



*Our mission is to cultivate awareness, understanding,
and stewardship of the Wenatchee River region by
developing an active corps of well-informed
community volunteers*

September 28, 2026 Field Trip 1: White River Watershed Exploration
Guest scientist co-leader, botanist/artist Olivia Schilling

SUGGESTED READING: *Gestures of Stone and Water: A Natural History of the Wenatchee Watershed*, by Tim McNulty. Pg. 31-36, [Images of the Watershed](#) (2002). *Loaned booklet*

Wenatchee Naturalist website, [White River Exploration Field Trip](#)

Logistics Overview: We will be driving to 4-5 different locations, stopping at each for about an hour to do natural history observations, journaling activities and short walks. Because we'll be standing still and moving slowly or sitting in place, plan to have adequate layers of clothing available. Your extra clothing can be stored in a bag kept in the car so you can use a small backpack to carry field supplies. We will do the field trip rain-or-shine.

Bring Food: Bring snacks and water. You have the option to pre-purchase a \$14 hot lunch (no vegan option, gluten-free by request) at Tall Timber Ranch, or bring your own sack lunch. We eat together in the lodge.

CARPOOL POLICY: For all field trips, we will seek volunteer drivers with a goal to minimize the total number of cars used. At many of our field sites parking may be limited. **NOTE: A WA State DISCOVER PASS is required for one of our stops.**

- ✓ If you are able, please volunteer to be a driver. Contact the class instructor
- ✓ We ask that all passengers help to cover the driver's costs. For each trip, we suggest the government rate of \$0.76 per mile reimbursement.
Wenatchee passengers: 114 miles RT Leavenworth passengers: 76 miles RT
Take the total miles, multiply by \$0.76/mile, & divide by # of passengers (not the driver)

OUTING TIMELINE:

- 7:35 am Wenatchee carpoolers meet **Olds Station Park-and-Ride**, [320 E Penny Road](#). Firm departure time of 7:45 AM.
- 8:00 All others meet at **Leavenworth Park-and-Ride**, SR 2 near USFS.
- 8:10 Wenatchee carpoolers meet all carpools at **Leavenworth Park-and-Ride**. All cars depart (firm departure 8:15 am) and caravan to **Lake Wenatchee State Park** (elevation 1873 ft.)
- 8:45-9:30 Lake Wenatchee State Park. Flush toilets and running water here. Check-out a pair of NCWAS binoculars if you like. Class introductions. Overview of geology and history.
- 9:30 Depart for Dirtyface Viewpoint (White River Rd #6400 to Rd #6403, 2 miles dirt road).
- 9:50-10:30 **Dirtyface Viewpoint** (2890 ft.) with spectacular view of White River Valley. Journaling focus: landscape drawing. Tree species focus: ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, Engelmann spruce, lodgepole pine.
- 10:30-10:45 Drive the 7-mile paved road along the White River to Tall Timber Ranch. Park.
- 10:45-12:20 Walk to the Napequa Crossing USFS campground for Journaling.

- 12:30-1:30 **Tall Timber Ranch** Indoor restrooms and hot beverages available (\$1).
Community Science Project: Upper Basin Birders
- 1:30 Load cars, and drive to Little Wenatchee Road Bridge.
- 2:00-3:15 Park and walk a former road about 1-mile RT on CDLT properties.
- 3:15 pm Load cars and depart for Lake Wenatchee State Park
- 3:45 pm Short stop to use bathrooms at **Lake Wenatchee State Park**
- 4:45 pm Return to **Leavenworth Park-and-Ride**
- 5:15 pm Return to **Wenatchee Old Station Park-and-Ride**

The following are general guidelines for being outside all day- ready for your future use as you serve as a leader for your family and friends.

WEAR: It may be hot and sunny, or cold and wet. Check the weather report to see what the day will bring! Use layers so you can take clothing off if you get warm while we are moving, & then put clothing on when we stop. Avoid cotton clothing (it gets & stays wet).

- hiking shoes or boots (we will be away from our cars walking up to 1/2 mile, several times)
- 2 layers of non-cotton socks (carry 1 extra dry pair)
- inner layer: long underwear top (not cotton)
- additional thermal layer like a puff coat or down jacket, - plan to carry this inside your backpack when we are moving, then pull it out when we make stops.
- outer wind and waterproof layer top and bottom: parka and rain pants. Will use if windy and /or rainy. Can provide additional thermal warmth when stationary.
- Gloves or mittens. Bring a pair that you may be able to wear while writing
- scarf or neck warmer (turtle)
- hat (can be used in combination with hood on coat)

GEAR- General list for an all day outing

- daypack so you have room to carry 1 hour's worth of supplies
- a small foam-seat pad (Susan will bring 25 loaners)
- 1 quart water. Option: A thermos with a hot beverage
- whistle
- 2 quart-sized Ziploc bags with toilet paper, lighter or candle with matches.
- headlamp or flashlight.
- sun protection: Visor or cap, sunscreen, lip balm, sunglasses
- 1 gallon-sized Ziploc bag with field journal, pencil, pen, & reading glasses
- binoculars (we will have loaners available that day)
- hand lens and Parish/Coupe/Lloyd field guide (inside a Ziploc bag)
- option: camera, field guides, personal first aid kit

Driving through the forest is a bit different than traveling down a six-lane freeway through a big city. Please keep the following in mind while driving through the woods: Source: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/visit/know-before-you-go/driving>

- Watch for and obey posted speed limits. Forest Service roads can be narrow, rocky, and are not meant for high speeds. Be ready to pull over to allow an on-coming vehicle to pass
- Be careful braking on gravel roads. Allow more time and distance when coming to a stop.
- Beware of rocks, boulders, road washouts, downed trees and brush on the roadway.
- Use appropriate tires for the terrain and conditions you'll be traveling. Remember to stay on authorized roads.
- Plan appropriately for food, gas, and lodging, which may not be readily available along Forest Service roads. Always carry extra food and water.
- Carry a [car kit](#), equipment, tools, and supplies, in case of an emergency.
- Always let someone know your plans and stick to those plans.
- Back-in to park; position your vehicle so it is facing the direction you will travel on departure