



Wenatchee Naturalist's mission is to cultivate awareness, understanding, and stewardship of the Wenatchee River region by developing an active corps of well-informed community volunteers.



## August, 2016 A NOTE FROM SUSAN:

I have exciting news to share – This week, we’ve launched a new modern website that is open to all. Please visit <http://www.wenatcheenaturalist.com/> and check it out! It is the creation of Wenatchee



Naturalist and web designer, **Leslie Bigos** (photo at left). An exciting new feature are the “LEARN 10” webpages, and a link to a new Quizlet app you can use to

practice all 100 using a variety of games. We’ve created links to many previous and new resources, minimizing PDFs so you can use your device or phone to easily explore the site. Leslie’s artistry infuses the entire site.

It is still a work in progress. **I need many of you to send me a photo of yourself along with a few sentences about your post-course conservation volunteering.** Check the VOLUNTEER and TEACHERS Tabs to see if I need your story and smiling face, then

send email me. If you come across items that need fixing, send me a note too.

**Please help me spread the word about the upcoming fall Wenatchee Naturalist course.** The 50-hour Wednesday evening course runs Sept. 21 thru Dec. 14 with 4 Saturday field trips. Register with Wenatchee Valley College Continuing Education at <https://www.wvc.edu/directory/departments/continued/>

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

### ■ Citizen Science Projects

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has launched a new and improved moose observation reporting form on their website at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/viewing/moose/>. Please help spread the word to citizens who spend time hunting, fishing, hiking, wildlife watching, and other outdoor recreation in northeast Washington (Pend Oreille,

Stevens,  
Ferry,



Okanogan, Spokane counties). The key time frame that WDFW wants moose sighting information reported is **September 1 through November 30**. This time provides the best information to better understand moose status, productivity, population trends, and the effects of hunting, predation, disease or tick outbreaks. We also welcome sightings during the rest of the year, but that information is not as closely tied to significant moose life history, like calving, fall and winter movement, and disease.

## CLASSES & WORKSHOPS:

**Sat. Sept. 24, 9-3. Pine Needle Basket Weaving with Wenatchee Naturalist Christi Lewis.** Join local basket-weaver, Christi Lewis to explore the history and artistry of ponderosa pine needle basket weaving. Everyone goes home with a completed basket!



<http://www.wenatcheeriverinstitute.org/events/pine-needle-basket-weaving-christi-lewis>

### Sept. 22,24, 29, Oct. 1 & 6 Native Plant Stewardship



**Program** The Washington Native Plant Society (WNPS) is offering a new, three-week Native Plant Stewardship Program for the Wenatchee Valley in Fall, 2016. This no-cost program combines

classroom learning with field trips to teach about the importance of native plants in fish and wildlife habitats in and around the Wenatchee Valley, and how to use this knowledge to protect and restore these habitats. Classes will meet on three consecutive Thursdays (**September 22, 29, October 6**), from 6:30-9:00 PM, at the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust offices, 18 North Wenatchee Ave., in Wenatchee. Two Saturday field trips (**September 24, October 1**) will be spent exploring stream and riparian habitats in & around the Wenatchee River watershed. The course is free.

In return, participants must commit 15 hours of service to local conservation and restoration projects within 12-18 months following completion of the course. Anyone may apply! Participants in the course must be members of WNPS. This is easy! Visit <http://www.wnps.org/join.html>). Prospective stewards must apply by September 9, 2016. For more information or to request an application, contact Jim Evans, State Stewardship Program Manager, Washington Native Plant Society: 206-678-8914 or [jimevans@centurytel.net](mailto:jimevans@centurytel.net).

## PROGRAMS & FILMS:

### Aug 9: Mega-Floods and the Scientific Method.

Wenatchee Valley Erratics Chapter of the Ice Age Floods Institute will meet at 7:00 P.M., Tuesday, August 9 at the Wenatchee Valley Museum, 127 South Mission, Wenatchee. We are again honored to have as our speaker Dr. Vic Baker (photo at right),

Professor of Planetary and Geo-Sciences, U. of Arizona-Tucson. He will discuss current thinking on Ice Age mega-



flooding, as it presents on Earth and elsewhere, and what issues need more work to understand the whole story. So this is also about how the scientific method, with its limitations and strengths, provides answers to problems through observing the physical world. With five decades of Ice Age Floods research, especially in central and eastern Washington, Dr. Baker is one of the leading experts on this subject in our solar system, and a great story-teller. The program is free For an overview of the Ice Age Floods visit

<http://www.iafi.org>; and <http://www.hugefloods.com>



**New film: *A Ghost in the Making: Searching for the***



***Rusty Patched Bumble Bee***, an enchanting short film about the disappearance of the rusty patched bumble bee and one man's journey to find out what's happened to it. After being received with acclaim at

film festivals this spring, the film is now available at <http://www.rustypatched.com/>.

**VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION:**

Thanks to Wenatchee Naturalists, **Christy Lewis** and **Terry Leverenz** for staffing the Wenatchee Naturalist learning station at the Plain Farmer's Market on July 23, 2016.



Wenatchee Naturalist, **Kate Tollefson**, is the lead organizer for Plain Hardware's summer Demo Days during

Saturday markets. Check out upcoming Saturdays: <https://www.facebook.com/plainhardware/photos/gm>



[.552497651539887/10152504827004269/?type=1&theater](https://www.facebook.com/plainhardware/photos/gm)

You'll find many photographs on the new website and I want to thank Wenatchee Naturalist



photographers who have generously shared their images with me: **Dave Hillstad** (at left), **Lisa Robinson** (at left), and **Leslie Bigos** (photo on pg. 1)

**NEW RESOURCES:**

***Birding the United States:*** A state-by-state guide to the best birding hotspots around the country. <http://www.audubon.org/travel#travelmapreetings>



Photo: Dave Hillstad, Belted Kingfisher

**New free app:** The National Audubon Society has released an updated [Audubon Birds Pro mobile app](#) available via [iTunes](#), [Google Play](#) and [Amazon](#) at no cost. The app includes an 821-species checklist from the American Ornithologists Union (AOU) and is the first time a complete field guide to North American birds is available for free mobile download.

**SAVE THE DATE! Nov. 20, 2016**

Our annual All-Naturalist fall gathering and volunteer recognition penning will be on Sunday, November 20 with featured guest speakers, Wenatchee Naturalists **Michael and Valerie Sarratt**. They will share their story of their remarkable personal recovery story after the Carlton Complex Fire resulted in significant damage to their rural home



near Twisp. The photo

shows their former pasture, post-fire.