

GROUSE HOLLOW NOTES

Summer 2024

OUT IN THE FOREST



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503-655-5524



HOPKINS

Demonstration Forest

Owned and Operated by
Forests Forever, Inc.

Physical Address:

16750 S. Brockway Rd.

Oregon City, OR 97045

Education Office:

503-632-2150

[https://](https://demonstrationforest.org/)

demonstrationforest.org/



Oregon State University
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and Engagement

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[https://](https://extension.oregonstate.edu/clackamas)

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As summer winds down, the Hopkins Demonstration Forest has been buzzing with several private events, Oregon State University (OSU) educational programming, and improvement activities as volunteers/staff take on a variety of large and small projects aimed at enhancing this community gem and ecological outdoor classroom. These upgrades not only improve the aesthetics and functionality of the forest but also contribute to its educational and outreach mission. Volunteers and community engagement have been at the heart of these facility improvements and additions. Volunteer days have brought together people of all ages to participate in the hands-on projects, fostering a sense of stewardship and connection to the forest. The collective effort not only enhances the forest's infrastructure, but also builds a stronger, more informed community dedicated to the sustainable management of the forest.

To make many of these projects and efforts happen (along with a dedicated Board of Directors and engagement by OSU Clackamas Extension), every Monday at 9:00am the Facilities Committee and Forest Management Crew (aka the Monday Mikes) work on a variety of projects till noon and 3:00pm, respectively. In addition, the Clackamas County Master Gardeners, area youth groups, and local businesses (Oregon Chain, Campbell Global, and Clackamas Community College) provided the extra horsepower behind many of these efforts. Some projects this summer really stand out and are highly visible, like the new firewise landscaping around Everett Hall (lead by the Master Gardeners) or the improvements around the Bus Parking Lot area that provides a gateway for visitors into the forest (visitors are welcome to park there too). Other projects take a hike, through the woods, to find things like the new Redwood and Pacific Madrone Trails, restoration of existing trails and areas impacted due to forest activities, and reforestation efforts in the recent harvest units. These improvements not only benefit visitors, but also help OSU's educational efforts to conduct Extension lead classes and demonstrations for Clackamas youth and adults that relate to the management of Oregon's forest resources.



In addition, to all the activities that keep growing and getting better, Forests Forever, Inc. continues to charter a Scouting America Troop (Troop 452) which has grown significantly since their beginning less than two years ago as a boys only troop. Now, with the addition of a girls Troop, their numbers have grown to 20 strong and continued growth is expected. Currently, there is an effort to merge the Troops into a single co-ed unit as part of a pilot effort by the Scouting America organization. This is an exciting step as co-ed Troops provide a unique opportunity for scouts to collaborate with peers of the opposite gender, which can improve their social skills and teamwork. Learning to communicate effectively and work cooperatively with a diverse group prepares scouts for future interactions in various settings, from school to the workplace. These skills are invaluable as scouts grow into adulthood and navigate complex social dynamics. If you have someone interested in participating in Scouting America, give FFI a call.

With so many more activities and educational programs that aren't being reported on, one really needs to come out to experience it all, rather than just read about it. To learn more about visiting the forest, workshops, events, youth education, or volunteer opportunities, you can visit OSU Clackamas County's or Hopkins' webpage or give their office a call (contact information to the left)

Soon, with two months of summer behind us, the schooled youth programming will be returning and leaves will be falling before we know it (and as you read this, that might already be happening). Enjoy the rest of your summer and, I look forward to seeing many of you in the fall and coming months.

Peter Matzka

OSU Extension Forestry Educator @ Hopkins Demonstration Forest



BELTON OUTREACH CENTER

Upcoming Events (Fall 2024):

Mondays Forest Management & Facilities Maintenance Crew Weekly (on Mondays)

~9:00am-3:00pm

Forest Management Focused

~9:00am-12:00pm (noon)

Facilities Maintenance Crew

Great Exercise @ Camaraderie

Come for all or part of the day!

Every 1st & 2nd Saturday, Lookout Tower Open*

9:00am-1:00pm

*Depending on volunteer availability

September 14th Community Engagement & Education Day (CEED)

8:30am-2:00pm

Milling Lumber

October 5th

Tree School Field Day

8:00am-4:15pm

Registration Required

<https://beav.es/tsfd24>

October 12th

Community Engagement & Education Day (CEED)

8:30am-2:00pm

Trail Building

November 9th

Community Engagement & Education Day (CEED)

8:30am-2:00pm

Bigleaf Maple Sugaring

For More information:

OSU Clackamas Extension

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OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

This spring's productive educational season wrapped up in early June with many returning groups as well as schools new to OSU Clackamas Counties' **Forestry** and Natural Resources youth, adult, and **public outreach** programs. This spring out at Hopkins and Schink Forests, OSU served or coordinated:

#45 Youth **classes** (over 1,000 **youth** & 300 adults)

#8 Community college forestry classes (80 adults)

#5 Adult/public **outreach** event (120 adults)

#4 Adult workshops (64 adults)

#1 Field day (collaborative effort)*

**(Bigleaf Maple Field Day was co-hosted by FFI and the Oregon Maple Project. Sixty-five participants spent the day learning about bigleaf maple sugaring and everything maple with OSU Extension providing the educational support).*

In addition, there are other independent groups (i.e. home school networks, youth groups, and adult organizations) that come to Hopkins for self-guided tours that utilize the Forest Guide, Interpretive Educational Kiosks, Demonstration Sites, and Lookout Tower tours (we are actively working to document these groups).

When spring was behind us and the warmer weather settled in, a different approach was taken this year with respect to summer educational programming. Rather than focusing on teacher education we shifted to youth due to an increased interest and need that still lingers as a result of Covid. Five different **outdoor** 'day school' programs have and will be served by summer's end. Topics for these programs focus around four natural resource areas (**plants, wildlife, water, and soil**) and served 530 youth and 75 adult visits. In addition, two adult groups received a forest management-based tour, six days of preschool programming, and one kindergarten day program.

Heading into the 24/25 academic year, there will be an increased focus on the high school programs with a Natural Resources Program of Study. Several of these programs are newer or have new leadership, and OSU Extension/FFI are eager to engage them at the Hopkins and Schink Forests.

O&E Word Search
Find the 13, **bold** letter words

M P A R S R C R S W
F A L P A C Q L O A
X W P A U Y H Z I T
C I X L N B O O L E
L L D X E T L U O R
A D Z J N L S I T L
S L O U T R E A C H
S I F C A D U L T S
E F O R E S T R Y Y
S E C O U T D O O R



NEW CARETAKERS ARRIVE AT HOPKINS!

Hopkins welcomed the new Caretakers (Jim and Lisa) on June 1st, and both have become a great addition here at Hopkins as they quickly settled into the Belton Outreach Center's residence. Jim and Lisa met at Camp Collins back in the last millennium, where Lisa was the Camp Director and Jim was employed by Multnomah Outdoor School as a program leader teaching 6th graders about the natural world. They moved up to the Olympic Peninsula where Lisa continued to work with the YMCA. She proudly created an environmental education program working with the timber industry during the spotted owl controversy, and Jim worked as a subcontractor for Weyerhaeuser setting up research plots, managing controlled fires, gathering data on fir and alder growth, and feeding bear to prevent tree damage. They moved back to Portland at the turn of the century and Jim started and ran Emerald Tree, a tree care business, for 20 years. Lisa worked with the Girl Scouts managing Camp Arrowhead and supporting other programs. Currently, Jim is a Board-Certified Master Arborist, has a BS in Forest Management, and works as the Arboriculture Lead Instructor for Clackamas Community College. Lisa is currently with the Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District as an event manager in the communications department. So please welcome Jim and Lisa... They couldn't be any more perfect for Hopkins!

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

www.demonstrationforest.org