

# CHELAN-DOUGLAS LAND TRUST

OUR LAND, OUR WATER, OUR FUTURE \* SPRING 2010

## HORSE LAKE VIEWPOINT & TRAILHEAD GRAND OPENING IS APRIL 10



*The new viewpoint features a gentle trail, stunning views, benches, and interpretive signs.*

Join us on Saturday, April 10 for a day of activities and fun at the grand opening of the new viewpoint, accessible trail, and trailhead facilities at the Horse Lake Reserve. Completed in late November, the new trailhead provides hikers, bikers and birders a place to get ready and head out on the beautiful trails. To celebrate this accomplishment, there will be a short dedication, organized mountain bike rides, trail runs, kid's activities and hikes. Organized activities start at 9:00 am, trailhead dedication at 11:30, followed by a potluck lunch and more activities. We will provide free bratwurst, hot dogs, and grilled veggies; please bring a salad or dessert to share. Call the office or visit [www.cdlandtrust.org/trailhead](http://www.cdlandtrust.org/trailhead) for full details.

### HORSE LAKE VIEWPOINT

The The Horse Lake viewpoint offers a stunning 360-degree view of the Wenatchee Valley complemented by interpretative signs on local landscapes,

geology, and history. The viewpoint is easily accessed by a short, gently graded trail and has benches for visitors to take in the view. The viewpoint was made possible through the generosity of the Alcoa Foundation and many hours of volunteer labor.

### HORSE LAKE TRAILHEAD

Horse Lake Road now has a well maintained trailhead with a vault toilet, picnic benches, parking, and informative signage. This is a great place to get ready for a day in the foothills! This project was made possible because of support from the City of Wenatchee, Washington's Recreation and Conservation Office, Chelan County PUD, Wenatchee Rotary, The Peach Foundation, The Icicle Fund and so many amazing volunteers. Many thanks to Star Rentals, Lowes, Daryn Klingensmith, and Project Groundwork for their generous in-kind donations!

# IN THE BEGINNING . . .

*Bob Bugert, Executive Director*



It is a story often told within the Land Trust circles. It has almost taken on the status of a fable or a family history, and it's undoubtedly a quirky mixture of fact and fantasy. Nonetheless, it's pleasing and a little bit poignant. The tale takes on a few variations on a common theme, but basically here is the drift:

It is a quarter century ago. In some respects it was just yesterday, but in other ways it was a very different time. Our community wasn't cohesive—there was a lot of divisive diatribe in the midst. Those who believed in environmental protection were a minority. Nonetheless, a core group of professionals in the valley held a vision that was heretical at that time. They saw that a healthy environment and a strong economy were inextricably linked. They agreed that incentives for landowners to voluntarily conserve their lands were long overdue.

They saw Wilfred's and Bob's articles in the *Wenatchee World* about the dilemma related to Peshastin Pinnacles, Spider Meadow, and the Wenatchee Riverfront. These privately owned properties were remarkable in their outstanding beauty and benefits to the public, yet all were threatened because of liability, development, or poor land-use planning. That core group sought a plan to protect these remarkable areas and make them available for public benefit, and somehow meet the landowners' needs.

Someone needed to do something. But who? And how? Mark and Rosie hastily called that core group to their house after work to develop a plan. Joanie sweetened the invitation by offering a few finger foods (one part of the story hints that this was the first step in the local food movement, but the records—and memories—are sketchy). Given Joanie's culinary skills, everyone knew that this was a very effective incentive. Eliot could make it after he completed his surgery that day. His wife Tina could come as well, but would be running a bit late, because she had to take their kids to

soccer practice. Don and Thea were tied up, but would do whatever they could to get there. Ed was on call, but said that he would make it, as long as he could keep in contact with the hospital. Larry and Chuck both had to leave early for business trips, but would do whatever it takes. So, on a hot August night, they met over Mark's kitchen table, and although running ragged from work and family commitments, they shared a common bond of purpose and excitement.

"Let's form a land trust," they decided. "We can provide some incentives for folks to voluntarily set aside their land for the public to enjoy. If Joanie's gastro-nomic incentives worked so well, why can't we use that same principle? People want to benefit their community—they just need the tools to make it happen."

Through sheer tenacity, willingness to stand up against conventional wisdom, and a fair amount of pluck, they pulled it off. They gave birth to a young organization. That is, after they put their kids to bed they sat with their typewriters to write grants and bylaws, and made phone calls to solicit support from neighbors. They created an organization that focused on voluntary agreements to set aside properties to benefit both the public and the individual.

Regardless of the story's shades and specifics, we know that they did it. They started a non-profit organization based on the principles that we still employ twenty-five years later. We engage people with a respectful, positive approach to develop voluntary plans to meet the needs of the landowner and the public.

I am proud to announce that the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust is marking a remarkable achievement. The year 2010 marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of that dinner table conversation. Their vision is alive and is becoming mainstream. We owe much to the tenacity and vision of those community leaders who knew what this organization could be. Many of them are still actively engaged—and haven't lost one bit of enthusiasm.

Over the next few months, you will hear more from us as we mark this special year. We are proud of who we are and what we stand for in this community. Thank you for being a part of our celebration.

# ICICLE CREEK AND ENTIAT RIVER SUCCESSES

*Mickey Fleming, Lands Project Manager*

As this newsletter goes to press, CDLT is in the final stages of closing two exciting land protection projects, and both should be complete by the time you receive this in the mail. We are purchasing 65 acres in the high-priority Stillwaters stretch of the Entiat River. This purchase will protect both sides of the river for 4/10 of a mile, and is funded by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. It supports the habitat restoration efforts of many other groups actively working in the Entiat.

CDLT is thrilled to accept the donation of a conservation easement on 280 acres near Leavenworth from the Copper Notch Owners Association. The easement permanently extinguishes development rights and protects both riparian habitat and forested lands from Icicle Creek



*65 acres of critical salmon habitat protected along the Entiat.*

to Mountain Home Road. We are honored to assist the Copper Notch owners to ensure that their vision for the stewardship of the property is maintained forever.

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS!

*Bridget Egan, Membership Coordinator*

This past year, I talked to many new people about the Land Trust at farmer's markets, fly fishing class, events, and on the trails. I was often asked the question "What exactly do you guys do?" This can be a hard question to answer because we do so much: protecting land along the White River and other high priority areas, building trails in the Wenatchee Foothills, educational workshops and outings, and stewardship and restoration. What I usually end up discussing are our members—the amazing, intelligent folks who work hard to protect and steward the land. The Land Trust thrives because of its members. It's you who dedicate your volunteer time to build trails, plant trees, offer advice, teach classes, send out mailings, and support us with generous financial contributions. You have enabled us to protect resources in Chelan and Douglas counties for 25 years. Almost always, this new person knows someone who is a member of the Land Trust and realizes that they have a personal connection to our work.

Why not use your personal connections and make this the year you talk to your friends and neighbors about the work the Land Trust does?

This spring, take them to the new viewpoint trail at Horse Lake and show them a 360 degree view of the

work you have done. Bring them to the Spring Social to meet new friends and catch up with old ones. Invite them to one of our many hikes, outings, or volunteer activities. Show them our trail map, wildflower brochure, and Good Neighbor Handbook. Tell them why it is important to become a member, and then hand them the brochure. Speaking to others about the work we do is so effective, and it builds a community of conservation. Directly asking your friends and colleagues to be a member is an invitation to become involved. That's not asking a favor—that's giving them an opportunity to make a difference!

In this 25th anniversary year, we have the goal to be 1,000 members strong by 2011. We currently have over 700 members, so we need your help. Membership helps us to fund our work, gives us leverage in procuring grants and funding, and creates awareness about the amazing land and resources in our region. **Membership matters.** For all of you faithful members—thanks so much for 25 years of success! Please contact me if you would like a membership brochure to share with a friend, or would like to give them a gift membership. To all of you who aren't members, send in the envelope today and help support your community Land Trust!

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**TRAIL WORK** - Contact Patrick Walker, Trails Coordinator, at (509) 667-9708 for more information.

- ◆ **Sage Hills Trail** – April – May, each Mon. & Wed., 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm. We only need a few people each night to make a big difference in the condition of the trails. We will make our way from Sage Hills Drive to Horse Lake Road.
- ◆ **Horse Lake Trailhead Stewards.** We are looking for folks willing to help us keep things tidy and secure up at our new Horse Lake Trailhead.

**STEWARDSHIP** - Contact Neal Hedges, Stewardship Coordinator, at (509) 667-9708 for more information.

- ◆ **Mule Deer Study in Wenatchee Foothills** - April 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm. Volunteers are needed to test a transect method that is part of a long term study of deer habitat selection.
- ◆ **Icicle Creek Habitat Restoration**, April 23<sup>th</sup>– 24<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm. Apply mulch to young trees planted to improve fish and wildlife habitat.
- ◆ **Weed Control on CDLT properties, Spring – Summer**, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm. Volunteers are needed to help with weed control projects.
- ◆ **Tweets & Twigs in the Wenatchee Foothills, Spring** (various dates). Birding, pruning and weed pulling in the foothills.
- ◆ **Fence building & repair at Horse Lake Reserve, Spring – Summer**, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
- ◆ **Reptile Survey at Horse Lake Reserve, June 1<sup>st</sup>.** Find out what reptiles live in our area. Expect lizards, gopher snakes, racers, rattlesnakes and more!



*Volunteers enjoying restoration planting along the Entiat*

## EARTH DAY COMES TO WENATCHEE

This April, the Wenatchee Valley will have two free, family-friendly ways to celebrate Earth Day thanks to the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust and its partners! On April 17th, Centennial Park in downtown Wenatchee will become an interactive learning center for people of all ages. This three-hour event focuses on conserving the environment by using less, thinking creatively, and exploring ways to live green. You can get started on your own composting project, while kids learn about red wigglers with a worm bin and fun games. Local organic farmers will have plant starts and early produce for sale. Make your own safe, effective cleaning supplies and see the coolest solar powered machines on the road. Besides these hands-on activities, folks can also listen to live music and find out how to get involved in local conservation efforts.

The Jacobson Preserve will turn into an Earth Day hub the next day as families and walkers of all levels come to explore Wenatchee's wild side. Learn what coyote and deer skins feel like as you stroll along the trails of the Preserve. On the way, naturalists at interactive stations show how to navigate by compass, hone birding skills, and track animals.

Thanks to a partnership with The Wenatchee Downtown Association, The Wenatchee Valley Museum, the Audubon Society, the Department of Ecology, the City of Wenatchee, and others, Earth Day in the Wenatchee Valley will be an exciting way to get outside and explore your local environment!

**April 17th: Centennial Park, 11a.m. –2 p.m.**

**April 18th: Jacobson Preserve, 1 p.m.–4 pm.**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Call the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust office for details or to RSVP: (509) 667-9708.

**APRIL 9 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM SPRING SOCIAL, CASHMERE RIVERSIDE CENTER**  
Complimentary desserts, coffee and lively conversation! See details on back.

**APRIL 16 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM AN EVENING WITH MAYA LIN**  
Award-winning artist Maya Lin, best known for her design of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., will share her remarkable work and vision. Landscape provides both context and inspiration for Ms. Lin's art, including recent environmental works such as the *The Confluence Project* along the Columbia River. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$15 for students/seniors. Call Sleeping Lady Resort at (509) 548-6344. A limited seating dinner with Maya Lin is \$100, including lecture. Presented by the Sleeping Lady Foundation; all proceeds benefit the Land Trust.

**APRIL 17 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM EARTH DAY AT CENTENNIAL PARK, WENATCHEE**  
**APRIL 18 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM EARTH DAY AT JACOBSON PRESERVE, WENATCHEE**  
These free events will feature a variety of fun activities. Details on previous page.

**APRIL 24 8:00 AM - NOON PEDIOCACTUS HIKE ON BABCOCK BENCH**  
View the spring wildflowers of the shrub-steppe with Ted Alway, including Pediocactus, the rare local hedgehog cactus. Limited to NPS & CDLT members.

**MAY 6 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM WILDFLOWER WALK AT HORSE LAKE RESERVE**  
Botanists Pam Camp & Terry Lillybridge will lead this early evening hike traversing sagebrush hills & riparian draws. This hike is limited to NPS & CDLT members.

**MAY 8 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM BUTTERFLIES, BUGS & BLOOMS**  
Phil Archibald leads this exploration of full-blown Spring glory on our Stormy Creek Preserve! Limited to 15 participants.

**MAY 22 6:30 AM BIRDING AT HORSE LAKE RESERVE**  
David & Beth St. George lead a walk through Horse Lake Reserve, a high quality upland bird habitat that attracts many neo-tropical migratory species.

**JUNE 5 6:00 AM BIRDING AT MOUNTAIN HOME RIDGE**  
Neal Hedges, Stewardship Coordinator, will help us learn how to listen for and identify spring birds by their calls and songs. A 3 hour trip on our beautiful Mountain Home Ridge property.

**JUNE 12 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM WEDGE MOUNTAIN HIKE**  
The Native Plant Society and the Land Trust partner on a moderately difficult hike to Wedge Mountain led by Ted Alway. Great views looking into the Snow Lakes and Enchantments. Limited to NPS and CDLT members.

**JUNE 19 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM EASY PHOTOGRAPHY FOR NATURE LOVERS**  
Mike Irwin — reporter, photographer and blogger for the Wenatchee World — leads a Wenatchee Foothills photography hike. Bring your small digital camera for an easy hike through photogenic terrain.

**JULY 14 SUMMER PICNIC AT CONFLUENCE STATE PARK - Save the date!**



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## WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

Anne Hessburg and Geordie Romer were elected to the Board in March, and Susan Ballinger, Paul Hessburg, and Jean Speidel were re-elected.

A strong local Board is one of the Land Trust's greatest strengths, and Geordie and Anne add exceptional knowledge and diverse experience.

We are delighted to have them as part of the team!

YOU'RE INVITED!

## *Spring Social*

FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 2010 🌿 7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

*Cashmere Riverside Center 🌿 201 Riverside Drive, Cashmere*

Please join us for a fun, free evening featuring desserts, coffee and lively conversation! Bob Bugert will provide an update on Land Trust projects and recent successes. This evening is a great opportunity to invite your friends to come and learn about the work of the Land Trust, and to meet others who care about conserving our natural heritage. Twenty-five people will win a door prize to celebrate our 25th anniversary!

**RSVP appreciated, 509-667-9708.**

## MISSION STATEMENT

Conserving our land, our water, and our way of life through voluntary land agreements, education, partnerships, stewardship, and well-planned growth.