

Instead of Driving Your Car, Consider...

Everyone is welcome to use the Forests for a wide variety of outdoor activities and meaningful experiences! With increasing rates of recreation use and a limited ability to expand parking on the forest, some of the trailheads are becoming congested and creating unsafe conditions during busy times. Therefore, we need your help!

You have the ability to help set a cultural standard for reducing the use of motor vehicles in accessing the Forests. Your efforts promote positive relationships with other visitors and community members and support free and open access for all user groups into the future.

How can you help?

- **Plan before you go:** Check out the Oak Creek webcam (coming in April) to view parking availability before driving out to the site. Check the website for Forest closures, be sure to plan your route, and bring everything you'll need to stay safe and healthy during your visit.
- **Ride a bike, run, or walk:** Extend your workout by riding your bike, running, or walking to the trailhead instead of driving. Bike racks have been installed at Lewisburg Saddle and Oak Creek (and Peavy Arboretum soon) for hikers and runners.



New bike racks at the Oak Creek Trailhead

- **Carpool:** If you're planning on meeting up with friends at the trailhead, plan to meet up off-site instead and share a ride. It's also your best bet to make sure everyone in your group can find a place to park on a busy day. Try meeting at Crescent Valley High School or Martin Luther King Junior Park and sharing rides from there.
- **Drive safely, slowly, and courteously:** Trailhead access roads go through neighborhoods where people and wildlife live. Expect the unexpected such as cars pulling out of driveways, bikes, horses, pedestrians, kids and dogs in the roadway.
- **Be aware and courteous at trailheads:** Only park within the designated trailhead parking area. Shoulder parking is only legal when a vehicle can park with all four of its wheels located entirely outside of the white fog line. If a parking lot is full, you'll need to find another place to visit.



Recently installed sign at Oak Creek Trailhead describing proper parking techniques

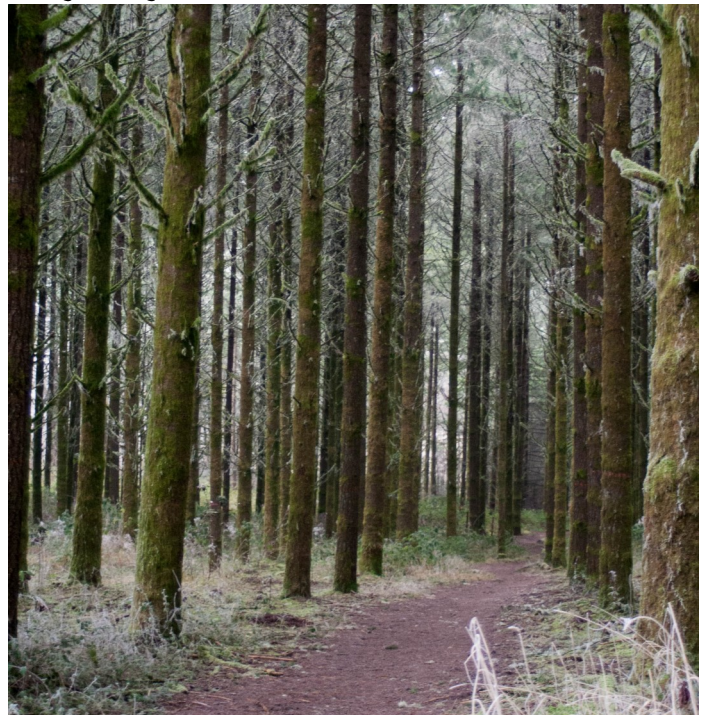
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- **Visit during off-peak times:** If you have a flexible schedule, you can time your visits to avoid parking at popular trailheads during busy times (Sat/Sun from 9AM- 3PM and weekdays between 9AM-11AM and from 5PM-7PM this time of year). Please note that Forest open hours are 5AM-9PM.
- **Explore new areas:** Try out some lesser-used access points that usually have plenty of room for parking:
 - ⇒ Baker Creek/Sulphur Springs parking area to access the 700 and 800 road systems, Alpha and Ridge Trails
 - ⇒ Intensive Management Trail parking area (big gravel circle) at Peavy Arboretum
 - ⇒ 800 Gate to access Alpha and Ridge Trails and 800 road system
 - ⇒ 547 Gate to access Calloway Creek Trail and 500 road system
- **Park horse trailers only where there is plenty of room:** These areas should have lots of room for parking:
 - ⇒ Lewisburg Saddle pullout (north of main parking area)
 - ⇒ Baker Creek Trailhead (Sulphur Springs Trail)
 - ⇒ Peavy Arboretum (Intensive Management Parking Area)
 - ⇒ 547 Gate (across from Adair Village – north of 500 Gate)

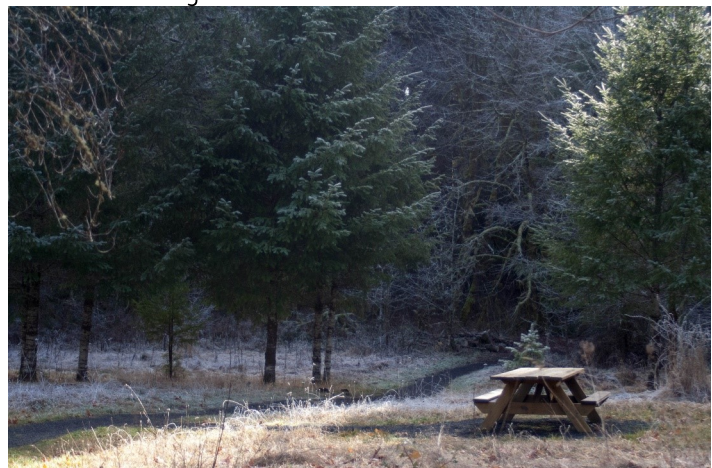
The ideas listed above came directly from the community, meaning there are a lot of people living these ideals and making a difference



Bridge along Baker Creek Trail



Intensive Management Trail



Sulphur Springs Trail