



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.



## A NOTE FROM SUSAN:

Welcome to September! I hope you've had a chance to explore the new [Wenatchee Naturalist](#) website.

Save the Date! Mark your calendar for our annual social and volunteer recognition on **Sunday, Nov. 20**. Details to follow.

Send me a photo of you in action as a Wenatchee Naturalist volunteer! I need 1-2 sentences describing your work. I want to add you to the website!

Please invite friends to register for the fall course- we still need a few more participants. See the [ABOUT](#) page or register with [Wenatchee Valley College](#).

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

### ■ Citizen Science Projects

Sept. 17, Saturday, 8-1pm. **Help collect native seeds for restoration** purposes throughout Eastern Washington. This is part of a national seed strategy called Seeds of Success. This season, Shawna Kelley, the SOS intern out of the BLM Wenatchee, WA Field Office needs help collecting *Ericameria nauseosa*, grey rabbitbrush. We will meet in the BLM parking lot at 8 am and travel to Douglas Creek in Douglas County. Dependent on weather, we will try and eat lunch out in Douglas Creek. Please bring long pants, sturdy close-toed shoes, lots of water, and a lunch. We will plan to be back at the BLM parking lot no later than 1 pm. Contact Shawna Kelley: BLM Office at 509.665.2100, [skelley88@gmail.com](mailto:skelley88@gmail.com).

Sept. 13 or 14, Tues. or Wed. **Help mount pressed plants as herbarium specimens.** We will meet in the afternoon from 1-3 pm at the BLM Field Office in Wenatchee, WA on both days, and anyone interested in bringing their artistic influence to the plant world is strongly encouraged to join! Contact Shawna Kelley: BLM Office at 509.665.2100, [skelley88@gmail.com](mailto:skelley88@gmail.com)

### ■ Stewardship

Sept. 10 or 24, Saturdays, **Meadow Restoration Work Party**, Sunrise Visitor's Center, Mt. Rainier National Park. Register and learn more about this annual work party at <http://rainiervolunteers.blogspot.com/>

### ■ Education

**Initiative for Rural Innovation and Stewardship-IRIS-** fosters sustainable rural communities in North Central Washington by gathering and sharing success stories that enhance a sense of belonging, inspire action, and build community. IRIS is currently seeking volunteers for the following positions:

- Board members for the term from 2017-2019 including NCW Community Success Summits planned for Chelan, Brewster and Rock Island
- Gathering Our Voice program transcriptionists to help with IRIS 2020 Legacy Project
- Writers for the 2016 Success Story Exchange, part of this year's NCW Community Success Summit on Nov 15 in Quincy

Learn more from Program Assistant, Carol Cade, at [irisnew@gmail.com](mailto:irisnew@gmail.com) **509-888-7374**

## CLASSES & WORKSHOPS:

Sept. 10 & 11, 2016 [Sustainable Living and Farm Tour](#), Leavenworth WA. Course fee-\$20/person pre-sale. Register with Wenatchee River Institute.

Sept. 22, 29, Oct. 6, Thurs, 6:30-9 and Sept. 24 and Oct. 1 Saturday Field Trips. [Native Plant Stewardship Course](#): Conserving and Restoring Rivers in the Wenatchee Valley and East Cascades. Anyone can apply! Participants must be members of WNPS. Free, with 15 hours of service. Contact Jim Evans, WNPS program manager, (209.678.8914 or [jimevans@centurytel.net](mailto:jimevans@centurytel.net)). Must be a member. Visit <http://www.wnps.org/join.html>.



Late August sunrise at Horse Lake Reserve

## PROGRAMS & FILMS:

Sept. 8, Thursday, [Era of Megafires](#), Snowy Owl Theater, Sleeping Lady, Leavenworth. A 60-minute, multi-media, traveling presentation hosted by Dr. Paul Hessburg. Recently, North Central Washington has suffered massive damage and heartache caused by wildfires. We have been indelibly influenced. As a result, our nearby communities are working hard to make substantive changes in how we live with wildfires. Our Wildfire Project combines Paul's 27+ years of research, along with that of other research colleagues, and personal stories about the devastating effects of two megafires during the summers of 2014 and 2015. Our Project focuses on how we as a society can shift our cultural views of fire, learn to embrace it as inevitable and crucial to our landscapes, and finally, learn to co-exist with it more peacefully through learning, adaptation, and proaction. A benefit for The Wildfire Project. 6:15-6:45 Firewise Tour of Icicle Creek and 7pm show.

Sept. 8, Thursday. Wenatchee Valley Museum, 127 S. Mission, Wenatchee. **Biological Weed Control: What is it, is it safe, and does it work?** Presented by Dale Whaley, Asst. Prof. and Regional Extension

Specialist, WA State Univ. Monthly meeting of the Wenatchee Chapter, Washington Native Plant Society. Free, open to the public. Using insects, mites or plant pathogens to attack invasive plants can significantly reduce the costs of controlling weeds. These natural enemies are called biocontrol agents. Not just any organism can be used in a biocontrol program. Agents selected for biocontrol of invasive plants are imported into the United States after rigorous testing to ensure that the potential biocontrol organism attacks only the target invasive plant. Dale will give an overview of the selection, permitting and approval process for biological weed control agents and will highlight several noxious

weeds that occur in our area along with the natural enemies that have been introduced to battle these unwanted plant species. Come join us to learn more about biological control agents and their target invasive species in our neck of the woods!

## NEW RESOURCES:

Fall is **raptor migration season**, so be looking skyward this month. *National Audubon Society* has created this interactive photo-collage [raptor ID puzzle](#). To minimize bird and window collisions, check out the article "[Make Migration-Friendly Window Decorations](#)"

Christine Elder's *The Wild Naturalist* is offering free eBook download of [Getting Started with Nature Sketching](#).

Check out the **TOPICS/RESOURCES Tab** on the Wenatchee Naturalist website, including:

- A short underwater snorkeling [video](#) of migrating *White River Sockeye Salmon* or the [video, Salmon Recovery: Getting it Done Right](#).
- 2 new native plant guides for East-side Cascade homeowners: [Using Native Plants in Fire-Prone Eastern WA](#), and [Using Native Plants to Preserve Birds and to Protect Homes](#).
- [Susan's tips](#) for identifying our native conifers- print this out and carry it in your pocket as you take a hike this fall!
- A [short photo story](#) about our busy squirrels and chipmunks.



Grasshoppers on Horse Lake Reserve