



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 2022

A NOTE FROM SUSAN

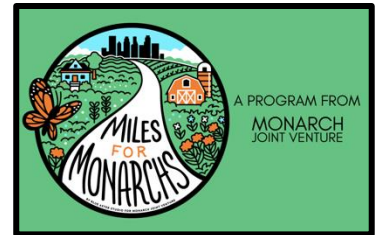
Like you, I am welcoming the early signs of spring including seeing pussywillows, the first leaves of sagebrush buttercup, and arriving Say's phoebe and mountain bluebirds. I look forward to seeing you out-and-about in our community in the coming months. After compiling this [eNews](#), I can't wait for green-up!



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Community Science Project**
Mar. 9 & Apr 13 (8:00-9:30am) Volunteer to help conduct a new [eBird Monthly Monitoring](#) route at Wenatchee River Institute campus. People with all skill levels are welcome to join. Free.
- **Community Science Project**
Mar. 20 Volunteer to conduct a vernal solstice hummingbird monitoring observation in your yard, part of the North Central Washington Hummingbird Project, led by [NCW Audubon Society](#). Register by email to ncwahummerproject@gmail.com

- **Community Science Project**
Miles for Monarchs, an individual or team program from [Monarch Joint Venture](#). Walk, bike, swim, paddle, and run for monarch conservation, February-November, 2022. Designed to engage participants in personal wellness while supporting monarch conservation. A single monarch can fly 3,000 miles, so can we? [Register](#), \$10. Family teams welcome!



- **Stewardship**
Sat. Apr. 16 (1:00am-4:00pm) [River Clean Up By Raft](#) along 3-miles of the Icicle and Wenatchee Rivers. Register with [Rachel Bishop](#), limited to 30 people. Sponsored by Orion Expeditions and Waste Loop.
- **Stewardship**
Sat. Apr. 16 (10:00am-2:00pm) [River Clean Up By Foot](#) Meet at Wenatchee River Institute parking lot. Garbage bags provided-bring your own gloves.
- **Stewardship**
CDLT Trail Volunteer work parties. Mid-week and weekend options to help take care of trails. Check [website listings](#) starting April 1st.

HELP WITH EARTH DAY

Sat. Apr. 16 Chelan Earth Day Fair.

Inquire about volunteering by emailing contactus@chelanearthdayfair.org

Sat. Apr. 23 (10am - 2pm) [Sustainable Wenatchee](#)'s annual Earth Day Fair at Pybus Events Center. Check out information from local environmental groups, enjoy hands-on activities for adults and kids. Booths and volunteer opportunities are available - inquire by email to Jana Fischback at sustainablewenatchee@gmail.com.

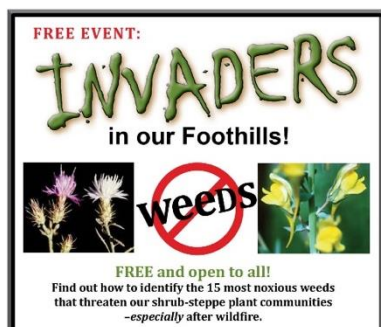
Sun. Apr. 24 (11:00am-4:00pm) [Wasteloop](#)'s Leavenworth Earth Day Fair at Enchantment Park. Booth and volunteer opportunities available - inquire by email with Wenatchee Naturalist, Ariahna Jones at ariahna@wasteloop.org

WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

April-June Wenatchee River Institute offers a wide variety of workshops, classes, and hands-on learning opportunities. Check the [calendar](#) webpage for details.

Apr. 4, 6, 11, & 13 (4:00-5:00pm) [Five Families of Flora](#). Four one-hour webinars summarizing diagnostic features of plant families, by David Giblin, Collections Manager at UW Herbarium at the Burke Museum. \$50. [Register here](#).

Save the Date June 7, 2022 (5:30-7:30pm)
Invaders in our Foothills: Help Stop the Weeds!
A free outdoor workshop at the Saddle Rock Trailhead covered shelter 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.



April-June Check out the [spring Wenatchee Valley College Continuing Education Course Offerings](#)

HIKES & FIELD TRIPS

April-May spring outings to view wildflower s and birds on CDLT lands. [CDLT's calendar](#) will be live on April 1st with details and sign-ups.

April- October Visit the [Renewable Energy Center at Wild Horse Wind Farm](#) Self-guided tour brochures available on outside of building. Experience spectacular views, wildflowers, and wildlife.

Spring-Summer Wildflower Walks. Washington Native Plant Society Wenatchee Valley Chapter offers free local field trips. Check the [calendar](#) for details.

Spring-Summer Bird Walks. North Central Washington Audubon Society offers free local field trips. Check the [activities](#) webpage for details. Susan Ballinger leads 1st Wednesday bird walks, starting at Walla Walla Point Park (7:30-10:00am). Free, no registration needed.

Earth Day Eve, Thurs. Apr. 21 (5:30-7:00pm)
Come Celebrate Native Plant Appreciation Month and enjoy the wildflower display with bilingual activities geared for all ages.

A colorful poster for "EARTH DAY EVE Spring Celebration". At the top, it says "Join us this April for WNPS Native Plant Appreciation Month". The title "EARTH DAY EVE Spring Celebration" is in large, bold letters. There are two cloud-like callouts: "English & Spanish" and "Families Welcome!". The activities listed are: "StoryWalk® Wildflowers of the Foothills", "WNPS Scavenger hunt 1/2 mile loop trail", and "Play 'I Spy' find animals hiding in the sagebrush". The background is a vibrant illustration of a desert landscape with various plants and animals. At the bottom, a box contains the event details: "WHERE: CDLT Jacobson Preserve - Skyline Dr.", "WHEN: Thursday, April 21, 2022 - Earth Day Eve", "TIME: 5:30 - 7:30pm - come at anytime", and "PARKING: along Skyline Dr. & Number Two Canyon Rd.". Logos for Chelan-Douglas Land Trust, Libraries, iTeam, and Naturaleza! are at the bottom.

TALKS & FILMS

Thurs. March 3 (7:00-9:00pm) Environmental Film & Lecture Series [Expedition Reclamation](#) presented by [The Brave Space Project](#) It is a short documentary seeking to redefine “outdoorsy” for Black, Indigenous, and Women of Color by highlighting their joyful resilient, and transformative relationships to outdoor recreation. [Register](#) to attend virtually at Wenatchee Valley Museum, sponsored by Chelan-Douglas Land Trust and features Wenatchee Naturalist, Elisa Lopez.

Thurs. Apr. 7 (7:00-8:30pm). Environmental Film & Lecture Series: [Paul Bannick: A Year in the Lives of North American Owls](#). Program will feature video, sound, stories from the field, and images from the new book, [Owl: A Year in the Lives of North American Owls](#). Check the [Wenatchee Valley Museum website](#) for presentation mode and registration instructions.



March-April The WRI Red Barn [calendar](#) is very full with guest authors, speakers, and films.



Golden current (*Ribes aureum*) is one of our region's earliest blooming native shrubs.

FESTIVALS

Mar. 18-20, 2022 [Wings Over Water Northwest Birding Festival](#), Blaine, Washington



Mar. 26, 2022 [Tundra Swan Festival](#) in Cusick, Washington

Mar. 25-27, 2022 [Othello Sandhill Crane Festival](#), Othello, WA



Apr. 21-24, 2022 [Harney County Migratory Bird Festival](#), Burns Oregon - Hybrid Festival

April 29-May 1, 2022 [Grays Harbor Shorebird and Nature Festival](#) Hoquiam, Washington - Hybrid Festival

May 13-15, 2022. [Yakima River Canyon Bird Fest 2022](#), Yakima, Washington

May 19-22, 2022

Registration opens soon for the 20th Annual

[Leavenworth Spring Bird Fest](#)



RESOURCES

I continue to update the [Wenatchee Naturalist](#) website with resources and [blog posts](#), often featuring terrific local photographers. Check out blogs about April's returning migrant birds-of-prey including [osprey](#) and [turkey vultures](#).

As you start planning spring planting, I've added [pollinator resources](#) including WSU Extension's new [Pollination and Protecting Bees and Other Pollinators](#). The Xerces Society just published a kids activity booklet, [X Kids And the Incredible Invertebrates](#). For use by teachers, club leaders, and families, with a way to earn a badge.

