

# Friends of the Columbia Gorge

*Protecting the Gorge Since 1980*

*Spring 2019 Newsletter*



**Spring Brings Hope  
for the Gorge**

# Friends of the Columbia Gorge

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Oil train fire and oil spill in Mosier, Oregon, 2016.

Photo: Paloma Ayala

# Take Action

## Protect Oregon from Dangerous Oil Trains

Friends of the Columbia Gorge and four allies are supporting legislation in Oregon that would improve protections against crude oil derailments and oil spills. House Bill 2858 and Senate Bill 99 would require:

- updated contingency plans and training for oil train spills;
- railroad companies to pay fees that would fund improved oil spill response protocols and strengthen emergency preparedness;
- railroads to have adequate insurance to cover worst-case oil train derailments and spills; and
- 24-hour notification for oil trains.

Oregon has the weakest laws on the West Coast regarding oil train emergency response. Both California and Washington already have laws similar to these

proposed bills. Especially in light of the Trump administration's repeal of a 2015 Department of Transportation rule requiring oil trains to use newer, safer, breaking technology, Oregon needs to ensure it is doing all it can to reduce the threat from oil trains and hold railroad companies accountable.

Five bills addressing this issue have been introduced in this legislative session, but three are weaker than SB 99 and HB 2858, which are bills that Friends and our allies are supporting.

**Contact your state legislators now** and ask them to support HB 2858 and SB 99, the strongest possible oil-train bills. To find your Oregon legislators, visit **OregonLegislature.gov**. Click "Find Your District and Legislators," enter your address, and view their contact information. Then call and/or write to them today to protect Oregon from oil derailments and spills.

## STAY CONNECTED WITH FRIENDS

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**WHO WE ARE** Friends of the Columbia Gorge was founded in 1980 by the vision of John Yeon and the tenacity of Nancy Russell. Working with legislative champions led by Senator Mark Hatfield, Friends was instrumental in ensuring the passage in 1986 of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act.

We continue working today to ensure that the beautiful and wild Columbia Gorge remains a place apart, an unspoiled treasure for generations to come.

# Director's Letter

**B**eneath the gamesmanship of the recent government shutdown is something anyone who pays attention to Gorge geology should understand: erosion. While nature intended for Gorge cliffs and stream beds to erode over time, the federal government's commitment to the Columbia Gorge was meant to stand firm in perpetuity. Shutdowns have an erosive multiplier effect in places like the Gorge.

In December 2018, when the shutdown began, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service was working with local governments and nonprofits such as Friends of the Columbia Gorge and the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership on a major salmon restoration project at Steigerwald Lake. The \$22 million restoration project will be the largest ever in the Gorge, employing up to 400 people and creating new habitat and new trails for people to enjoy. Then government agencies were shut down, putting years of momentum in jeopardy. Considering that this restoration work can only occur in short

windows of the year to avoid disrupting salmon spawning, the project timeline may now have to be extended, which in turn could impact funding.

A shutdown like this is equivalent to a single thread being pulled out of a rich, complex tapestry. Even when the government reopens, the unraveling cannot be undone; a lesser version of its old self will be left to carry on.

The National Scenic Area calls for federal, state, and local governments to work together with nonprofits and community organizations. The process at times is messy, controversial, and hard. But the result is something no single entity could pull off alone: an incomparable swath of public and private land has indeed been protected and even enhanced over three decades, even as population pressures have devastated other scenic locales around the country.

I look forward to catching up with the Gorge federal employees who were furloughed, whether it is in meetings or out in the field. I may gently tease them about



their slow pace getting projects back up to speed, and they'll good-naturedly roll their eyes at my unrealistic expectations. Then we'll catch up on stories about our families and get back to all we were engaged in together before the shutdown.

But missing from that picture is one more thread from the beautiful tapestry we work so hard to protect. The Columbia Gorge is too precious, too sacred, for this. We can't allow its wonder to continue unraveling one thread at a time.

Kevin Gorman, Executive Director  
kevin@gorgefriends.org

Hillsides of balsamroot  
blooming near Memaloose.

Photo: Warren Morgan



# Protecting Oregon from Dangerous Oil Trains



**Michael Lang, Conservation Director, [michael@gorgefriends.org](mailto:michael@gorgefriends.org)**

**T**he Columbia River Gorge continues to be in the crosshairs of crude oil trains and terminals. The dangers were brought home in June 2016, when an oil train derailed as it passed through Mosier, Oregon, spilling thousands of gallons of oil into the Columbia River, contaminating the city of Mosier's water plant, and igniting a significant fire that threatened homes and the elementary school.

Since 2015, several bills have been introduced in Oregon to mandate important oil spill response measures that would better prepare Oregon first-responders for the next oil train derailment and spill. To date, however, the railroads and their political allies have stalled these common sense proposals.

2019 could be the year when the legislature passes meaningful oil train emergency-response legislation. One of the rail industry's staunchest allies in the legislature resigned, and the 2018 election produced a more pro-environment legislature. The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) supports legislation that would give DEQ authority over oil spill response plans. Friends of the Columbia Gorge and the environmental community have made passing strong oil train legislation a priority for the 2019 session.

Oregon Senate Bill 99 and House Bill 2858 would require important protections, including contingency plans and training for oil train-related spills; fees on railroads transporting crude oil to fund better oil spill response and emergency

preparedness; notification of oil trains passing through Oregon; and adequate railroad insurance for worst-case oil train derailments and spills.

Senate Bill 99 and House Bill 2858 contain significant, common sense steps to address oil train emergency preparation and response. Several other bills, including HB 2209, have also been introduced, but they do not include all of those essential components.

## **Why Oil Train and Terminal Legislation is Needed**

### **Unsafe rail cars**

Since 2012, explosive Bakken crude oil has been transported by rail at high speeds through the Columbia River Gorge

**Mosier derailment and fire, June 2016.** Photo: Michael McKeag

“The environmental community has made passing strong oil train legislation a priority for the 2019 session.”

National Scenic Area, the Deschutes River Canyon, and many communities throughout Oregon. This oil is transported through Oregon to refineries in California and Washington and to export facilities with no direct benefit to Oregon’s economy. Bakken oil and heavy tar sands oil (bitumen) are transported in unsafe rail cars that puncture in accidents at speeds as low as 14 mph, leading to oil fires and explosions. New federal safety standards for rail cars only slightly improve impact resistance. Unit trains of oil pull up to 120 oil tank cars containing more than 3 million gallons of volatile Bakken or tar sands oil. These “pipelines on rails” endanger communities and waterways throughout Oregon, presenting the risk of severe damage to public safety, drinking water, and Columbia River salmon habitat.

**Derailments and explosions**

In the past five years, oil train derailments, explosions, and fires in North America have resulted in 47 deaths, evacuation of thousands of people, millions of gallons of spilled oil, and billions of dollars of property damage and environmental destruction.

Fears in the Gorge were realized in 2016 when a Union Pacific oil train derailed in Mosier, catching fire and spilling 42,000 gallons of oil. The Mosier community was spared only because it was a rare windless day, preventing the fire from devastating the area. The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) determined that Union Pacific Railroad’s negligence caused the derailment. In fact, FRA statistics show Union Pacific has more derailments and accidents caused by equipment failures than the industry average.

**Crude oil export ban lifted**

In 2015, Congress lifted the U.S. crude oil export ban, creating a market for development of new export terminals on the West Coast. All oil train traffic in the Pacific Northwest passes through the Columbia River Gorge. As the price of oil rebounds and domestic consumption decreases, the Northwest can expect to see more oil train traffic and more proposals for oil export terminals.

**Repeal of oil train safety requirement**

Last September, the Trump administration rescinded the 2015 requirement that by 2021, all oil trains use electronically controlled pneumatic, or ECP, brakes. The rule would have improved oil train safety and likely reduced the severity of derailments and oil spills. Safety advocates, transportation union leaders, and lawmakers opposed the repeal. Several governors, including Oregon Governor Kate Brown, criticized the repeal and called on federal policy makers to put in place the strongest rail safety measures. (See “Inslee and Brown Blast Trump Administration,” 12/8/2017, at [governor.wa.gov/news-media/](http://governor.wa.gov/news-media/))

**Is Oregon ready?**

Oregon has the weakest laws on the West Coast related to oil train emergency response. In fact, in 2016, Oregon had to rely heavily on Washington’s Department of Ecology for assistance in responding to the Mosier derailment. California and Washington have passed strong laws similar to those proposed for the 2019 session for Oregon. Notably, federal railroad laws have not preempted those state laws. There is no reason for Oregon legislators to delay any further in taking action to protect our communities and waterways from the dangers of oil trains and terminals.

Friends of the Columbia Gorge and our allies are backing strong legislation this year to protect Oregon’s rivers and communities from oil train derailments and oil spills. Transporting oil by rail is inherently unsafe, but until it is stopped, we must be prepared for the next accident and spill.

Please join our efforts to protect the Columbia Gorge and the rest of Oregon from the disastrous impacts of oil train derailments and spills. See page 2 to find out how to get engaged. ■

**Oregon: Weakest Oil Train Laws on the West Coast**

LAW	OR	WA	CA
<b>Require Railroad Emergency Response Plans</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Fees on Oil Trains For Emergency Response</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Railroad’s Ability to Pay for Worst-Case Spill</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>24-Hour Notice Required For Oil Trains</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>

# Learning to Love the Gorge

## Teaching youth that the Gorge belongs to them

**Kate Lindberg, Outdoor Programs Coordinator, [katel@gorgefriends.org](mailto:katel@gorgefriends.org)**

In 2019, Friends of the Columbia Gorge's outdoor education programs will bring more than 300 middle-school students from Washougal and Portland outdoors for first-hand, interactive experiences in nature. Connecting the next generation to the Gorge fosters the sense of wonder that's the first step to becoming a steward.

**Great Gorge Wahoo!** is an outdoor education program started in 2011 for students at St. Andrew Nativity School in Northeast Portland, a school that enrolls a high percentage of students of color and prepares them to attend college-prep high schools. Supported by Friends' Matthew Winthrop and Buddy Nobles Memorial Funds, *Great Gorge Wahoo!* brings seventh grade students on a field trip to visit eastern Gorge landscapes and learn geology and cultural history. As eighth graders the following year, the students take another trip to contrasting western Gorge landscapes, to experience lush forests and gushing waterfalls.

Retired Oregon Parks and Recreation Department community outreach coordinator Kevin Price first learned about this program in its infancy and told Friends, "You need to get me in front of these kids so they can see that someone of their color can do this job." Kevin has been a mainstay of these trips ever since.

**Explore the Gorge** began in 2008, supported by Friends' Vic Clausen Youth Education Fund and the Camas-Washougal Community Chest. This multiday program provides creative opportunities to learn about Gorge culture, history, ecology, and more for every sixth grade student in the Washougal, Washington, school district.

Students spend several days visiting Beacon Rock State Park and natural areas around Bonneville Dam, testing their senses as they see, smell, touch, listen, and even taste the natural elements that make the Columbia Gorge unique and special. Friends' volunteer naturalists lead the program activities alongside rangers from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

In 2018, one Washougal student reflected, "From this experience, I want to learn more about the history of the

Columbia River Gorge. It makes me be able to tell people more about the history of where I'm from."

Each year Friends asks students to reflect on their experiences in the program and share their "hope for the Gorge in the next 20 years." Many respond that they wish for it to stay beautiful for the next generation. We wholeheartedly agree.

Contact Kate Lindberg at to get involved in this year's program. Learn more at [gorgefriends.org/youthprograms](http://gorgefriends.org/youthprograms). ■



Above: An *Explore the Gorge* art project last spring.

Photo: Kate Lindberg



Left: *Great Gorge Wahoo* outing in 2018.

Photos: Nick Wiltgen

# Lyle Cherry Orchard Trail Expansion Begins

**Renee Tkach, Gorge Towns to Trails Project Manager,**  
[renee@gorgefriends.org](mailto:renee@gorgefriends.org)

At first glance, the town of Lyle, Washington, might not bring to mind comparisons with places like Tuscany, Italy. But anyone who has spent any time in this charming small town knows that its rolling hills, stunning vistas of the Columbia River, and easy access to world-class wineries make this unassuming area a hidden treasure of the Gorge.



**Trailwork volunteers at Lyle Cherry Orchard in December.**  
Photos: Micheal Drewry



With the recent start of work to extend the trail on the Friends of the Columbia Gorge Land Trust's 540-acre Lyle Cherry Orchard preserve now underway, Lyle will soon be an even better place to combine a day of great hiking with an opportunity to taste some of the best wine the Gorge has to offer.

After more than seven years of planning, in December 2017, Friends received final approval from the Columbia River Gorge Commission to start construction on two new trail loops that will eventually add three miles to the current trail. The extensions will allow hikers to access new views of the Columbia River and new rest

spots ideal for relaxing to enjoy lunch and take in the panoramic scenery.

Working with Friends, Washington Trails Association (WTA) organized a trail construction work party in December 2018, to reroute roughly 700 feet of the existing trail – making the path a safer, less steep climb. WTA will continue this spring and fall to organize special weekend-long trail building work parties so volunteers can come for either a single day or stay overnight and combine the trail project with a coordinated Gorge camping experience.

Friends' long-term goal is to connect the Cherry Orchard trail into the town of Lyle. The trail will become a key component of *Gorge Towns to Trails*, an ongoing project to create a loop trail connecting Gorge communities on both sides of the river. The Lyle Cherry Orchard trail expansion is the second *Gorge Towns to Trails* accomplishment, following the Mosier Plateau Trail, completed in 2013.

For more information on upcoming Cherry Orchard work parties and other ways that you can support efforts to build the newest trail in the Gorge, please visit [gorgefriends.org/lyletrail](http://gorgefriends.org/lyletrail). ■

## Conservation in Verse

Authors, Artists & Activists on  
Protecting the Landscapes We Love

Wednesday, March 27 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
The Old Church in Portland

Tickets: \$15/adults, \$10/students  
available online at [theoldchurch.org](http://theoldchurch.org)

Photo: Curt Richter



Jane Hirshfield

Photo: Kim Stafford



Kim Stafford

Join award-winning poet **Jane Hirshfield** and Oregon Poet Laureate **Kim Stafford** for a special exploration of the intersection of artistic inspiration and the community-led conservation initiatives presented by **Friends of the Columbia Gorge** and **Terrain.org**.

Photos: Richard Kolbell



## Friends of the Columbia Gorge 39th Annual Meeting & Luncheon

Sunday, April 7 | 12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m.  
Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, WA

*Information fair, socializing, and no-host bar begin at noon*

**Members:** \$35/person

**Non-Member Special:** \$55/person includes an annual membership

Please register by April 1 at [gorgefriends.org/luncheon](http://gorgefriends.org/luncheon).

Come meet old friends and make new ones,  
and learn how your actions protect the  
Gorge. We'll celebrate last year's successes  
and outline our vision for the year ahead.

Join us before the luncheon for a  
**FREE Legacy Planning Seminar** from  
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.





A group of six hikers in colorful gear (red, blue, purple) are standing on a rocky cliff edge, posing for a photo. The background shows a vast valley with green hills and a forested area under a clear sky.

SPRING & SUMMER 2019

# Hikes, Outings & Stewardship

## General Information

Before attending Friends' outings, please familiarize yourself with our program information and guidelines at [gorgefriends.org/hikeprogram](http://gorgefriends.org/hikeprogram).

Space is limited, so as a courtesy to others please register only if you're sure you can attend.

Carpool information and trip-specific details will be emailed within five days of each outing.

**Details and registration at  
[gorgefriends.org/hikes](http://gorgefriends.org/hikes).**

Coyote Wall hikers.  
Photo: Debbie Asalawa

This season, we're providing over 70 ways to discover the magic and wonder of the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area. Our hike program will offer many wildflower-focused hikes and walks, scheduled to follow the blooms from the east Gorge to the west. We'll maintain a focus on wildfire ecology and forest recovery as we're able to access previously closed trails, and we'll follow the forest as it regrows after the 2017 Eagle Creek fire.

Additionally, you'll see more water-based trips and bike rides on the schedule, as our leaders continue to offer unique and different ways to experience the beautiful

landscapes of the Gorge. And, in hopes that our outings can continue to be experiences of solitude and peacefulness, we're offering more weekday options for you to choose from, as weekends on the trail are increasingly crowded.

We look forward to another great spring and summer of hikes and outings around the Gorge this spring and summer. Whether hiking with Friends or on your own, remember to be especially careful in burned areas. The steep slopes continue to move in response to harsh and changing weather patterns, and sensitive trails and landscapes are still recovering.

**Members-only early registration begins February 25.  
Register at [gorgefriends.org/hikes](http://gorgefriends.org/hikes).**

# March

## Saturday, March 9

### **Horsethief Butte Walk, WA**

**Easy/Mod.: 4-5 miles | 150-ft elev. gain**

Join board vice chair Debbie Asakawa for a picturesque hike in an area rich both in Native American history and geology created by the ice age floods.

## Sunday, March 10

### **Steigerwald Shores, WA**

**Easy: 3.8 miles | no elev. gain**

Walk with board members Geoff Carr and John Harrison to our land trust preserve adjacent to Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge to learn its importance to Gorge ecosystems.

## Friday, March 15

### **Catherine Creek Wildflower Walk, WA**

**Easy/Mod.: 3.5 miles | 500-ft elev. gain**

Botanist Pappy Corbitt will share knowledge and medicinal properties of early spring wildflowers and other Gorge flora on a slow-paced walk along the slopes of Catherine Creek.

## Saturday, March 16

### **Lyle Cherry Orchard, WA**

**Moderate: 5 miles | 1,500-ft elev. gain**

*Gorge Towns to Trails* Project Manager Renee Tkach will take us to view the newly acquired Lyle Peak preserve to envision the future trail expansion and celebrate the success of the *Preserve the Wonder* campaign.

## Sunday, March 17

### **Klickitat Trail to Fisher Bridge, WA**

**Easy/Mod.: 4 miles | 100-ft elev. gain**

*Gorge Towns to Trails* Project Manager Renee Tkach and Klickitat Trail Conservancy members will guide us on a segment of this abandoned railroad-bed-turned-trail, sharing its rich history on the way to dramatic canyon views.

### **Steigerwald Lake NWR Nature Walk, WA**

**Easy: 2.5 miles | no elev. gain**

Bring the whole family to explore this special wildlife refuge at the "Gateway to the Gorge." Interactive trail packets from Super Nature Adventures make learning more fun. \$20/packet.

## Outing Icon Key

-  Members Only
-  Wildflowers
-  Special Focus
-  Fire Ecology & Recovery
-  *Preserve the Wonder*
-  Wiking
-  Trails to Ales
-  Bike Ride
-  Water-Based
-  Family Friendly
-  Dog Friendly

## Thursday, March 21

### **Wildflowers & Waterfalls at Latourell Falls, OR**

**Easy: 2.4 miles | 520-ft elev. gain**

Join Oregon State Parks ranger Miranda Mendoza for a hike through the mist zone at Latourell Falls. We'll visit two waterfalls on this loop hike, pausing to learn about emerging wildflowers and the park's history.

## Friday, March 22

### **Lower Deschutes River, OR**

**Strenuous: 7.5-8 miles | 800-ft elev. gain**

Leader Sharon Ross will guide us along this Wild & Scenic River to find early wildflowers and to view how the landscape is recovering after last summer's Substation fire, returning via the Ferry Springs loop.

## Saturday, March 23

### **Military Road History Walk, WA**

**Moderate: 5 miles | 700-ft elev. gain**

Hike a section of the old military and stagecoach road through Columbia Hills, uncovering the 19th century history of homesteading and land use of the area with historian and author Judy Bentley.

## Thursday, March 28

### **Plants, Geology & History at Latourell Falls, OR**

**Easy: 2.4 miles | 510-ft elev. gain**

Join environmental educator Roland Begin to explore plants and geology at the falls, learning the colorful history of the town of Latourell and viewing some of the oldest rocks in the area as we go.

## Friday, March 29

### **Labyrinth Loop to Rowland Lake, WA**

**Moderate: 5 miles | 1,000-ft elev. gain**

Field Rep. Peter Cornelison will lead a faster-paced hike adjacent to the wildflower-covered slopes of Catherine Creek, through the beautiful Labyrinth Canyon in the eastern Gorge to panoramic views.

## Saturday, March 30

### **Sandy River Delta Evening Walk, OR**

**Easy: 3-4 miles | little elev. gain**

Learn about the collaborative restoration efforts of Sandy River Basin Watershed Council, Confluence and Friends of the Sandy River Delta to preserve this multiuse area on the way to Maya Lin's bird blind.

## Sunday, March 31

### **Lyle Cherry Orchard Ecology, WA**

**Moderate: 5 miles | 1,500-ft elev. gain**

Naturalist Ralph Thomas Rogers will guide us to the original pioneer cherry orchard and stunning Gorge views, hiking at a slow pace to identify early-blooming plants and learn the unique ecology of this preserve.

# April

## Thursday, April 4

### **Angel's Rest, OR**

**Moderate: 5 miles | 1,500-ft elev. gain**

Follow Executive Director Kevin Gorman on this reopened trail to experience up close the 2017 Eagle Creek fire's effects on the forest and how it is recovering. We'll highlight the trail work completed in the past year.

## Saturday, April 6

### **Bridal Veil Falls Exploration, OR**

**Easy: 1.2 miles | 70-ft elev. gain**

Bring the whole family to explore the falls, Pillars of Hercules basalt towers and abundant native plants. Interactive trail packets from Super Nature Adventures make learning more fun. \$20/packet.

## Sunday, April 7

**39th Annual Meeting and Luncheon  
Skamania Lodge | Stevenson, WA  
[gorgefriends.org/luncheon](http://gorgefriends.org/luncheon)**

## Wednesday, April 10

### **Wildflowers at Catherine Creek, WA**

**Easy/Mod.: 3.5 miles | 500-ft elev. gain**

Botanist Pappy Corbitt will teach us about wildflowers and endemic plants on this slower-paced walk amid spring beauty and scenic views at this wildflower paradise.

Members-only registration begins Feb. 25.  
General registration begins March 1.  
Register at [gorgefriends.org/hikes](http://gorgefriends.org/hikes).



## Thursday, April 11

### ★ Trail of Waterfalls, OR

**Easy: 1.6 miles | 100-ft elev. gain**

Join Oregon State Parks ranger Miranda Mendoza for a journey on the Historic Columbia River Hwy State Trail to visit four waterfalls and learn the area's history.

## Friday, April 12

### M Wildflowers at Catherine Creek & Klickitat Trail, WA

**Easy/Mod.: 5 miles | 150-ft elev. gain**

Walk with Klickitat Trail Conservancy board members Barbara Robinson and Steven Woolpert to identify and learn about wildflowers at two different sites known for unique plant diversity.

## Saturday, April 13

### Wildflower Photography, WA

**Moderate: 4-5 miles | 1,340-ft elev. gain**

Follow leader Gloria Gardiner on the Weldon Wagon trail through an Oregon white oak conservation area, going at a leisurely pace to take advantage of photo opportunities during peak balsamroot bloom.

## Thursday, April 18

### ★ Fort Cascades History Walk, WA

**Easy: 1.5 miles | little elev. gain**

Join environmental educator Roland Begin for an informational walk to uncover the rich cultural history of the area, from Chinook-speaking tribes to Euro-American pioneers, and learn ethnobotanical uses of native plants.

## Friday, April 19

### M Wildflower Photography at Rowena Plateau & McCall Point, OR

**Easy/Mod.: Up to 5.5 miles | 1,100-ft elev. gain**

Leader Gloria Gardiner will guide us first on Rowena Plateau to take advantage of many photo opportunities at this scenic wildflower paradise. Afterward, we'll head up McCall Point for those wishing for more elevation.

### 🚲 Klickitat Trail Mountain Bike Ride, WA

**Experienced riders only: 28.5 miles | some elev. gain**

Explore this steep and beautiful isolated canyon by bike with Field Rep. Peter Cornelison. We'll follow the rails-to-trails path adjacent to the Klickitat River from the town of Lyle to Klickitat and back.

## Saturday, April 20

### PtW Catherine Creek to Coyote Meadow, WA

**Expert: 10.4 miles | 1,900-ft elev. gain**

Join wildflower enthusiast Paul Freeman on a quest to identify 50-60 wildflower species during peak bloom on this challenging hike to Coyote Meadow, a *Preserve the Wonder* campaign property.

### M Wildflowers Mosier Plateau Wildflowers, OR

**Moderate: 3.5 miles | 600-ft elev. gain**

Enjoy panoramic views and wildflowers at their peak from this Friends land trust preserve on the bluff above Mosier. Leader Jane Corboy will guide us past Mosier Creek Falls and teach us the history of the old pioneer cemetery.

## Sunday, April 21

### Wildflowers Swale Canyon Wildflowers, WA

**Expert: 11-12 miles | 450-ft elev. gain**

Follow leaders Christoph Stauder and Dave Crout on this remote section of the Klickitat Trail, descending Swale Creek into a deep canyon of pine groves and dogwoods on the search for spring wildflowers.

## Tuesday, April 23

### Wildflowers Coyote Wall via Catherine Creek, WA

**Strenuous: 8 miles | 1,655-ft elev. gain**

Hike with leader Patti Kramer along the cliffs of Coyote Wall, across wildflower-filled, open grasslands and through oak woodlands to expansive views up and down the Columbia River.

## Thursday, April 25

### M Wildflowers Crawford Oaks Loop, WA

**Strenuous: 9 miles | 1,300-ft elev. gain**

Find eastern-Gorge sunshine and lush wildflowers on the ascending Crawford Oaks trail to Dalles Mountain Ranch. Listen for meadowlarks and watch for wildlife on this faster-paced hike with leader Kim Owen.

### ★ Plants and Geology at Rodney Falls and Little Beacon Rock, WA

**Easy: 2.5 miles | 500-ft elev. gain**

Join environmental educator Roland Begin at one of the most geologically fascinating areas in the Columbia Gorge to learn the area's geology, identify plants and discuss the role of fire in forest ecology.

## Friday, April 26

### ★ Mindfulness Earth Walk, WA

**Easy: 2-3 miles | little elev. gain**

Enjoy a peaceful opportunity to connect more fully with nature, health and yourself, and learn the essence of forest therapy on the Klickitat Trail with KTC board member and counselor Steven Woolpert.

## Saturday, April 27

### ★ St. Cloud Meditative Walk, WA

**Easy: 0.5 miles | 150-ft elev. gain**

In the tradition of walking meditation, leader Judy Todd will guide us on this early-morning meditative saunter for a time of quiet, personal reflection to become more mindful of our natural surroundings.

## Sunday, April 28

### M Falls Creek Falls, WA

**Moderate: 3.4 miles | 700-ft elev. gain**

Join leader Billie Anger for a peaceful hike through lush forest, traveling at a leisurely pace alongside a cascading creek to the stunning 200-foot waterfall.

### 🐾 Hardy Ridge, WA

**Strenuous: 7-8 miles | 2,000-ft elev. gain**

Leaders Don McCoy and Madeleine Von Laue will take us on this lesser-used, wide trail above and behind Beacon Rock. Atop the ridge, we'll get wonderful views of the Columbia Gorge. Leashed dogs are welcome.

May

## Thursday, May 2

### Wildflowers Weldon Wagon Road, WA

**Moderate: 4 miles | 1,100-ft elev. gain**

Join leader Steve Carples for a scenic hike through Oregon white oak woodlands, past slopes blanketed in wildflowers, to a scenic ridge offering views of the White Salmon River valley.

## Friday, May 3

### **Petroglyphs Tour, WA**

**Easy: 0.5 miles | little elev. gain**

Retired Washington State Parks ranger Chon Clayton will lead us to ancient rock images and legendary *She Who Watches*. Conservation Organizer Ryan Rittenhouse will provide updates on Friends' ongoing work to protect this and other landscapes from fossil fuel impacts.

### **Deschutes River Ecology, OR**

**Moderate: 4-5 miles | little elev. gain**

Take a leisurely walk with naturalist Ralph Thomas Rogers to learn the area's riparian ecology, emphasizing birds, plants and butterflies, and to discuss the ecological impacts of fire on the Columbia Basin shrub-steppe habitat.

## Saturday, May 4

### **Klickitat River Whitewater Rafting, WA**

Enjoy a full-day whitewater excursion guided by Wet Planet on the Wild & Scenic Klickitat River through thick pine forests, basalt-lined canyons and oak woodlands. *\$90 for lunch, gear.*

### **Volcano Ridge Wildflowers, OR**

**Easy: 2 miles | 600-ft elev. gain**

Meander among the picturesque vineyards of Volcano Ridge with viticulturist, soil scientist and geologist Alan Busacca. We'll discuss sustainable farming and learn unique eastern Gorge geology on hillsides abloom with wildflowers. *\$20 for tour, tasting flight, snacks.*

## Sunday, May 5

### **Stacker Butte Wildflowers, WA**

**Strenuous: 6.4 miles | 1,150-ft elev. gain**

Join leaders Christoph Stauder and Dave Crout at Columbia Hills Natural Area Preserve, ascending a wide service road adjacent to fields of blooming lupine and balsamroot for a summit view of Swale Canyon and the Columbia River.

### **Conboy Lake National Wildlife Refuge, WA**

**Easy: 3 miles | 100-ft elev. gain**

Naturalist Ralph Thomas Rogers will lead us on a slow-paced walk on the Willard Springs trail to learn about the natural ecology and management of the Conboy Lake NWR, identifying many species of flora and fauna as we go.



## Caretakers of the Gorge

Whether hiking with Friends or on your own, we're all caretakers of the Gorge. We encourage everyone to hike responsibly by staying on the trail, using a trailhead boot brush, and carrying out your trash. Please leave no traces; take only memories – and photos.

Horsethief Butte sunrise. Photo: Jeremiah Leipold

## Thursday, May 9

### **Hidden History Walk, OR**

**Easy: Less than 1 mile | 70-ft elev. gain**

Oregon State Parks ranger Miranda Mendoza will lead us on a walk through time at Bridal Veil Falls State Park. We'll get great views of the Columbia Gorge and the falls while learning the history hidden beneath the moss.

### **Dalles Mtn Ranch to Stacker Butte, WA**

**Strenuous: 7.8 miles | 1,950-ft elev. gain**

Digital Content Specialist Stan Hall will lead us on a picturesque climb among fields of balsamroot, lupine and other blooming flowers to stunning views of Mt. Adams, Swale Canyon and the Klickitat River Valley.

## Friday, May 10

### **Crawford Oaks Wildflowers, WA**

**Strenuous: 8-9 miles | 1,300-ft elev. gain**

Join leader Kristin Price on the meandering Crawford Oaks loop trail to Dalles Mountain Ranch during peak wildflower blooms. We'll take in scenic views, look for wildlife and listen for meadowlarks.

### **Forest Disturbances & Fire Ecology, OR**

**Easy: 3-4 miles | some elev. gain**

U.S. Forest Service Biological Science Technician Kate Santini will lead us on the Herman Creek trail to view the 2017 Eagle Creek fire's mosaic burn patterns and to learn how fire affects forest ecology.

## Saturday, May 11

### **Forest Disturbances & Fire Ecology, OR**

**Easy: 3-4 miles | some elev. gain**

U.S. Forest Service Biological Science Technician Kate Santini will lead us on the Herman Creek trail to view the 2017 Eagle Creek fire's mosaic burn patterns and to learn how fire affects forest ecology.

## Saturday, May 11

### **Historic Hwy State Trail Bike Ride, OR**

**Experienced cyclists only: 14 miles | 600-ft elev. gain**

Ride with leader Dave Crout at a leisurely pace along a reopened section of the Historic Columbia River Hwy State Trail for scenic views and to learn about the ongoing restorative connection project.

## Sunday, May 12

### **Wahkeena to Multnomah Falls Loop, OR**

**Moderate: 4.8 miles | 1,540-ft elev. gain**

Climb aboard the Columbia Gorge Express bus to this classic hike on the reopened loop trail. Leader Billie Anger will guide us at a comfortable pace past seven cascading waterfalls and newly opened viewpoints.

## Thursday, May 16

### **Cape Horn Upper Trail Wildflowers, WA**

**Moderate: 5 miles | 1,000-ft elev. gain**

Join leader Karl Kratzer for a scenic out-and-back hike on the Cape Horn Upper trail to panoramic views from the Nancy Russell Overlook during peak delphinium bloom.

## Friday, May 17

### **Cascade Locks to Bonneville Dam Kayak Tour, OR**

**Experienced Paddlers Only | 5 miles**

Field Rep. Peter Cornelison will be our guide on the Columbia River from Cascade Locks to Bonneville Dam. We'll pass by several historical sites and Native American in-lieu fishing camps along the way.

### **Dog Mountain Wildflowers, WA**

**Strenuous: 7 miles | 2,820-ft elev. gain**

Marvel at the wildflower showstopper of yellow balsamroot, purple lupine, red paintbrush and more while enjoying breathtaking views of the Gorge with leader Sharon Ross on this challenging, steep trail.

Members-only registration begins Feb. 25.  
General registration begins March 1.  
Register at [gorgefriends.org/hikes](http://gorgefriends.org/hikes).

## Saturday, May 18

### Petroglyphs Tour & Dancing Rock Walk, WA

**Easy: 2-3 miles total | little elev. gain**

Columbia Hills Historical State Park tour guide Jim Chase will lead us to ancient rock images, including *She Who Watches*. Afterward, we'll discover terrain shaped by the ice age floods and abundant wildflowers at the nearby Dancing Rock preserve.

## Sunday, May 19

### Wildflowers at Cape Horn Upper Trail, WA

**Moderate: 5 miles | 1,000-ft elev. gain**

Hike among plentiful spring wildflowers with board members Patty Mizutani and Lisa Platt and leader Richard Rosenhaft while learning about our new land trust preserve acquired through *Preserve the Wonder*.

## Friday, May 24

### Falls Creek & Panther Creek Falls, WA

**Easy/Mod.: 3.7 miles | 700-ft elev. gain**

Leader Jane Garbisch-Myers will lead us on a gentle ascent next to a cascading creek to discover magnificent, multitiered Falls Creek Falls, followed by hanging gardens and the moss-coated beauty of Panther Creek Falls.

### Multnomah to Wahkeena Falls Loop, OR

**Moderate: 4.8 miles | 1,540-ft elev. gain**

Outreach Manager Maegan Jossy and Trailkeepers of Oregon's (TKO's) Gorge trails intern Josh Durham will highlight TKO's restoration work on this popular trail prior to its reopening, and we'll discover up close the recovering forest.

## Saturday, May 25

### HCRH State Trail to Rowena Crest Bike Ride, OR

**Experienced cyclists only: 24 miles | 1,600-ft elev. gain**

Enjoy a ride on the Historic Columbia River Hwy State Trail with leader Dave Crout, through Mosier Twin Tunnels all the way up to the Rowena Crest viewpoint for panoramic views before our return.

## Thursday, May 30

### Gorge Geology and Ice Age Floods Tour, OR & WA

**Easy: Driving tour with short walks**

Leader Jim Chase will be our guide on a driving tour on both sides of the Columbia River, stopping for short hikes that highlight the Gorge's unique geology and ice age floods remnants. *\$40 for lunch, chartered transportation.*

# June

## Saturday, June 1

### Little Huckleberry Mtn., WA

**Mod./Strenuous: 5.2 miles | 1,750-ft elev. gain**

Join hike leader Jim Chase on a well-groomed trail to the summit of this often-overlooked peak. Views from the top include several Cascade volcanoes and the expansive Big Lava Bed valley below.

### Get Outdoors Day at Mosier Plateau, OR

**Easy: 3.5 miles | 600-ft elev. gain**

Celebrate National Get Outdoors Day with a walk on Friends' Mosier Plateau land trust preserve with Land Trust Director Dan Bell.

### HCRH State Trail Hike & Bike, OR

**Moderate hike: 1.1 miles | 1,040-ft elev. gain**

**Easy bike: 10 miles | 480-ft elev. gain**

Join leader Steve Carples for a dual-sport adventure filled with wildflowers and magnificent views, starting with a short but steep hike up Mitchell Point before a paved ride through and beyond Mosier Twin Tunnels.

## Sunday, June 2

### Bridal Veil Falls Nature Exploration, OR

**Easy: 1.2 miles | 70-ft elev. gain**

Bring the whole family to explore the falls, Pillars of Hercules basalt towers and abundant native plants. Interactive trail packets from Super Nature Adventures make learning more fun. *\$20/packet.*

## Wednesday, June 5

### Falls Creek Falls, WA

**Easy: 3.4 miles | 650-ft elev. gain**

Enjoy a creek-side walk with leader Steve Carples through old-growth forest to the spectacular falls, allowing time to appreciate the sights, sounds and smells of the forest. Leashed dogs are welcome.

## Thursday, June 6

### Beacon Rock Geology Ramble, WA

**Moderate: 3.5 miles | 850-ft elev. gain**

Geology enthusiast Jim Chase will share an ice age floods presentation before taking us on a historical hike up to the top of Beacon Rock to view how the floods carved the Gorge's landscape.

## Friday, June 7

### Herman Creek Loop to Indian Point, OR

**Strenuous: 8 miles | 2,600-ft elev. gain**

Hike with leader Sharon Ross to view how the Herman Creek area is recovering from the 2017 Eagle Creek fire while enjoying wildflower meadows and newly opened viewpoints.

## Friday, June 7

### Mayer State Park to Mosier Kayak Tour, OR

**Experienced Paddlers Only | 7 miles**

Field Rep. Peter Cornelison will lead us seven miles down the Columbia River from Mayer State Park to Mosier, passing Memaloose Island along the way.

## Saturday, June 8

### Herman Creek to Benson Plateau, OR

**Expert: 12.6 miles | 3,800-ft elev. gain**

Hike a section of the Pacific Crest Trail with Executive Director Kevin Gorman and leader Paul Freeman to discover up close the mosaic burn patterns from the 2017 Eagle Creek fire and identify late-blooming wildflowers.

## Sunday, June 9

### Bell Creek Ecology via Larch Mountain, OR

**Moderate: 5-6 miles | 1,000-ft elev. gain**

Learn about the unique ecosystem that defines an ancient forest along the Bell Creek trail, passing through one of the best stands of old-growth firs in the Gorge with naturalist Ralph Thomas Rogers. *Access to this trail depends on reopening of fire-closure area.*

## Saturday, June 15

### Dry Creek Falls, OR

**Easy/Mod.: 4.4 miles | 700-ft elev. gain**

Board vice chair Debbie Asakawa will lead us on a section of the PCT to this often-overlooked, secluded waterfall. Afterward, we'll stop by an eatery in Cascade Locks for lunch (optional).

## Tuesday, June 18

### Multnomah Falls to Larch Mountain, OR

**Expert: 14.3 miles | 4,000-ft elev. gain**

Ascend the trail behind Multnomah Falls to view the effects of the 2017 Eagle Creek fire with leader Paul Freeman, passing through areas of intact forest to reach a 360 degree view from Sherrard Point before our descent.

## Thursday, June 20

### Grassy Knoll Wildflowers, WA

**Strenuous: 7.9 miles | 1,950-ft elev. gain**

Follow naturalist Ralph Thomas Rogers along a ridge carpeted with diverse wildflowers through lush forest to an icy spring, making frequent stops to identify flowering plants and birds as opportunities arise.

## Friday, June 21

### ★ Hike & Stitch on the PCT, WA

**Moderate: 5.4 miles | 648-ft elev. gain**

Join Outdoor Programs Coordinator Kate Lindberg and designer-illustrator Amy Frazer on the first day of summer to Gillette Lake for a unique hike-craft opportunity inspired by the area's natural beauty. \$30 for supplies, embroidery kit.

## Sunday, June 23

**39th Annual Summer Picnic in Paradise  
Thunder Island | Cascade Locks, OR  
[gorgefriends.org/picnic](http://gorgefriends.org/picnic)**

## Thursday, June 27

### M Larch Mountain Crater Loop, OR

**Moderate: 6 miles | 1,100-ft elev. gain**

Enjoy alpine wildflowers lining one of the highest trails in the Gorge. We'll hike through enchanted old-growth forest with leader Sharon Ross to breathtaking views from Sherrard Point of five major volcanic peaks.

## July

## Friday, July 12

### M Multnomah Falls to Devil's Rest, OR

**Strenuous: 7 miles | 2,400-ft elev. gain**

Follow board vice chair Debbie Asakawa on the steep ascent from Multnomah Falls Lodge to Devil's Rest. We'll hike through areas recovering from the 2017 Eagle Creek fire, passing several waterfalls and newly opened viewpoints.

## Saturday, July 13

### ★ Hike & Stitch at Starvation Creek, OR

**Moderate: 2.5 miles | 700-ft elev. gain**

Join designer-illustrator Amy Frazer for a unique hike-craft opportunity inspired by the area's natural beauty. \$30 for supplies, embroidery kit.

## Sunday, July 21

### White Salmon River Rafting, WA

This full-day Wild & Scenic White Salmon River raft trip guided by Wet Planet takes us through the canyons formed by former Northwestern Lake and the historical site of Condit Dam. \$135 for lunch, gear.

OUR PROGRAM IS SPONSORED BY  
**JOR** JAMES F. O'ROURKE JR. AND ASSOCIATES  
JFOLAW.COM

Members-only registration begins Feb. 25.  
General registration begins March 1.  
Register at [gorgefriends.org/hikes](http://gorgefriends.org/hikes).



## Stewardship Volunteer Opportunities

Lend a hand this season to remove invasive plants throughout the Gorge, or join an educational weed identification walk. Work parties are led by stewardship coordinators Mika Barrett and Sara Woods and are held on public lands and Friends' land trust preserves. Work parties are generally from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; no experience is necessary, and tools are provided. Receive a Friends custom T-shirt when you volunteer at three or more.

Below are just some of the work parties scheduled for this spring and summer. Additional volunteer opportunities are continually being added. Details and registration at [gorgefriends.org/stewardship](http://gorgefriends.org/stewardship).

### European Houndstongue Removal at Balfour-Klickitat, WA Thursday, March 21

Enjoy expansive views of the Gorge from the Balfour-Klickitat loop trail while removing European houndstongue. Join us to be a part of this multiyear effort.

### Teasel Removals at Mosier Plateau, OR Thursday, March 28 & Wednesday, July 10

We've been working at this teasel patch for years, and with your help we've really begun to see improvement. Join the effort to pull these invasive weeds at our Mosier Plateau preserve.

### Scotch Broom Removals at Turtle Haven Preserve, WA Thursday, April 11 & Saturday, April 13

Help remove scotch broom that is encroaching on endemic western pond turtle habitat near Dog Mountain. By clearing out this plant, we are preserving the sandy bank where turtles spawn each spring.

### Weed Identification Walks Wednesday, April 17 & Thursday, June 13

Join Friends and Gorge-area weed managers on a weed identification walk to learn how to identify, report and effectively remove invasive plants.

### Herb Robert Removals at Angel's Rest, OR Thursday, April 18 & Thursday, April 25

Remove invasive plant herb Robert on this beloved Gorge trail that was affected by the 2017 Eagle Creek fire.

### Yellow Starthistle Pulls at Lyle Cherry Orchard, WA Saturday, June 15 & Thursday, June 27

Yellow starthistle blooms around the summer solstice (hence its Latin name, *Centaurea solstitialis*), which is also the best time to pull this invasive plant. Join us in hand-pulling this weed at Friends' Lyle Cherry Orchard land trust preserve.

St. Cloud invasive plant removal volunteers display their results. Photo: Friends archives

# Give Weeds the Boot!

Erin Middlewood, Guest Author, [erinmiddlewood.com](http://erinmiddlewood.com)

**W**e know you would never want to do anything to hurt the Columbia Gorge. Yet you may unwittingly infect your favorite spots if you're not brushing off your shoes before you set foot on the trails.

Inconspicuous seeds from aggressive weeds cling to hiking boots. These invaders grow vigorously and squeeze out native plants and inhibit ecological diversity. That spells trouble for wildlife, which eat the native plants, and for the beauty of the Gorge as we know it. It's a particular risk in the areas that still are recovering from the 2017 Eagle Creek fire.

Because these plants are invasive and don't naturally occur here, they don't have any predators that eat them and keep them in check, said Emily Stevenson, program coordinator for Skamania County's noxious weed program. The weeds then produce many seeds that spread and crowd out native plants.

"They take over an area, forming a monoculture," Stevenson said. "We want diversity, with flowers blooming

## Hikers of all ages can use boot brushes.

Photo: Maegan Jossy



Photo: Aimee Wade

at different times so pollinators have something to eat throughout the season, and fruit for birds and insects."

Shiny geranium, for example, tops Stevenson's list of targets right now. It grows in both sun and shade, and can produce multiple generations per season. You may well have seen the low-growing, small, five-petal, pink flowers of shiny geranium in your yard. Shiny geranium is common in Portland and its suburbs. A single plant can produce hundreds of seeds that eject 20 feet. Yep, you read that right. The plant is so determined to reproduce that it shoots out seeds that travel the equivalent of two stories, and that's without the help of wind. When you head out for a hike in the Gorge, you may be giving these hitchhikers a lift without even knowing.

That's where boot brushes come in. Perhaps you've seen them at trailheads. They're not just for cleaning dirt off your shoes before you get in the car after your hike – although you should do that, too, so you don't bring home any weeds. But the boot brushes are also there so you can brush off any seeds you may have brought with you.



Invasive shiny geranium. Photo: Courtesy of Wikimedia

It may seem hard to believe that the simple act of brushing off the bottom of your boot can be so crucial for the Gorge's ecological diversity. But Stevenson, the noxious weed program coordinator, has no doubt.

"Boot-brushing can really make a difference," she said.

For more information, please visit [gorgefriends.org/landstewardship](http://gorgefriends.org/landstewardship). ■

Erin Middlewood lives in Vancouver, Washington, and enjoys exploring the Columbia River Gorge with her husband and two sons. She's especially fond of the Nancy Russell Overlook at Cape Horn. Follow her at [erinmiddlewood.com](http://erinmiddlewood.com) or [@emiddlewood](https://twitter.com/emiddlewood) on Twitter.

# Five Tips for Hiking in the Burned Area



Hikers on the Multnomah-Wahkeena Falls trail.

Photo: Debbie Asakawa

Maegan Jossy, Outreach Manager, [maegan@gorgefriends.org](mailto:maegan@gorgefriends.org)

Over Thanksgiving weekend, more than a year since the 2017 Eagle Creek fire started, public access was restored to some of the Columbia Gorge's most beloved and popular trails, coinciding with the reopening of the Historic Columbia River Highway in the Waterfall Alley. Newly opened trails include Angels Rest, Wahkeena Falls, Angel's Rest to Devil's Rest, Multnomah-Wahkeena Falls loop, and Horsetail Falls to Ponytail Falls.

As spring approaches and the days grow longer, wildflowers bloom and songbirds fill the early morning silence, but the weather can be unpredictable. Be sure to consider these five safety tips anytime you hike, and especially in the burned area.

**1.** In inclement weather, don't hike in the burned area, especially during strong winds or during and after heavy rainstorms. Those conditions increase the risks of falling trees, landslides, and debris flows in the burned area because the soil is less stable, with less vegetation to hold it in place.

**2.** Less experienced hikers should consider alternatives to hiking in the burned areas in nasty weather, and all hikers with dogs or small children should consider safer options. There are plenty of other wonderful places to hike; check our trails database at [gorgefriends.org/trails](http://gorgefriends.org/trails).

**3.** When hiking on trails in the burned area, remember to look up, down, and around to assess the condition of hazard trees and snags.

**4.** Stay on the trail and clean your boots before and after you hike. Sensitive areas due to the burn need time to heal and revegetate. Hikers and their dogs are a common vector for spreading invasive seeds.

**5.** Report what you find back to Friends! We need everyone to be our eyes and ears. To join us for a stewardship work party, see page 14.

## IMPORTANT HIKING RESOURCES

View burned area and trailhead map at [gorgefriends.org/trails](http://gorgefriends.org/trails).

Remember the 10+ Essentials. Check [gorgefriends.org/10essentials](http://gorgefriends.org/10essentials).

Before leaving home, get Ready, Set, GORge at [readysetchorge.com](http://readysetchorge.com).

## HIKE WITH FRIENDS

Join us on a hike this spring in the burned area to learn about how the forest is bouncing back (see insert page 9).



# Making Her Mark on the Gorge

Pam Davee, Director of Philanthropy, [pam@gorgefriends.org](mailto:pam@gorgefriends.org)

When Karey Reid moved to the Pacific Northwest ten years ago, she quickly realized that she was living near one of the unheralded wonders of the world – the Columbia River Gorge.

Karey still remembers her first hike with Friends of the Columbia Gorge, and how Friends Executive Director Kevin Gorman spoke on the hike about acquiring property for *Gorge Towns to Trails*. She was impressed by the concept and its potential to integrate conservation, recreation, and community vitality. Karey joined Friends as a member shortly after that hike.

Preserving the Gorge for future generations of people and wildlife is a key priority for Karey, as it is for most Friends members. Following the 2017 Eagle Creek fire, she observed how Friends helped

“The Columbia River Gorge is an indescribably precious natural wonder, and it’s right here where we live! We are the people who know it personally, so we must be the ones who take responsibility for protecting it – its pristine wildness, its beauty and balance, and its ability to nourish our spirit by simply existing.

For me, it is a privilege to contribute financially to Friends of the Columbia Gorge, because their leadership has long proven itself in influencing the wise management of this spectacular geological treasure.”

— Karey Reid



Photo: Courtesy of Karey Reid

turn the public’s despair into hope for the future by putting the devastating fire into a larger historical and ecological context.

That fall, Karey decided to include Friends in her estate plans as a way of protecting the things that matter most to her – the wonder of nature and the health

of the environment. She hopes more and more people will recognize the important work that Friends does, and will join her in leaving a legacy that is good for people, for nature, and for the future.

Thank you Karey, for protecting the Gorge for future generations!

## Welcome and Well Wishes

Paige Unangst, Finance Director, [paige@gorgefriends.org](mailto:paige@gorgefriends.org)

Last October, Friends of the Columbia Gorge welcomed Development Manager **Elizabeth Brooke-Willbanks** to our staff. In this new role, Elizabeth is responsible for supporting and growing philanthropic giving from our donors and from corporations and foundations.

Elizabeth brings more than 26 years of experience in fundraising and nonprofit management to Friends, including more than a decade spent managing membership, volunteer, and camping programs for the Girl Scouts. She started camping at age eight

and by 15 was leading trainings for adults in camping, outdoor survival, and *Leave No Trace* principles. Elizabeth has a deep interest in the psychology of giving and we are excited she has joined our team.

Photos: Friends of the Columbia Gorge



Elizabeth Brooke-Willbanks



Temple Lentz

In December, we said goodbye to board member **Temple Lentz**, who has been a member of Friends’ board since December 2015. We congratulate Temple on her election to the Clark County Council and wish her well in this new endeavor.

# Special Gifts

October 15, 2018 – January 21, 2019

## IN HONOR

### In Honor of Abby and Eric

Emily Paccia

### In Honor of Anonymous

Carl and Lisa Nelson

### In Honor of Ariel and Alex

Sonia Sabnis

### In Honor of Debbie Asakawa

Amy Polo  
Carl Asakawa  
Denise Kleim  
Diane Koopman  
Elaine Smith  
James Jarzabek and Teresa Meyer  
Janet Liu  
Jayne and Shinya Ichikawa  
Jill Mitchell  
Laurie Turney  
Marjory and Mark Morford  
Mark Bajorek and Susan Palmiter  
Mary and Scott Grout  
Nancy and Michael Phillips  
Sharon Ross  
Sheila Bunnell  
Stephen Rallison and Sharon Stern  
Suzanne McNally

### In Honor of Debbie and Steve Asakawa

Spencer Kieu

### In Honor of Leslie Allen Bancroft

Beverly Bancroft

### In Honor of Dylan C. Beard

Laurie and Thomas Beard

### In Honor of Stephen E. Blackman

Janet Metzger

### In Honor of Elizabeth Brooke-Willbanks

Minda and Bob Seibert

### In Honor of Heather Brunelle

Taber Shears

### In Honor of Carol and Charles Brunner

Miyoko Brunner

### In Honor of Diane Budden

Jade Budden

### In Honor of Maria Cenicerros

Judy McNally

### In Honor of Kyle Cleys

Kyle Cleys and Jeanne Ramsten

### In Honor of Peter Cornelison

Gigi Pomerantz

### In Honor of Corps of Discovery

Janice Walters

### In Honor of Annie Costello

Karen and Malcolm Costello

### In Honor of Laura Cray and Lisa K. Anderson

Jack and Jackie Cray

### In Honor of Dad

Max Glass

### In Honor of Pam Davee

Randa Cleaves Abramson and  
Jonathan Abramson

### In Honor of Leydana Dehlia

Samantha Matthews

### In Honor of Wesley and Mirgan Dodd

Catherine Morgan and Matthew Dodd

### In Honor of Eagle Creek Trail

Constance Coleman

### In Honor of Gwen Farnham

John and Priscilla Privat

### In Honor of Beth Flake and David Michalek

Leslie Currens

### In Honor of Tim Gillespie

Nathan Gillespie

### In Honor of Amy Glaiberman and Tristan Juricek

Kristina Glaiberman

### In Honor of Kevin Gorman

Kathleen Karey Reid

### In Honor of Kevin Gorman and Michelle Kinsella

Justin Carroll and Keren Rosenblum

### In Honor of Robert and Hattie Lien Gregg

Phillip Gregg

### In Honor of Marie Hall

Barbara and Scott McArthur

### In Honor of Debbie Hess

Margaret Ullman-Hess

### In Honor of David and Apricot Irving

Michael Irving

### In Honor of Andrew Jossi

Kathleen Conners

### In Honor of Art and Sonja Kohanek

Dana Snyder

### In Honor of Louise Fallon Laird

Joanna Laird

### In Honor of Michael Lang

Marna Moore

### In Honor of Richard Law Jr.

Lisa Nash

### In Honor of Robert W. and Patricia Lawrence

Richard Lawrence

### In Honor of C. Jon Lesch

Lynda and Roger Decker

### In Honor of Lee Mahoney

Ashleigh Mahoney

### In Honor of Mark and Dawn Miller

Douglas Miller

### In Honor of Kathleen Millett

Mary Marchant

### In Honor of Dana and Mike Mills

Norma and Arnold Zack

### In Honor of Stephen and Rebecca Moe

Carol and Jon Lesch

### In Honor of Mosier Company Staff

Lisa Hansen

### In Honor of the Narver Family

Colin Narver

### In Honor of Allison Narver and Jim Chesnutt

John Narver

### In Honor of Colin Narver

John Narver

### In Honor of Greg Narver and Priscilla Cypiot

John Narver

### In Honor of Farin Nikdel

Julie Gursha

### In Honor of Kathy and John Omer

Martha McInnes

### In Honor of Tim Pacific

Christy Carovillano and Tim Pacific

### In Honor of Pam and Loren

Michele Jakubauskas

### In Honor of Lila Ivy Patton

Kelly R. Patton

### In Honor of Ellen and Walt Peck

Dr. Barb Wayson and Dr. Mike Wyman

### In Honor of Ryan Phelps

Benjamin Kinder and Julie Aguiar

### In Honor of Megan Pingree

Lucile Gatchell  
Jane Maradyn

### In Honor of Norma Reich

Sacha Reich

### In Honor of Bettie and Randy Riall

Melanie and Eric Zumdieck

### In Honor of Sharon Ross

Lynn Detrick  
Robert Detrick

### In Honor of Zöe Ross

Desiree Khatchadourian

### In Honor of the Rubinrott Family

Lori and William Ritter

### In Honor of Lynda Sacamano

Joseph and Lynda Sacamano

### In Honor of Jordan Schnitzer

Pendleton Woolen Mills

### In Honor of Paul Scrugham

Karl Schulz

### In Honor of Andrea, Andy, and Wren Seykora

Colleen Renier

### In Honor of Wolfgang Siegel

Marianne and Stephen Gillmer

### In Honor of Don and Alona Steinke

Shirley Troxel

### In Honor of Cordell Stiles

Holly Shev and Mark Lenetsky

### In Honor of Glen and Janet Stream

Craig Nelson and Julie Stream

### In Honor of Dick Thompson

Kristin and Dick Thompson

### In Honor of William and Linda Trent

Virginia Trent

### In Honor of Jennifer Unruh

Rachel Unruh

### In Honor of Brett Wagoner

Eric Wagoner

### In Honor of Gregg Walker and Tabitha Sofge

Paul Walker

### In Honor of Charlie Webster

Bill Lanfri

### In Honor of Dick and Pat Yecny

Diane Candelario

### In Honor of Jon Zonana

Betty and Jacob Reiss

## IN MEMORY

### In Memory of John and Sarah Anderson

Peggy Anderson

### In Memory of Baloo

Cameron Bennetts and Chuck Bronaugh



**In Memory of Mike Bernazzani**  
Suzanne Strausz

**In Memory of Broughton H. Bishop Sr.**  
Kelley and Broughton Bishop

**In Memory of Ruth Blackburn**  
HRVHS Class of '73  
Hood River Supply  
Larry and Cheryl Madsen  
Molly Montgomery

**In Memory of Gloria Ann Boore**  
Jennifer Rauch

**In Memory of Barbara Connelly Bruch**  
Bruce Connelly

**In Memory of Marilyn Burke**  
Pat Scheans

**In Memory of Byron**  
Andrea Lara

**In Memory of Carver**  
Genevieve Long

**In Memory of Clyde**  
Karen Matz

**In Memory of Ronald Cummings**  
Ronald and Victoria Cummings

**In Memory of Michael Dale**  
Donna Gilroy

**In Memory of Bill and Sadie Duerden**  
Barbara Duerden

**In Memory of Chris Elfring**  
Kari Hallenburg

**In Memory of Patricia Fogoros**  
Aimee Fogoros

**In Memory of Frances and Wesley**  
Valerie Anderson

**In Memory of Almira Gantka**  
Jenni and Shawn Harper

**In Memory of Senator Mark Hatfield**  
Antoinette Hatfield

**In Memory of Dave and Margaret Holmes**  
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**In Memory of Lee Jenkins**  
Linda Kremin

**In Memory of Patricia Jensen**  
Jeff and Robin Jensen

**In Memory of Rhoda Jensen**  
Peter Jensen

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Molly Finch Jones

**In Memory of Jim Lambert**  
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**In Memory of David Lifton**  
David Feinberg

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Sarah Livingstone

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Deborah Samuels

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Patricia Toccalino

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Margaret Willer

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Dawn Daniels and Mark Miller

**In Memory of John Morris**  
Jim and Mary Chase

**In Memory of Clarence Muirhead**  
Bruce Muirhead and  
Denise Pare-Muirhead

**In Memory of Jonah Newman**  
Michael Christianson and Liz Hart

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Diana and Tom Bland  
Kenneth Willner

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Georgena Hanning

**In Memory of Dr. John Reynolds**  
Cynthia Barrett and Karen Johnson

**In Memory of Captain Dale Russell**  
Nicole Aue

**In Memory of Nancy Russell**  
Edmund Frank and Eustacia Su

**In Memory of Jack and Beverly Shapiro**  
Art Shapiro

**In Memory of Michael F. Sheehan, Don Parson, and Serenity the Compassionate Cat**  
Deborah Redman and Don Whittemore

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Barbara Smith

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James Unterspan

**In Memory of Regina Darelus Villaume**  
Joanna Laird

**In Memory of Ed and Mary Vranizan**  
Ed Vranizan Jr.

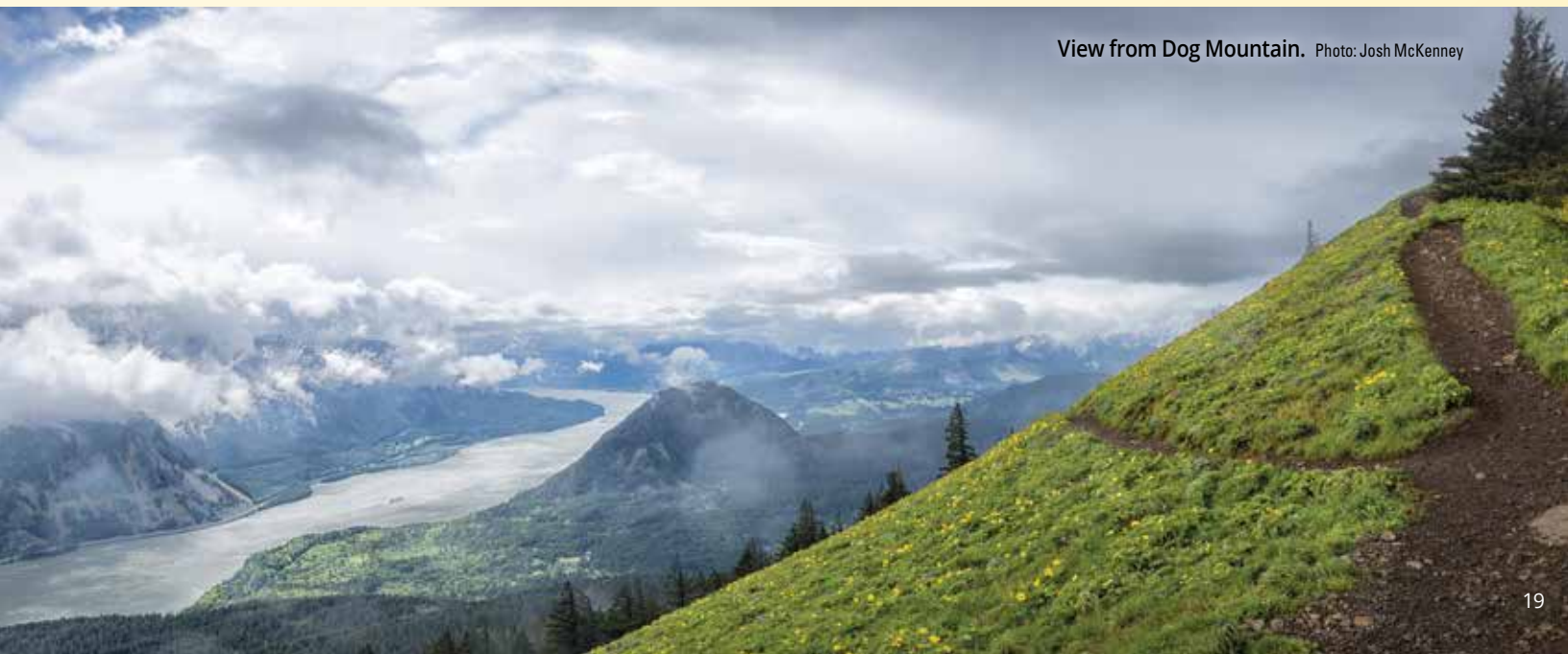
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Anne Charnholm  
Anne and Kevin Winthrop  
Carlos and Vickie Simpson  
John La Vallee  
Loring and Margaret Winthrop  
Laura Martini  
Tom Nelson and Peggie Schwarz

**In Memory of Marjorie Wolfe**  
Margaret Gunn and Kirke Wolfe



View from Dog Mountain. Photo: Josh McKenney



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# Before Leaving Home, get Ready, Set, GORge!

The days are getting longer, wildflowers are blooming, and songbirds have filled the early morning silence. As you plan your spring adventures in the Gorge, first be sure to stop at **ReadySetGorge.com**, where you'll find tips to plan your hike (Ready), check trail and weather conditions (Set), and ways to help protect the Gorge so that future generations can enjoy it, too (GORge!).



# READY, SET, GORGE!

[readyssetgorge.com](http://readyssetgorge.com)

Catherine Creek.  
Photo: Treena Garland