

GROUSE HOLLOW NOTES

Winter 2018

OUT IN THE FOREST



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Looking out Hopkins Hall's windows on this late-November day, it is amazing to see the bright yellow leaves of the big leaf maple trees still hanging on. While the forest seems slow to change this fall, Hopkins has been anything but slow to change. Those that frequent the forest have noticed many changes or perhaps a better word is 'additions'. The first addition that may go unnoticed by many is the addition of visitors. Visitation rates have been increasing for both the public and guided school programs. On some of these past fall days, we have had four to five individual class programs utilizing the forest. Through a coordinated effort between the different groups and their teachers or leaders, Hopkins has been able to successfully support these experiences.



The next change is an almost completed project that has been underway since last spring. Near the bus parking area, many people have eagerly been watching the construction of an 800-ft² restroom facility.

This facility will boast four stalls each for men and women with a unisex/family room and shower combination. A heated facility with flushing toilets and running water? Now that is progress!



To find another change you need to take a walk down in the forest to the pond, or perhaps I should say ponds.

Earthwork and construction was completed this summer and there are now two additional wildlife ponds that are fed by the existing fire pond. This winter we will have some volunteer days to complete the restoration by planting native wetland species.



While there is more I could report, the last change is the addition of this publication you are reading. To better communicate, more frequently and efficiently, we are going to publish a quarterly 'Grouse Hollow Notes'. Your feedback would be helpful and appreciated. **Thank you,**

Peter Matzka
OSU Extension Forestry Educator/Hopkins Demonstration Forest

HUNTER MAKES LEGACY GIFT

Clem Hunter, Oregon City, has made a special gift to Forests Forever, Inc. to help sustain the organization in perpetuity. Earlier this year, Clem established an invested fund through his financial advisor that produces a fixed rate of 5% income to FFI each year—or, currently about \$2,500. Any individual can make contributions to the fund to help grow the principal, too. Clem's fund is named after his late wife and is known as the "Phyllis Genevieve Hunter Memorial Fund."

"This is an incredible gift that Clem has made. During his years on our Board of Directors, Clem always wanted to see an endowment-type fund established to provide long term income for Forests Forever. Now, Clem has done it!", said FFI Executive Director, Ken Everett. For more information, contact Ken at 503-780-2380.



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Upcoming Events:

EDUCATION

Another Successful Year

2018 was another successful year for Hopkins' educational programming and outreach. There was rarely a day in the fall or spring months when there was not at least one school program here at Hopkins. Even during the cooler winter months it was rare to have fewer than three classes each week. From the Thimble Forest Preschool to the Portland State University Senior Capstone Mentors and Adult Workshops, Hopkins delivered programming to well over 5,000 visitors.



Record Attendance @ Teacher in the Woods Summer Program

This summer's Teacher in the Woods program, hosted by Hopkins and facilitated by Clackamas County Extension, was a huge success! Sixteen high school teachers and three OSU Extension faculty spent a combined 28-weeks working, learning, and developing curriculum together at Hopkins. Gathering mid-June through the end of July, natural resources and biological science teachers spent (individually) 1-2 weeks working on various team projects.



Projects ranged from learning forest management basics to studying water quality, wildlife, and outdoors recreation. After some hands-on activities and learning, teachers used their experiences to create curriculum, student knowledge assessments, and propose field opportunities to take back to their classroom. While there were many highlights, the most memorable was provided by one of our lead teachers as we explored the field of outdoor recreation on one of those near 100-degree days.



December 8, 2018
Community Forest Day
8:30am-2:30pm
'Holiday Decorating and Bridge Repair/Leaf Removal'

January 12, 2019
Community Forest Day
8:30am-2:30pm
'Young Seedling Management and Maintenance'

February 9, 2019
Community Forest Day
8:30am-2:30pm
'Wetland Ponds Restoration and Native Planting Preparation'

March 9, 2019
Community Forest Day
8:30am-2:30pm
'Volunteer Host and Greeting Center Development'

March 23, 2019
Clackamas Tree School

For More information:
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VOLUNTEERS

Our Volunteers make Hopkins Happen!

Outside of the general forest related questions, the one that gets asked the most by adult visitors and chaperones is, "Who runs this place and how do you fund all this?" After an explanation about the generosity of the Hopkins Education Consortium, Friends of Hopkins, and Volunteer Executive Director Ken Everett and Board Members, I turn to what really allows those funds and in-kind time donations to work — *that is our volunteers!* While many individual volunteers have helped this year, two really stand out. First, **Pete Wille** for his dedicated leadership and work to get our bathroom facility built. His volunteer coordination and labor in the construction phase allowed for a quicker completion time and huge cost savings. Second is **Elizabeth Howley**, for her efforts in piloting our Volunteer Forest Host Program. Each Sunday morning she greets visitors from Hopkins Hall with not only a warm welcome, but warm cookies, too. Thank you!



LEARN BY DOING—IT'S THE HOPKINS WAY WE MANAGE OUR FOREST!

www.demonstrationforest.org