



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.



Late March- April, 2016

A NOTE FROM SUSAN:

Mark your calendar for our **April 17th all-naturalist social**, 4-6 PM, at the PUD Auditorium in Wenatchee. Spouses/friend are welcome. You will receive your service pin, see photos of spring flowers and arriving birds to brush up your ID skills, & hear about citizen science projects. Most importantly, we'll have a chance to visit! Please bring a finger-food snack to share.



Procrastinator Alert! I'm still waiting for many of you to send me a 1-sentence email describing your volunteering so I can prepare your service pin! The Pin above honors 20+ conservation service hours completed any time after taking the course. Exceptional volunteerism within two years of course completion will be honored with either a Silver-50+ hrs. or a Gold-100+ hrs. pin, pictured below.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

■ Citizen Science Projects

eBird 101 Workshop Either Tuesday evening, **March 29** (6-8pm) in Wenatchee at CDLT Office, or Wednesday morning, **March 30** (9-11am), Leavenworth at WRI's Red Barn. Wendy Connally, WDFW's Citizen Science Coordinator will teach the basics for using eBird, a web-based map and data-entry tool for recording birds. NCW Audubon's Richard Scranton will explain the on-going Sagebrush Songbird project that welcomes new volunteers. RSPV appreciated to CDLT (Hillary@cdlandtrust.org) or WRI (bhinton@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org).

Leavenworth Bird Fest

is looking for volunteers! The 14th annual Leavenworth Spring Bird Fest seeks volunteers. Help is needed to assemble guide packets, distribute programs, and staff tables at Bird Fest Central May 19th- 22nd. For more information: www.leavenworthspringbirdfest.com or contact Brook: programs@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org 509.548.0181 ext 4



Dave Hillstad's Western Meadowlark

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

■ Education

Youth on Columbia Dates include: **May 3, 5, 6, 17, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27, 31. June 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9.**

This is a partnership between the Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Wenatchee Row and Paddle Club, and North Central Washington Audubon Society where we teach area third through fifth graders about the history and ecology of the Columbia River. In addition students learn the fundamentals of paddling a large Voyageur canoe. Volunteers needed:

Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center (contact Selina Danko Sdanko@wvmcc.org) teaching about how Native Americans used local plants for food and making tools. Includes demonstration of the extraction of fibers from the Indian hemp plant.

Wenatchee Row & Paddle Club (contact Penny Tobiska ptobiska@nwi.net) to club members teach students how to paddle a canoe at Confluence State Park (training for volunteers available)

North Central Washington Audubon Society (contact Mark Oswood moswood@nwi.net) to help Audubon staff a bird identifying and binocular use "What's that Bird" activity.

Kids in the Creek Adult training day, Wednesday **April 27th**, 11-2pm. Volunteers needed on May 10-12, 8am-2:30pm at the Entiat Fish Hatchery. www.kidsinthecreek.com. Contact Amanda at, 509.436.1601 or AmandaL@cascadiacd.org

Spring Youth Field Days at Wenatchee River Institute. April 12- June 1. Learn more and sign up on the website:

<http://wenatcheeriverinstitute.org/youth-education/volunteers/current-volunteers/calendar>

FIELD TRIPS:

Weekday Spring Wildflower Walks, offered jointly by WNPS and CDLT throughout April & May. Join Connie McCauley at Leavenworth Ski Hill, Mall Boyd on the Icicle Ridge Trail, or Susan Ballinger on a Wenatchee Foothills Trail. Weekday times include 9AM, noon, and 6PM. Details and RSVP at <http://www.cdlandtrust.org/>

CLASSES: **Beginning Ornithology with Suzanne Tomassi.** **April 24th** 8am-4pm at WRI Barn Beach Reserve. Join Wildlife Ecologist and Ornithologist Suzanne Tomassi as she shares the basics of bird biology and successful field research methods. Learn about feather structure, function, and features of common bird groups in our area. Suzanne will demonstrate (Weather permitting) the use of a mist net and may capture a few birds to show proper handling techniques, show some of the physical features discussed in the presentation, and demonstrate measurement-taking. Come get an up close view and handle bird measuring equipment such as banding pliers, wing chord rules, and scales. \$40 for members, \$50 for non-members.

FESTIVALS- register now!

<http://www.migratorybirdfestival.com/> April 8-10, Burns, OR

<http://www.shorebirdfestival.com/> May 6-7 Hoquim

<http://www.leavenworthspringbirdfest.com/> May 19-22, Leavenworth, WA

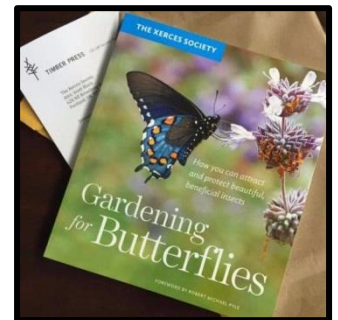
NEW RESOURCES:

Xerces Society *Bring Back the Pollinators Campaign Free*, On-line webinars

at www.conservationwebinars.net. By going to this site and searching for "[pollinators](#),"

"[beneficial insects](#)," or even "[Xerces](#)," you can pull up many presentations that can help you understand how best to support pollinators, other beneficial insects, and even freshwater mussels and dragonflies. Watch

for their new Timber Press book, *Gardening for Butterflies*.



PROGRAMS & FILMS:

Proper outdoor lighting and how light pollution effects wildlife. **April 1st** Wenatchee River Institute Red Barn Event with Jim White of the Chelan County PUD, Tips for lighting at home. Doors open 6:30, program begins at 7pm.

PROGRAMS & FILMS:

The Wild Horse Kickoff and Earth Month Celebration: April 2nd. Join us for nature walks, wind turbine tours, presentations, snacks, kid's activities, and door prizes to kick off our tour season! New: This year a Bike Tour will cruise from Ellensburg to Wild Horse by the Recycle Shop. 9:00-4:00 PM with turbine tours & 3PM nature walk. (www.facebook.com/wildhorseREC).

Wenatchee Erratics, Ice Age Floods Institute is still confirming their **April 12th 7PM** program.

Film: *Olmstead and America's Urban Parks*, Tuesday, **April 19** at 7PM, Wenatchee Valley Museum Environmental Film Series. Olmstead brought green spaces to US cities – over 100 parks. The film weaves together the visionary urban planner and landscape architect's personal story. \$5 suggested donation.



ORGANIZATION SUPPORT:

Columbia Breaks Fire Interpretive Center annual fund-raising dinner, **April 9th**, 6PM at Pybus Market. Tickets \$35. John Marshall's new video *Twenty years of Change Starting with Wildfire* will be shown. Call 509-670-4875 for tickets and details.

Chelan-Douglas Land Trust Spring Social, Wednesday, **March 30th**, 7-9PM, Cashmere Riverside Center. Please join us for a fun, free evening featuring desserts, savories, coffee and lively conversation! Hear an update on current Land Trust projects and recent successes. This evening is a great opportunity to invite your friends to come and learn about the work of the Land Trust and socialize with others who care about conserving our natural heritage. RSVPs appreciated, either [online](#) or (509) 667-9708.

At right: A sample of what's in bloom for Easter on the south-facing Jacobson Preserve: yellow bell, Geyer's lomatium (salt-and-pepper desert parsley), small bluebells, & prairie star.