



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.



March-April 2019

A NOTE FROM SUSAN:

Despite piles of snow, spring really is just around the corner! Instead of feeling glum about the weather, start filling your March and April calendar with talks, outings, classes, and volunteering that will get you outside with others who celebrate our four seasons of beauty.

I hope to see you on **Fri. Mar 1** (5:30-7:00-pm) at Pybus Market for the CDLT *Wild Ideas* spring social. Come catch up with other Wenatchee Naturalists and meet new people interested in our land, water, and trails. Beer & wine available for purchase (\$5 cash only) with complimentary finger foods. Hear three 5-minute talks about beaver, white-headed woodpecker, and *Team Naturaleza* and Executive Director, Curt Soper's update.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Community Science Project**
Apr.-Oct. [eBird projects at CDLT Horse Lake and Mountain Home.](#) Join Susan Ballinger on Thursday mornings as part of a team conducting bird surveys. Learn more on CDLT website.
- **Community Science Project**
Sagebrush Songbird Survey
Sat. Apr. 6 (10am-4:00pm). Field training for Sagebrush Songbird Survey **OR**
Sun. Apr. 7 (9am-3:00pm). Field training near Ephrata. For information, contact NCW Audubon Chapter Chair, Richard Scranton (rscran4350@yahoo.com).



■ **Stewardship**

Sat. Mar. 16 (1:00-

5:00pm) Help bundle native plants and/or

Sat. Mar. 23 (9am-2:00pm)

Help distribute plant orders alongside Cascadia Conservation District Staff. Both events at Stemilt Growers, 1 Warehouse Road, Wenatchee. Contact Sasha Vafaei at 509.436.1601, americorps@cascadiacd.org



■ **Stewardship**

Sat. Apr. 13 (9am-

2pm) Annual Spring

Work days at

Columbia Breaks

Fire Interpretive

Center, Entiat. Rake &

improve trails, replace & install signs,

remove brush & open the lookouts. Dave

Spies 509.670.4875 or daves60@aol.com



■ **Stewardship**

E. Lorene Young Community Garden

In tribute to Lorene, the once-vacant lot is now Leavenworth's E. Lorene Young Community Garden. People from all walks of our community grow food here, learn about nutrition and gardening, and develop relationships with other community members. Come help us prepare this space for the 2019 growing and gardening season. We'll all work together to: clean garden plots, remove unwanted plants, thin out the herb spiral and strawberry plot, clear out the inviting seating area for the community. Dates to be announced-weather dependent. Contact Elisa Lopez at Americorps@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org 509-548-0181 ext. 6 for more information.



■ **Stewardship**

CDLT Trail Volunteer work parties:

Thurs. Mar. 14 (3-5:30pm) Annual trail maintenance at Castle Rock

Sat. Mar. 23 (9-1:30pm) Annual trail maintenance at Jacobson Preserve

Sat. Apr. 6 (9-1:00pm) 2nd annual *Sagefest*- a volunteer trail event co-sponsored by Central WA Evergreen Mountain Bike Assoc. (EMBA) and CDLT. Meet at Horse Lake Trailhead. 1pm BBQ

RSVP requested by contacting CDLT's Olivia Schilling: olivia@cdlandtrust.org or call 509.667.9708

■ **Stewardship as Artist**

Mar. 15 is the entry deadline for the 2019 NCW Audubon bird photography contest. Anyone can enter up to three photos of birds taken in Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan and Ferry counties. It's FREE. Now is the time to submit your photos. Details about the contest and how to enter can be found on NCWAS at (www.ncwaudubon.org.)

■ **Education**



Sign-up now open! Volunteers needed to help with **Forest Classroom Wildfire Ecology** field experiences, offered jointly by Cascadia Conservation District and the museum. All needed training provided to serve local 5th-8th graders. Locations vary- Mission Ridge, Wenatchee Foothills, or Entiat's Columbia Breaks Fire Interpretive Center. Dates: **May 10, 15-17, 20-24, 30, 31 and Jun 5-7**. For information contact Amanda Newell at 509.436.1601 or amandal@cascadiacd.org

WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

■ Education

Any Monday 3:30-5:00pm at a Wenatchee elementary school's after school program. Volunteer to be an extra pair of hands, assisting a WRI Traveling Naturalist. Learn more by contacting Trinity Korcz Tkorc@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org

■ Education

Apr. 23, 25, 26, 30. Come be a nature guide for local 3rd grade students at **Wenatchee River Institute Field Days**. No experience necessary: you will be trained the day of the program and your role as nature guide will depend on experience and comfort level. Come for a full or half day and be prepared to share your enthusiasm for migratory birds and other springtime wonders in a beautiful natural setting. Contact Will Crowley, WRI Youth Programs Manager, if you're interested: wcrowley@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org

■ Education

Sign-up now to volunteer for Wenatchee School District's Science Field

Experiences – send an inquiry email to: science_resource@wenatcheeschools.org. You'll be trained to help students explore the natural world:

5th Grade-Shrub-Steppe 'n Up Saddle Rock- April 16-19, (8:30-2:30) at Saddle Rock.

1st Grade- Shrub-steppe Hill Hike – April 30, May 1, & May 2 (8:15-2:15) at the Jacobson Preserve

4th Grade- River of Power – May 21-23, at Rocky Reach Dam.

Kinder- Tree Walk – May 14-17 (8:30-noon) at Confluence State Park.



Yellowbells- an early spring bloomer

Weds. Mar. 20 (5:30-7:30pm) *Invaders in our Foothills: Help Stop the Weeds!* A free workshop to teach you to identify the 15 most noxious weeds that threaten our shrub-steppe



foothills, especially after fire with speaker, Chelan County Weed Board Field Supervisor, Julie Sanderson. You'll take home a free field guide.

Sat. Mar. 23 (9am, 11am and 2pm)

A Joyful Tour of Sustainable Living: Workshops Take one class for \$15, two for \$30 or 3 classes for \$35. All participants receive a reusable bag, sticker and proceeds benefit Joyful Scholars Montessori. Some workshops by Sustainable Wenatchee. Varied locations, [purchase tickets here](#).

Check out the **spring Wenatchee Valley College Continuing Education Course Offerings**, including a new [Watercolor Landscapes: Plein Air](#) field-based class by Bethany Wray. If you have friends wanting to be introduced to birding, Joe Ververka and Susan Ballinger are offering [Birdwatching for Beginners](#) (2 evenings + ½-day Saturday field trip, **Mar. 25, 27, & 30**).

HIKES & FIELD TRIPS:

[CDLT's calendar](#) for spring outings is bursting with options- Check it out!

Sat. Apr. 6 (9am-3pm) *Earth Month*

Celebration Kick-off at Wildhorse Wind Farm Prizes, energy efficiency info., turbine tours, free native plants, and kid's activities.

<http://www.facebook.com/wildhorseREC>

Tues. Apr. 23 (5:30-7:00pm) *Wildflower Walk at Jacobson Preserve*. Celebrate Native Plant Appreciation Week with CDLT Conservation Fellow Susan Ballinger. [RSVP requested.](#)

Sat. Apr. 28 and May 12 (11am and 3pm) *Wildflower and Wind Power Walks*. Presentation followed by guided wildflower walks. RSVP to wildhorse@pse.com

WNPS/CDLT Upper Valley Nature Walk at Leavenworth Ski Hill

April 11, 2-5 pm Thursday

April 26, 2-5 pm Friday

May 7, 2-6 pm Tuesday

May 30, 2-6pm Thursday

Join Connie McCauley to explore the Ski Hill area, looking at wildflowers, birds, and wildlife. Depending upon interest and conditions, participants will explore both ski trails and bike trails during this 3-hour walk. Connie has explored these hills for 40 years and enjoys sharing her local knowledge with all ages and backgrounds. Meet at the Ski Hill Parking lot on 10701 Ski Hill Drive in Leavenworth. Please dress for the conditions. RSVP appreciated but not required. Contact Hillary at (509) 667-9708 or hillary@cdlandtrust.org to RSVP.

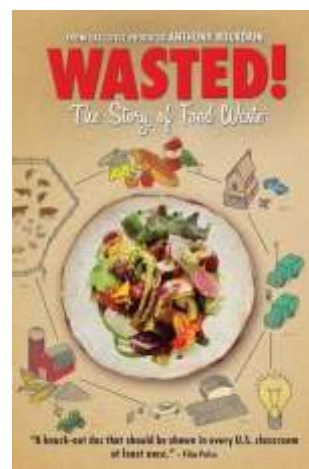
Sat. Apr. 27 (10:00am – 2:00pm) *Wildflower and Wind Power Walks* Explore the vast array of shrub steppe wildflowers at the [Wild Horse Wind Facility](#). Enjoy the guided wildflower walks, presentations, displays, and wind turbine tours. Wildflower Walks will be offered mid-week, by appointment, April through May. *RSVP Required: wildhorse@pse.com*



Sagebrush buttercup-often the first wildflower of spring

TALKS & FILMS:

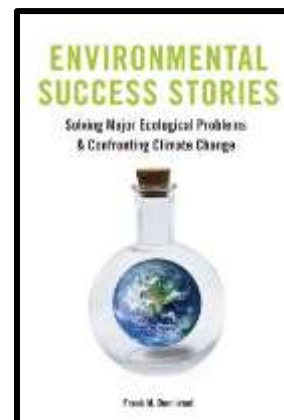
Tues. Mar. 5 (7 -8:30 pm) Environmental Film & Lecture Series *Wasted! The Story of Food Waste*. The film aims to change the way people buy, cook, recycle, and eat food. Suggested donation \$5. Wenatchee Valley Museum.



Thurs. Mar. 14 (7-8:30pm) *Twigs for Fun*, with botanists Terry Lillybridge, Joan Frazee, and Pam Camp at the Wenatchee Valley Museum & Cultural Center. Learn to identify 15 native genera by looking at bud scales and other features. Workshop offered by the Washington Native Plant Society-Wenatchee Chapter. Free and open to the public.

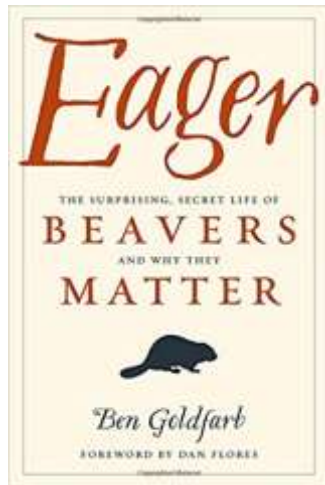
Tues. Mar. 19 (7:00-8:30pm) Environmental Film & Lecture Series *The Trouble With Wolves* Death threats, court battles, and an iconic endangered species in the middle. The film takes an up close look at the most heated and controversial wildlife conservation debate of our time, aiming to find out whether coexistence is really possible by hearing from the people directly involved. The film captures the controversy, as ranchers and ecologists square off with wolves caught in the middle. Suggested donation \$5. Wenatchee Valley Museum.

Weds. Mar. 20 (4-5:00pm) Join Dr. Franck Dunnivant, author, scientist, and Whitman College professor for an uplifting discussion about his book, *Environmental Success Stories*. He will highlight accomplishments of past movements and how we can mitigate climate change. Grove Auditorium, MAC Building, Wenatchee Valley College, Parking in the D Lot, 1300 Fifth Street



Wed. Mar. 13 (6:30-8:30-m) Apr. 2, [WRI Red](#)

[Barn Event](#) Author Ben Goldfarb highlighting his book *Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter*, named on the 50 most notable nonfiction books of 2018 by the Washington Post. Goldfarb reveals that our modern idea of what a healthy landscape looks like and how it functions is wrong, distorted by the fur trade that once trapped out millions of beavers from North America's lakes and rivers. The consequences of losing beavers were profound: streams eroded, wetlands dried up, & species from salmon to swans lost vital habitat. Today, a growing coalition of "Beaver Believers"—including scientists, ranchers, & passionate citizens—recognizes that ecosystems with beavers are far healthier than those without them.



Wed. Mar. 27 (6:30-8:30pm) [WRI Red Barn Event](#). Author Paul Souders about his book, *Arctic Solitaire* Join adventure traveler, photographer, author and barfly in training, Paul Souders on a hilarious and evocative ride of misadventures in the Arctic. In his book *Arctic Solitaire*, Souders shares exploits across four summers, thousands of miles of a vast inland sea, and the unpredictable Arctic wilderness—while offering an insightful look at what compels a person to embark on adventure.

Tues. Apr. 16 (7-8:30 pm) Environmental Film & Lecture Series A *Plastic Ocean* begins when journalist Craig Leeson, searching for the elusive blue whale, discovers plastic waste in what should be pristine ocean. In this adventure documentary, Craig teams up with free diver Tanya Streeter and an international team of



scientists and researchers, and they travel to twenty locations around the world over the next four years to explore the fragile state of our oceans, uncover alarming truths about plastic pollution, and reveal working solutions that can be put into immediate effect. Suggested donation \$5. Wenatchee Valley Museum.

Tues. Apr. 16 (6:00-7:30pm) at Wenatchee Public Library. View [Redefining Prosperity](#) and meet Seattle documentarian, John DeGraf. The story of how a small & polarized community came together in the effort to save a beautiful river. Learn about DeGraf's campaign, [And Beauty for All](#), to bring Americans together and healing our wounds by embracing natural beauty and human design in ways that revitalize our communities and renew our environment.

FESTIVALS:

Mar. 22-24, [Othello Sandhill Crane Festival](#), Othello, WA



Apr. 11-14, [Harney County Migratory Bird Festival](#), Burns OR.

Apr. 12-14, [Olympic Peninsula BirdFest](#) Sequim. WA

May 3-5, [Grays Harbor Shorebird and Nature Festival](#) Hoquiam, WA

May 16-19, 17th Annual [Leavenworth Spring Bird Fest.](#)



Registration now open! [Sign up](#) now to be a volunteer.

HELP WITH EARTH DAY

Sat. Apr. 20 (10am - 2pm) [Sustainable Wenatchee's](#) 2nd annual Earth Day Fair at Pybus Events Center. Check out information from local environmental groups, enjoy hands-on activities for adults and kids, and celebrate the 49th Earth Day. Booths and volunteer opportunities are available- to get involved, inquire by email at sustainablewenatchee@gmail.com.