

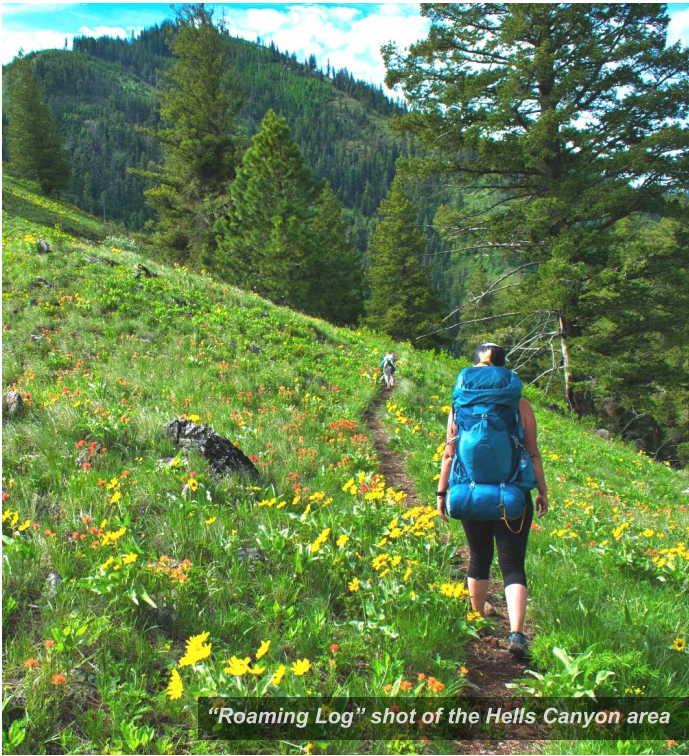


# Trail Blazer

Vol. 93 No. 6

[www.trailsclub.org](http://www.trailsclub.org)

June 2020



"Roaming Log" shot of the Hells Canyon area

## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



### Siouxin Creek Backpack

June 6 - 7

We will meet Saturday morning at Pendleton Woolen Mills in Washougal (Back west corner of Parking lot) and carpool to trail head. The hike is approximately 7.6 miles round trip. The trail follows up the creek for just under 4 miles where we will set up a base camp. If people want we can wade up to knees and cross the creek to hike to the top of the ridge for beautiful views of Mt St. Helen's to the north. There are numerous small water Falls along the way. Many green pools of water along trail. Cost is \$2 per day for non Trails Club Members. Also be prepared to pay cash for car shuttle.

Start: June 6 @ 8:00 am End: June 7 @ 11:00 am

Organizer: Linda Conrad: [lgconrad@aol.com](mailto:lgconrad@aol.com)



### Nesika Work Trip

June 12 - June 14

Check the TCO website for more information.



### Vancouver Two Creeks Ride - Class B

June 19, 9 Am or earlier

We will ride both of Vancouver's trail gems from end to end. If you like riding on beautiful, carless trails this is the ride for you. There are enough hills to get your heart pumping but the majority of this ride is fairly flat. We will meet at the east end of Burnt Bridge Creek trail, ride the entire length to Lakeshore, up to Salmon Creek Trail and stop at Klineline pond for a rest and snack. Then back to the start via a tour of Vancouver neighborhoods. Possible coffee break at Dutch Bros. near Vancouver mall. Due to covid-19 I am limiting this to 8 riders. Text me to reserve your spot.

Ride Distance : 24 miles Elevation gain/loss : 785 ft

Meet: East end of Burnt Bridge Creek Trail at the corner of NE 92nd and 19th Circle Driving Distance: ~11 miles from Gateway Transit Center. Start time: 9 am, possibly earlier if predicted temp is above 90 degrees Ride with GPS route: <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/32065241>

Leader: Chaz Shaw Email: [chaznw@gmail.com](mailto:chaznw@gmail.com)

Cell: 503-729-7560

**Continued Page 4...**

## June Events Summary

2	Tues	Board Meeting
6-7	Sat-Sun	Siouxin Creek Backpack
12-14	Fri-Sun	Nesika: Work Trip
19	Fri	Vancouver Two Creeks Ride
20-21	Sat-Sun	Tyee: Work Trip
26-28	Fri-Sun	Mt. St. Helens Backpack
29	Mon	Banks-Vernonia Bike Ride
Scheduling, fees, and lodge availability are updated on website <a href="http://www.trailsclub.org">www.trailsclub.org</a>		

## MEMBERSHIP NOTES

1st readings: none

2nd readings approved:

- Jennifer Samuels, Lloyd Luther, Adam Cornwell

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**THE TRAILS CLUB OF OREGON**  
**P.O. Box 67095, Portland, Oregon 97268-1095**

The purpose of the Trails Club is to foster and stimulate interest in hiking, climbing, skiing, camping and other similar outdoor activities and to promote activities of a social nature for the benefit of its members. The Club's interests and concerns are conservation of natural beauty and resources of the country. All Club activities are affected by the voluntary participation of the members. Membership requirements include an approved outdoor activity, a scheduled lodge visit, recommendations by two members within a one-year period, approval by the Board of Trustees, and payment of \$50 in dues and a \$15 entrance fee.

**Board Meetings:** Usually first Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at Mazamas Mountaineering Center, 527 SE 43rd Ave. at SE Stark St. Portland, OR

President	Sheryl Wagner <a href="mailto:President@trailsclub.org">President@trailsclub.org</a>
Vice President	Beverly Drottar <a href="mailto:VicePres@trailsclub.org">VicePres@trailsclub.org</a>
Secretary	Rebecca Knudeson <a href="mailto:Secretary@trailsclub.org">Secretary@trailsclub.org</a>
Treasurer	Bill Yandon <a href="mailto:Treasurer@trailsclub.org">Treasurer@trailsclub.org</a>
Trustee-Nesika	Glen Conrad <a href="mailto:NesikaChair@trailsclub.org">NesikaChair@trailsclub.org</a>
Trustee Tyee	Nathen Barton <a href="mailto:TyeeChair@trailsclub.org">TyeeChair@trailsclub.org</a>
Trustee-Membership	Lori Leach <a href="mailto:MembershipChair@trailsclub.org">MembershipChair@trailsclub.org</a>
Trustee-Publications	Joel Reitz <a href="mailto:PublicationChair@trailsclub.org">PublicationChair@trailsclub.org</a>
Trustee-Social	Linda Conrad <a href="mailto:SocialChair@trailsclub.org">SocialChair@trailsclub.org</a>
Trustee- Trips	Susan Ashenfelter <a href="mailto:TripsChair@trailsclub.org">TripsChair@trailsclub.org</a>
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Changes and other club correspondence should be sent to:  
[Membership@trailsclub.org](mailto:Membership@trailsclub.org) or

Trails Club of Oregon  
 P.O. Box 67095  
 Portland, OR 97268-1095

## EVENT CANCELATIONS

Please note that some events may be canceled at a future date, depending on late-breaking COVID-19 related issues, etc. Check the [website](#) regularly.

### Meeting Places

**Friendly House** NW Thurman and 26th. TriMet bus service on routes 15, 17 and 77 is nearby.

**Gateway TCO** : From I-205: take the Glisan Street exit, proceed east to 99th Ave, turn north, proceed a couple blocks and park in the Park and Ride garage. Meet at the SE corner of the structure (near the stairs) on the sidewalk (directly inside if it is raining). From I-84: take I-205, take the above exit and instructions

**Mazamas Mountaineering Center (MMC):** A common meeting place for Board meetings and other administrative functions. It is located at 527 SE 43rd Avenue, one block south of Stark St.

**Target:** A common westside meeting place for hikes. Exit US 26 at NW 185th Ave and drive south to Evergreen Pkwy turn east (left) one block to NW Town Center Dr., Park and meet on the west side of Target's parking lot across from Starbucks Coffee. Tri Met bus service on routes 47, 52 and 89 is nearby.

**Tryon Creek State Park:** Sometimes used for Wed. AM (and other) hikes. From I-5 South: Take Terwilliger Blvd. exit, bear right, heading south past Taylor's Ferry Rd. and bear left at at Boone's Ferry Rd split, right at second roundabout exit, staying on Terwilliger. Park entrance is a right about one mile past the roundabout. Park near the Nature Center.

### Trails Club of Oregon & Meetup Websites

Our website ([TrailsClub.org](http://TrailsClub.org)) is the official site for club events and information. There is also a Trails Club Meetup.com site that allows event planners to organize TCO events online, and publicize these events to a wider audience ([Meetup.com/Trails-Club-of-Oregon/events/](http://Meetup.com/Trails-Club-of-Oregon/events/)). However, all events posted on the TCO Meetup site should be added to our TCO website as well (and this no longer happens automatically, unfortunately).

While we try to get every event in the Blazer and on the Trails Club website ([www.trailsclub.org](http://www.trailsclub.org)), some events, especially those planned on short notice, may not appear in the Blazer.

Use the Calendar menu item for a monthly calendar or use the Activities menu to filter events. Registration on the web site is not required to view the events.

Also: All may use the Payment menu item on our web site to use PayPal to pay your dues. You can pay for all members in a household in one transaction.

# Board Meeting

**April 7, 2020, 7-9 PM**

Locations: Zoom

**Attendees:**

- Sheryl Wagner ..... President
- Beverly Drottar ..... Vice President
- Rebecca Knudeson..... Secretary
- Bill Yandon ..... Treasurer
- Joel Reitz ..... Publications Trustee
- Glen Conrad..... Nesika Trustee
- Nathen Barton..... Tyee Trustee
- Lori Leach ..... Membership Trustee
- Linda Conrad ..... Social Trustee
- Absent:** Susan Ashenfelter ..... Trips Trustee

Approved meeting minutes of the March meeting.

**Treasurer's Report, Bill Yandon**

*Old Account:*

Beginning Balance.....	\$3370.43
Ending Balance .....	\$3370.43

*New Account:*

Beginning Balance.....	\$18,466.93
Deposits.....	\$447.97
Checks and payments.....	\$906.72
Ending Balance.....	\$18,009.18

**Committee Reports:**

**Nesika** Glen. US Forest Service will give us a 5 year permit for access to Nesika (required due to the Eagle Creek fire closure).

**Tyee** Nathen. Work parties are set to be the weekend after the Nesika work parties. Discussed possibilities for work trip management in light of COVID when restrictions are loosened.

**Membership** Lori. Working on the data base. Trying to contact people who haven't paid dues. Discussed encouraging members with lapse dues to maintain their membership.

**1st readings**

none

**2nd readings** approved:

- Jennifer Samuels
- Lloyd Luther
- Adam Cornwell

**Publications** Joel. We have 7 requests so far for a printed directory. We may get more after the possibility

is announced in the June Blazer. Cancelled all events for May due to the governor's restrictions.

**Trips** Susan absent. Trips are on hold.

**Social** Linda reported.

Bound to Happen will do a first aid training via live video May 16. It will be announced on Meet Up and the website.

**New Business:**

We approved Art Stangell to represent the TCO as our Registered Agent with the State of Oregon.

Lori will check with Mazamas about making their building available to us for our board meetings at a member's rate.

Next meeting 6/2, probably via Zoom

Submitted by Rebecca Knudeson, Secretary



Oregon wood sorrel in the undergrowth. Photo: Amber Tilton

## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES Continued...

### **Tyee June Work Trip** June 20-21

Tyee work party and host training on June 20, 2020!

This is our first work party of the year and this time we will focus on cleaning and taking stock of missing items. There are some smaller improvements planned such as adding a hand railing on the front door steps. There will be plenty of time for good conversation and enjoying nature. Work trips always have a fun vibe and you do not need to be able to do heavy labor to participate.

As always, there is no fee for staying on work weekends and food is provided. Please RSVP to [tyee@trailsclub.org](mailto:tyee@trailsclub.org) so we know to prepare food for you!

If you are interested in becoming a Tyee host and getting a key to the building, and you have been a Trails Club member for at least one year, I can train you on the procedures and sign off on your key application.

If you would like to spend the night, tent camping outside is strongly encouraged – we have a limit of 5 parties from different houses in each dorm.

Please bring a face mask – we ask that everyone wear them inside the building or around other people when practical.

There is a work trip planned for each month. During this summer we will restock our wood supply and address some issues like siding and pest control.

Please remember that in all Trails Club activities you are voluntarily and knowingly assuming the risks inherent to all social activities at this time.

Organizer: Nathen Barton, [TyeeWinter@trailsclub.org](mailto:TyeeWinter@trailsclub.org)

### **Mt. Saint Helens Backpack** June 26-28

I am leading a two night backpack into the Mt. Saint Helens back country. Day one we will travel about 5 miles as the crow flies but will hike about 8-9 miles. Day three we will return on the same trail. I have done this section of trail before and it is pretty flat. I am going to say be prepared for something like 500 of of elevation gain over the length but it generally won't be taxing on elevation.

Day two, some folks may push to the Johnson Ridge Observatory and others may pick other destinations. Depending on what you pick for your day two adventure, you could do some elevation, or avoid it. I expect to camp near a water source but you should not count on it. There was a good water source last year to camp at but things change.

Bring: Your usual backpacking list. Always be prepared for rain. I don't see a tick hazard but could always be wrong. 4 liters of water. We should be able to resupply along the way but we can't be sure how frequently. A mask. I won't expect to use one while hiking and maintaining distance but I will use it at stopping points if other folks are around. Good conversation. Of those I know are going, we are friendly and happy with our lives and love the outdoors.

The road to get there is forest service maintained but was pretty good last year. There are about 5+ people already signed up for this trip, we are mostly in our 30's and 40's. I will talk to each person who wants to go to sound out your experience and abilities.

I am setting the initial limit at three, I may be able to expand this to five. Website: [https://www.meetup.com/Trails-Club-of-Oregon/events/271089039/?rv=ea1\\_v2&\\_xtid=gatlbWFpbF9jbGlja9oAJGFjOTM3NTk1YzctNGE2Ni1iYTQwLTIkM2E5NzI4MDgxNA](https://www.meetup.com/Trails-Club-of-Oregon/events/271089039/?rv=ea1_v2&_xtid=gatlbWFpbF9jbGlja9oAJGFjOTM3NTk1YzctNGE2Ni1iYTQwLTIkM2E5NzI4MDgxNA)

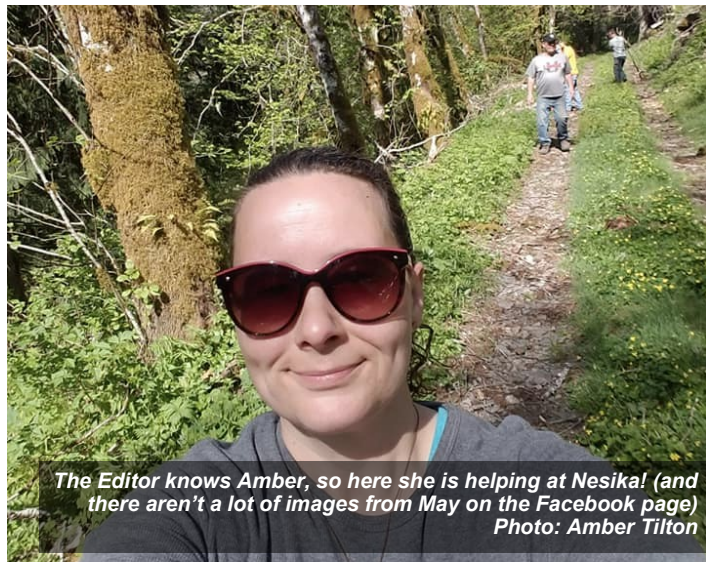
Organizer: Nathen Barton, [TyeeWinter@trailsclub.org](mailto:TyeeWinter@trailsclub.org)



 **Banks-Vernonia Bike Ride – Class B**  
June 29

We will start at the Banks Trailhead and ride to Vernonia on a paved bike/walking/horse path. The trail was built on a former railroad bed and passes through beautiful forested land. There is a 7 mile gradual, mild uphill section, with 1 short steep hill. The rest is mainly flat or downhill. About 42 miles round-trip. There is also an option to start from the Buxton Trailhead, which shortens the ride to 28 miles round-trip.

Bring lunch to eat in the park in Vernonia. Contact leader to register for the ride, and for start times. Leader: Maureen Covell, 503-954-4501, [charleycvl@aol.com](mailto:charleycvl@aol.com).



*The Editor knows Amber, so here she is helping at Nesika! (and there aren't a lot of images from May on the Facebook page)  
Photo: Amber Tilton*

# CONSERVATION NOTE

As we enter a new stage of this pandemic that has so changed our lives and livelihoods, it is encouraging that some countries have announced their intention not to go back to business as usual, but to open up their economies in ways that are more consistent with the changes needed to combat global warming. Germany, Australia, and New Zealand have all announced such intentions. It is difficult to think of anything else while coping with the crazy and painful world of Covid-19, but climate change has not taken a break. The below is a link to Bill McKibben's climate change newsletter:

## **One Crisis Doesn't Stop Because Another Starts**

Bill McKibben, The New Yorker

<https://link.newyorker.com/view/5be9cfe82ddf9c72dc19056ec39tb.544/0c1b0f5d>

Kate Evans of the Mazama Conservation Committee wrote the below article for the Mazama Bulletin last month, to review some of our local conservation organizations and what can be done while staying home to support conservation issues. We reprint it here with her permission.

### **What You Can Do**

Kate Evans

When this May article was conceived many months ago, we envisioned a description of summer stewardship opportunities provided by our conservation partners. Little did we know that these activities would be halted by a pandemic, and we would all be at home. What can we do for our beloved wilderness when we can't plant trees and native shrubs, monitor wildlife cameras or timber sales, eliminate invasive species, or rebuild trails? We can still help our conservation partners from home; their work continues and so should our assistance.

You may not be able to be involved in person, but you can still be involved online. You can educate yourself about conservation campaigns and advocate with letters and petitions. You can register for stewardship projects with the Cascade Forest Conservancy scheduled July through October. Several of our conservation partners have also become very creative with their online offerings.

**Oregon Wild** ([oregonwild.org](http://oregonwild.org)) recently added webinars, online presentations, in April including Ben

**CONSERVATION NOTE Continued...**

Goldfarb's Secret Life of Beavers, Eli Boschetto's hiking on the Oregon PCT and Trip Jennings' Wild Fires. Long-time Mazama conservation partner Oregon Wild has a forty-year history of environmental activism in Oregon. They work to provide wilderness protections for Crater Lake, the Devil's Staircase, Wild Rogue, Mount Hood, and the Ochocos. They are also protecting wild and scenic rivers and wildlife (including wolves and sea otters), and reforming Oregon's forest laws. You can sign up to receive their newsletter about events, news and actions. In addition, they have a Youth Art Contest and an Outdoor Photo Contest. You can also check out their extensive map gallery for ideas about where to go when we can finally get out again.

The **Oregon Natural Desert Association**, ONDA, ([onda.org](http://onda.org)) is another conservation group with a creative online presence. They just introduced the High Desert Academy for the digital event community, including High Desert Wonders; Steens Mt., Hart Sheldon and the Land Between; the Wild Owyhee; Desert Hiking Tips and Tips; and Multi-Sport Adventures on the Oregon Desert Trail. Their mission, since 1987, has been to protect and restore public lands in the Oregon high desert. All their spring and summer stewardship projects are on hold, but you can still be involved with their various campaigns through letters and petitions. You can learn on their site how to be a better desert advocate when commenting on public lands plans or when sending letters to the editor. You can also check out their blog and sign up for their email newsletter.

**Trailkeepers of Oregon**, TKO, ([trailkeepersoforegon.org](http://trailkeepersoforegon.org)) has been maintaining and creating trails on Oregon's public lands since 2007. Many of you may have worked on trails with TKO, especially after the Eagle Creek fire, and some may have attended TKO's Tread School. You may also have seen their presentations at the Mazamas. You may be frustrated that you can't be out doing trail work (or hiking) now, but there are still things you can do to help TKO. They are postponing all in-person volunteering through May, but they are planning to offer virtual classrooms and digital engagement, such as live Facebook tool chats. They also maintain Oregon Hikers ([OregonHikers.org](http://OregonHikers.org)) as a service. Keep checking their website to see their digital

offerings, news, and when you can work on trails and hike again.

Since 1989 **Friends of Trees** ([friendsoftrees.org](http://friendsoftrees.org)) has planted over 800,000 trees and native shrubs in the Portland-Vancouver-Salem and Eugene-Springfield metro areas. Recently there have been tree plantings with Friends at the Sandy River Delta, Windswept Waters Natural Area, and the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge. Unfortunately, all tree plantings are currently cancelled, but keep checking their calendars for future plantings. You can also sign up for Tree Mail, their email newsletter.

The **Hells Canyon Preservation Council** ([hellscanyon.org](http://hellscanyon.org)), begun in 1967 to stop Hells Canyon and the Snake River from being dammed, focuses on managing public land in the Greater Hells Canyon region, including issues such as species protection and wildlife connectivity. Check out their website for important conservation issues such as protecting from logging the Lostine River Canyon, the most used entrance to the Eagle Cap Wilderness and a prime wildlife and wildlands connector. Also see their entertaining, educational blog posts on the Bumblebee Atlas Project, spring in Hells Canyon, and charismatic microfauna, et al. Post-covoid, consider becoming a Wildlife Watcher, installing motion-triggered wildlife cameras between June and October, in partnership with the Forest Service. Of special concern is the American Marten (pine marten), an indicator species used by the Forest Service for management decisions.

The **Cascade Forest Conservancy**, CFC, ([cascadeforest.org](http://cascadeforest.org)) has been protecting and sustaining forests, streams, wildlife and communities in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and Washington's southern Cascades through conservation, education, and advocacy since 1985. One of their principal advocacy efforts is the No Mine Campaign in the Green River Valley on Mount Saint Helens. They also are working on how forest resilience impacts climate change. You can still help with their advocacy efforts, but their very popular and interesting citizen science trips have been cancelled until July. Their July through October offerings, open for registration, include Preparing Old Growth for Fire, Invasive Species Removal on the Lewis River Trail, Huckleberry Monitoring in the Sawtooth Strawberry Fields, Remote Forest Wildlife Camera Surveys, Native Seed Collection near Mt. Adams, an Aquatic Restoration Survey on the Upper Lewis River, a No Place for a Mine hike on Mt. St.

Helens, Post-Fire Planting on Mt. Adams, and Riparian Plantings at Trout Creek and in the Cowlitz Valley. Many of these are overnight trips, but a few have a one-day option available. You can also download The Wildlife and Climate Resilience Handbook. Finally, after we are no longer socially distancing, CFC can use computer-savvy volunteers in their office.

Since 1993 **Bark** ([bark-out.org](http://bark-out.org)) has been a voice for community action to protect the Mt. Hood National Forest and surrounding federal lands. Their Free Mt. Hood campaign addresses the problems of the Mount Hood Forest Management Plans with its focus on commercial logging and the need to update the plan to manage for greater climate resilience for communities around the region. For years the Conservation Committee has been helping to fund Bark's two week Base Camp where volunteers learn how to ground truth timber sales; other ground truthing trainings are held throughout the year. They also monitor post-logging sites and beaver restoration projects. Check out Bark's website to learn about email alerts, the events calendar, the Understory book club, Rad\*i\*cle activist training, and the monthly ecology book club. Upcoming book club offering: June 8th from 9-5 The Botany of Fire.

Since 1980 the **Friends of the Columbia Gorge** ([gorgefriends.org](http://gorgefriends.org)) has been dedicated to ensuring that the beautiful, wild Columbia River Gorge remains an unspoiled treasure for generations to come. They enforce Gorge protection laws, monitor Gorge oil trains, and work to build long-term fire resilience in the Gorge and connect hikers and communities through their Towns to Trails program. In April Oregon's Poet Laureate Kim Stafford introduced their haiku challenge. All guided outings and stewardship events are currently suspended, but keep checking their website. You can sign up for their monthly news and eventually you can lead or shepherd hikes, help out with office projects, supervise an information table at a community event, participate in a hearing, rally or phonebook, become a trailhead ambassador, or join a stewardship work party to remove invasive species.

As you can see there are lots of things we can still do to support conservation groups from our homes. All of these groups would greatly appreciate your support. Keep checking their websites for when stewardship projects are again available.

Here are some other local conservation groups wor-

thy of your attention. Crag Law Center [crag.org](http://crag.org); Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility [oregonpsr.org](http://oregonpsr.org); Wild Salmon Center [wildsalmoncenter.org](http://wildsalmoncenter.org), Willamette Riverkeeper [willamette-riverkeeper.org](http://willamette-riverkeeper.org); Pacific Rivers [pacificrivers.org](http://pacificrivers.org), Trust for Public Lands [tpl.org](http://tpl.org); Columbia Riverkeepers

Columbia [riverkeepers.org](http://riverkeepers.org), [350PDX.org](http://350PDX.org); and the Sandy River Watershed Council [sandyriver.org](http://sandyriver.org).

Hoping you are all staying safe and well, and are keeping the love of our forests and mountains and rivers and streams strong in your hearts,

Your Conservation Committee



Ramona Falls Trail. "Crossing of the Sandy has a good "jumble" of logs to cross on." Photo: Bill Yandon

TRAILS CLUB OF OREGON  
P.O. BOX 67095  
Portland, OR 97268

[www.trailsclub.org](http://www.trailsclub.org)

## June 2020

### Gentle Reminders

For activities such as bicycle, snowshoe, and x-c skiing check with the leaders for the difficulty level. Good equipment for the specific activity is required for all events. For hikes, snowshoe:

**Class A**—Shorter, less strenuous activity, typically 4 to 8 miles, less than 1500 feet elevation gain.

**Class B**—Moderate to difficult, typically 6 to 12 miles, up to 3000 feet of elevation gain.

**Class C**—Long and difficult, strong experienced participants only, typically over 8 miles, and over 3000 feet of elevation gain. Boots are recommended for B/C hikes.

Harsh or unusual conditions may greatly increase the exertion and skill required. Be prepared for the level of activity you are planning to take. Contact the trip leader if you have any questions and to let him or her know that you will be attending. Bring plenty of water and a sack lunch. Please, no alcohol. Remember to bring your Ten Essentials. Pets allowed on designated trips only.

Stay with the group and follow the leader. The leader is responsible for the group's safety. The leader determines which route is taken. The leader has authority to determine if a participant is prepared for the activity. Group safety must come first.

### Fees

There is no charge to Trails Club members for day activities; non-members pay \$2. Please contribute to any carpooling expenses at the rate of \$.15 per mile. With multiple riders the driver can collect up to \$.30 per mile shared by all the riders. Other fees may apply.

If you have RSVP'd for an activity at a lodge involving food expense and are unable to participate, you are obligated to do one of the following: Cancel before the food is purchased, find someone to take your place, or pay for your share of the food.

All activities must be approved by the appropriate activity Coordinator or the Trips Trustee.

### Newsletters

Send write-ups to: [blazer@trailsclub.org](mailto:blazer@trailsclub.org)

Submissions are due by the fifteenth of the month prior to publication.

Please use the following format:

#### **Month Day (Day of week) Event Title - Class A, B, C**

**Description Text** - Please include distance, elevation change, and round trip driving distance.

*Do not capitalize full words, lines or sentences for emphasis*  
Day trip descriptions should be under 100 words.

**Depart:** Meeting place, with address if possible, and departure time

**Leader:** Name, Phone, and/or email.

Editor: Dave Hays

Send pictures, new events, corrections and anything else for the Trails Club of Oregon website to:

[webmaster@trailsclub.org](mailto:webmaster@trailsclub.org)