

2011 Annual Report



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North Mountain Park Map

Quotes from our quest book...

“Love what you do for our community”

“Awesome interpretive materials”

“My favorite spot in Ashland”





North Mountain Park
Demonstration Gardens

Annual Report 2011 was produced by Ashland Parks & Recreation staff
Linda Chesney, Kari Gies, Patty Commons & Dorinda Cottle

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2011 AT A GLANCE

Community Programs & Events

Number of programs: 120

Number of events: 3

Number of day camps: 3

School Programs

Number of K-5 Field programs: 35

Number of K-5 Home School programs: 1

Number of 6-8 programs: 8

Number of Geology Park programs: 15

Total number of programs: 61

Total number of students served: 1,700

Service & Service Learning Programs

Number of Service programs: 5

Number of Service learning programs: 19

Total number served: 605

Student Projects

Number of student projects: 1

Volunteers

Number of North Mountain Park individual volunteer hours logged: 3,530

Number of group volunteer hours logged: 440

Number of work party hours logged: 393

Number of mandatory service hours logged: 75

Total number of volunteer hours: 4,438

Projects Completed

Background Booklet updates (3)

Community Garden at Garden Way Park

Compass Rose Mosaic

Exhibit Room Displays

Green Living Tour Signs for Kitchen and Bathroom

Plant Checklist

Reptile and Amphibian Garden Water Feature

Sustainability Wall Exhibit

Umma Reconstruction

Weather Station Interpretive Display

Willow Corral Gate

OVERVIEW

This report summarizes the 2011 operation of the North Mountain Park Nature Center, which facilitates environmental education, recreation and stewardship activities for the Ashland Parks & Recreation Department. The Nature Center staff educates school groups and community members on sustainable practices, and natural and cultural history. The Nature Center maintains indoor exhibits, gardens and interpretive trails, which provide numerous opportunities for education



Nature Center Exhibit Room

and recreation. North Mountain Park is also a focal point of community volunteerism for students and citizens, who participate in activities geared to enhance native biodiversity.

In addition to activities at North Mountain Park, Nature Center staff helps to coordinate projects and education at other sites. The staff has been responsible for coordinating the membership and maintenance of community garden plots at Scenic Park, Clay Street Park, and Ashland Creek Park, and new plots at Garden Way Park. By collaborating closely with Volunteer Coordinator Lori Ainsworth, the Nature Center has also helped facilitate successful restoration work parties at such sites as Lithia Park and Ashland Pond.

STAFF

The Nature Center is run primarily by three full-time staff members: Stewardship Coordinator, Linda Chesney; Education Coordinator, Kari Gies; and Receptionist, Patty Commons. This



Patty Commons — Receptionist for the North Mountain Park Nature Center, in the Halloween spirit!

was the first full year without the assistance of an AmeriCorps Service Learning Coordinator, so operations depended heavily upon volunteer assistance and part-time contractors. Libby VanWyhe and Amy Post were instrumental in preparing for, and offering, School Programs in 2011. Karin Onkka continued her contract work, designing and developing interpretive materials and exhibits for the park.



VOLUNTEERS

Community volunteers were critically important to both indoor and outdoor operations at the Nature Center. In 2011, volunteers accumulated 3,530 hours of service in the following categories: administration, art and design, education and research, events, facilities and grounds, gardening, and student projects.

Several administrative and interpretive tasks were undertaken by long-term volunteers, including the design of the new sustainability wall in the exhibit room, and the front office bulletin boards. Dedicated volunteers continued to assist with the management of the resource library, photo catalog, and collection materials. Volunteers contributed 390 hours of administrative assistance, and 296 hours of help with art and design during 2011. Volunteers also assisted with ongoing wildlife monitoring by recording information from our sightings board and the results of Project Feederwatch.



Volunteer gardeners at the Park

The Nature Center's educational programs, including service learning and school program field trips, would not be possible without a dedicated team of volunteer instructors. These instructors are fully trained by Nature Center Staff to teach students about the natural and cultural history of the Rogue Valley. This year, education and research activities required 921 hours of volunteer service from these instructors. Twelve volunteers spent 93 hours facilitating service learning activities, and 456 hours were spent with K-5 field programs, which included teaching, research and materials prep.



RiverWalk Work Party

Community groups, students and independent community members participated in five work parties. Through these work parties, Nature Center staff collaborated with Ashland Parks & Recreation Volunteer Coordinator Lori Ainsworth to coordinate 393 hours of restoration service. Finally, the gardens around the North Mountain Park Nature Center are beautifully maintained by 32 avid volunteer gardeners. On-going maintenance of the gardens utilized 1,245 hours of service.



NATURE CENTER

The Nature Center was again open to the public five days a week, Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The reception area remained an active hub for visitors asking about the park, for community members signing up for classes and programs, and for volunteers checking in and logging their hours. The reception area also provided an opportunity for visitors to look at a variety of booklets and brochures related to the Park and surrounding area. A new plant checklist brochure was completed during 2011, and three of the background booklets (Geology, Native Americans, and History) were re-done and expanded. In addition, several new animal interpretive cards were developed and an updated series of over 120 bird cards was completed.



Brochure Rack in the reception area of the North Mountain Park Nature Center



Mural in the Exhibit Room

Throughout the year, visitors were also able to enjoy a variety of exhibits inside the Nature Center, including a new green living series in the discovery room and bathroom. A related feature, the Nature Center's weather station, was updated for easier on-line accessibility, and an interpretive sign and slide show was developed for Park visitors. Also related to sustainability, a new display shows a variety of features in an eco-friendly house and surrounding yard. The Sustainability Wall's home exhibit was tied into the mural, which was expanded in 2011 to completely surround the exhibit room.

In addition to being used by a variety of casual visitors, the exhibit room again doubled as a classroom for community programs. One of the Center's most long-lasting program series, the monthly pre-school puppet shows, continued to be very popular. Many of the youngsters who came for a puppet show returned with parents and grandparents to have their own "play time" within the child-friendly confines of the exhibit room.



DEMONSTRATION GARDENS

The Heirloom and Demonstration Gardens that surround the Nature Center continued to serve as a resource for park visitors, docent tours, educational programs, and as habitat for a variety of wildlife. The gardens were beautifully maintained this year by a core group of highly committed volunteers as well as “drop-in” gardeners. With a late, moist spring and an abundance of volunteer care, park visitors and garden volunteers agreed that 2011 was the most beautiful and successful garden year to date.



Heirloom Garden at North Mountain Park

HEIRLOOM GARDEN

The Heirloom Garden, based roughly on the American Victorian Garden, is maintained by members of the Ashland Garden Club. The group’s efforts in 2011 were again coordinated by a lead volunteer who scheduled monthly work party meetings. The group also provides updated information to keep the interpretive booklets current.

DEMONSTRATION GARDENS

The volunteer gardening season began this year with a spring orientation and work party, which attracted some excellent new volunteers as well as returning gardeners. The Native Plant Garden, Habitat Gardens, Herb Gardens and Bird Buffet once again delighted many park visitors in 2011. These gardens also served as a community model for home gardeners in creating wildlife habitat and employing sustainable gardening practices. The gardens provided an excellent setting for community education classes and school programs as well. By the end of the season, almost all garden areas had been “adopted” by volunteers committed to taking special care of these areas. Volunteers contributed excellent feed-back to help to guide garden-related activities next year.

The Reptile-Amphibian garden water feature, originally built as an Eagle Scout project, is very popular with park visitors and wildlife and experiences fairly heavy use. The channel developed a major leak this summer, and was repaired and improved by a local contractor.

MOSAIC COMPASS ROSE

A colorful mosaic compass rose was dedicated in the Demonstration Gardens during the Bear Creek Festival on October 1, 2011. The mosaic is intended to help orient students and visitors to the cardinal directions and to provide a beautiful, interesting, and interactive point of entry to the Demonstration Gardens. The mosaic features a variety of watershed appreciation and earth-friendly themes. It incorporates graphic representations of local native plants and animals as well as some of the region’s dominant geographic features. Community members assisted in the mosaic’s creation during an August workshop led by mosaic artist Susan Springer. The mosaic elements were designed and individually created in the Ashland’s Illahe Studios and Gallery. The mosaic will be used in a variety of educational programs for students and community members as well as an artistic focal point in the Park.



NATURAL AREA

MANAGEMENT

Approximately 14 acres within the boundaries of the Bear Creek 100-year floodplain are designated as a natural area of North Mountain Park. This area is being managed for habitat values and for compatible educational and recreational programs. During 2011, Ashland Parks staff continued to work with a variety of community volunteers in an effort to increase habitat diversity and to restore wetland and riparian function. Much of the effort to accomplish this was carried out through the control of invasive plants such as Himalayan blackberries.

TRAILS & INTERPRETIVE FEATURES

Since the natural area is also utilized for casual enjoyment and interpretive education, a secondary focus of management was placed on trail maintenance and signs. Additional effort was put toward the maintenance of educational venues that could be easily accessed by those attending a variety of school and community programs within the natural area.



One of several entrances to the Natural Area of the Park

Living Willow Structure



The willow structure has been a park feature favored by hikers, children, artists since its construction began in 2010. A late winter community program taught willow propagation methods as well as basic willow weaving techniques while continuing construction work on the living willow “dome.”

Native American Village

The Native American Village continued to be used as a means to depict the traditional lifeways of local Native Americans. A main feature, the Umma, was reconstructed during 2011 with the help of Eagle Scout Kaleb Wagner. The new Umma is steeper and slightly smaller, and the entrance faces east so as to capture the rising of the sun.



EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

The Nature Center staff coordinated community programs at North Mountain Park, Lithia Park, Briscoe Geology Park, Hald-Strawberry Park, Oredson-Todd Woods, the Bear Creek Greenway, Mt Ashland and Grizzly Peak. Community Education programs were taught by both paid and volunteer instructors as well as Ashland Parks & Recreation staff. Beginning in July, scholarships were once again available, courtesy of the Ashland Parks Foundation.

The Nature Center staff continues to explore new partnerships and possibilities in order to expand our program offerings. One such exploration, “Earth-fired Pottery” was given a test run and failed to make the program cut when weather conditions delayed a fire permit. Some of the more popular new program offerings this year included: Edible Garden Design, Honey Bee 101, Jackson County Bird Migration, Finding Balance: Rock Stacking and Dry-Stone Arch Building, and Exploring the World of Pacific Salmon.



Honey Bee 101 class



Birding Program
with Harry Fuller



COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Nature Center sponsored three free public educational events in 2011. At North Mountain Park, Migratory Bird Day was offered on May 14 and the Bear Creek Festival on October 1. Nature Center Staff also participated in Rogue Valley Earth Day (at ScienceWorks Hands-on Museum) on April 23. As a Rogue Valley Earth Day sponsor, Ashland Parks & Recreation provided some funding and logistical support but did not serve on the planning committee.

Rogue Valley Bird Day

This event took place on the second Saturday of May, the same day that International Migratory Bird Day is nationally recognized. The Rogue Valley Audubon Society and the Klamath Bird Observatory, along with many volunteers collaborated to make this another successful event. Attendance in 2011 was again approximately 250 to 300 participants of all ages. The event drew all levels of birdwatchers, from beginners to more experienced birders.



Bear Creek Festival



Live entertainment at the Festival

The festival took place last fall, showcasing North Mountain Park and featuring educational exhibits and activities on a theme of caring for the health of the Bear Creek Watershed and its inhabitants. Live entertainment contributed to the festive atmosphere. The food concession was contracted to a food cart business this year. This fully self-contained food concession was assisted by the Jackson County Master Recyclers in serving on durable eat-ware and thereby reducing the event's waste stream. New this year was the successful promotion of "Watershed Awareness Month", featuring a month-long calendar of activities coordinated by a group of contributing partners.



SCHOOL PROGRAMS

K to 5th Grade



History of the Rogue Valley Field Program

For the fifteenth straight year, elementary school students visited North Mountain Park for school program field trips. In the spring of 2011, school programs concluded a complete cycle of the Scope and Sequence with a treatment “History of the Rogue Valley.” The fall season began a new cycle on the topic “Geology of the Rogue Valley,” the first of six subjects in the sequence. In 2011, North Mountain Park hosted 35 field trips to classes from five local schools.

The outdoor Pioneer Barn exhibits were instrumental to the spring program. The willow corral, pioneer garden and covered barn area featured heavily in the Pioneer Life activities. The barn interior was renovated and transformed into a frontier store, in which students “purchased” candy with the “gold” they had discovered in the gold mining activity.

Once again, a committed team of volunteer instructors taught these programs. Nine volunteers were trained to instruct our History program, and fourteen volunteers assisted with Geology. By collaborating with Lori Ainsworth, the Parks Volunteer Coordinator, there was excellent instructor recruitment and retention.



Geology of the Rogue Valley Field Program



SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Middle School



Ashland Middle School students helping to rediscover a wetland near their school

In the spring of 2011, four 6th grade classes attended Compass and Survival field trips. This was the second year that these activities were offered at the Oredson-Todd Woods site. Once again, compass skills were introduced near the trail-head, and the woods proved to be an authentic location for teaching orienteering and survival skills.

For the program “Water of the Ashland Middle School,” Nature Center staff visited the Middle School campus for an in-class presentation, wetland tour and service activity. The Ashland Forest Resiliency Project, through the efforts of Lomakatsi, collaborated on these activities. The service portion of this program included maintenance of the middle school rain garden and invasive species removal at a wetland site located on school property. New to this year’s site tour, students received a lesson about wetland indicators and examined wetland soil test-pits.

Geology Park

The Briscoe Geology Park, with its walk through time exploring Earth’s earliest beginnings, was again the site of several geology field trips. The field trips were lead by local geologist Len Eisenberg, who also designed and helped build the park. Along with on-site visits to the park, Len was able to visit several classrooms where he presented a series of activities related to the Earth’s ancient history. In all, 15 classes in grades 5th through 10th participated in the Geology Park programs during 2011.

Workshops

As part of an ongoing effort to help build collaboration among local environmental education providers, Nature Center staff helped plan a lead a week-long teacher institute in August. The institute, which was presented to over 40 teachers, helped to introduce educators to a variety of field trip opportunities, including those at North Mountain Park.



SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAMS

Service learning programs promote civic and environmental responsibility by integrating meaningful community service with stewardship-related instruction. These programs offer discrete service and educational components which provide a reciprocal benefit to the park as well as to the student or service group. During 2011, nineteen classes and service groups (457 individuals) 3rd grade to adult participated in service learning programs. Service learning projects resulted in 440 hours of outdoor service conducted at North Mountain Park and other parks in Ashland.



Service learning students collect aquatic insects in Bear Creek

Participating groups included school classes from 3rd through 12th grade and service organizations such as scouts and church groups. Konoway Nika Tillicum, a national summer academy for Native American youth participated in our Ethnobotany program. Due to above-average high flows in Bear Creek, the “What’s in Bear Creek” programs were modified for safety and participating teachers and group leaders were offered alternative topics.

In this, the Center’s first full year without an AmeriCorps Service Learning Coordinator on staff, service learning programs were offered on fewer days. Programs required ample advance registration in order to allow time for recruiting needed volunteers.

STUDENT and SCOUT PROJECTS

Although numerous high school and college students came to the park during the year to complete voluntary service hours, there was only one completed project during 2011. High School student Kaleb Wagner earned his Eagle Scout award by orchestrating the reconstruction of the Park’s Native American Umma, or dwelling. This project, which took place during August and September, included the tearing down of the old umma and the design and building of the new umma which is taller and narrower than the original structure.



STEWARDSHIP

OUTDOOR SERVICE



Volunteers remove invasive blackberries

North Mountain Park offers outdoor service and stewardship opportunities to students and community members. Staff conducts outdoor service programs and community work parties at a variety of locations. All participants receive equipment, gloves and snacks, and though no formalized educational program is included, participants learn background information relevant to the specific service

projects. In 2011, Nature Center staff collaborated with Ashland Parks volunteer coordinator Lori Ainsworth to facilitate several service projects.

North Mountain Park staff co-coordinated several “work party” service events in 2011 beginning with an effort in Lithia Park to control an invasive species only recently documented on the Jackson County invasive species list, *Geranium robertianum* or “Stinky Bob.” Other collaborative service efforts were co-coordinated at North Mountain Park, Bear Creek Greenway near Ashland Pond, and RiverWalk open space.

Sixth grade students at Ashland Middle School contributed 168 service hours during the fall Water program by removing invasive species and planting native wild flower seed at the wetland adjacent to the school bus turnaround. They also raked and weeded the rain garden which was constructed during a prior water program.

MONITORING

Natural resource professionals, volunteers, students, and Ashland Parks & Recreation staff participate in monitoring efforts which help to guide adaptive management of the North Mountain Park natural area. The North Mountain Park monitoring efforts contribute valuable scientific data to regional and global monitoring programs, help to teach about monitoring methods and strategies, and engage participants in exciting, authentic environmental stewardship.

Weather Station

To aid in the interpretation of local climate, an interpretive display was completed in the discovery room. Near the display, a monitor receives data from the weather station, located on the roof of the Nature Center. The weather station web page display was reformatted to include educational information about the weather station’s instruments and sustainable living suggestions. Gardeners and weather-watchers can also monitor current conditions and weather summaries by accessing the weather station on-line.



Bird Monitoring

Volunteers, biologists and staff are involved in well-established bird monitoring programs at the Nature Center. Chief among these are Project FeederWatch, which takes place from November to March, and monthly area search surveys which are conducted by expert volunteers throughout the year. Nest box monitoring utilizes volunteers to maintain and monitor the use of numbered nest boxes during the spring and summer breeding season at North Mountain Park. Due to a rat infestation, the nest boxes were slated for removal in 2011, but volunteers constructed 3 rat-proof boxes which have produced mixed results. Park visitors continued to record their wildlife sightings on a dry erase board outside the Nature Center. This information is compiled on a monthly basis and reviewed by staff for updates to the North Mountain Park database. A volunteer also records Project FeederWatch and sightings board data on “e-bird,” a Cornell Lab of Ornithology database.

Mammal Monitoring

Southern Oregon University students in Dr Michael Parker’s fall term Vertebrate Natural History class continued to monitor mammals in North Mountain Park and other Ashland locations including Lithia Park. The project uses trip cameras and track plates, the same monitoring equipment and protocol established last year.

Salmon Monitoring

At the Park this fall, Chinook Salmon were observed in good numbers and were documented in an October spawning survey report by Eugene Weir from RVCOG (Rogue Valley Council of Governments). Eugene noted that, “the weirs (constructed in North Mountain Park) appear to alter the channel conditions in a way that salmon prefer to the up and down stream surrounding habitat.” He also recommended that we, “resurvey this reach for fall Chinook on an annual or biannual basis so that we can continue to document the presence of this species and continue to evaluate the effectiveness of the boulder weirs and future habitat improvement projects.”



Salmon in Bear Creek



SUSTAINABILITY

Green Business Program

Ashland Parks & Recreation has been participating in The City of Ashland's Green Business Certification Program since 2009. The program promotes resource conservation, waste and pollution reduction, and education for employees and the public. North Mountain Park has been certified, and the entire department is working toward certification as well. Rachel Dials, Brenda Hammers and Linda Chesney are the current Green Team members for Ashland Parks & Recreation, and they meet periodically to track progress and set new goals for the department.



Solid Waste: Numerous Ashland Parks & Recreation staff contributed to the department's participation in the hazardous waste event on May 6, 2011 and the plastic round-up in October of 2011. The Nature Center collects plastics and participates in the annual plastic round-up. North Mountain Park staff will collect plastics from a storage container that Lori Ainsworth will keep at the Lithia shop. The Bear Creek Festival on October 1, 2011 was again run as a Zero Waste event. The planning committee chose to use durable dishware and Ashland Parks & Recreation staff collaborated with Jackson County Master Recyclers who ran the scraping and rinsing station. Participants were encouraged to bring their own reusable water bottles and beverage cups.

Energy: After receiving blower door test results for the Ashland Parks office last year, Ashland Parks & Recreation staff took steps to remedy a heat circulation problem. On Robbin Pearce's* recommendation, Linda Chesney and Brenda Hammers met with Adam Hanks for training on the use of a utility tracking software. Adam plans to customize the software a bit for Ashland Parks & Recreation and make it available for our use soon. Since baseline utility data will be needed, Brenda will be accessing utility bills by location beginning with the North Mountain Park Nature Center. Brenda suggested that light switch timers could be installed at each shop location to prevent energy waste from lights being left on. She checked with city electrician Mike Cook and learned that it would cost \$20 per switch to install timers. Timers have now been installed in the restrooms in the Lithia Parks office building with others to be installed as scheduling permits. *Robbin Pearce is the Water Conservation Analyst for the City of Ashland.

Facilities Review: The Green Team toured the Oak Knoll shop building and Brenda Hammers emphasized the recycling area outside the shop for pesticide waste and aerosol cans. The team also met with Dale Peters, Kari Olsen and Risa Buck to coordinate recycling efforts. The team toured the Ashland Parks office and shared recycling ideas. Custodial staff will now be collecting co-mingle from the Parks Office break room.



Green Living Project

This project was designed to highlight and promote green living practices modeled at North Mountain Park, and its objectives are nearly complete. The indoor interpretive signs and displays and the weather Web site are finished and up and running. The “Sustainability Wall,” a diorama featuring green building design and materials, is receiving some finishing touches by the volunteer designer/builder and should be wrapped up soon.

Green Educational Programs

The Nature Center continues to expanded its offerings of sustainability topics in educational programming. New programs included Sustainable Landscape Practices, Edible Garden Design, Backyard Gardening with Biodynamic Practices, Making Compost Tea to Help Your Garden Thrive, Recycling: Where does it go?, An introduction to Solar Cooking, and Jump Start Your Water Harvesting Action Plan.

Sustainability practices are also incorporated into school field trips, service learning and summer camp programs in a variety of ways such as the *green lunch buckets*, conservation and riparian stewardship themes and activities, and alterative energy explorations.

Sustainability Wall in the Exhibit Room



COMMUNITY GARDENS

Ashland Parks & Recreation Department provides recreational community garden spaces for non-commercial organic gardening. In 2011, garden plots were opened at Garden Way Park and the Nature Center now coordinates four community gardens. Volunteer garden managers assist with management of each of the community gardens. The gardens offer various-sized plots that can be leased by annual subscriptions starting each January. The cost is \$25 to \$75 per lease, depending on size and location. A \$20 refundable deposit is also required. All garden members are required to volunteer a minimum of four hours to help maintain common areas and contribute to planning and coordination of other garden endeavors. Currently there are waiting lists for next season for all of the Ashland Community Gardens located at:

- Ashland Creek Property at 27 E Hersey Street
- Scenic Park at 603 Scenic Drive
- Clay Street Park at 491 Clay Street
- Garden Way Park at 1620 Clark Street



Ashland Community Garden on Hersey Street



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

SEASON	2011 PROGRAM	DATE/S	INSTRUCTORS/S	LOCATION
WINTER / SPRING	Preschool Puppet Theatre	Jan 14, Feb 11, Mar 11, Apr 8, May 13	North Mountain Park Puppeteers	North Mountain Park
	Project Feeder Watch	Jan 8, Jan 22, Feb 5 Feb 19, Mar 5, Mar 19	Rogue Valley Audubon Society Volunteers	North Mountain Park
	Hawks, Masters of Flight	Jan 12	Dick Ashford	North Mountain Park
	Hand-Woven Basket Workshop	Jan 15	Louisa Lenz-Porter	Pioneer Hall
	Herbal Tincture-Making Workshop	Jan 23	Jon Carlson	School of Herbology
	Smoke & the Water: Restoration in Ashland's Forested Watershed	Jan 19	Ashland Forest Resiliency Partnership	North Mountain Park
	Winter Bird Walk	Jan 29	Vince Zauskey	North Mountain Park
	Garden Planning for Vegetables	Jan 29	Louisa Lenz-Porter	North Mountain Park
	Seed Swap	Feb 2	Nature Center Staff	North Mountain Park
	Sustainable Landscape Practices	Feb 9	Bonnie Bayard	North Mountain Park
	Successful Seed Starting	Feb 12	Jennifer Ewing	North Mountain Park
	Pruning Basics for Home Gardeners	Feb 12	Jennifer Ewing	North Mountain Park
	Crafting with Gourds	Feb 19	Kari Gies	Pioneer Hall

Preschool Puppet Theatre at the Park



WINTER / SPRING

SEASON	2011 PROGRAM	DATE/S	INSTRUCTORS/S	LOCATION
	Happy Eggs	Feb 22	Cynthia Care	North Mountain Park
	Pine Needle Basketry	Mar 5	Sue Yamins	North Mountain Park
	Creating a Living Willow Structure	Mar 6	Louisa Lenz-Porter	North Mountain Park
	Natural Cleaning Products	Mar 15	Kari Gies	Pioneer Hall
	Spring Garden Work Party	Mar 16	Linda Chesney	North Mountain Park
	Creating Backyard Wildlife Habitat	Mar 30	Lori Tella	North Mountain Park
	Ukrainian Egg Decorating	Apr 2	Deirdre Young	North Mountain Park
	Little Foxes Nature Explore	Apr 5 & 19, May 10 & 24	Michele Pavilionis	North Mountain Park
	Wildflower Walk in Strawberry Hald Park	Apr 6	Linda Chesney	Strawberry Hald Park
	Edible Garden Design	Apr 14	Tracy Peddicord & Kelly Gustafson	North Mountain Park
	Spring Wildflower Walk in Lithia Park	Apr 16	Jim Duncan	Lithia Park
	Biking the Greenway to Taste Wild Edibles	Apr 20	Linda Chesney	Greenway
	Spring Wildflower Walk in Oredson-Todd Woods	Apr 30	Marcia Winteer	Oredson-Todd Woods
	Edible & Medicinal Plant Walk	May 7	Jon Carlson	North Mountain Park

Pine Needle Basketry class



SEASON	2011 PROGRAM	DATE/S	INSTRUCTORS/S	LOCATION
SUMMER	Beginning Chalk Pastels	May 16, May 23, May 30, Jun 6 *	Kathryn Casternovia	North Mountain Park
	Backyard Gardening with Biodynamic Practices I	May 18 *	Kathryn Casternovia	North Mountain Park
	Heading Outside: A Storytelling Program	May 19, Jun 9, Jun 30	Josh Hordorff	North Mountain Park
	Backyard Gardening with Biodynamic Practices II	May 21 *	Kathryn Casternovia	North Mountain Park
	The Grizzly Peak Fire	May 21	Dr Atzet	Grizzly Peak
	Learn to Make Compost Tea to Help Your Garden Thrive	May 21	Jacob Kollen	North Mountain Park
	Rain Garden Design	May 25	Lori Tella	North Mountain Park
	Backyard Gardening with Biodynamic Practices III	Jun 1	Kathryn Casternovia	North Mountain Park
	Demonstration Garden Tours	Jun 1, Jul 6, Aug 3	Susan Lander	North Mountain Park
	Birdify Your Yard	Jun 2	Klamath Bird Observatory	North Mountain Park
	Preschool Puppet Theatre	Jun 10, Jul 8, Aug 12	North Mountain Park Puppeteers	North Mountain Park
	Walking Tours of Ashland	Jun 2-30, Jul 7-28, Aug 4-25	Dr Suzanne Marshall	City of Ashland

*Cancelled due to lack of enrollment



One of the entrances to the Demonstration Gardens at the Park



SEASON	2011 PROGRAM	DATE/S	INSTRUCTORS/S	LOCATION
SUMMER	History of the Rogue Valley for Homeschoolers	Jun 7, Jun 8 *	North Mountain Park Staff	North Mountain Park
	Container Gardening for Food & Beauty	Jun 7	Claudia Law	North Mountain Park
	Recycling: Where does it Go & Why?	Jun 8	Risa Buck	Recycling Center in Ashland
	Summer Saturday Morning Bird Walks	Jun 11, Jul 9, Aug 13	Volunteer birders	North Mountain Park
	Land Navigation	Jun 11	Bob Noyes	North Mountain Park
	Rogue Valley Geology in the Earth's History	Jun 15	Len Eisenberg	Briscoe Geology Park
	Ashland's Summer Birds	Jun 16 & 18	Harry Fuller	North Mountain Park
	Perennial Plant Care	Jun 18	Jennifer Ewing	North Mountain Park
	Growing, Using & Saving Herbs	Jun 18	Jennifer Ewing	North Mountain Park
	Grizzly Peak Plant Walk	Jun 19	Jon Carlson	Grizzly Peak
	Earth Kamp for Kids	Jun 20-23	North Mountain Park Staff	North Mountain Park
	The Self-Sustaining Garden	Jun 22	Cynthia Care	North Mountain Park
	Urban Composting	Jun 25, Jul 30, Aug 27, or Sep 24	Rhianna Simes	Recycle Center in Ashland
	Tombstone Tales	Jul 1, Jul 2, Jul 9, or Jul 10	Dr Suzanne Marshall	Ashland Cemetery
	Making Goat Milk Soap	Jul 12	Peggy Moore	Pioneer Hall
Summer Meals Using Produce from Your Garden	Jul 13 *	Marilyn Moore	Ashland Creek Park Community Garden	

*Cancelled due to lack of enrollment

History of Rogue Valley School Programs



SEASON	2011 PROGRAM	DATE/S	INSTRUCTORS/S	LOCATION
SUMMER	Evening Nature Walk	Jul 26	North Mountain Park Staff	North Mountain Park
	Nature Writing at North Mountain Park	Jul 11-14	Debi Blair & Max Schmeling	North Mountain Park
	Compass Rose Mosaic Workshop	Aug 3-31	Susan Springer	North Mountain Park
	Mt Ashland Plant Walk	Aug 6	Jon Carlson	Mt Ashland Grouse Glade
	In Introduction to Solar Oven Cooking	Aug 9	Linda Chesney	North Mountain Park
	Honey Bee 101	Aug 16	Sarah Red-Laird	North Mountain Park
	Blackberry Wine-Making	Aug 18	Carla David	North Mountain Park
	Urban Naturalist: Nature Immersion Day Camp	Aug 29-Sep1	Michele Pavilionis	North Mountain Park



Compass Rose Mosaic Workshop



SEASON	2011 PROGRAM	DATE/S	INSTRUCTORS/S	LOCATION
FALL	Demonstration Garden Tour	Sep 7	Volunteer docent	North Mountain Park
	Tree Pruning Basics	Sep 10	Casey Roland	North Mountain Park
	Mushroom Cultivation & Easily Accessible Mycology	Sep 10	Cameron Meeks	North Mountain Park
	Rain Barrel Workshop	Sep 14	Lori Tella	North Mountain Park
	Jackson County Bird Migration	Sep 15, Sep 17	Harry Fuller	North Mountain Park
	Finding Balance: Rock Stacking & Dry-Stone Arch Building	Sep 17	Jesse Biesanz	North Mountain Park
	Edible & Medicinal Plant Walk	Sep 18	Jon Carlson	North Mountain Park
	Healing with Honey Bee Hive	Sep 22	Jesse Piesanz	North Mountain Park
	Viewing the Night Sky: Lecture & Star Party	Sep 24	Colin White	North Mountain Park
	Urban Composting	Sep 24	Denny Morelli	Recycle Center in Ashland
	Jump Start Your Water Harvesting Action Plan	Oct 5	Pam Lott	North Mountain Park
	Green & Solar Tour	Oct 8	Larry Giardina	City of Ashland
	Dancing Star Lantern Making Class	Oct 8	Anneke Raphael	North Mountain Park
	Exploring the World of Pacific Salmon	Oct 9	Ian Reid	North Mountain Park
	Let Worms Eat Your Garbage & Improve Your Soil	Oct 12	Jennifer Ewing	North Mountain Park
	Preschool Puppet Theatre	Oct 14, Nov 4, Dec 9	North Mountain Park Puppeteers	North Mountain Park
	Geology of the Rogue Valley for Homeschoolers	Oct 27	North Mountain Park Staff	North Mountain Park
	Bear Creek Watershed Work Party	Oct 29	N/A	Ashland Ponds
	Christmas Bird Count	Nov 3, Nov 5	Harry Fuller	North Mountain Park
	Project Feeder Watch	Nov 12, Nov 26, Dec 10, Dec 24	Rogue Valley Audubon Society volunteers	North Mountain Park
Natural Cleaning Products	Nov 16	Kari Gies	Pioneer Hall	
Herbal First Aid for Self-Reliance	Nov 19	Jon Carlson	School of Herbology	
Natural Holiday Wreaths	Dec 2 or Dec 3	North Mountain Park Staff	North Mountain Park	



SCHOOL PROGRAMS

SCHOOL	TEACHER	GRADE LEVEL	PROGRAM/S
BELLVIEW	Palmesano	3	History of the Rogue Valley
	Renee Gardner	1	History of the Rogue Valley
	Joyce Schlecht	K	History of the Rogue Valley
	Martin	K	History of the Rogue Valley
	Pam Eddington	1	History of the Rogue Valley
	Alison Blakeslee	K	Geology of the Rogue Valley
	Pam Eddington	1	Geology of the Rogue Valley
HELMAN	Tia McLean	K	History of the Rogue Valley
	Mia Driscoll	K	History of the Rogue Valley
	Gail Buettner	1-2	History of the Rogue Valley
	Kari Smith	1-2	History of the Rogue Valley
	Damon	4	History of the Rogue Valley
	Mark Sherbow	4	History of the Rogue Valley
	Berit Larson	2	Geology of the Rogue Valley
	Mary Snowden	2	Geology of the Rogue Valley
	Tia McLean	K	Geology of the Rogue Valley
	Mia Driscoll	K	Geology of the Rogue Valley
WALKER	Shannon Wolff	1	History of the Rogue Valley
	Debi Blair	3	History of the Rogue Valley
	Lynn Fain	3	History of the Rogue Valley
	Kathleen Mateas	2	History of the Rogue Valley
	Inge Kendrick	1-2	History of the Rogue Valley
	Chris Stokes	K	History of the Rogue Valley
	Ryan Jackson	1	History of the Rogue Valley
	Kacy Cuddy	K	Geology of the Rogue Valley
	Ryan Jackson	1	Geology of the Rogue Valley
	Debi Blair	3-4	Geology of the Rogue Valley
	Inge Kendrick	2	Geology of the Rogue Valley
	Lynn Fain	2	Geology of the Rogue Valley
	Tom Knox	3	Geology of the Rogue Valley
	Nancy Keim	3-4	Geology of the Rogue Valley
	Chris Stokes	K	Geology of the Rogue Valley
Kathleen Mateas	1	Geology of the Rogue Valley	



SCHOOL	TEACHER	GRADE LEVEL	PROGRAM/S
ASHLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL	Terry Karlin	6	Compass & Survival
	Bonnie McCracken	6	Compass & Survival
	Beth Oehler	6	Compass & Survival
	Karl Pryor	6	Compass & Survival
	Hilary Harper	6 (3 programs)	Water of Ashland Middle School
	Beth Oehler	6 (3 programs)	Water of Ashland Middle School

OTHER SCHOOLS	TEACHER	GRADE LEVEL	PROGRAM
CHILDREN'S WORLD MONTESSORI	Hale	K	History of the Rogue Valley
TALENT ELEMENTARY	Diane Bracamontes	5	Geology of the Rogue Valley

STUDENT PROJECTS

STUDENT	AFFILIATION/SCHOOL	PROJECT
Kaleb Wagner	Eagle Scout	Umma Reconstruction



Eagle Scout Kaleb Wagner consults with the Parks Central Division Manager, Jeff McFarland, on the construction of the umma



SERVICE LEARNING

GROUP	LEADER/ TEACHER	DATE	NO. OF PEOPLE	HOURS (of entire activity)	SERVICE HOURS (total man-hrs of service)	WORK COMPLETED/ LOCATION
John Muir School	Lori Fleuter	Jan 7	28	2	28	People and Plants/weeding and harvesting milkweed and dogbane in Bioswale and Ethno Trail
Cub Scout Den 5	Stacy Shaver	Jan 19	10	1.5	3	Creature Quest/weeding and bird feeding
Job Council	Cindy Manning	Feb 16	40	4	80	Water Quality/River Rock blackberries
Riverdale High School	Laurie LePore	Mar 16	38	2	38	Weeds/Poison Hemlock and Blackberry removal near Bear Creek
John Muir School	Lori Fleuter	Apr 15	28	2	28	Weeding at RiverWalk around Environmental Art installation
Ashland High School	Caroline Spear	Apr 27	18	15	13.5	Weeding at RiverWalk around Environmental Art installation
Howard Elementary	Cheryl Lashley	May 10	21	1.5	15.75	Birding — Mulching trails
Roosevelt Elementary	Karey Dixon	May 17	26	1.5	19.5	Birding — Mulching trails and planting in the bird buffet
Howard Elementary	Lisa North	May 24	22	2	22	Birding — Mulching trails and planting in the bird buffet
Howard Elementary	Jessica Silva	May 31	21	1.5	15.75	Birding — Mulching trails and planting in the bird buffet
Orchard Hill Elementary	Bonnie Swanberg	Jun 7	30	1.5	22.5	What's in the Creek — Mulching the mint trail
Orchard Hill Elementary	Lara Liden	Jun 7	30	1.5	22.5	What's in the Creek — Mulching the mint trail
Landmark College	Jennifer Jones	Jul 13	8	0.5	2	Plants and People — Watering Willow structure, collecting native seed
SOU Konaway Camp	Brent Florendo	Jul 20	45	2	45	Ethnobotany — Remove teasel from the bioswale



GROUP	LEADER/ TEACHER	DATE	NO. OF PEOPLE	HOURS (of entire activity)	SERVICE HOURS (total man-hrs of service)	WORK COMPLETED/ LOCATION
Rio Grande City HW, Mariachi	Cynthia Munoz	Jul 29	18	2	18	What's in the Creek — Blackberry removal and watering willow structure
Havurah Shir Hadash	Andrea Shupack	Aug 10	9	2	9	People and Plants — Weeding
Migrant Ed Summer School	Erica Reeves	Aug 2	7	2	7	What's in the Creek — Mulching and watering native plants
Ashland Middle School	Dick Streng	Oct 10	30	2	30	Invasives — Blackberry removal
AHS Literature	Devon Ward- Thommes	Dec 9	28	1.5	21	Plants and People — Weeding willow copice area



Environmental Art Service Learning Program



OUTDOOR SERVICE

GROUP	LEADER/ TEACHER	DATE	NO. OF PEOPLE	HOURS (of entire activity)	SERVICE HOURS (total man-hrs of service)	WORK COMPLETED/ LOCATION
SOU Serve	North Mountain Park	Sep 19	21	3	63	North Mountain Park Work Party
Bear Creek Watershed Awareness with Various Community Members	North Mountain Park & Lomakatsi	Oct 29	18	2	36	Bear Creek Work Party at Ashland Pond
“I Heart Ashland,” Ashland Fellowship, Grace Point, Central Neighborhood, Ashland First Baptist Churches	North Mountain Park	Nov 19	61	3	183	RiverWalk Work Party
Various Volunteers	North Mountain Park	Apr 2	15 15	2 3	30 45	Lithia Park Invasive Species



Volunteers remove invasive blackberries near Bear Creek

Welcome to North Mountain Park

620 N Mountain Ave
Ashland, OR 97520

541.488.6606
www.northmountainpark.org



★ **YOU ARE HERE**

-  Bioswales
-  Restrooms & Drinking Fountains
-  Children's Play Areas
-  Restricted Wildlife Areas

North Mountain Park is open daily,
sunrise to sunset

**ASHLAND
PARKS
& RECREATION**