



February 2016

BirdFest & Bluegrass Planning Committee Seeks New Members and Chair!

BirdFest & Bluegrass Planning Committee Seeks New Members and Chair!

Do you love attending our annual BirdFest celebration? Do you want to see it be successful in 2016? If so, then we need YOU to get involved in planning next years event. Commitment is one two hour meeting a month, March - September, and volunteering BirdFest Weekend (October 1st & 2nd).

We are looking for help in the following areas:

- Committee Chair (Work with current committee chair to schedule/host monthly meetings, and handle big picture event logistics)
- Organizing Kids activities in Davis Park
- Coordinating the vendors in the Birders Marketplace at the Community Center
- Coordinate special walks or talks
- Just sit in and brainstorm new and exciting BirdFest activities!

Want to Make BirdFest a success?

Contact Sarah at: sarah_hill@fws.gov (360) 887-4106

Refuge Project Progress

Over the 50 year existence of the RNWR there have been many proposals for planning and building a place where employees can work and interact with visitors to the Refuge. A place where refuge visitors can learn more about the RNWR and community partners can provide education opportunities. 2016 is the year to plan and prepare for the "Center" (Still deciding on a name).

The Friends of the RNWR Board has voted to support this project and place it at the top of the list to accomplish. At this time there is no timeline for this project to be completed. The Region 1 of the US Fish and Wildlife System, based in Portland, has identified the planning and construction of the Office/Center as number one on their project list. Some preparation was done a few years ago by completing soil tests and environmental test at the proposed building site.

I could easily get into telling you, as I did during the Friends membership meeting, how important the RNWR is to the Portland/Vancouver metro area and the importance to the Pacific flyway that extends from Alaska to Mexico and beyond. The importance of having an Office/Center can't be overstated, the population in Southwest Washing is growing and will grow more over the next 20 years. Visitors need a place to learn more about the history, culture and wildlife of the Refuge.

In This Issue...

Events

[Wanted: Members of the Hero Society](#)

[Species Spotlight](#)

[Local News](#)

[The Benefits of Membership](#)

[BirdFest & Bluegrass Planning Committee Seeks New Members and Chair!](#)

[Refuge Project Progress](#)

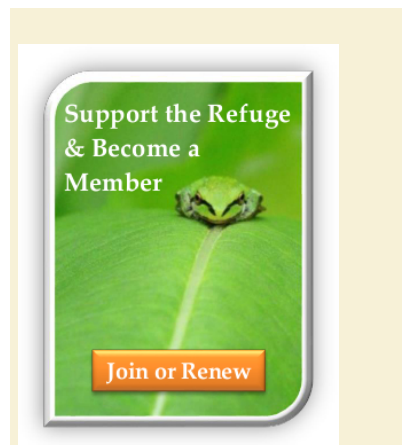
[New and Familiar Faces Around the Refuge](#)

[Junior Duck Stamp Contest](#)

[Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge](#)

[Cathlapotle Plankhouse Update & Events](#)

[Habitat Restoration](#)



Joining comes with great benefits including perks like 5% off at the Sportsman's Steakhouse & Saloon in Downtown Ridgefield just for being a member of the Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge! Check out the Benefits of Membership Below to find out more.

Events

Volunteers Wanted!

Check out our 2015-2016 volunteer planting schedule in the Habitat Restoration section!

Save The Date for Volunteer Naturalist, and Plankhouse Volunteer trainings!

New Volunteer Training will begin in April 2016!

Want to volunteer at the Refuge as a

The RNWR has been designated nationally as a priority Urban Refuge for the Refuge System and will see more visitors that are looking for that nature experience that can't be found in a city environment. Research supports the need for humans to connect to nature in order to be healthy and well adjusted. Providing for those visitors needs to be planned and built.

There are trails that have been, or are being built all over the refuge, within the City of Ridgefield, and in Clark County that will provide access to the Refuge. When the new Main Avenue bridge over G-Creek in Ridgefield is constructed, there will be a sidewalk that will lead to a trail on the Refuge that will, for the first time, provide safe access along Main Avenue. The Port of Ridgefield will soon build an auto bridge that will provide access from Pioneer St. to the Port and to the trails that will extend from the Port to the Carty Unit of the RNWR. A new auto bridge over the railroad tracks to the River-S Unit has been planned and will be completed over the next few years. There are projects planned for the River-S Unit that will improve the visitor experience by allowing Refuge employees, volunteers and visitors to have a place to interact.

While I can't report any progress at this time, it will come. Members of the Friends will be asked to participate in the planning the Office/Center.

-Russ Roseberry

New and Familiar Faces Around the Refuge

The Friends of Ridgefield NWR have been making a lot of changes lately, including voting in some new/old board members, and hiring a new Habitat Coordinator, and they would love to introduce themselves to you!

Our new Habitat Restoration Coordinator Keith Rutz:

I can still remember my first conservation moment at the age of five when, as I rode my tricycle over ants on the sidewalk, my older sister asked me how I would feel if I was the ant and someone intentionally ran me over. At that moment I came to realize that even as a kid I had control over how I interacted with my world, and with that interaction came responsibility. At the age of nine, I saw my first federally listed endangered species- my 4th grade class was let out to walk down to the lake to view the whooping cranes that were migrating through. The Crane's story was one of habitat loss and the unintended effects of pollution and I became then, and remain, a supporter of the FWS, the ESA, and the conservation and protection of the environment.

After high-school and a few years working in the trades, I came across an opportunity to work for a conservation group. This position eventually gave me the reason to travel to Eugene for what was to be a three-month stint, that turned into seven years, that turned into a career in conservation. I worked to restore wolves to the mountains of the Southwest with the FWS, recovered foxes on islands off the California coast with the NPS, and worked on projects to assist with lynx reintroductions, prairie chicken conservation, and numerous other species as I took on one project after another. In Kentucky, I worked for the Nature Preserves Commission and the University of Kentucky restoring and protecting forest and prairie habitat, when not in graduate school.

Becoming the Habitat Restoration Coordinator at Ridgefield NWR seems like my natural next step. It doesn't take long working with endangered species to understand the importance of habitat and a functioning ecosystem for maintaining a diversity of species. Ridgefield is an important component of the Pacific Flyway and the lower Columbia River system. It faces continual threats of encroachment and introduction of invasive species by the river and by visitors, winged or otherwise. Working on the frontlines of habitat protection and restoration is indeed my "dream job." I look

Naturalist, Educator, or Plankhouse Docent? Each spring, we recruit and train people to interpret the amazing history, ecology, and wildlife of the Refuge for the public. We will provide training in refuge natural and cultural history, as well as ongoing volunteer support and professional development opportunities. More details about these trainings will be available soon!

Cathlapotle Plankhouse

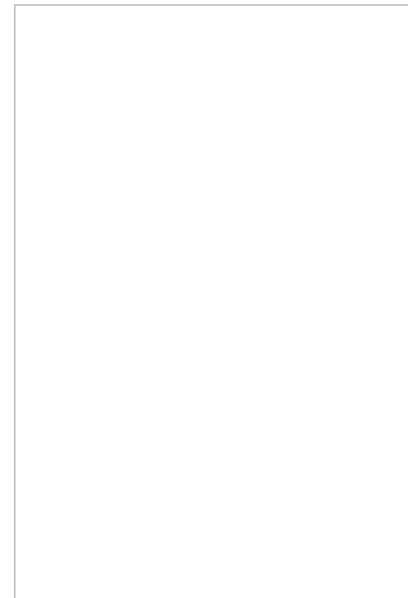
Volunteer Training:
Saturday, April 2

Refuge Naturalist

Interpretive Training:
Four Fridays: April 8, 15, 22, and 29

For more information
contact Josie_Finley@fws.gov

First Saturday: Tailgate Party
Saturday, February 6, 2016 -
10:00am to 3:00pm



Bundle up the kids, throw on your favorite team colors and truck on down to Ridgefield for a tailgate party extravaganza!

**10:00 - 3:00 Tailgate Festivities @
Overlook Park**

Flag football games, cornhole, punt-pass-kick contest, and football throw contest. Farmer's Market, Spudder Gear, Ridgefield Art Association, Nacho cooking demonstration, and more!
Live music
Outdoor Beer Garden...and mulled wine!
Steakburger!!

**Noon - 3:00 1st Annual Community Chili
Challenge @ Overlook Park**

Bring your best pot of chili for judging. Compete to win cash, swag and bragging rights! The Entry Form and Guidelines is attached below. Entries must be submitted no later than January 28.

forward, with community involvement and support, to the challenges and rewards offered by this position.

-Keith Rutz

Our new Board Member Susan Setterberg:

My goal when I retired from the US Food and Drug Administration, after 31 years of service, was to find a place to live where I could be a volunteer at a National Wildlife Refuge. Even though I spent 25+ years on the east coast in various management positions and offices, I wanted to return to the West Coast where I felt most at home. I grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area but have some roots in Washington as I was a graduate student at UW, and therefore a Husky. Coming to Ridgefield almost three years ago was a good fit for me. My passion is birdwatching. It's a wonderful way to experience nature around us. I started in 1975 with an ornithology class, and haven't stopped. My job and vacations have taken me to many states and I always travel with binoculars, looking for a refuge or park to visit. I have also managed some foreign travel with birding tour groups. It's been a wonderful experience. But it is also very satisfying to get to know the birds of my local refuge. Watching the changes in the seasons and thus the changes in the avifauna has its own rewards. Most satisfying, as a volunteer at Ridgefield NWR, is staffing the contact station at River 'S' unit on Sundays and getting to share my knowledge of birds. I often learn as much, or more, from the visitors. I am an advocate for Citizen Science projects. I participate in Breeding Bird Surveys, Christmas Counts, Cornell's Feeder Watch Program, the World Series of Birding and now goose and waterfowl counts on the refuge. By doing so, I sharpen my birding skills, always learn more about birds, and contribute information to science. I graduated with a Masters in Zoology from University of Washington and a Masters in Public Administration from University of San Francisco. My education, my birding, and my management experience in government, I hope, will bring knowledge and skills useful to the Board of the Friends of Ridgefield NWR. I am eager to start my term as a new way to contribute to the outstanding refuge system we have in this country and in particular Ridgefield NWR.

-Susan Setterberg

Our returning Board Member (Past President) Jim Maul:

Jim was, at one point, the President of the Friends Board, and is back to help out some more! With a Bachelor of Science in Geology from Western Washington University and being "the President/Principal Hydrogeologist for Maul Foster Alongi, Jim directs projects for industrial and municipal clients. He has over 25 years of experience providing consulting services. He has managed projects in various stages of remedial action, from design of groundwater- and soil-cleanup programs to their implementation, and projects under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, as well as state cleanup programs. Mr. Maul's technical and regulatory expertise is acquired from both direct involvement in and management of projects." We are lucky and thankful to have him back!

Source: <http://www.maulfoster.com/staff/james-j-maul/>

Junior Duck Stamp Contest

On March 25th, 2015, the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge hosted the 2015 Federal Junior Duck Stamp Design Contest for the state of Washington. The Junior Duck Stamp Design Contest is the culmination of the Junior Duck Stamp educational program. After studying waterfowl anatomy and habitat, students may articulate their new-found knowledge by drawing, painting or sketching a picture of an eligible North American waterfowl species.

Last year's contest for Washington, held at the Refuge, received 125 entries from across the state. The high quality artwork from all the

\$25 entry fee; \$250 grand prize; \$100 second prize.

Tasting and voting begins at NOON.

Football Scavenger Hunt: Find football team mascots at participating merchants around town and win prizes!

For more info and dates for other First Saturday Events, click [HERE](#)



Wanted: Members of the Hero Society!

A coalition of more than a dozen conservation organizations, led by the Captain Planet Foundation, are working on a program to activate children to be heroes for local species that need habitat restoration, food, and other interventions to lessen or prevent their current decline trend. And they need you to play a key role! As they test the program prototype in one school, Hero Society members would receive very limited contact by a class. Click [here](#) for more info!

Species Spotlight

Common Camas

Camassia quamash



Common Camas is a member of the lily family that plays a significant role in northwestern Native American cultures. It is found from British Columbia down to northern California and east to Montana. It is still widely distributed throughout our local area and gives its name to both the city of Camas as well as Lacamas Lake. Camas is typically found in meadows and open areas at lower elevations, many in prairies that were carefully tended by clearing, selective harvesting and controlled burns by early peoples. Its leaves look somewhat like grass and grow

young artists made for a very competitive contest. The judging panel consisted of five judges: Robyn Thorson (Regional Director, US Fish & Wildlife Service Northwest Region), Nate Pamplin (Assistant Director, WA Department of Fish & Wildlife), Shelley Carr (local artist), Dale Thompson (retired Chief Naturalist at Mt. Rainier National Park and local wildlife artist) and Ryan Perry (local wildlife artist and former two-time WA Junior Duck Stamp Best of Show winner).



Judges selected three 1st place, three 2nd place, three 3rd place, and up to sixteen Honorable Mention winners from four groups based on grade level (K-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12th grade). Out of all the 1st place winners in from each group, a Best of Show has been selected to represent Washington at the national competition held April 19 at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. This year's 1st place winners were Katie Beuhl, Vincent Li, Ryan Wang, Emma Carag, Hannah Ferdows, Jean Lin, Donna Ferdows, Ayaka Hicks, Sophie Tsai, Maria Schaljo, Kris Ahn, and Alina Bogachuk. The Best of Show winner selected from among these artists depicted a Wood Duck and was painted by Maria Schaljo, 16 years old, of Vancouver. In the national contest, her painting went on to rank in the top ten, which is an achievement to be very proud of! Congratulations to Maria and all the winners in this year's Washington Federal Junior Duck Stamp Design Contest!

The Federal Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest would not be possible without the efforts of volunteers, who assist both with the contest itself and with all the year-round program publicity and outreach throughout the state. A huge debt of gratitude is also owed to the Friends of Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge for their generous financial support.

The exhibit of this year's winners is now on display in the Visitor Center at Nisqually NWR. A traveling exhibit will travel throughout Washington State to colleges, libraries, and education centers, art galleries/museums, festivals, and fairs.

For the Official Website, click: [HERE](#)
If interested, contact Byrn Watson at (360)736-1082.

Photo by:
2015 JDS Best of Show winner Maria Schaljo, 16, of Vancouver, WA

to between two and three feet in height.

The camas bulb was an important food source that was traditionally cooked by steaming in a pit over hot stones for 24-36 hours to break down their indigestible inulin into fructose. The intrepid English naturalist-explorer David Douglas compared the taste of a cooked camas bulb to a sweet baked pear. Douglas described how the roots were cut or mashed into brick-shaped cakes, cooked, dried, and then stored for winter or served at a potlatch. Camas is also a sought-after food for deer and gophers.

The beautiful blue flowers of common camas can create a spectacular display from April through June. Captain Meriwether Lewis described a camas field as resembling "... lakes of fine clear water, so complete in this deception that on first sight I could have sworn it was water." The plants then form small barrel-shaped fruits which split into thirds to release quantities of black seeds.

Camas stalks and leaves were used by some peoples for making mattresses. Bulbs were valuable trade items and families owned and cared for their own fields.

Did you know: Similar in appearance, fields of common camas may also contain Death-camas, which is very similar in appearance except for their cream-colored blossoms. Death-camas roots and leaves are extremely toxic and should never be eaten.

Photograph: William & Wilma Fallette, hosted by the USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / USDA NRCS. 1992. Western wetland flora: Field office guide to plant species. West Region, Sacramento.

Ridgefield Refuge Complex News & Events



Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

Christmas Bird Count History

Prior to the turn of the 20th century, some hunters joined a competitive holiday tradition, known as the Christmas 'Side Hunt,' to bag the most animals during a day. On Christmas Day 1900,

Port Commission Public Meetings



Unless otherwise published, the Port Commission Board holds regular public meetings on the **second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m.** at the Port's Administration Offices at 111 West Division Street.

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. Contact the Port Offices at 360-887-3873 for more information.

To view the Port Newsletter to find out about projects happening in Ridgefield, follow this link:
<http://www.portridgefield.org/news-and->

ornithologist Frank Chapman, proposed an alternate holiday tradition - a 'Christmas Bird Census' that would count birds during the holidays rather than hunt them. Today, thousands of Citizen Scientists brave the elements around the holidays, contributing to a 116-year old nationwide wildlife census.

events/Port-Newsletters.aspx

What is the Christmas Bird Count?

A group of volunteers that count all birds encountered on a set day within a set area. The date selected occurs between Dec. 14th and Jan 5th of each year. Volunteers document all birds encountered within a 15-mile diameter circle on the selected day. There are many Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs) conducted annually within North America. Regionally, over 100 CBCs were conducted this year within Oregon and Washington. The CBC gives a clear indication of the abundance of bird species in an area. But the longevity of the data set also helps researchers understand larger conservation issues like population trends and species distribution.

Sauvie Island's Christmas Bird Count

For decades a CBC has been conducted with the survey area centered at Sauvie Island. The survey circle reaches from the Lewis River to Vancouver Lake and from Dollars Corner to Scappoose. This area includes all of Sauvie Island, the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, the Shillapoo Wildlife Area, Frenchman's Bar Park, and Vancouver Lake Park. Annually, birdwatchers from both sides of the Columbia River unite to count this vast area that is renowned for its wildlife abundance.

2015 Results

A total of 30,000 birds were observed and identified to 120 species. The most abundant species was Cackling Geese with 12,616 observed.



Other items of interest follow in the format of Species (number counted):



White-Fronted Goose (4)



Snow Goose (1)



Trumpeter Swan (87)



Tundra Swan (817)



Eurasian Wigeon (3)



Cinnamon Teal (2)

Speed Limit to be Reduced on Pioneer St.

January 29, 2016 By [Kathy Winters](#)

Drivers will notice new speed limit signs on Pioneer Street (State Route 501) in Ridgefield next week.

For the safety of drivers, the Washington State Department of Transportation will temporarily reduce the speed limit on Pioneer Street between North Smythe Road and North Reiman Road from 40 mph to 25 mph, Monday, Feb. 1.

The lower speed limit will help drivers come to a complete stop at two new temporary signals that will alternate both directions of traffic through a single lane.

Next steps

Contractor crews working for the WSDOT will soon begin repairs to an adjacent hillside that eroded below the road due to heavy rains on Thursday, Jan. 28.

Once the work is complete, both directions of traffic will reopen and the speed limit will return to 40 mph.

Before heading out the door, drivers can learn more about current traffic conditions by visiting WSDOT's [travel alerts](#) and by following WSDOT's regional [Twitter account](#).

To read the original article click [HERE](#) For more Local Information and Articles, check out FY198642.com



The Benefits of Membership

In addition to receiving the monthly E-News with Refuge updates, upcoming events and wildlife news, members enjoy member- and volunteer-only events. Also, with any \$50 membership, you will receive an annual Refuge Pass, which covers entrance fees.

Don't forget to glance at the [Refuge calendar](#), your one-stop shop for fun activities and volunteer opportunities!

Discounts at Local Businesses for New and Renewing Members:





Sandhill Crane (1,073)



Northern Shrike (2)



Tree Swallow (3)



Swamp Sparrow (1)



White-throated Sparrow (4)

Interested in CBC 2016?

Contact the Refuge Office. They can put you in contact with the local CBC coordinator.

Photos provided by: <https://www.audubon.org/bird-guide>

Thank you for visiting the refuge and supporting conservation. If you have any questions regarding activities and regulations on the refuge, call the office Monday through Friday 7:30am to 3:30 pm at 360-887-4106.

Cathlapotle Plankhouse Update & Events



Upcoming Events and Exhibitions:

**Portland State University Presents:
Tamánwit: A Symposium of Columbia River
Art & Sovereignty**

Would you like to enjoy a cup of coffee from Ridgefield's Seasons after a morning hike on the Refuge? Or perhaps breakfast before you head out on the auto tour route at Pioneer Street Cafe? Lunch at Vinnie's Pizza in-between the River 'S' and Carty Units? Dinner and drinks at the Historic Sportsman's Restaurant and Lounge after a busy day of wildlife viewing? Or maybe you would like to get a discount on some supplies at Shorty's or Backyard Bird Shop?

[Become a Friend or renew your membership today](#), and receive a member card with great discounts at these wonderful local businesses! Feel free to [contact us](#) for any questions or inquiries.

Donate



Our Sponsors

Feb. 4, 2016

Join the College of Arts, the History Department, and the Native American Student & Community Center for a day of discussions and celebrations of Indigenous Columbia River Plateau art.

Symposium: 2pm - 4pm @ Lincoln Hall Studio Theater (LH115)

- presentations, film, panel discussion
- featured speakers: Lillian Pitt, Deanna Dartt, Pat Courtney Gold, and Judy Bluehorse Skelton

Reception: 4pm - 5pm @ Lincoln Hall Broadway Gallery

- view the MasterWorks of the Columbia Plateau art exhibit

Keynote: 7pm - 8:30pm @ Native American Student & Community Center

- featuring Roberta Conner, Director, Tamáststlikt Cultural Institute
- [For More Info Click HERE](#)

The Clark County Historical Museum Presents:

Feb 13, 2016 - 4:00 pm

Descendants of the Sand Creek Massacre of November 29, 1864 have created an exhibit of artwork depicting the day of the massacre. More than 150 Cheyenne and Arapaho people were viciously massacred at Sand Creek, CO. The work of Cheyenne and Arapaho artists Brent Learned and George Levi focuses on the remembrance, honor and strength of their ancestors and leaders. CCHM is hosting the exhibition One November Morning with an opening event at 4:00pm on Saturday, February 13, 2016. Brent Learned and George Levi, will conduct gallery talks and demonstrations.

CCHM will be the first venue on the West Coast. One November Morning has shown in galleries at Denver University and Northwestern University.

[For More Info Click HERE](#)

Portland Art Museum Presents:

Contemporary Native Photographers and the Edward Curtis Legacy

Zig Jackson, Wendy Red Star, Will Wilson

FEB 6 - MAY 8, 2016

This major exhibition will feature contemporary photographs by Native American photographers Zig Jackson, Wendy Red Star, and Will Wilson in dialogue with photographs from Edward Sheriff Curtis' renowned body of work *The North American Indian*. This timely exhibition and associated educational programming will ask visitors to consider Curtis' continuing influence on the interpretation of Native American culture while highlighting contemporary reactions to his complex role within the history of representation of indigenous peoples.

[For a schedule of events, to buy tickets, and learn more click HERE](#)

Here is a whole list of events that are happening in Lake Oswego all throughout the month. Some of these look really spectacular!

<http://www.ci.oswego.or.us/loreads/2016-lake-oswego-reads-events>

Woven: The Art of Contemporary Native Basketry

March 1 - April 23, 2016

Opening Reception: Saturday, April 2, 4-7pm

Workshops and artist talks Sunday April 3rd
in Foster Auditorium (Clark Community College)

**Location: Archer Gallery, Clark Community College
1933 Vancouver Way, Vancouver, WA**

The exhibition features the work of 12 incredibly talented contemporary indigenous artists: Joe Feddersen, Gail Tremblay, Dawn Nichols Walden, Pat Courtney Gold, Shan Goshorn, and Bernice Akamine.

The Woven exhibit examines selected works of twelve contemporary



Lucy's Garden
Winery

Ridgefield, Washington

Clark Public Utilities
The Columbian
Corwin Beverages
Environmental Paper & Print
Fred Meyer Community
Rewards
National Environmental
Education Foundation
National Fish & Wildlife
Foundation
Pacific NW Best Fish Co.
Parr Lumber
Pelican Brewing Co.

Native artists, each with their own unique and modern approach to the age-old craft of weaving. The works in this exhibit will explore themes ranging from the basket as a beautiful vehicle to confront difficult issues to the use of traditional techniques and materials to express 21st century ideas and influences.

Upon entering the main gallery it becomes vividly clear that this exhibition's focus is not on historic baskets. Each of the artists in this exhibit has researched, practiced and even mastered their traditional forms of basket weaving. Some use their art to tackle political and often uncomfortable social issues; others combine their traditional weaving skills with contemporary materials and imagery to create works that pay respect to tradition but also are clearly the work of a 21st century artist.

[For Details and More Info Click HERE](#)

*Questions? Contact Sarah at Sarah.Hill@fws.gov
or call (360) 887-4106*

Habitat Restoration Updates & Events

Habitat Restoration hit its stride in the month of January. Fifty-five volunteers participated in three plantings events, giving 224 hours of their time and planting 965 trees in often rainy conditions. Our current total is 3,615 trees and shrubs planted during this season. Overall, we've planted about 6 acres with forage and shelter plant species for the Columbian White-tailed Deer, which continue to grow and thrive on the Refuge since their reintroduction.

Planting season is quickly winding to a close, though, with only six tree/shrub plantings remaining! The last plantings are on February 3rd, 6th, 10th, 20th, 24th, and March 5th, and will be at sites all over the Refuge. We are starting to look forward towards invasive species removal and the Ricefield Bulrush program as well! If you'd like to get involved with habitat restoration on the Refuge, email Aiden.Forsi@fws.gov for more information. See you out on the Refuge!

Contact Aiden_Forsi@fws.gov for more details!

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

FALL/WINTER/SPRING 2015-16

RIDGEFIELD NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



HABITAT RESTORATION SCHEDULE			
FALL/WINTER/SPRING 2015-16			
Date	Day	Activity	Meeting Place
Oct 28	Wed	Planting	River S. Unit
Nov 4	Wed	Planting	River S. Unit
Nov 7	Sat	Planting	River S. Unit
Nov 18	Wed	Planting	River S. Unit
Nov 21	Sat	Planting	River S. Unit
Dec 2	Wed	Planting	River S. Unit
Dec 5	Sat	Planting	River S. Unit
Dec 9	Wed	Planting	River S. Unit
Dec 16	Wed	Planting	River S. Unit
Jan 13	Wed	Planting	River S. Unit
Jan 18	Mon	Planting	River S. Unit
Jan 23	Sat	Planting	River S. Unit
Jan 27	Wed	Planting	River S. Unit
Feb 6	Sat	Planting	River S. Unit
Feb 10	Wed	Planting	River S. Unit
Feb 20	Sat	Planting	River S. Unit
Feb 24	Wed	Planting	River S. Unit
Mar 2	Wed	Planting	River S. Unit
Mar 5	Sat	Planting	River S. Unit

Help plant habitat for the Endangered Columbian white-tailed deer, in the wild and beautiful setting of the 5,200 acre Refuge. We are planting 5,200 native trees and shrubs to provide cover and forage for the deer and other wildlife. Registration is encouraged but not required. Contact staff at 360-887-3883 or Aiden_Forsi@fws.gov. Special days may also be arranged for groups. All work days are from 9 am to 12:30 pm rain or shine. Wear waterproof footwear (boots are best), bring gloves, and dress for the weather. Hot drinks and snacks provided!



DIRECTIONS: Exit 14 off I-5: River S Unit: west 2.5 miles to Hillhurst (9th) Ave, left for 3/4 mile to River S. Unit entrance, down hill across bridge to kiosk parking lot. All volunteers must sign a volunteer service agreement (if under 18 must be signed by parent or guardian) which can be found at:

[Volunteer Services Agreement and Habitat Restoration Position Description](#)

All events are sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge and the Friends of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is committed to providing access to this event for all participants. Please direct requests for sign language interpreting, closed captioning, or other accommodation needs to the Ridgefield NWR Park Ranger at 360-887-4106, or via email to Josie_Finley@fws.gov. Requests must be made by close of business 10 days in advance of the event.

Follow the Friends on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

Want regular updates on Refuge events and happenings? Follow the Friends on your favorite social media by clicking the logos below to stay connected even when you are off the Refuge.



Help the Friends and the Refuge When You Shop Online



When you link your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to the Friends, you help us earn donations from Fred Meyer Community Rewards. It doesn't change your regular personal shopping and fuel rewards, but it does make a meaningful contribution to our work on the Refuge.

It's easy to sign up. Just go to www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. You can search for us by our name, Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, or by our non-profit number, 89824. Then, every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping the Friends earn a donation to support the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge. If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.

You Can Also Shop and Give Online at AmazonSmile.com

Log on to smile.amazon.com, shop as you usually would and .5% of your purchase will be donated directly to the Friends. Use the special link, smile.amazon.com, with your existing user name and password.

To set up your AmazonSmile account, click this link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/91-2018749>. When prompted to select a charity, choose the **Friends of Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge**. Begin shopping as you normally would and the Friends will receive 0.5% of eligible purchases.

Thanks for being an EcoShopper and helping the Refuge!

Header Photo Credit: Marguerite Hills

Would you like to forward this email to a friend? [Click here.](#)

Share This Email:      

[Remove my name from all future email correspondence](#)

Address postal inquiries to:
Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge
PO BOX 1022
Ridgefield, WA 98642
Powered By

Blackbaud eTapestry™ Delivra