HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FIELD

RECREATION UPDATES

Fall is in the air, bringing rain and autumn shades. Schools are starting session, which means we’re back to school too, providing educational programs. This week, rangers will host school groups at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center, sharing an Oregon trail and Early Inhabitants program. Featuring guest speaker and educator Jefferson Greene of the Warm Springs Tribe, we hope to connect local schools to the rich heritage of the Gorge.

Also on the horizon at the Discovery Center is the Harvest Moon Interpretive Walk on Friday, September 13. The walk celebrates the cultural and natural significance of the harvest moon. Come join the hike to glimpse the moon-rise!

EVERY KID OUTDOORS PROGRAM

Starting September 1, 2019, fourth grade students are granted free access to federal lands and waters for a full year through the Every Kid Outdoors (EKO) program.

Parents and educators of fourth grade students can print the Every Kid Outdoors paper pass on www.everykidoutdoors.gov

With this pass, fourth graders can:
• Visit and learn about 193 million acres of national forests and grasslands
• Have fun doing various outdoor activities on public lands
• Complete Junior Ranger programs

Check out the Interactive Visitor Map at fs.fed.us/ivm/ to find your next trip!
You’d be surprised how much of the trail work in the Gorge goes back to the simple task of moving rocks off the trail. The majority of these rocks are small chunks of basalt. Occasionally, they’re boulders.

This particular boulder detached off a chalky cliff and had been sitting for years at the beginning of the Wahclella Falls Trail. Hikers were able to skirt the boulder, but in time this caused the outer edge of the trail to erode. After a day of raking smaller rocks, our crew was happy to take up rockbars and spend ten minutes helping the boulder—inch by inch—on its way off the trail.

Thank you Trailhead Ambassadors! For a Season of Support

Throughout summer, you may have seen friendly faces stationed at various trailheads, sharing local information and Leave No Trace tips to help provide hikers with safe, positive experience and reduce impacts. We would like to thank the Trailhead Ambassadors program’s 94 volunteers for contacting more than 18,200 visitors at 12 trailheads over 20 weekends!

The partnership includes Friends of the Columbia Gorge, the Mt. Hood and Columbia River Gorge Regional Tourism Alliance, Oregon State Parks and the U.S. Forest Service. If you would want to sign up to help, visit gorgefriends.org/ambassador.

Hooked on Fall Fishing!

The Scenic Area provides fishing opportunities in a variety of beautiful outdoor scenery—from lakes and ponds to streams and rivers—on both sides of the Columbia River.

Before heading out, always ensure that you possess the appropriate recreational fishing license and have familiarized yourself with rules, regulations, and conditions.

Visit the Department of Fish and Wildlife for further information:

Washington: www.wdfw.wa.gov/
Oregon: www.dfw.state.or.us/