

SPRING & SUMMER 2018

Hikes, Outings, Events & Stewardship

New Places and Possibilities

This season, our guided hikes and outings will focus on the beauty and the less-traveled areas of the Gorge in eastern Oregon and Washington. In Oregon, 135 miles of trails remain closed in the western Gorge due to the Eagle Creek fire. Friends is also putting an emphasis on stewardship this year and will be rolling out a series of work parties and trainings in the burned area (see page 14 for details) with our *Gorge Trails Recovery Team* partners. Make this the year that you lend a hand and give back to this treasured landscape that we all love.

**Exclusive
Members-Only
Registration
is open now!**

General registration
begins March 5.

Outing Icon Key

-  Members Only
-  Wildflowers
-  *Preserve the Wonder*
-  Special Focus
-  Stewardship
-  Wiking
-  Trails to Ales
-  Family Friendly
-  Dog Friendly



Members-only registration is open now.
Register at gorgefriends.org/hikes

Questions? Contact Outdoor Programs Coordinator
Kate Lindberg, katel@gorgefriends.org or 971-634-1265.

MARCH

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

M *PtW* **Lyle Cherry Orchard and Lyle Peak, WA**

Strenuous: 7 miles, 1,400-ft elev. gain

Field Representative Peter Cornelison will lead us to early spring wildflowers and panoramic Gorge views at Friends' land trust property. We'll learn about the adjacent *Preserve the Wonder* Lyle Peak property and more. Later, we'll continue our conversations nearby over wine tasting at a nearby winery (optional).

SUNDAY, MARCH 11

PtW **Preserve the Wonder at Steigerwald Shores, WA**

Easy: 3.8 miles, no elev. gain

Walk with board members to Steigerwald Shores, a 160-acre parcel adjacent to Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Learn how our *Preserve the Wonder* campaign will help make a major restoration of this refuge possible.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

★ **PCT to Gillette Lake and Greenleaf Overlook, WA**

Strenuous: 7.8 miles, 1,000-ft elev. gain

Hike with leader Sharon Ross on a section of the Pacific Crest Trail through a forest with various ages of logged areas amid healthy standing trees. Greenleaf Overlook offers views of the Columbia River.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

Hamilton Mountain, WA

Strenuous: 9.4 miles, 2,100-ft elev. gain

Follow leader Ruth Johnson on this challenging hike through lush forest to find early spring wildflowers and great Gorge views.

SAT. – SUN., MARCH 24-25

Wilderness First Aid (WFA) Training Beacon Rock State Park, WA

Learn how to treat an injury or illness in the backcountry where help is delayed. This is a 16-hr, interactive class with the option for CPR certification. **Fee: \$145 WFA only; \$175 WFA + CPR.**

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

M **★** **Dancing Rock Walk and Wine Tasting, WA**

Easy/Moderate: 2-3 miles, little elev. gain

Join Executive Director Kevin Gorman for special access to this scenic land trust property not open to the public. Hear *Gorge Towns to Trails* updates, learn about Friends' fire recovery efforts, and search for early wildflowers. After, we'll enjoy an optional wine tasting nearby.

APRIL

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

★ **Lyle Cherry Orchard Wildlife, WA**

Moderate: 4 miles, 900-ft elev. gain

Wildlife biologist Bill Weiler will lead us up to the Lyle Cherry Orchard and neighboring Washington DNR land, pointing out threatened western gray squirrels, pileated woodpeckers, and other wildlife.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

M **Hardy Ridge Loop, WA**

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

Hike with guidebook author Craig Romano on this peaceful, quieter trail high above Beacon Rock. Showy flowers line this somewhat-rugged trail, and the views are outstanding. Leashed dogs are welcome.

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

M **Wildflowers at Catherine Creek and Klickitat Trail, WA**

Easy/Moderate: 5 miles, 150-ft elev. gain

Walk with Klickitat Trail Conservancy (KTC) board members Barbara Robinson and Steven Woolpert to learn about wildflowers galore in the eastern Gorge. This is a must-do spring outing in partnership with KTC!

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

M **★** **Deschutes River Ecology, OR**

Moderate: 4-5 miles, little elev. gain

This leisurely walk on the Deschutes River Trail with naturalist Ralph Thomas Rogers features riparian ecology, emphasizing birds, plants and butterflies. The return hike offers great views of the river from a slightly higher elevation.

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

★ **Rodney Falls and Little Beacon Rock, WA**

Easy: 2.5 miles, 500-ft elev. gain

Join environmental educator Roland Begin to hike in one of the most geologically fascinating areas in the Columbia River Gorge. We'll identify plants and their ethnobotanical uses, and we'll discuss the role of fire in forest ecology.

General Information

- Space is limited, so as a courtesy to others, please register only if you're sure you will attend.
- We encourage you to sign up on the wait list. We'll try our best to accommodate everyone who wants to hike with Friends.
- Carpool information and outing-specific details will be emailed upon registration.
- Children are welcome with a parent or guardian on hikes appropriate for their age and ability.

All photos, pages 9-14: Debbie Asakawa

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Register at gorgefriends.org/hikes

Questions? Contact Outdoor Programs Coordinator
Kate Lindberg, katel@gorgefriends.org or 971-634-1265.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

Mosier Plateau, OR

Moderate: 3.5 miles, 600-ft elev. gain

Take in panoramic views and wildflowers at the peak of the bloom, on the bluff above Mosier. Friends' former Land Trust Manager Kate McBride will share the history and future plans for this property and the trail. Later, we'll head to a nearby eatery for lunch (optional).

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

Two Botanical Walks at Rowena Plateau, OR

Easy: 1-2 miles, little elev. gain

Naturopathic physician Daivati Bharadvaj will share historical and modern medicinal uses of Gorge plants, stopping to identify and discuss many plants on this wildflower plateau. Later, stop at a nearby eatery for food and beverages (optional). **Choose a morning or early afternoon outing.**

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

PtW Catherine Creek to Coyote Meadow, WA

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

Join wildflower enthusiast Paul Freeman in a quest to identify 50 wildflower species on this challenging hike over semi-rugged terrain to outstanding Gorge views. Board member Debbie Asakawa will show us why the Coyote Meadow parcel is an important part of the *Preserve the Wonder* campaign.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

Crawford Oaks Loop, WA

Moderate: 9 miles, 1,300-ft elev. gain

Find eastern-Gorge sunshine and wildflowers at their peak on this trail to Dalles Mountain Ranch. Listen for meadowlarks and watch for wildlife on a faster-paced walk with leader Kim Owen.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

Earth Walk with Mindfulness on the Klickitat Trail, WA

Easy: 2-3 miles, little elev. gain

Enjoy a peaceful opportunity to connect deeply with nature, health, and yourself on this quiet walk with Klickitat Trail Conservancy board member Steven Woolpert. Mindful walking in nature brings its beauty and healing power into mind, body, and spirit.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

Deschutes River Trail to Ferry Springs, OR

Moderate: 5 miles, 500-ft elev. gain

We'll enjoy sweeping views and learn about desert wildflowers and geology from leader Ross Edginton. This loop trail starts out along the Deschutes River, then climbs to the upper trail to Ferry Springs.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

Waterfalls and Wildflowers at Latourell Falls, OR

Easy: 2.4 miles, 520-ft elev. gain

Join Oregon State Park Ranger Miranda Mendoza to hike through the "mist zone" at Latourell Falls. We'll visit two beautiful waterfalls on this loop hike, pausing as we go to learn the park's history and enjoy early wildflowers.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

Kayak from Mayer State Park to Mosier, OR **Experienced paddlers only**

This 8-mile paddle trip with Field Representative Peter Cornelison passes Memaloose Island, rocky shorelines, and sandy beaches. *All participants to supply their own gear. Experienced kayakers and whitewater canoers only.*

MAY

TUESDAY, MAY 1

Tom McCall Point, OR

Moderate: 5 miles, 1,070-ft elev. gain

Climb high with Outdoor Programs Coordinator Kate Lindberg and naturalist Ralph Thomas Rogers at this wildflower paradise. We'll travel this semi-rugged trail for sweeping views of the Gorge on May Day.

THURSDAY, MAY 3

Historic Homestead Tour at Columbia Hills, WA

Easy: 3 miles, modest/steady elev. gain

Author and interpretive guide Judy Bentley will uncover the rich history of former homesteads along the Crawford Oaks trail as spring wildflowers carpet this section of Columbia Hills State Park.

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

38th Annual Meeting & Luncheon
Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, WA
gorgefriends.org/annualmeeting

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!



FRIDAY, MAY 4

Camas Lily Fields at Round Lake and Lacamas Falls, WA

Moderate: 4 miles, 300-ft elev. gain

Follow leader Jim Daly to discover the abundant blue blooms at the Camas Fields during peak season. We'll start at Round Lake and return via Lacamas Falls and Creek.

SATURDAY, MAY 5

Hardy Ridge Loop, WA

Strenuous: 9 miles, 2,500-ft elev. gain

Enjoy a steady climb through beautiful forests with leader Sharon Ross to the saddle behind Hamilton Mountain. Gorgeous views await at the summit.

SATURDAY, MAY 5

Family Hike and Nature Hunt

Easy: less than 2 miles, 200-ft elev. gain

Join author and educator Wendy Gorton for a "nature hunt" featuring a scavenger card to help us identify plants, animals, bugs and geological features. One lucky hiker will win a copy of Wendy's *50 Hikes with Kids* guidebook. *Exact location will depend on trail conditions and will be announced later.*

SUNDAY, MAY 6

Conboy Lake National Wildlife Refuge, WA

Easy: 3 miles, 100-ft elev. gain

Learn about the natural ecology and management of this national wildlife refuge on a slow-paced hike on the Willard Springs Trail with naturalist Ralph Thomas Rogers.

SUNDAY, MAY 6

**Full-Day Whitewater Rafting
Klickitat River, WA**

This late-spring whitewater rafting adventure with Wet Planet passes thick pine forests, basalt-lined canyons, and oak woodlands.

\$90 fee includes lunch and gear.

THURSDAY, MAY 10

  **Coyote Wall and Labyrinth, WA**

Strenuous: 6 miles, 1,500 elev. gain

Leader Annette Hadaway will lead us up to Coyote Wall for sweeping river views, weekday beauty, and solitude. Later, we'll stop at a nearby winery for wine tasting and continued conversation (optional).

FRIDAY, MAY 11

  **Hamilton Mountain, WA**

Strenuous: 9.4 miles, 2,100-ft elev. gain

Follow leader Sharon Ross along this challenging trail that has everything: waterfalls, cliffs, deep forests, and stunning views of the Gorge.

FRIDAY, MAY 11

  **Crawford Oaks Loop, WA**

Strenuous: 7 miles, 1,060-elev. gain

Join leader Kristin Price when lush wildflowers are at their peak on the meandering Crawford Oaks trail to Dalles Mountain Ranch. We'll look for wildlife and listen for meadowlarks. After, enjoy optional wine tasting nearby.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

  **Petroglyphs Tour
and Dancing Rock Walk, WA**

Two easy walks: 2.5 miles, little elev. gain

Visit ancient petroglyphs and rock images, including *She Who Watches*, with Washington State Park Tour Guide Chon Clayton and hike leader Jim Chase. Then we'll head to Dancing Rock land trust property to view traces of ice age floods. Later, enjoy optional wine tasting.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

 **Fort Cascades National Historical Site, WA**

Easy: less than 2 miles, no elev. gain

Join environmental educator Roland Begin for an educational walk to uncover the rich cultural history of this area, learning the ethnobotanical uses of native plants as we go. We'll also spend time discussing the role of fire in forest ecology.

Stay Updated

Throughout the season we'll be adding stewardship work parties. Sign up for our Hiking Enews to receive these announcements, along with openings for outings, best bets for seasonal hikes, trail alerts and more:

gorgefriends.org/subscribe

SUNDAY, MAY 13

Swale Canyon Bike Ride, WA

Strenuous: 28 miles, 1,000-ft elev. gain

Ride the old railbed along Swale Creek with Field Representative Peter Cornelison. This is a great one-way ride from Harms Road to Lyle. We'll cross some rough railroad rock as we take in great views of massive rocks, arid landscape, and wildlife habitat. *Involves a car shuttle.*

FRIDAY, MAY 18

 **Panther Creek Falls
and Falls Creek Falls, WA**

Moderate: 3.4 miles, 700-ft. elev. gain

Discover magnificent, multi-tiered Falls Creek Falls with leader Jane Garbisch. We'll follow the trail's gentle ascent along a cascading creek to the 200-ft high falls. Then we'll explore the hanging gardens and moss-coated beauty of Panther Creek Falls nearby.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

 **Watercolor Workshop
at Beacon Rock State Park, WA**

The natural surroundings will be our artistic inspiration on this day-long watercolor exploration with artist Heather Brunelle. Supply list provided upon registration. *Limited to 10 participants. \$20 fee.*

SAT – SUN, MAY 19 – 20

**Wilderness First Aid (WFA) Training
Beacon Rock State Park, WA**

Learn how to treat an injury or illness in the backcountry where help is delayed. This is a 16-hr, interactive class with the option for CPR certification. **Fee: \$145 WFA only; \$175 WFA + CPR.**

FRIDAY, MAY 25

  **Petroglyphs Tour
and Horsethief Butte, WA**

Two easy walks: 2.5 miles, little elev. gain

Explore culturally treasured Yakama Nation lands with leader Judy Todd on this two-part mindful-awareness outing. We'll quietly visit *She Who Watches* and other petroglyphs before going to nearby Horsethief Butte, reflecting on the deeper cultural story relative to climate change, culture, and the intersectionality of our lives today.

SATURDAY, MAY 26

Seven Streams Loop, OR

Expert: 11.5 miles, 2,200-ft elev. gain

This full-day hike with leader Paul Freeman takes us up a multi-use, forested trail to expansive 360-degree views of the Gorge, Hood River Valley and several mountain peaks. Good chance to see rainbows if there's any precipitation.

SUNDAY, MAY 27

  **Whistling Ridge, WA**

Strenuous: 8 miles, 2,200-ft elev. gain

Hike with Friends Senior Staff Attorney Nathan Baker on this "forgotten trail" across a scenic ridge whose name is shared with the neighboring proposed wind energy project. Learn the current status of this controversial project as you take in great views at the summit of Nestor Peak.

TUESDAY, MAY 29

  **Dog Mountain, WA**

Strenuous: 6.9 miles, 2,820-ft elev. gain

Climb slopes covered with wildflowers with lead Karl Kratzer, surrounded by panoramic Gorge views. Stunning beauty and greater solitude are featured on this weekday hike.

JUNE

SATURDAY, JUNE 2

Hamilton Mountain, WA

Strenuous: 9.4 miles, 2,100-ft elev. gain

Enjoy lush forest shade on this challenging hike with leader Ruth Johnson to an iconic Gorge peak. We'll get a close-up look at towering basalt cliffs as we climb high to take in Hamilton's panoramic Gorge views.

Members-only registration is open now.
Register at **gorgefriends.org/hikes**

Questions? Contact Outdoor Programs Coordinator
Kate Lindberg, katel@gorgefriends.org or 971-634-1265.

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

★ Sandy River Delta Evening Walk, OR

Easy: 3-4 miles, little elev. gain

Learn about the collaborative restoration efforts of Confluence, Sandy River Basin Watershed Council, Friends of the Sandy River Delta, and others to preserve this multiuse area. We'll visit renowned architect Maya Lin's Bird Blind and see the results of the largest deciduous forest habitat restoration project in the Pacific Northwest.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

M Dog Mountain, WA

Strenuous: 7 miles, 1,820-ft. elev. gain

Beat the crowds in search of lush wildflowers during peak bloom on this fast-paced, very early morning hike with Field Representative Peter Cornelison.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

★ Ice Age Floods Tour

Driving tour with short walks

Join Jim Chase for this informative geology tour on both sides of the Columbia. This driving tour includes numerous stops and short hikes to learn about the Gorge's geology and view remnants of the Ice Age Floods. **\$40 fee includes lunch and chartered transportation.**

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

★ Mosier Plateau, OR

Moderate: 3.5 miles, 600-ft elev. gain

Celebrate National Get Outdoors Day with a walk on Friends' Mosier Plateau land trust property with Outreach Manager Maegan Jossy. Later, we'll continue our conversations over wine tasting nearby (optional).

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

M Nestor Peak, WA

Strenuous: 8-9 miles, 2,100-ft elev. gain

Lush forest will shade us as we climb up to stunning views with leader Paul Freeman. Thanks to the removal of the Condit Dam seven years ago, we'll be able to see the White Salmon River flowing back in its natural path and discover a wildflower meadow that had been hidden under a formerly dammed lake.

Play & Stay

Step beyond day hikes for a weekend getaway to more deeply appreciate what Gorge communities have to offer. Scenic guided hikes, discounted lodging, meals, evening presentations, and more are all part of your all-inclusive package. Details and reservations at gorgefriends.org/playandstay



2018 Play & Stay Weekends

Wildflowers and Wine

Dufur, OR | April 27 – 29

Heart of the Gorge Tour

Cascade Locks, OR | May 19 – 20

Foliage & Fall Wine

Lyle, WA | Oct. 12 – 14

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

M ★ Bell Creek Ecology, OR

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

Learn the characteristics and ecology of ancient forests on a slow-paced hike through a majestic old-growth fir forest with naturalist Ralph Thomas Rogers. *Access to this trail depends on reopening of the fire-closure area; it's possible it will not be open for hiking by June.*

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

★ Hike 'n' Stitch Outing on the Cape Horn Upper Trail, WA

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

Join Outdoor Programs Coordinator Kate Lindberg and designer-illustrator Amy Frazer for a unique art-hike opportunity. We'll hike to panoramic views at the Nancy Russell Overlook where we'll have an introductory lesson in embroidery. **\$20 fee for embroidery patch kit to keep.**

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

M Grassy Knoll, WA

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

Follow leader Jim Chase along a ridge carpeted with wildflowers, through a lush forest to an icy spring. We'll enjoy great Gorge views and an overlook of Big Lava Bed. *This trail is very steep in sections.*

JULY

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4

M Little Baldy, WA

Strenuous: 9.0 miles, 1,500-ft elev. gain

Spend the 4th of July with leader Jim Chase near Silver Star Mountain. We'll hike through an enchanted forest and fields of wildflowers to a 360-degree mountain view. *This trail includes a non-technical scramble to the summit and is steep in sections.*

MONDAY, JULY 16

Trail Run in the Gorge

Moderate: distance TBD

Staff attorney Steve McCoy will take us on a trail run to start the week. The exact location is yet to be determined, but we'll be looking for lush forest cover to keep us cool, along with beautiful Gorge views. All running paces are welcome.

FRIDAY, JULY 20

M Cape Horn Loop, WA

Moderate: 8.3 miles, 1,500-ft elev. gain

Learn the full story of Cape Horn, from the threat of a planned subdivision to a scenic public trail, as we hike to breathtaking viewpoints and scenic overlooks with Executive Director Kevin Gorman.

SUNDAY, JULY 22

Full-Day White Salmon River Rafting, WA

This Wild and Scenic White Salmon River full-day raft trip guided by Wet Planet takes us through the canyons formed by the previous lake and the historical site of Condit Dam. This is a great opportunity to see the newly formed, spectacular Narrows Canyon. **\$135 fee includes lunch and gear.**

OUR HIKING PROGRAM
IS SPONSORED BY



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SUNDAY, JULY 15

38th Annual Summer Picnic in Paradise

Thunder Island, Cascade Locks, OR

gorgefriends.org/picnic

Lend-a-Hand Stewardship



Spring Into Stewardship Action

The work parties listed below will be led by Land Trust Stewardship Coordinator Sara Woods from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. unless otherwise noted. **No experience needed – we'll provide all tools and training!** Full details and registration: gorgefriends.org/stewardship.

SUNDAY, MARCH 11

Spring Cleaning at Memaloose Overlook, OR

Kick off the 2018 season with Oregon State Parks and Trailkeepers of Oregon, helping with trail clean-up! We'll begin re-beautifying this well-loved area known for its wildflowers and views by removing trash from a section of trail that over the years has become an unofficial dump site.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

Vista View Property Cleanup, WA

Help remove wood debris from the hay fields at this working farm that is one of Friends' land trust properties. We'll also work to clean up the road shoulders and mend some fencing.

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

Teasel Rosette Removal at Mosier Plateau, OR

We'll be working on the Mosier Plateau land trust property to combat more of this invasive plant in preparation for planting native camas.

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

Coyote Meadows Property Cleanup, WA

Visit this recently acquired *Preserve the Wonder* property adjacent to Catherine Creek to help remove metal, trash, and debris that has accumulated over the years.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

Fence Removal at Lyle Peak, WA

Help pull sections of an old fence down on this newly acquired *Preserve the Wonder* property to help wildlife move freely around Lyle Cherry Orchard.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

Boot Brush Kick-Off Days: Mosier Plateau, OR and Lyle Cherry Orchard, WA

Spend a day promoting the boot brush stations at Lyle Cherry Orchard and Mosier Plateau trailheads. We'll demonstrate to hikers how to properly use a boot brush and why they're so important to reduce the spread of noxious weeds.

THURSDAY, MAY 24

Native Seed Collection at Mosier Plateau, OR

Enjoy the view from Mosier Plateau Land Trust Property while collecting native balsamroot seeds to use for future restoration work on site.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

Invasive Species Training Hikes, WA Balfour-Klickitat Trail (June 1) Beacon Rock State Park (June 7)

Join Gorge-area Weed Managers for an informational hike to learn about invasive plants that threaten Gorge habitats. We'll learn how to identify common Gorge weeds and report them via smartphone apps. We'll also spend time pulling invasive plants as we go.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

Yellow Starthistle Pull Party at Lyle Cherry Orchard, WA

Join us on Summer Solstice in the fight against yellow starthistle, an extremely invasive plant that is taking over Lyle Cherry Orchard. We'll need as many gloved-hands as possible for these events!

Join the Gorge Trails Recovery Team

Friends is putting an emphasis on stewardship this year, and we'll be rolling out a series of additional work parties and trainings in the burned area with our *Gorge Trails Recovery Team* partners.

Make this the year that you lend-a-hand and give back to this treasured landscape that we all love.

Sign up now to be notified when we announce the schedule at gorgefriends.org/firestewardship.