



landscapes

CONSERVING AND CARING FOR THE LANDS AND WATERS THAT SUSTAIN CENTRAL OREGON.

DESCHUTES LAND TRUST NEIGHBOR NEWS {SPRING 2022}

DESCHUTESLANDTRUST.ORG/NEIGHBOR-NEWS

MORE WOOD AT METOLIUS RIVER PRESERVE

The Land Trust is partnering with the Forest Service to add more wood to the Metolius River at our Metolius River Preserve. Crews were on site in late April adding whole trees along the riverbank at the Preserve. The project is a continuation of larger restoration efforts on the Metolius River to improve habitat for fish and wildlife.

Trees and wood play an important role in the health of the river. For decades, removal of trees and snags (dead standing trees) in rivers and streams was seen as a helpful process to clear waterways for navigation, property protection, and flood control. Over time, research has shown that removal of these trees, called large woody debris, has been detrimental to fish populations and the overall health of our rivers and streams.

Large woody debris is an important habitat feature for bull trout, Chinook salmon, and other fish native to the Metolius River. It helps with deep pool formation and can influence the contribution and retention of organic matter (like leaves and twigs) and sediment. Large wood is used as cover for all stages of fish development, and studies have shown significant increases in fish densities around these structures.

The majority of wood used to create the log jams at the Metolius River Preserve was salvaged from nearby sites where thinning was already underway. Some additional small ponderosa pines were removed from the Preserve's meadow and incorporated into the structures. The removal of these trees from the meadow helps us retain the open meadow habitat at the Preserve, while also benefitting the robust Peck's penstemon population in the area.

Later this fall, we'll work with the Forest Service to add hundreds of native shrubs, grasses, and wildflowers to the banks of the river. Stay tuned for more details on how to get involved! ➤



SUE ANDERSON

IT'S A GREAT ARCTIC YEAR!

*The great Arctic butterfly (*Oeneis nevadensis*) will be back in abundance this year! This beautiful orange-brown species takes two years to complete its metamorphosis. It hibernates as a young caterpillar its first winter, and then as a mature caterpillar through its second winter. They are seen in highest abundance in even numbered years (2022!) due to their long life cycle. Look for them mid-May through mid-August.*

Learn more:
deschuteslandtrust.org/wildlife



LILIES OF SUMMER

May and June are prime time for peak wildflower season! One of the most showy (and dare we say beloved) wildflower families is the lily, or Liliaceae, family. As you are out and about this summer, watch for these native lilies to celebrate the season in and around the Metolius region:



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Spotted fritillary (*Fritillaria atropurpurea*): Perhaps one of our most unusual lilies, the spotted fritillary is brown to greenish in color with yellow, red, or white markings. They grow in grasslands or Cascade foothill forests and can be hard to spot because of their subdued color. Rest assured, the beautiful spotting and delicate petals just beg for a closer look. Flowers hang downward or facing outward and 1-3 blooms can be found per stalk.



JAY MATHER

Columbia lily (*Lilium columbianum*): Columbia lilies have numerous six-petal blooms on tall stems. You often find these along the banks of our local rivers and in nearby mixed-evergreen forest. The fiery orange petals of the Columbia lily curve upward creating a ball of orange with tiny dark spots. Perhaps this is why they are affectionately called tiger lily—can't you just see the tiger curled and ready to pounce?



JAY MATHER

Subalpine mariposa lily (*Calochortus subalpinus*): This three-petal stunner is also a favorite in our east Cascade foothill forests. Multiple blooms can be found on an ~8 in. tall stem. Flowers are often a creamy white to yellow, but their true beauty is only seen under close examination. Delicate hairs abound on and around the petals of the flower bringing to mind the ear of a cat.



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Queen's cup (*Clintonia uniflora*): This lily's common name aptly describes its stately, bright white bloom. Low growing (2-6 in. tall) with 2-3 large leaves at its base, queen's cup lilies are common in forests on the slopes of the east Cascades. You can often find them growing in clumps that form a ground cover on the forest floor. Once its bloom fades, you can still find this lily by its brilliant blue bead-like seed.



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Cascade lily (*Lilium washingtonianum*): This may be the true queen of the lilies! Large, opulent flowers on 2-8 ft. tall stalks bring to mind traditional lilies that are sold in flower shops. Each plant boasts several white to pinkish flowers with as many as 25 blooms per plant. Leaves are in regular whorls moving up the stem. Can be found in east Cascade foothill forests lighting up an otherwise brown and green landscape.



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JOIN US FOR A HIKE!

Join the Land Trust on a guided nature walk! Each year volunteers lead free walks and hikes at Land Trust Preserves. Whether it's fairy houses for kids, a wildflower hike, or geology walk, you are guaranteed to learn a little more about your backyard!

Land Trust Walks + Hikes are offered through October. Learn more: deschuteslandtrust.org/hikes



THE DESCHUTES LAND TRUST IS PROUD OF OUR GENEROUS FAMILY OF SUPPORTERS. JOIN US TODAY: [DESCHUTESLANDTRUST.ORG/JOIN](https://deschuteslandtrust.org/join)

LANDS IN TRUST PROTECTED FOREVER



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