

# North Mountain Park Nature Center

PROGRAM CALENDAR Winter—Spring 2009

All programs will take place at **North Mountain Park Nature Center** unless otherwise indicated. Classes may be canceled due to insufficient enrollment or other reasons. If this occurs, a full refund will be issued in two to three weeks.

*Pre-registration is required for all programs 7 days in advance, unless otherwise indicated.*

## Preschool Puppet Theatre

(Returning to the morning schedule in January) 2nd Friday of each month; Dec 12, Jan 9, Feb 13, Mar 13, Apr 10, May 8; 1—2:15pm on Dec 12 only, 10:30—11:45am Jan to May \$5 per child | N MT Park Puppeteers

## Holiday Crafts from Nature

Wed, Dec 17, 3:15—5:15pm | Ages 9 & up | The Grove | \$7

## Wonders of the Winter Solstice

Thu, Dec 18, 7pm | Pioneer Hall | \$5/Adults; \$3/Children | Richard Moeschl | **We welcome non-perishable food donations for Access Food Share**

## \* Project FeederWatch

Alternate Saturdays, Dec 20; Jan 3, 17, 31; Feb 14, 28; Mar 14, 9—10am | Free | Rogue Valley Audubon Volunteers

## Hawks, Masters of the Sky

(Winter Wednesday Nature Talk) Jan 7, 7—8:30pm | \$5  
Dick Ashford

## \* Winter Bird Walk

Sat, Jan 10, 8—10am | Free | Vince Zauskey

## Nature & Landscape Drawing for Beginners

Sat & Sun, Jan 10 & 11, 9am—2:30pm | The Grove | \$70 | Irene Brady

## Beginning Wet Felting

Sat, Jan 10, 12:30—4:30pm | Pioneer Hall | \$30 | Lucy Whitridge

## Making Herbal Medicine I & II

Tue, Jan 20, 27, 6:30—8:30pm | Community Ctr | \$50 | Melanie Dupuis

## Nature Sketching Details, Shading & Texture

Sat & Sun, Jan 24, 25; 9am—2:30pm | The Grove | \$70 | Irene Brady

**Also offered Mar 21, 22**

## \* Seed Swap

Tue, Jan 27, 10am—1pm | Free | N MT Park Staff

## Sustainable Building Classes

Saturdays; Jan 31: Site Design, Construction Methods, Energy Systems, Daylighting & Solar Technology; Feb 7: Green Materials, Indoor Environmental Quality, Water Conservation & Landscaping; 9am—5pm  
Ashland Senior Center | \$45/day | Shelley Lotz

## Sustainable Landscape Practices

Tue; February 3, 10, 17, 24; 6:30—8:30pm | The Grove, Otte/Peterson Room | \$48 for the series | Bonnie Bayard

## Flood!

(Winter Wednesday Nature Talk) Feb 4, 7—8:30pm | \$5 | Robert Coffan

## Nature Sketching With Color

Sat & Sun; February 7, 8; 9am—2:30pm | The Grove | \$70 | Irene Brady | **Also offered Apr 4, 5 at the Ashland Senior Center**

## \* Nature Center Open House/Orientation

Tue, Feb 10, 1—3pm (Tours at 1:45pm & 2:30pm) | Free

## Hawk ID for Beginners

Wed, Feb 18, 7—8:30pm | \$5/adults, \$3/children | Dick Ashford

## Sketch in Your Journal

Sat, Feb 21, 9am—2:30pm | Ashland Senior Center | \$40 | Irene Brady

\* *No pre-registration required*

## Journal in Your Sketchbook

Sun, Feb 22, 9am—2:30pm | The Grove | \$40 | Irene Brady

## Introduction to Permaculture I and II

Wed, Feb 25 & Mar 4, 7—9pm | \$14 (2 classes) | Cynthia Care

## A Natural Basket Class

Sat, Feb 28, 10am—4pm | \$65 | The Grove | Louisa Lenz-Porter

## Nature & Landscape Drawing for Beginners

Sat & Sun, Mar 7 & 8, 9am—2:30pm | The Grove | \$70 | Irene Brady

## Pine Needle Basketry, an Introduction

Sat, Mar 7, 10am—4pm | \$35 | Sue Yamins

## Winegrape Production in Southern Oregon: History, Current Status & Future Potential

(Winter Wednesday Nature Talk) Mar 11, 7—8pm | \$5 | Greg Jones

## Seed Starting For Spring

Sat, Mar 14, 10am—noon | \$8 | Jennifer Ewing

## Starting a Kitchen Garden Using Raised Beds

Sat, Mar 14, 1—3pm | \$8 | Jennifer Ewing

## \* Spring Garden Work Party

Wed, Mar 18, 10am—noon | Free | N MT Park Staff & Volunteers

## Natural Cleaning Products

Sat, Mar 14 | Session 1: 12:30—2:30pm; Session 2: 3—5pm | Pioneer Hall | \$12 | Kari Gies | Ages 14 & up (younger children are welcome with an adult at no additional cost)

## Spring Wildflower Walk in Oredson-Todd Woods

Sat, Apr 11, 11am—1pm | Meet at the Oredson-Todd Trailhead

\$5 | Jim Duncan, Marcia Wineteer

## Trees of Southern Oregon University Campus

Sat, Apr 1, 2—4pm | Meet in front of the Stevenson Union building on the SOU campus | \$3 | Ashland Tree Commissioners

## \* Who Invited You? An Introduction to Noxious Weeds

Sat, Apr 18, 1—4pm | Free | Bob Budesza

## \* Rogue Valley Earth Day

Sat, Apr 25, 11am—4pm | ScienceWorks Hands-On Museum Free  
[www.RogueValleyEarthDay.net](http://www.RogueValleyEarthDay.net) \*

## Intro to Local Edible Plants

Sun, Apr 26, 10am—noon | \$22 | Jon Carlson

## Wildflower Walk in Strawberry Hald Park

Fri, May 1, 4—5:30pm | Meet at the corner of Scenic and Logan Drive | \$5 | Linda Chesney

## \* Rogue Valley Migratory Bird Day

Sat, May 9, 8am—noon | Free | [www.RogueValleyBirdDay.net](http://www.RogueValleyBirdDay.net)

## Intro to Local Medicinal Plants

Sun, May 17, 10am—noon | \$22 | Jon Carlson

## What is an Old Growth Forest?

Sat, May 23, 9am—4:30pm | The Grove | \$22 | Dr. Thomas Atzet  
(Please contact the SOLC for carpooling information at 541-482-3069; visit <http://landconserve.org>.)

## Ashland Parks & Recreation Refund Policy and Program Descriptions

For a complete description of the Ashland Parks & Recreation **Refund Policy** and **program descriptions**, visit [www.ashlandparksandrec.org](http://www.ashlandparksandrec.org), view the Ashland Parks & Recreation Guide or call 541.488.6606



## Volunteer Profile

Friend & Volunteer of the Nature Center  
**JULIE SMITHERMAN**

*"I appreciate what North Mountain Park has offered the community. It is a great place to learn about the natural environment from all different aspects."*

Julie Smitherman's love of the outdoors and geology is a perfect fit for the N MT Park Nature Center, especially when the focus of the Nature Center's education program is Geology of the Rogue Valley. In the fall of 2008 Julie taught elementary students about the geologic history of the earth by visiting local schools and giving tours of the Briscoe Geology Park. She also helped develop a visitor guide booklet for the Briscoe Geology Park. (The development of the Briscoe Geology Park is in part the effort of Ashland Parks & Recreation staff.)

Julie moved to Ashland five years ago to pursue her Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies/Geology at Southern Oregon University. She began volunteering at the Nature Center in January 2008 and in addition to her geology-related endeavors for the Park, she also taught about the history of logging in the Rogue Valley, as part of the educational programs at the Nature Center.

When asked what she likes about volunteering at the Nature Center her response was, "I appreciate what N MT Park has offered the community. It is a great place to learn about the natural environment from all different aspects. The focus on wildlife biology, plant biology, history, geology, and native ways of living has helped to enrich the education of many people in the valley. It's a wonderful sense of accomplishment when you've helped to get a child excited about learning these things."

## Welcome Lucy...

Hello, my name is Lucy Whitridge. I am the new AmeriCorps member at the N MT Park Nature Center and will be working here through next



August. I moved to Ashland about a year ago after living and working in New Zealand for six months. I earned my Bachelor Degree in Environmental Studies at UC Santa Cruz and worked passionately to restore

native plants in the community. I am so excited to be a part of the Nature Center, working happily with wonderful people, and being a part of such an inspirational place where education and creativity flourishes.

## Annual Contributions

Once a year we invite community members to show their support for the N MT Park Nature Center by making a tax-deductible contribution of any amount. Donations help fund special projects and programs, including annual free events (Rogue Valley Earth Day, Bear Creek Salmon Festival, Rogue Valley Bird Day), wildlife restoration and monitoring and educational exhibits pertaining to local natural and cultural history.

**Please make checks payable to Ashland Parks Foundation** and mail in the enclosed envelope. **Thank you!**

**Note:** While we still encourage our readers to go PAPERLESS, this winter/spring issue will be direct mailed to everyone so that you will have the opportunity to make your annual contribution to the N MT Park Nature Center using the enclosed envelope. Your support is greatly appreciated!

*-Nature Center Staff*

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[www.ashland.or.us/northmountainpark](http://www.ashland.or.us/northmountainpark)  
541.488.6606

## Green Living Tips

After the holidays, your Christmas tree can be recycled for use on walking paths throughout the city. On Saturday, January 10, Boy Scout Troop # 112 will, for a donation be picking up trees placed on the curb and hauling them to where Ashland Parks & Recreation Department staff will grind them into fragrant piles of chips.

Next time you reach for the car keys, try walking or riding your bike instead. Consider the advantages: no need to find parking; you can breathe fresh air and explore some of the wonderful trails that Ashland Parks & Recreation Department has developed; you'll not impact local air quality or greenhouse gases; you'll enjoy the exercise, and it will keep you fit. Or try taking the bus (go to [www.RVTD.org](http://www.RVTD.org) for routes and schedules). You can save energy at home by cleaning or replacing furnace filters regularly to increase heating efficiency and setting thermostats between 65 and 68 degrees for significant energy savings.

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Bring your canned food items to the Nature Center this holiday season.  
Food donations will be accepted through the 4th week in December.

"Promoting greater community awareness, understanding and enjoyment of the local natural environment and fostering stewardship through educational programs and activities"



This newsletter is published three times per year! Winter/Spring, Summer & Fall



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