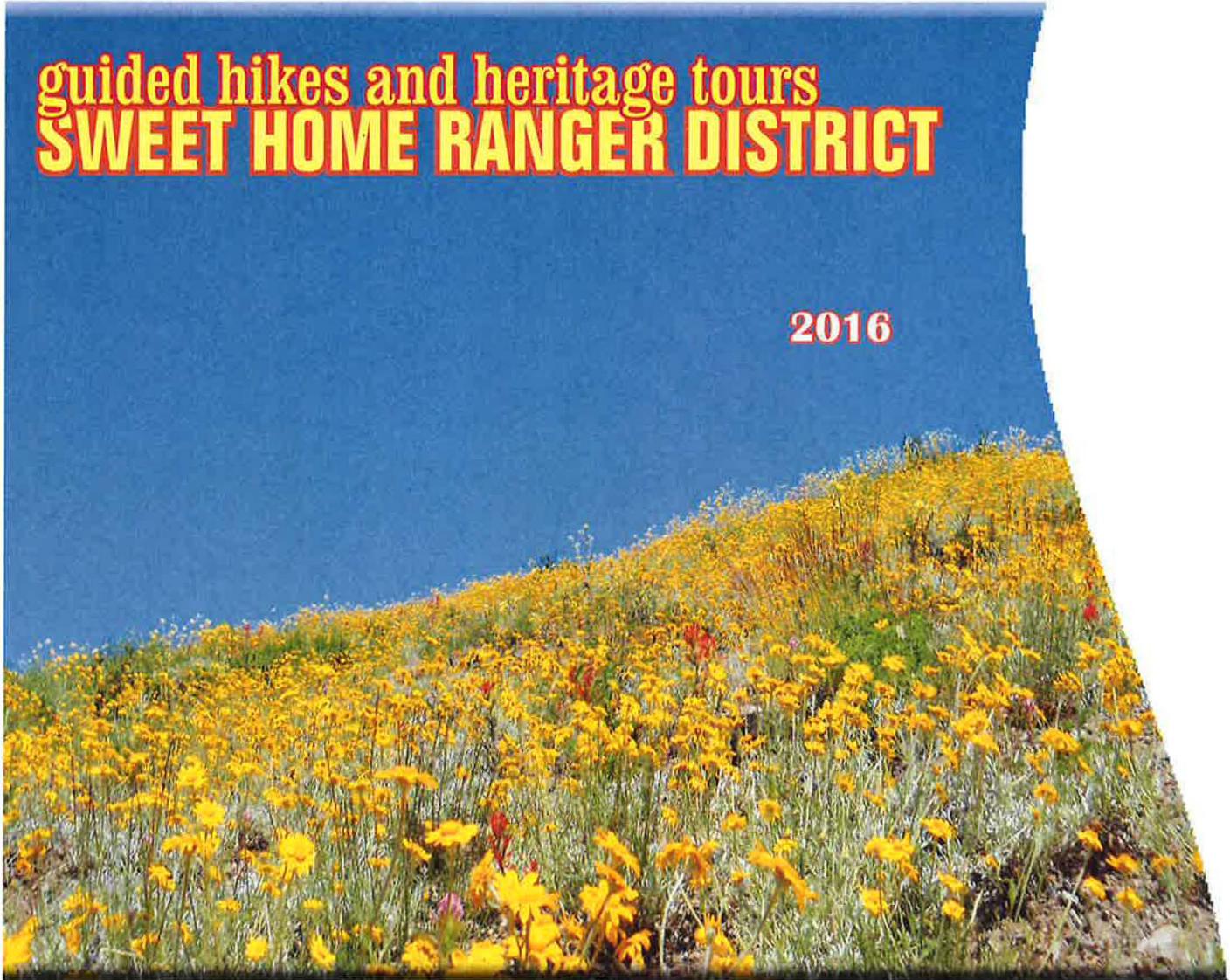




United States Department of Agriculture

guided hikes and heritage tours
SWEET HOME RANGER DISTRICT

2016



for the greatest good

Sweet Home Ranger District Calendar of Events 2016

All tours begin at the Sweet Home Ranger District (SHRD), located at 4431 Hwy 20 in Sweet Home, OR. Transportation to and from the trailhead will be provided by US Forest Service. Most tours are ½ day and return by 3 p.m., six to seven mile tours return between 5 – 6 p.m. **The fee is \$10.00 per person or \$5.00 with a Senior or Access Pass; request for refunds must be made at least 2 weeks prior to the date of the tour.** Pre-registration is required for all tours, and they fill up quickly.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Pre-registration for guided tours is handled through the National Recreation Reservation System. Pre-register at www.recreation.gov or call 1-877-444-6777 and press #1 for tours. Please be aware there is a \$3.00 service charge per tour. Search or ask for Sweet Home Natural and Cultural Resource Tours.

For detailed tour information, and help with registration call the SHRD front desk at 541-367-5168, or visit www.fs.usda.gov/willamette

Registration begins April 15th

Participants need to bring LUNCH & WATER for every tour. For an enjoyable experience please consider bringing the items listed below.

- Hiking boots/camp shoes/walking stick
- Extra socks (polypropylene) inner sock helps)
- Jacket (waterproof, it's Oregon)
- Hat for sunshade/sunglasses/sunscreen
- Bee sting kit (if allergic) insect repellent
- Medications if needed
- Moleskin/bandages if you are blister prone
- Day pack/ insulated lunch bag
- Camera
- Baby wipes or waterless hand cleaner

Each tour can be evaluated based on the trail ratings described below:

Easy Trail is fairly level, may have short up and down hill sections.
Trail surface may be gravel or dirt.

Moderate Trail can be moderately steep with long up and down hill sections
Trail surface may be uneven gravel or dirt.

Difficult Trail can be steep and have lots of elevation gain or loss with numerous long hilly sections. Trail surfaces can be uneven and rocky.

nature MATTERS

**May 21st
Saturday**

General Outdoor Preparedness

Easy

This eight hour, half in classroom, half hands-on class is a great way to learn how to stay alive in the woods in Western Oregon. Learn to start a fire with very little. Gain knowledge and learn skills to save lives. We will be taking a short hike and working on skills along the way. If the weather is bad we will do an alternative exercise. Please bring day-pack and dress for the weather. Please bring a lunch.

Meet SHRD 9:00 am Leader, Lisa Chase odder_or@hotmail.com

**May 20th
Friday**

Cascadia Cave

Easy 2 miles

Follow the historic footsteps of the Kalapuya Indians along the lower floodplains of the South Santiam River. Includes traditional uses of plants. The trail may be muddy. This hike leaves promptly from the ranger district office at scheduled time (0900). Please come prepared for a day in the forest, lunch, water, appropriate clothes, etc.

Meet SHRD 9:00 am Leader, Tony Farque tfarque@fs.fed.us

**June 15th
Wednesday**

Wildflowers & Waterfalls

Easy 1 mile

An easy morning hike (3 mile round trip) to Horse Rock Ridge with its diverse array of wildflowers and great views. In the afternoon we will explore the waterfalls at McDowell Creek Park for another easy 3 mile stroll.

Meet SHRD 9:00 am Leader Alice Smith acsmith@fs.fed.us

**June 24th
Friday**

Santiam Wagon Road - Fish Lake to Lost Prairie

Easy 4 miles

Please come prepared for a day in the forest with lunch, water, appropriate clothes, etc. Explore what early travel was like in the forest on the historic toll road that once linked the Willamette Valley to eastern Oregon. Hike is mostly downhill.

Meet SHRD 8:00 am Leader, Tony Farque tfarque@fs.fed.us

**July 1st
Friday**

Iron Mountain / Cone Peak

Difficult 6 miles steep rocky terrain

Explore cultural history, wildflowers, panoramic views and geological formations that surround these two landmarks.

Meet SHRD 8:00 am Leader, Tony Farque tfarque@fs.fed.us



nature MATTERS

**July 8th
Friday**

Crescent Mtn

Difficult 8 miles

An 8 mile round-trip hike with a 2000 elevation gain, through spruce and old-growth forests to sub-alpine meadows to the old lookout site. Great views all around!

Meet SHRD 8:00 am Leader, Alice Smith acsmith@fs.fed.us

**August 5th
Friday**

Gordon Meadows

Moderate 6 miles

Hikers will experience a meadow, wetlands, old growth, cross country travel, a historic trail shelter location, and "the edge of the world" site. This hike is mostly downhill.

Meet SHRD 8:00 am Leader, Tony Farque tfarque@fs.fed.us

**August 12th
Friday**

Tidbits Mountain

Difficult 7 miles

Hikers will climb to an Old Lookout location with an expansive view. The route follows ancient Indian trails, and passes near an historic trail shelter site while following ridges covered with old growth forest and rock gardens. Much of the trail is rocky with steep side slopes.

Meet SHRD 8:00 am Leader, Tony Farque tfarque@fs.fed.us

**August 17th
Wednesday
11:00 am**

Celebration of the Civilian Conservation Corps

This event is Free to the public

Come join us at Longbow Organizational Camp for an afternoon of stories history and fun as we celebrate the Civilian Conservation Corp "CCC", We will have a potluck luncheon, so be sure to bring your favorite dish to share. If you need transportation from the District office please pre-register with the front desk. 541-367-5168



**August 19th
Friday**

Streamside Rockhounding

Moderate 2 miles

Learn about the origin and identification of river rocks. Includes hiking on unmaintained trails and bending while collecting rocks. Please come prepared for a day on the river, including good footwear for wading, lunch and water. If you have it please bring a rock identification book, a rock hammer and a hand lens.

Meet SHRD 9:00 am Leader, Lance Gatchell lgatchell@fs.fed.us



**August 26th
Friday**

Berry Picking Bonanza
Easy 1 mile

Learn about the berries that have sustained people and wildlife in the Cascades for thousands of years. Includes traditional uses of berries and how to distinguish between edible and non-edible berries. This is a great hike for families.

Meet SHRD 9:00am Leader, Alice Smith acsmith@



**September 9th
Friday**

Cascadia Cave
Easy 4 miles

Follow the historic footsteps of the Kalapuya Indians along the lower floodplains of the South Santiam River. Includes traditional uses of plants. The trail may be muddy. Please come prepared for a day in the forest, lunch, water, appropriate clothes, etc...

Meet SHRD 900am Leader, Tony Farque tfarque@fs.fed.us

**September 16
Friday**

Art in the Great Outdoors
Easy 1mile

Take a hike to the edge of the Middle Santiam Wilderness. There are many opportunities in this very diverse area. A flowing wild river, moss covered forest, antique shelters, and abundant swimming holes provide inspiration for any medium. Photographers welcome. Please bring all the supplies you need and be prepared to carry them with you. Dress for the weather and bring a lunch. We will return by 5pm.

Meet SHRD 9:00 am Leader, Lisa Chase odder_oregon@hotmail.com



**October 8th
Saturday**

General Outdoor Preparedness
Easy 1-2 miles

This eight hour, half in classroom, half hands-on class is a great way to learn how to stay alive in the woods in Western Oregon. Learn to start a fire with very little. Gain knowledge and learn skills to save lives. We will be taking a short hike and working on skills along the way. If the weather is bad we will do an alternative exercise. Please bring day-pack and dress for the weather. Please bring a lunch.

Meet SHRD 9:00am Leaders, Tim and Lisa Chase odder_oregon@hotmail.com



Come prepared for exciting day learning about the different mushrooms in the forest. Plan on spending the day and make sure to bring appropriate clothing, footwear, water, lunch and of course your picking bucket. You may want to try a milk jug on your belt to keep both hands free! All of our mushroom hikes leave the office at 9:00 am .

**October 21st
Friday**

**Fall Edible Mushrooms
Moderate 2 miles**

Learn to identify some local varieties of edible mushrooms. Bring a small collecting knife and bags/baskets.

Meet SHRD 9:00 Leader, Lance Gatchell lgatchell@fs.fed.us

**October 28th
Friday**

**Fall Edible Mushrooms
Moderate 2 miles**

Learn about the uses of wild mushrooms, how to distinguish between edible and non-edible species. Bring a small collecting knife and bags/baskets.

Meet SHRD 9:00 Leader, Alice Smith acsmith@fs.fed.us





**December 10th
Saturday**



Swag and Wreath Making

No hiking involved

Learn to assemble holiday swags and wreathes from locally collected forest products, such as boughs, cones, and berries. We will have a limited number of wreath rings on hand, please bring your own if possible along with clippers and wire. This tour will be inside the conference room or heated warehouse.

SHRD 9:00 - 12:00 Leaders, Alice Smith, acsmith@fs.fed.us

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