

EVENTS GALORE

Here is the schedule of hiking events for the first part of the hiking season. A schedule for late summer and fall will be in the newsletter in several months. We hope these fun and informative hikes will continue to introduce many to our great natural areas and encourage some to join up.

Saturday May 29 – Natural History of the Dishman Hills
Sponsor: Dishman Hills Natural Area Association
Leader: Mike Hamilton

Meet: Camp Caro Time: 10:30 AM

We will hike for about four hours with a picnic lunch stop in the middle. Topics will include the geologic history of the Natural Area, geomorphology of the various landforms, and miscellaneous historic details. Contact Mike Hamilton, 747-8147 or basalt3415@yahoo.com, by May 28 if you plan to attend.

Sunday June 13 – Hobnailers Hike
Sponsor: Hobnailers Hiking Club
Leader: Gardner Bailey

Meet: Camp Caro Time: 9:00 AM

Proceed from Camp Caro setting out South and then up the hill to see the changes that have taken place in the Dishman Hills since the big fire of 2008. Contact Gardner Bailey, pefesser3@comcast.net, by June 5 if you plan to attend.

Saturday June 26 – Native Plants of Iller Creek Conserv. Area
Sponsor: Northeast Chapter, Washington Native Plant Society
Leader: Sylvia Eberspecher

Meet: 4813 S. Gillis Way Court Time: 10:00 AM

Iller Creek has an amazingly diverse assemblage of native plants as it encompasses semiarid ponderosa pine forest, a riparian corridor, and wetter forests that include hemlock, grand fir and Pacific yew. Parking area is limited, so meet at Sylvia's house (4813 S. Gillis Way Court) to carpool at 10:00. Hike will be mostly on trails with some steep stretches and will last about 3-4 hours. Wear sturdy hiking shoes or boots and bring water and a lunch. Contact Grant Cummings, 466-8886, cgeotech@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Sunday July 11 – Birds of Iller Creek Natural Area
Sponsor: Spokane Audubon Society
Leader: Jon Isacoff

Meet: Iller Creek Trailhead-End of Holman Road Time: 6 AM

This is a half-day hiking trip geared toward birders or people with an interest in birds. Beginners are welcome but this is not an "workout hike;" the focus is on birds. We will hike approximately 2.5 miles including about a 600 foot climb. Anyone who can comfortably fast-walk or jog 3 miles should have no problem (we will hike slowly!). Iller Creek has a variety of habitats that we will be birding, including riparian, dry brushy slopes, and mixed wet-belt coniferous forest. Meet at the Iller Creek entrance in the cul-de-sac at the end of Holman Road at 6:00 A.M. Contact Jon Isacoff, 448-2629 or isacoff@gonzaga.edu by July 3 if you plan to attend.

Nothing we can imagine about Nature is incredible
—Pliny the Elder

SMASHING SUCCESS

The REI service day at the end of last month was a smashing success with almost 300 volunteers showed up to work in the Natural Area and areas south. A large and enthusiastic crew planted a new forest in the Valley View fire burn zone with 2,000 trees, 200 native scrubs, and many pounds of native grass seed. Other crews cleared trails, removed trash and fire pits, pulled transient camps, and restored redundant trails. There were lots of students, troops of scouts, and scads of outdoor recreation groups. People arrived in buses, bikes, and family cars. Overall, it was a great day for the Dishman Hills. For many this event was a introduction to the Natural Area and we were active in handing out brochures and copies of our newsletter to generate interest in signing up some new members.

This service day was a team effort and we want to thank REI, Spokane Co. Parks, WA DNR, Spokane Conservation Dist., Sierra Club, Inland NW Land Trust, SCOPE, The Lands Council, Boy Scouts, Gonzaga Univ., WA Trails Assoc., Spokane Mtneers., Inland NW Trails Coalition, DH Alliance,



← after



before →

and the Back **ASSOCIATION NEWS** Country Horseman.

We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to saving nature areas in the Spokane region for public enjoyment and education. Call Michael Hamilton, 747-8147, if you have questions. Our board meets every month on the third Tuesday. Our next meeting will be June 15th. We will meet at the Camp Caro lodge at the end of Sargent Rd. Visitors are always welcomed.

The following are our April donors that have consented to be listed: Eric & Lisa Barrett, Nancy Cashon, Joseph Collins, Robert Davis, Elizabeth DeNiro, Lee Dominey, Tim & Sue Henderson, Patty Houff, Gloria Krebs, Rich Leon, Bob Peregoy, Dave Plemons, Janet

Please use this form when sending **CONTRIBUTIONS or DUES**
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