

Neighbor News

Your Connection to Land Trust Preserves



Improving Accessibility at Camp Polk Meadow Preserve

The Land Trust has been working behind the scenes on improving accessibility at Camp Polk Meadow Preserve for several years now, and our efforts have finally come to fruition! This spring we upgraded the Hindman Springs portion of Camp Polk Meadow Preserve to make it a more friendly place for all of our community members to visit. **Improvements include:**

- **Trail resurfacing.** Trails have been graded and resurfaced with a special blend of gravel that compacts better and is easier to navigate with wheelchairs, walkers, and other wheeled devices.
- **Trail consistency.** The trail has also been graded and widened in some spots so that it is consistent throughout. We updated the transitions between the trail and bridge at the Preserve to help ease the passage of differently sized wheels.
- **New trail.** We created a new trail into the Hindman barn, allowing visitors to access one of the oldest structures in Deschutes County and to learn more through an interpretive sign.
- **Updated parking lot.** The parking has also been resurfaced and graded with new gravel that is easier to navigate, and we've installed a new accessible portable toilet.
- **Fence repair.** The Land Trust perimeter fence at the Preserve has been repaired. It remains a wildlife-friendly type of fencing, using recycled materials.

Thank you for your patience as we completed this work, and special thanks to the Roundhouse Foundation for helping make this project possible. We'd also like to thank the individuals that gave their time in helping us better understand how we can improve their visitor experience, Empowering Access, and the Sisters Trails Alliance.

Stay up-to-date on Preserve news: deschuteslandtrust.org/neighbor-news



Join us for an outing!

Join the Land Trust on a guided walk or hike! Each year volunteers lead free outings at Land Trust Preserves.

Whether it's fairy houses for kids, a wildflower hike, or a nature journaling class, you are guaranteed to learn a little more about your backyard!

Land Trust Walks + Hikes are offered through October.

Learn more:
deschuteslandtrust.org/hikes

Did you know?

We have 20 miles of trails at our Sisters and Camp Sherman Preserves! With a variety of distances, surfaces, and scenery, there are so many ways to explore. Take some time today!



20
Miles of trails

Pollinator Plants to Grow

Did you know that spring and early summer are great times to keep an eye out for native butterflies including the Western monarch butterfly? Western monarchs migrate north in the spring and early summer and tend to follow waterways like Whychus Creek. You can help this imperiled beauty by planting native pollinator plants! Here are four natives to get you started:



Wax currant (*Ribes cereum*): A spring blooming shrub that grows up to six feet tall, wax currant has white/pale pink flowers that hang in clusters at the tips of branches. It attracts a large number of native bees as well as hummingbirds. Wax currant enjoys full sun in dry to moist well-drained soil and is not tolerant of shade.



Lewis' flax (*Linum lewisii*): This spring blooming blue-purple flower is a showstopper! Flax forms a mound of densely clustered, thin stems that grow 8-24 inches tall. Lewis' flax prefers sun and moist to dry, sandy or rocky soil. It makes an excellent choice for rocky gardens and containers. They will self-sow once established.



Showy Townsend daisy (*Townsendia florifera*): Pollinators love the summer blooming showy Townsend daisy! Bees, butterflies, and other insects love this daisy. Plants have 18-30 pink, pale lavender, or white ray flowers. The stems are leafy and grow 2-8 inches. They enjoy full sun and are drought tolerant.



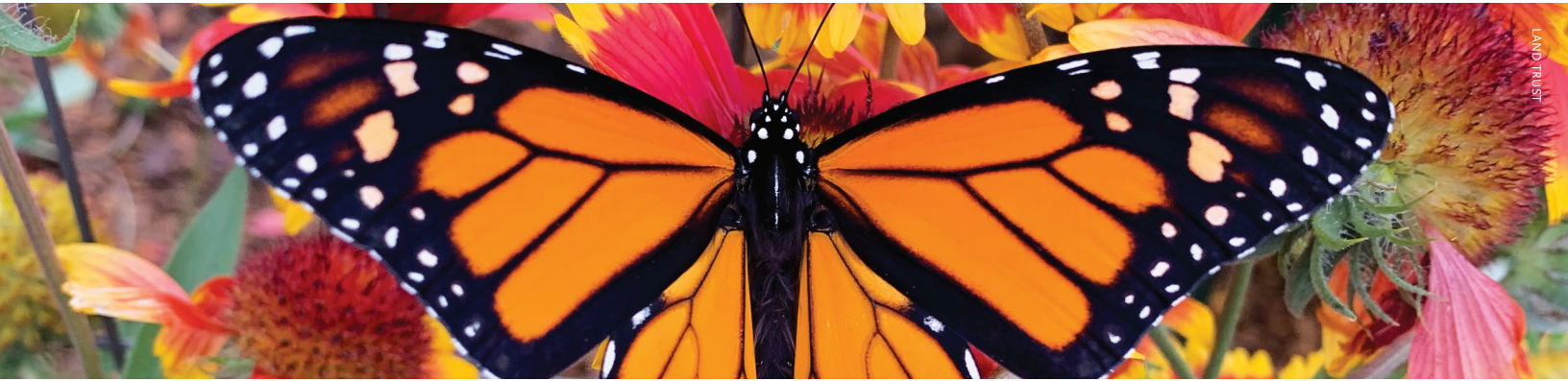
Showy milkweed (*Asclepias speciosa*): This native milkweed has showy rose-purple flowers in late summer. Leaves are widely oblong with the plant growing 18-50 inches tall. Milkweed likes sun and can handle less water. It grows via rhizomes, so be careful because it will spread! Milkweed attracts hummingbirds, butterflies, moths, and native bees.

Learn more: deschuteslandtrust.org/pollinator-garden



Thank you!

Huge thanks to all our neighbors of our Sisters-area Preserves! We appreciate your support and patience as we completed LOTS of forest restoration projects in the last year. We know it can be disruptive at times, but we are committed to helping reduce fire danger in your neighborhood while also restoring habitat for native plants and animals. Thank you for helping make it all possible!



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