

SAVING NASON RIDGE

Eric Prestbo remembers the last day he saw his childhood cabin. “I walked down to the lake to say goodbye to this place.”

He had made so many memories here in his youth. He remembered their one-room rough timber cabin, and swimming with his family and their shaggy dog at their sandy beach on Priest Lake. “My grandparents’ ashes are scattered there,” he says.

But time and distance meant the family couldn’t visit enough to give the place the care and attention it deserved. They made the difficult decision to let the cabin go.

A few years later, Eric and his wife Kim realized they wanted their kids to have somewhere to fall in love with, too. After searching for a place that felt right, they built their own cabin nestled below Nason Ridge, just a short walk from Lake Wenatchee.

Now, their two kids are grown themselves. They too have a youth filled with memories that mirror their father’s. They remember spending time with family, swimming at Lake Wenatchee, and hiking on the Nason Ridge trail to visit Big Red, the giant ponderosa pine.

Last summer, Eric found out that Weyerhaeuser had plans to build

roads and harvest almost all the trees on the steep slope above Lake Wenatchee. It would have drastically changed the character of the place for people, water and wildlife.

The community rallied with a petition, and reached out to the Land Trust for help. Weyerhaeuser agreed to put the 3,714-acre property on the market, including land important to salmon along Nason Creek.

When Western Rivers Conservancy was able to secure a deal with Weyerhaeuser, Eric and his family had reason to feel hopeful for the future of Nason Ridge. WRC is now purchasing the entire property, and the Land Trust has committed to raising one million dollars from the community to help pay for the acquisition.

Because this place means so much to him, Eric volunteered to join the fundraising team. “It’s for our kids,” he says.

Eric and his family are not alone in their love for this place. For generations families have been creating their own fond memories of connecting with friends, family and nature in the shadow of Nason Ridge.

Success is within reach, and you can help protect this place. Go to savenasonridge.org to help today. 📌



John Marshall Photography

Families have been visiting “Big Red,” a giant ponderosa pine, generation after generation. It is accessed via the Nason Ridge trail.

GREETINGS MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Curt Soper
Executive Director

It's an exciting time to be a part of our Land Trust community. Because you care and support conservation, the list of projects the Land Trust can take on is long and impressive. These projects will make meaningful impacts on our region. Here's just a little of what's going on:



Curt Soper, Executive Director

- Construction of a new trail to enjoy at the **Horse Lake Reserve** is more than halfway done;
- We are raising funds to help secure permanent conservation for the 3,714 acre **Nason Ridge** property with its wonderful salmon habitat and popular year-round outdoor recreation amenities;
- Design and delivery of the future trailhead and public access to the gorgeous new **Cashmere Canyons Preserve** is in progress;
- The effort to acquire and protect sage grouse dancing grounds at **Spiva Butte Nature Preserve** in Douglas County is well underway.

The coming months and years will be busy and ripe with opportunities to make a positive difference in our corner of the world. We are grateful for your support and to be on this journey together! 🌲

Spiva Butte Nature Preserve, located in Douglas County, is prime habitat for the greater sage grouse and other shrub steppe wildlife.

This 1,396 acre preserve provides critical habitat for one of the last two viable sage grouse populations remaining in the state.

photo: Ferdi Businger

Thanks to Subaru-Cascade Autocenter

for the free, 1-year lease of a snazzy new Subaru Crosstrek!



“When approached about the possibility of supporting the Land Trust with a vehicle, it was a no-brainer to bring Subaru into the picture. The mission of the Land Trust fully aligns with that of Cascade Subaru and Subaru of America. A Subaru would provide improved fuel economy over a larger truck, yet still provide the ground clearance needed for when they have to venture off paved roads.”

- Will Summers, Cascade Autocenter

PROGRESS IN THE WAR ON WEEDS!

Thanks to you, efforts to knock back invasive weeds in the Wenatchee Foothills are succeeding!

This spring, when Stewardship Director Neal Hedges and our fabulous weed volunteers returned to areas they had focused on for the last few years, they were so encouraged by the huge changes they saw. There were some spots that now only required hand-pulling, and in other places, they spent a lot of time just trying to find the weeds!



Left unchecked, weeds (like the whitetop pictured) would in time crowd out native plants and take over.

When you see the foothills looking healthy with flowers and waving grasses, know that you are playing a part in its restoration!



This summer, strong support from you and other members has made it possible to hire seasonal contractors to supplement the work of our staff and dedicated crew of volunteers – allowing us to treat a larger area than ever before. You can feel good about the progress we are making to reduce the threat to our native plant communities, ensuring that the beautiful wildflowers, grasses and shrubs can thrive again. 🌱

NEW TRAIL SHAPED BY HAND

There will soon be another trail to enjoy the stunning surroundings at Horse Lake Reserve. This new trail is being built entirely by hand, one swing of a tool at a time. This is the way we can have the lightest touch on the land. The hillsides are steep in places, and rocky in other places; a machine-built trail would create a larger scar than necessary.



We “dig” our trail volunteers!

While it is slow work, it is rewarding as many hands work together. Many laughs (and snacks!) are shared, and a great sense of pride and ownership is felt by all the volunteers who came out to move dirt this spring. The Land Trust worked closely with the Central Washington Chapter of Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance to design and begin building this new trail, and we made good and hard-earned progress to complete about half of the 1.5 mile total distance.



The new route will connect the old Burts family barn (the newer barn below the trailhead) to the lower end of the Glacier View Trail. It offers quiet and expansive views into the northern part of the Reserve and the Wenatchee River Valley. CDLT and Evergreen will continue work on the trail this fall, with the hope of completing the route in the spring of 2019. Watch for opportunities to join in the fun and volunteer this fall. 🌱

Officers:

John Lehmkuhl
President
Suzanne Hartman
Vice President
Steve Jacobs
Secretary/Treasurer

Board:

Celeste Barry
Ron Feld
Bill Gaines
Cody Gillin
Anne Hessburg
Jennifer Korfiatis
Jack Mynatt
Geordie Romer
Chris Stahler
David Visser
Scott Volyn
Bruce Williams
John Zanol

Legal Counsel:

Todd Kiesz

Staff:

Curt Soper
Executive Director
curt@cdlandtrust.org

Susan Ballinger
Conservation Fellow
susan@cdlandtrust.org

Hanne Beener
Trails Program Manager
hanne@cdlandtrust.org

Judy Cleveland
Accounting Manager
judy@cdlandtrust.org

Mickey Fleming
Lands Program Manager
mickey@cdlandtrust.org

Rebecca Frank
Stewardship Assistant
rebecca@cdlandtrust.org

Neal Hedges
Stewardship Director
neal@cdlandtrust.org

Joan Krause
Bookkeeper
joan@cdlandtrust.org

Sharon Lunz
Development Director
sharon@cdlandtrust.org

David Morgan
Watershed Coordinator
david@cdlandtrust.org

Kathy Peven
Communications Coordinator
kathy@cdlandtrust.org

Olivia Schilling
Stewardship & Trails Assistant
olivia@cdlandtrust.org

Hillary Clark
Membership & Education Coordinator
hillary@cdlandtrust.org

Michelle Tiegel
Donor Relations Assistant
michelle@cdlandtrust.org



OUTINGS EVENTS & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Visit us online for full details and more
www.cdlandtrust.org or call 509-667-9708

FALL SCHEDULE:

Getting out on the land that you helped protect is a fun and rewarding way to see for yourself the impact of your support! The fall schedule is coming together. Here are some of the outings, events and volunteer opportunities coming up. Stay tuned for details.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Geology Walk | Fall Family Day Hikes |
| Bugs & Blooms in the Foothills | Autumn Birding |
| Salmon Walk | Fall Trail Work Parties |

And, make sure to mark your calendars and save-the-date for the Annual Celebration Dinner – November 2nd in Wenatchee.

READING WHILE EXPLORING NATURE

Reading and getting outside – two things that we all know are important for children. Now, kids can do both at CDLT’s Jacobson Preserve. The Land Trust and the Wenatchee Public Library partnered this spring to install a StoryWalk® project, with help from an Eagle Scout. The bi-lingual book, *Call Me Tree* by Maya Christina Gonzalez, is mounted page by page along the trail.



The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library.

Studies show that children who spend time outdoors in nature before the age of 11 grow up to value and care for the environment. Hopefully, one day they will bring their own children to explore the trails your support made possible!



You care deeply about protecting our natural areas. Monthly giving is an easy and effective way to support the Land Trust. Join fellow visionaries in becoming a **Conservation Guardian** today!

Visit www.cdlandtrust.org to sign up or email michelle@cdlandtrust.org for more info.