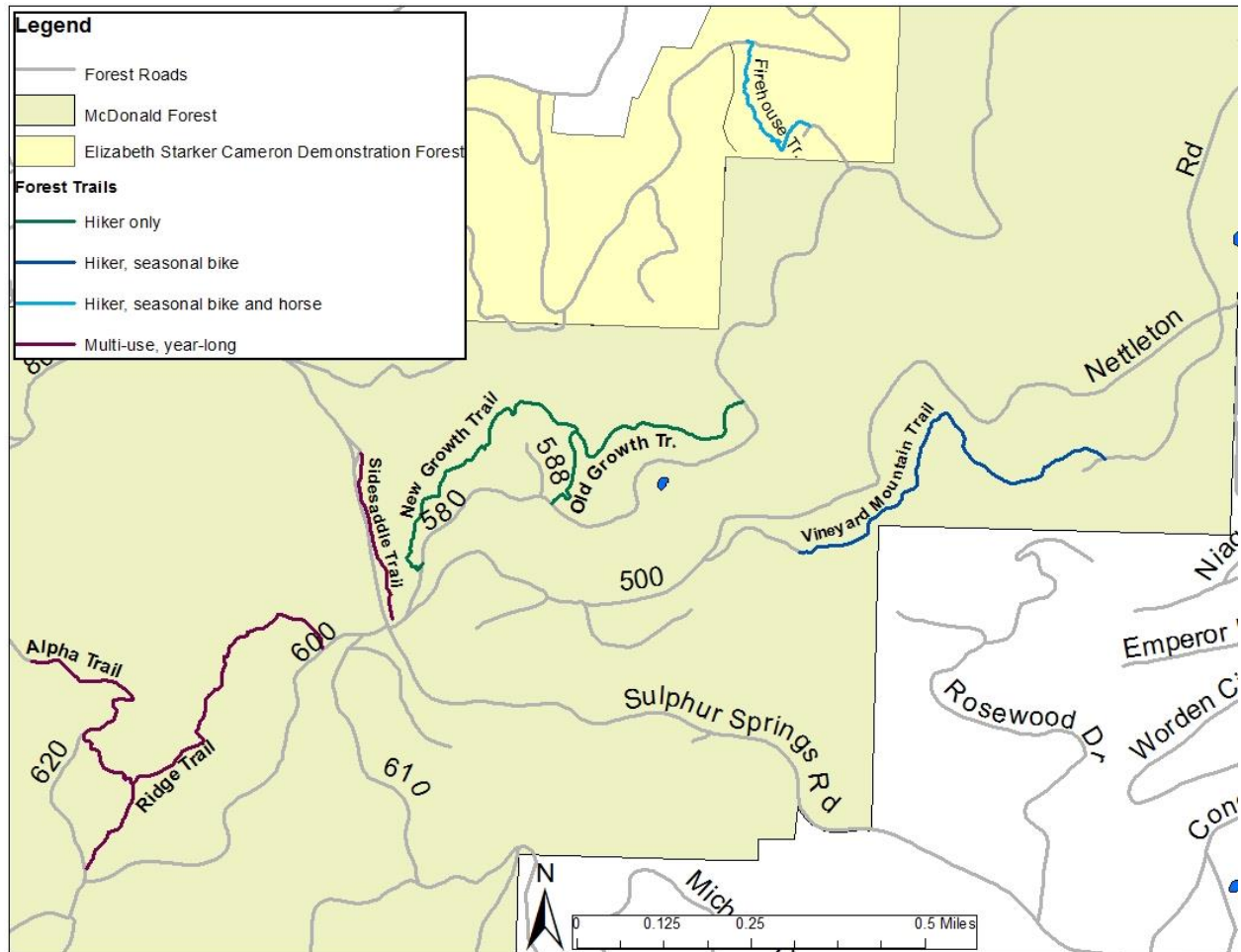
To print a brochure of Peavy Arboretum, visit:

http://cf.forestry.oregonstate.edu/sites/cf/files/Peavy%20Arboretum%20Brochure_August20_0.pdf

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Lewisburg Saddle Area

Driving Instructions: Head north on Highway 99 out of Corvallis and drive for 4.5 miles. Turn left at the light onto NW Lewisburg Avenue, and drive for another 1.4 miles. Turn right onto NW Sulphur Springs Road and continue for 1.6 miles. Parking for Lewisburg Saddle will be on your left. This parking area features a port-a-potty.



New Growth Trail

Trail Area: Lewisburg Saddle

Open to: Hikers only

Length: 0.5 miles (approx. 1 mile round trip)

Description: At Lewisburg Saddle, walk past the three panel kiosk to access the 580 Road. Walk along the 580 forest road for a few minutes, and the trailhead will be on your left. After descending deeply from the gravel road, the trail flattens out and descends more gradually for the first half of the hike. This trail was built to exhibit a long term research

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study that evaluates the success of Douglas-fir when grown at different spacing. This study is explained by signs along the trail. Look for other signs along the trail indicating the distance between trees planted in each plot. Can you see the difference between stands with different prescriptions?

Old Growth Trail

Trail Area: Lewisburg Saddle

Open to: Hikers only

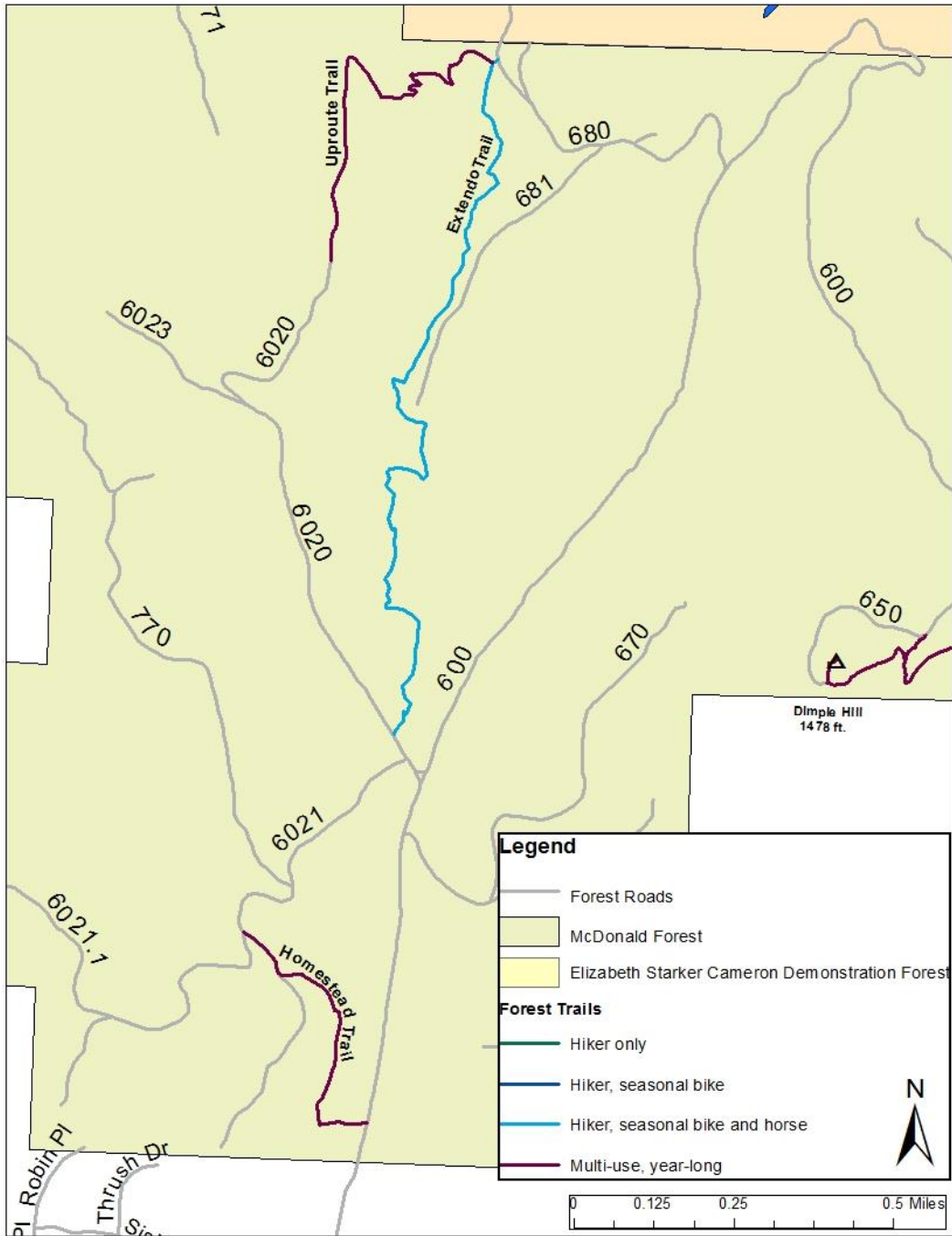
Length: 0.5 miles (approx. 1.5 including road access)

Description: Old Growth Trail is accessed via the New Growth Trail (see above), or via the 580 Road. Towering mature Douglas-fir and big leaf maple trees make this a particularly scenic trail. This trail winds along a side slope, creating the feeling of walking through a forest canopy, and opening views of forest structure and depth. Some of these stunning Douglas-fir trees are over 200 years old, and have been allowed to grow for so long because of the inaccessibility of the valley through which the trail winds to logging operations. Now the trail exists to allow visitors to immerse themselves into an old growth forest setting, which tends to be more diverse in plant and animal species than younger forests. The wildflower tall bugbane grows in places on this trail. Flowering in early summer, this plant is sparsely dispersed throughout the Pacific Northwest and is therefore a rare treat to see on the McDonald forest. The trail is steep in areas, but steps are in place to make the climb more manageable. Look for a fallen log along the trail to rest for a few minutes and listen to birdcalls heard overhead and admire the big trees around you. The trail eventually climbs back up to the 580 forest road. From here, you can take the road back to the Lewisburg Saddle parking lot.

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Oak Creek Area

Driving Instructions: Head west on NW Harrison Blvd out of town (towards 53rd street). At the light intersecting NW 53rd street, continue straight onto the NW Oak Creek Drive, and take that road for 1.9 miles. Turn right to stay on NW Oak Creek Drive for another 1.1 miles. The Oak Creek Parking area features a port-a-potty, trash can, and bags for dog waste.



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Homestead Trail

Trail Area: Oak Creek

Open to: Hiking, biking, horseback riding

Length: 0.47 miles (approx. 1.5 using road loop)

Description: Homestead Trail takes off to the left of the kiosk at Oak Creek parking area, located at the end of NW Oak Creek Drive. Because it is so close to town, many people enjoy this trail with their families and pets. This trail is an easy short walk along Oak Creek through a lovely forest, with beautiful native vegetation and a diversity of wildlife species. Most people choose to use the 6021 and 600 Road to walk this trail in a loop back to the trailhead. This trail is also a great launching point to the longer Uproute and Extendo Loop to the north.