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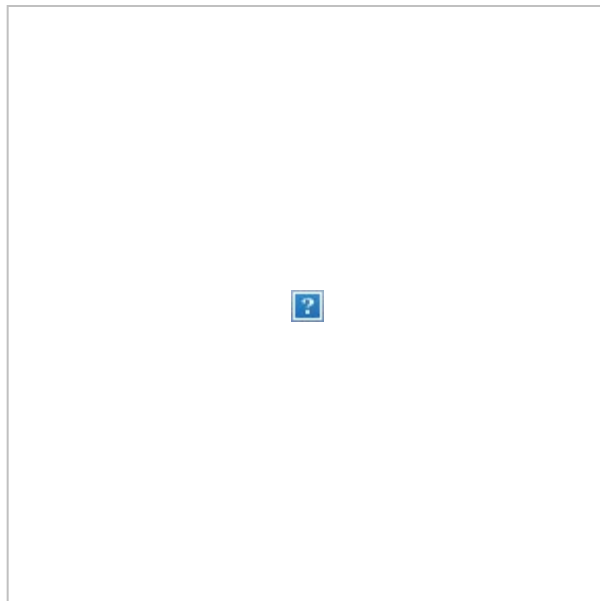
The Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

The latest updates | April, 2020



From the Refuge

REFUGE CLOSED AS OF 3/27/20:



(click to view larger or download)

From the Board of Directors

Dear Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Community,

As the Board of Directors of the Friends, we want to let all of you know that we are thinking of you during these difficult and uncertain times. We hope all of you are staying safe, healthy, and practicing proper social distancing as recommended by the CDC and WHO.

At this point, the Refuge is now closed.

Now, more than ever, it's important to maintain a relationship with nature. We encourage all of you, if possible, to find peace of mind in the natural areas available to you - your yard, your street, your green spaces. It is amazing how nature can find its way to us.

With the situation changing daily, the best advice we can give is to check on alerts from the Refuge regarding closures and programming changes - check the [Friends](#) or the main [Refuge](#) websites. The Ridgefield Friends will post any changes on social media as soon as they are known. You can check Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and NextDoor Downtown for important updates.

Again, we want to assure you that we are working closely with the Refuge to not only keep you aware of the ongoing situation and how it affects visitation and volunteering, but to also ensure that everyone who volunteers or works at the Refuge is taken care of, and feels safe. And above all, doing all that while continuing to work behind the scenes to complete our mission as best we can.

Please look after yourselves, and thank you for everything you are doing to keep your community safe. We look forward to seeing you on the trail again soon.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors,
Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge



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Cathlapotle Plankhouse Updates & Events

Volunteer Activities at Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge are suspended until further notice. Stay tuned, and thank you for your patience.

Cathlapotle Plankhouse 15th Birthday

Celebrate the 15th Birthday of the Cathlapotle Plankhouse from your own homes, this Sunday, March 29th! For ideas on ways your family can learn more about the history of our area, the Refuge, and the Cathlapotle Plankhouse, download the [Refuge Educators Guide here](#), for lesson plans, activities, facts, definitions, and so much more. Celebrate the Plankhouse by learning together today!



Greg Robinson was the Project Foreman for the building of the Cathlapotle Plankhouse, and this year while we celebrate 15 years of the House being open, we are featuring Greg Robinson's art on items in the Friends Merch Shop. [Stop by the Friends merch shop here](#) and grab a tshirt or sweatshirt, mug or tote bag, all featuring Greg Robinson's Chinookan Steller's Jay art.



Preserve America is a national initiative in cooperation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; the U.S. Departments of Defense, Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, and Education; the National Endowment for the Humanities; the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities; and the President's Council on Environmental Quality.

Habitat Restoration Updates & Events

Volunteer Activities at Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge are suspended until further notice. Stay tuned, and thank you for your patience.

Check out [our website HERE](#) for the completed High Tunnel Project Photos!



Seeking Business Alliance Members

As a member of the Friends of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Business Alliance, you invest in one of our urban metropolitan area's most unique and diverse natural and cultural resources. [Click here to find out more](#)

Board Seeking New Board Members

Or, Join a Committee

The Friends of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge is a non-

profit dedicated to promoting educational and cultural programs of the Ridgefield NWR, and protecting and enhancing its wildlife habitat. We are currently seeking candidates to serve on our board of directors. We are recruiting candidates with diverse backgrounds and skills for several open board positions, in addition to candidates interested in serving on a committee (board membership not required).



Find out more about the Friends, and [contact us here](#)

Benefits of Membership



Discounts at local businesses for new and renewing members! Would you like to enjoy a cup of coffee from Ridgefield's Seasons after a morning hike on the Refuge? 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 (5% off a meal with member card!)? Or maybe you would like to get a discount on some supplies at Shorty's or Backyard Bird Shop? How about a night out at Ilani? Find out more, 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.

The Friends of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge promote the enjoyment, understanding, and protection of native and endangered birds, other wildlife, and their habitats. We focus on our local community and the Pacific Northwest. Visit us on the web at www.ridgefieldfriends.org

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.



Support While You Shop



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 click here](#). You can search for us by our name, Friends of Ridgefield NWR, or by our non-profit number, PK822.

Then, every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping earn a donation to support the Friends and Ridgefield NWR. If you do not have a Rewards Card, ask at the Customer Service desk of any FM store.



Log on to smile.amazon.com and shop as you usually would - .5% of your purchase will be donated directly to the Friends! Use the link with your existing user name and password. When prompted to select a charity, choose the Friends of Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge.

Giving Assistant makes it easy to donate to Friends of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge! Simply shop online, earn cash back, and donate as much as 30%



of your purchase price - Giving Assistant facilitates the whole process. Now, you can help change the world for free while saving money at over 3,000 popular online retailers like Home Depot, ULTA, and Macy's! [Start HERE!](#) Thanks for being an EcoShopper and helping the Refuge!

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Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge
PO BOX 1022
Ridgefield, WA 98642