

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.







**Summer 2022** 

## A NOTE FROM SUSAN

Summer has arrived! I hope this is a season of reconnecting with family, friends and to our region's lands and waters.

Please enjoy my July <u>blog post</u> about four Wenatchee Naturalists who creatively figured out how to earn their 100+ volunteer hours pins during the Pandemic! Congratulations to Katja Rowell, Clare Morrison, Caroline Woolmington, and Elisa Lopez for their volunteerism. Remember, it is never too late to earn the 20+ volunteer hour pin, so send me your story for the website, and I'll get you a bandana and service

pin.

Wenatchee
Valley College
Continuing
Education inperson 50-hour
Wenatchee
Naturalist course
is back. If you
have friends
interested in
taking the
course, invite



them to email me (skylinebal@gmail.com). Twelve weeks of classes will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 21, (6:00-8:30 pm) with Saturday field trips on Oct. 8 & 22, Nov. 5, and Dec. 3. Registration opens August 10<sup>th.</sup>

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

■ Community Science Project



Check out the Xerces Society's <u>Pollinator</u>

<u>Conservation Resources: Pacific Northwest</u>

Region.

Sign-up and take the <u>Xerces Society's</u> <u>Pollinator Protection Pledge:</u>

- 1. Grow a variety of bee-friendly flowers that bloom from spring through fall.
- 2. Protect and provide bee nests and caterpillar host plants.
- 3. Avoid using pesticides, especially insecticide
- 4. Talk to neighbors about the importance of pollinators and their habitat.

### ■ Community Science Project

Western Monarch Milkweed Mapper is a project

is part of a collaborative effort between 5 agencies, including the Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife and the Xerces Society to map and better understand monarch butterflies and their host plants across the Western U.S. Data compiled through this project will improve our understanding of the distribution and phenology of monarchs and milkweeds, identify



WESTERN MONARCH MILKWEED MAPPER



important breeding areas, and help scientists better understand monarch conservation.

#### ■ Community Science Project

Join a friendly group of bird enthusiasts collecting bird observations that are entered into eBird. All levels of birding skills are welcome.

Wenatchee River Institute: July 13 and Aug. 10, 8:00-9:30am. Contact Tucker Jonas tjonas@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org

NCWAS Beebe Springs: first and third Wednesday of each month. Contact Virginia at <a href="https://www.wpalumbo@gmail.com">wwpalumbo@gmail.com</a>

NCWAS 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Walla Walla Point Park and Horan Natural Area, July 6 and Aug. 3, 7:30-10:00am. No registration required -ok to leave early!

# **FUN STUFF TO DO WITH KIDS**

Washington Native Plant Society's Just For Kids two-page scavenger hunts can be printed double-sided and folded into a small book that you can carry with you when you go on an adventure in eastern Washington. Wenatchee native Cici Asplund was a lead volunteer on this project.

- Native Plants of the Shrub Steppe
- Plantas Nativas en la Estepa Arbustiva
- Native Plants of the Dry Forest

### <u>USFS Native wildflowers coloring sheets</u>

The Garden Professors<sup>TM</sup>, who have been advancing the science of gardening and other stuff since 2009, recently posted this link to a <u>Nature Quest for Kids</u>.

PBS, the Public Broadcasting
Service offers Nature Photo Scavenger Hunts for three different age groups: toddlers, preschooler/kindergarteners, and elementary-age kids

WSU Extension King County Master Gardener Program provides a whole page of nature activities for children and youth. Their list includes two garden-oriented scavenger hunts, a nature walk

Xerces Society's Xkid outdoor, insect-themed adventure booklet is a free download in English and Spanish, for kids ages 8-11.



Cornell Lab of Ornithology's <u>Nature Quests for Families</u> and <u>Science and Nature Activities for Cooped up Kids</u>.

# FIELD TRIPS

Sign up for a free birding field trip with North Central Washington Audubon Society

### **WEB RESOURCES:**

Washington Geological Survey's new

Washington 100 presents quintessential places to experience Washington's geology up close! Select a region to explore then click on a destination. Peshastin **Pinnacles** includes a drone-filmed video, text about its formation, and access



information. Also Check out <u>Lake Chelan</u>, and <u>The Enchantments</u>, <u>West Bar</u> and <u>Ginko Petrified Forest</u>, all within a 1-hour drive of Wenatchee. <a href="https://wa100.dnr.wa.gov/">https://wa100.dnr.wa.gov/</a>

Plant lists for many popular hiking destinations in each Washington county are available to print on the Washington Native Plant Society Plant List webpage. Chelan County has lists for 82 locations, so your destination is likely covered.

Artist <u>Heather Murphy</u> shares this online resource for drawing and painting birds through Audubon California.

<u>Sustainable Wenatchee's Waste Wizard</u>- see how to reuse, recycle, or dispose of items using an easy search tool.

Looking for a local outing? <u>Wenatchee Outdoors</u> <u>Guidebooks</u> for all types of outside adventures are searchable by location, type of activity, dog-friendly and family-friendly.

# **FIELD GUIDE APPS:**

Our pocket computers are much lighter to carry that a field guide. Have you tried any of these:

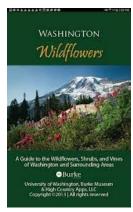
Trees of the Pacific
Northwest (free) Volunteer
created, and excellent with
many photos and search
capabilities.

Merlin Bird ID. The newest feature is the ability to record singing birds, and the app will identify all species you hear! Bird Packs are



available for every part of the world, so don't forget to take this along on your next trip!

Washington Wildflowers lets you take 879 species into the field with you with extensive search capabilities, 3-4 photos for each plant, descriptions, and range maps for either Android (Google Play) or Apple iOS (iTunes).



<u>Seek app</u> by iNaturalist. Community-science powered, this app lets you point your camera at a plant, animal, or fungi, take a photo, and then see an identification. No internet is required to

identify a species. It is a safe and fun way to engage beginners in exploring local biodiversity, without collecting, using or disclosing personal information.

