

Native Plant Society South Sound Chapter

June 1999

Summer Events

Sunday, June 13. Bald Hills NAP.

This 298 acre preserve supports a wide variety of habitats and species, some of which are restricted to specialized environments such as streambanks, mossy rocks, cliff crevices, vernal wet grassland, and exposed rock outcrops. The grassland "balds" and associated oaks are unique in the southern Puget lowland. The spring bloom is late this year, so there should still be plenty to see. Short distance of bushwhacking and climbing over logs to get to trailhead. Limit 10. Call Judy, 357-9614 to sign up.

Saturday, June 19. Scatter Creek.

Special arrangements have been made to walk the new dog-trail horse route on the prairie at Scatter Creek Wildlife Area. We will assess the condition of the vegetation, as well as view summer flowering plants. For sign-up and carpool arrangements, call Carol Piening 360-569-2211, or Mary Fries 253-272-9192.

Prairie Docent Walks

In conjunction with The Nature Conservancy of Washington, and Thurston County Parks and Recreation, prairie walks will occur every Saturday through the middle of July. Call Thurston County to sign up, at 360-786-5595.

Glacial Heritage: June 5 & 26
Mima Mounds: June 12 & July 3
Scatter Creek: June 19 & July 10

WNPS Annual Backpack Trip. July 23-26.

This year's annual backpack trip will be to the McCall Basin in the Goat Rocks Wilderness. Those wishing to participate will meet at the North Fork Tieton River trailhead at 9:30 a.m. on July 23. The

trailhead is at the end of Forest Service Road 1207, southwest of Rimrock Lake (east of the White Pass summit). U.S. Forest Service parking and camping permits may be required and need to be obtained by each individual prior to departure. Group size limited to 12. For more information and signup contact Jim Riley, box 458, Randle, Wa 98377, 360-497-5193.

Mt. Rainier Restoration Activities:

The South Sound Chapter has been very involved with restoration activities at Mt. Rainier. We have collected seed for a number of years to assist with restoring the meadows at Sunrise. They have been so successful with germinating seed that there is a current need for volunteers to help with **transplanting** efforts now and during the summer at Mt. Rainier National Park's greenhouse near Ashford. If you can help, call horticulturalist, David Palumbo, at 360-569-2211 ext. 2323.

September. Seed collection for the Mt. Rainier restoration will once again be needed this fall. To volunteer call Mary Fries at 253-272-9192.

Note: Other close by chapters are offering additional trips this summer, see the spring Douglasia or the following shortened description for Olympic Peninsula trips.

Saturday, June 26. Lower Dungeness Trail. Wendy McClure 360-779-3820.

Saturday, July 3. Mt. Townsend. Autumn Scott, Chuck Easton 360-732-4984.

Sunday, July 18. Thorsen Peak. Chuck Easton 360-732-4984.

Saturday, July 24. Klahane Ridge. Ray Gelotte 360-457-7921.

New Officers Elected

As the outgoing co-chair for the Chapter, I would like to welcome the new officers who were elected at our May meeting. Many thanks to **Angel Lombardi** for her long service with the Chapter, and to **Kat Bucher** who will both be moving on to other activities. Also many thanks to both **Angel** and **Erica Guttman** who served on the nominating committee and provided a full slate of new officers who promise to bring new enthusiasm to the Chapter.

We will have three people who will be sharing the Chair's position, which we have entitled the Tri-Chair, **Lila and Mark Muller** and **Tom Howdeshell**. **Jenifer Parsons** will continue on as treasurer and will be taking over the newsletter. **Michele Anderson** will be handling publicity. **Erikka Pearson** will be continuing as our volunteer coordinator. **Mary Fries** has agreed to continue as our Conservation Chair, but she would greatly appreciate help from other chapter members. If you would like to help with conservation activities please give Mary a call. **Perry Lund** has stepped into two new Chapter positions, chapter Botanist and WebKeeper. He has established a web page for our chapter. It can be viewed from the WNPS site at www.wnps.org. **Erica Guttman** will serve on the chapter board as the Native Plant Salvage Project liaison. I will be moving into the field trip/workshop coordinator position. If you have ideas, or are willing to lead a trip or host a workshop please contact me. You don't need to be an expert botanist to lead a trip, a little enthusiasm goes a long way with our membership. We will be posting information on our new website, so between newsletters look there for current information.

- Judy Lantor

Board Decides to Look at Bylaws

The board (the people listed on the back of the newsletter) decided at our last meeting to look into changing some of the chapter bylaws, especially those relating to spending caps. A subcommittee will propose changes, which will be brought before the full board at our next meeting August 25th. We will announce any proposed changes in the fall newsletter, at which time the membership will have a chance to vote on them. So stay tuned!

Report from Deschutes Falls

We had a great trip out to Thurston County's property on the upper Deschutes River in mid-May. **Rod Gilbert** and **Michael Clegg** led the botanical walks and pointed out unusual plants including, *Trillium parviflorum*, *Pachistima myrsinites*, *Ceanothus sanguineus*, *Calypso bulbosa* and *Acer glabrum* to mention only a few. The falls were spectacular, with several ferns growing in the spray zone on the adjacent rock wall, and a nesting Dipper which kept us quite attentive. We held this trip in cooperation with the Native Plant Salvage Project, and the 25 people who attended also helped to pull scot's broom. Many thanks to all who participated!

YMCA Earth Service Program

Have you ever heard of the YMCA Earth Service Corps Program? If you have, did you know that the Washington Native Plant Society helps support them and there is one of these programs right here in Olympia?

For those of you who haven't heard of us, we are based in the Family Support Center at 108 State Street in downtown Olympia. We do Environmental Education in nine schools and one teenage safe house throughout Thurston County. We educate about numerous environmental topics in various ways while also trying to build leadership skills and empower students through service learning projects.

Some of the projects we have done with kids from these schools are: a native plant restoration project along the water on East Bay Drive near downtown, a native plant removal/restoration project at Pioneer Park in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and the planting of a butterfly garden on Earth Day at Black Hills High School. There are many other projects we have been and will be involved in.

We often collaborate with Stream Team, Americorps members and Sound Stewards, as well as many other volunteers. We would love to have volunteers from the Washington Native Plant Society join us on projects or trips! Give us a call or stop by the office anytime if you are interested. You can reach Chris Hawkins or Suzanna Brauer at 705-0987. We're looking forward to your help and ideas!

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Access Decals

The Department manages about 800,000 acres of wildlife habitat and over 625 lake and river access sites across the state. On April 1, 1999, vehicles parked at many Department access sites will need a parking permit in the form of an Access Stewardship Decal. (If you are going on the Scatter Creek trip you will need a decal, or will need to carpool. Mary is arranging details. See Summer Events on Page 1)

Access Stewardship Decals can be purchased from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (\$10 or free with hunting and fishing licenses). Get a decal wherever hunting and fishing licenses are sold. Decal sales support upkeep of these areas which are currently operating at 34% of the funding need. For locations and more information go to www.wa.gov/wdfw/ or visit a Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife office in Spokane, Ephrata, Yakima, Mill Creek, Olympia, Vancouver or Montesano.

Lakewold Gardens / Clover Park Technical College Classes

Several classes are currently being offered by the Lakewold Gardens Avid Gardener Program—a joint partnership program between the Lakewold Gardens and Clover Park Technical College, both located in Lakewood, Washington. All classes are held at the Lakewold Gardens. If you are interested in finding out more call Chris Lewis at Clover Park (253) 589-5683 or visit the website at <http://www.lakewold.org>.

They are also very interested in making contact with persons who would like to present information to participants at future classes. Currently, presenters either volunteer their time for presentations, or, upon approval, become an adjunct faculty member and are paid the rate of \$12.00 per hour. Individuals who wish to make presentations may contact Kathy Blair at (253)589-5604 for more information (or by e-mail at kblair@ctc.edu).



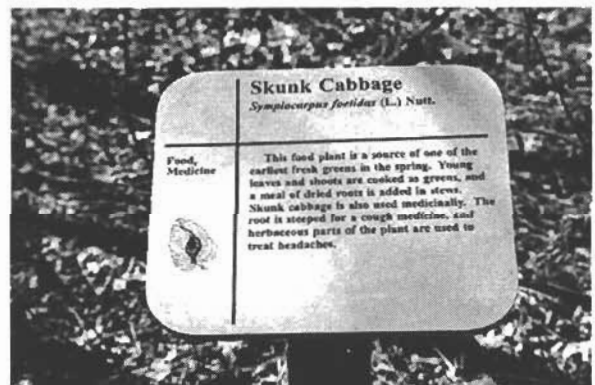
Watershed Ethnobotanical Trail (WET) Olympia, Washington

Personalize a Sign - Tax Deductible!!

Individual/Family Name - \$300.00 +
Organization/Agency Name - \$500.0 +
All Donations Welcome!

For more information contact:

Julie Alessio @ 705-2669
Email: TrailSigns@hotmail.com



An ethnobotanical interpretive trail is being planned for Watershed Park in Olympia. Thirty native plants, naturally occurring along the trail, will be highlighted. Each individual plant will be identified by its scientific name, common name and a color photograph. A pamphlet detailing the ethnobotanical importance and information on growing native plants will accompany the signs. Financial donors are needed to pay for signs and interpretive materials. Original photographs of native plants from local folks for use on the trail signs are also being sought. Julie would also like to include braille on the signs so, if anyone knows anything about this that would be great!

List of Contacts:

The officers for the South Sound Chapter are as follows. More contact information is available on our web site at <http://www.nps.org>. Contact information for the State officers is in the Douglasia newsletter

Tom Howdeshell, tri-chair
(360) 352-3233

Lila and Mark Muller, tri-chair
(360) 249-5196

Michelle Anderson, publicity
(253) 584-1374

Erica Guttman, Native Plant Salvage Project liaison
(360) 709-0704

Judy Lantor, field trips
(360) 357-9614

Arvid Lindstrum, secretary
(360) 786-0493

Perry Lund, botanist and webmaster
(360) 357-8590

Jenifer Parsons, treasurer and newsletter
(360) 956-0546

Erikka Pearson, volunteer coordinator
(360) 705-2596

Mary Fries, conservation chair
(253) 272-9192



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