Like just about everyone, Hopkins was forced to close its gates and doors due to the concern over the Coronavirus. Because of the large numbers of people coming out to hike our trails and enjoy the forest, we were unable to keep our forest open and safe for public use. Now as the parks and businesses begin to reopen, the board decided it was time to re-open our gate to the community as well.

WE ARE NOW OPEN as of June 1st!!!

*See back for modified visitor guidelines*

While opening back up is exciting, it has been a stressful time for Hopkins financially. Due to (private) rental cancellations for facilities use and loss of donated user fees, we have been negatively impacted by the lack of revenue to operate our educational programs. Since we are a non-profit organization we depend entirely on donations and grants to operate our programs as well as maintaining our facilities and trails for the community to enjoy. Most all of what we provide to the public and private youth and landowner education, as well as our public visitors, is at no cost.

However, rather than look back on what did not happen out at Hopkins due to the closure, let’s look at some of the new things that sprung up this spring. First, we have connected students, teachers, the public, and landowners virtually through programs and devices with weird names like ZOOM, Google Meets, GoPro (or some familiar like) YouTube, Facebook, and Chromebook. As a result, some people who were never able to come to the forest got a glimpse and maybe some inspiration to now come visit. Also, all this new technological connection created some new ideas for engagement that will likely continue in the future. Overall, we are very excited to return to the forest and reengage the youth and public!

HOPKINS NEEDS YOUR HELP

We are in need of volunteers to help us maintain the trails and facilities. You are invited to participate in one of our Community Forest Workdays which takes place on the second Saturday of every month. The workday starts around 8:30 am and lunch is provided. You can learn more by visiting our website at: [www.demonstrationforest.org](http://www.demonstrationforest.org), or calling Hopkins at 503-632-2150.

If you are able to make an extra donation at this time to help Hopkins recover from the closure caused by the pandemic, please consider becoming a Friend of Hopkins. Your donation can be mailed to Forests Forever, Inc, PO Box 1320, Oregon City, OR 97045.

Your donation can make a huge difference in helping us continue our educational programing and recover from the closure due to the pandemic.

As always, our goal and purpose is to continue educating the students and community in forestry and forest practices. With your help, Hopkins will be back to full capacity soon!

Peter Matzka
OSU Extension Forestry Educator/Hopkins Demonstration Forest
EDUCATION

High School Teachers Stay Connected and Engaged
At the first sign of change mid-March, a group of high school teachers known as ONRE (Oregon Natural Resources Educators) met at the beginning of April to make plans for the modified school year. With many of these teachers being advisors for the Future Natural Resource Leaders (high school student leadership organization) we quickly made plans for a virtual state convention to replace the one that was going to be hosted at Hopkins at the end of April. An all teacher lead team, with the help and coordination coming from Hopkins/OSU, successfully pulled off the State Convention. Included in the Live/virtual convention were student awards for online skill assessments (plant & tool ID, public speaking, log scaling, and forestry business math), local Chapter student recognition for their year long achievements, and presentations from state officers. We did it!

Hopkins Makes Changes to it’s Visitor Rules & Self-guided Tour
For the safety of our visitors and staff, the June 1st reopening of Hopkins asks our visitors to make some modifications to our user guidelines:
1. Visitors welcome 7am-7pm
2. Please limit your stay to 90 minutes if parking area has more than 10 cars
3. Please keep vehicles and visitors 6’ apart or more
4. Do not congregate or linger in parking area
5. Pack out all trash
6. Max group size of 8 & must arrive in same vehicle
7. Restrooms are for emergency use only and will not be sanitized daily

Please be patient and considerate of others and most importantly enjoy some time outside!

VOLUNTEER DAY HOSTS NEEDED!!!

Forest Greeters Needed as New [and old] Quarantined Visitors Return to Hopkins
We have a great crew of volunteers that help maintain, improve and make great new additions for our educational programing and public visitors. However, as word has gotten out about how wonderful Hopkins is, there has been an increase in new visitors and users. Many of these individuals or groups are unaware of the mission, history, and efforts that helped create this amazing place. So, we are looking for Forest Greeters to help welcome these visitors during the busier times of the week and year. We have set up a Welcoming Center for volunteers and it is OPEN now! If you have an interest in relaxing in the woods and talking with visitors that come to the forest contact: peter.matzka@oregonstate.edu

LEARN BY DOING--IT’S THE HOPKINS WAY WE MANAGE OUR FOREST!

Upcoming Events (summer’20):

June 13th
Community Forest Day
8:30am-2:30pm
‘Parking Area Fuel Reduction, Hiking Trail Brushing and Road Mowing’

July 11th
Community Forest Day
8:30am-2:30pm
‘Lumber Milling for Informational Kiosks’

July 13-17th
Teacher in the Woods Wilderness Field Experience

August 8th
Community Forest Day
8:30am-2:30pm
‘TBD’

September 5th (in place of 9/12)
Community Forest Day
8:30am-2:30pm
‘Pre for Hopkins Field Day’

September 12th
Tentative Date
Hopkins Field Day for Woodland Owners

For More information:
Jean.Bremer@oregonstate.edu
503-655-8631

www.demonstrationforest.org