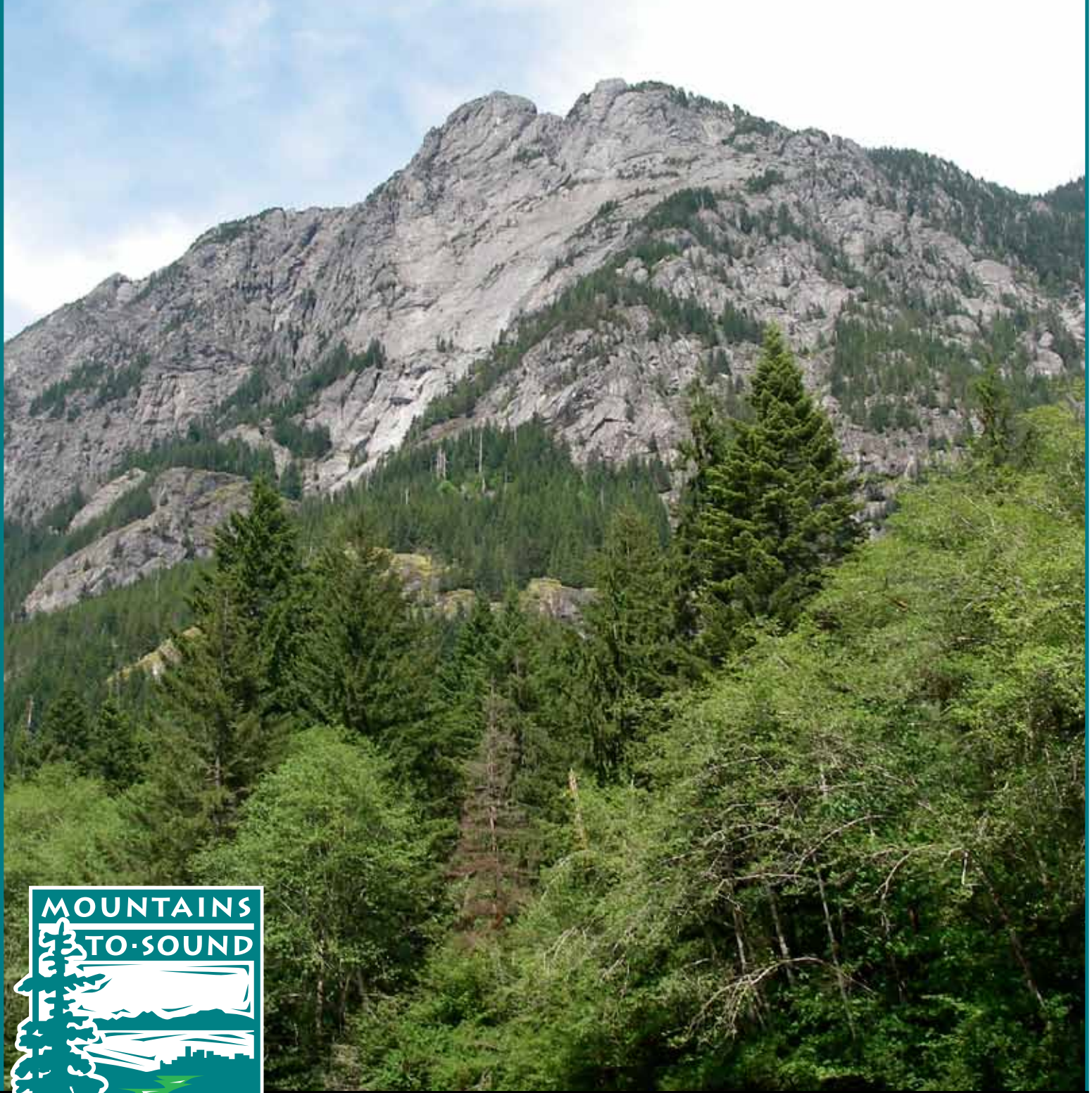


MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY

FALL 2012

# CONNECTIONS

Linking **PEOPLE** to the Forests, Trails, Wildlife, History and Communities surrounding I-90 in Washington State



## Transforming the Middle Fork

The Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Basin holds great potential as a major recreational destination for the Seattle metropolitan area. Thanks to the support and funding from a multitude of Greenway partners, the Greenway Trust is leading its metamorphosis through a series of new public access projects.

# A PLACE LIKE NO OTHER

People of the Greenway- by Cynthia Welti, Executive Director

I was asked recently what I love most about the Greenway.

While I do enjoy the scenic natural lands, urban connections, and plentiful trails the Greenway offers, I am more often awed and inspired by the people in the Greenway. There is simply an ethos of caring for the environment in this region that is so inspiring. The people I meet while hiking in the Greenway, collaborating in meetings about regional trails and in the Greenway's many vibrant communities, make the deepest impression on me.



Cynthia Welti

Over the years, we have profiled an inspiring collection of people in our newsletters that help ensure our beautiful open spaces and natural lands remain a priority as this region grows. In reading some of these profiles, I find myself recognizing anew how the range of accomplishments varies from the small

to the great, yet all are significant, and moreover, *poignant*, for each contribution comes from a heart fueled by a passion for the outdoors and our natural environment.

In this issue, we resume the long-standing tradition of recognizing the efforts of our coalition with a profile of Mark Boyar, a tireless advocate for the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley. His passion for the Middle Fork is one of the reasons we are working today on the improvement projects that are featured in this issue.

If you share Mark's passion for the Greenway, I invite you to join us in this wonderful work. Become a member of the Greenway. Your membership makes a powerful statement that this region matters to you, whether you enjoy the open spaces and trails as I do, or simply want to ensure that the Greenway is a place our great grandchildren will enjoy in the future.

## Greenway 365

### GREENWAY CHALLENGE RETURNS!

It's back! Your chance to discover new cultural, historical and recreational treasures of the Greenway returns this fall. So grab your family and friends, or grab your dog and take part in **Greenway 365's** Greenway Challenge.

Throughout October, visit 10 Greenway Challenge Sites, snap a photo of you or your group at each site and submit your photos to win a prize. The more sites you visit, the better your odds are of winning a prize from contest sponsors like REI, Patagonia and Tully's.

It's fun, easy and a great way to discover and explore some wonderful, hidden places in the Mountains to Sound Greenway.



Register today at [mtsgreenway.org](http://mtsgreenway.org)

EXPLORE THE GREENWAY

See page 7 for details!

FALL COLORS BIKE RIDE | OCT 6 & PUMPKIN PICK

REGISTER AT MTSGREENWAY.ORG

## Helping Kittitas County Recover

In mid August, the Taylor Bridge Fire scorched more than 23,000 acres of land on the east side of the Mountains to Sound Greenway between Cle Elum and Ellensburg. Many people were affected by this fiery disaster, losing homes and livestock to the flames.

Thanks to the brave efforts of firefighters, the fire was mostly contained by the end of August, but not before leaving in its wake devastation and loss. With fire season in Eastern Washington continuing into the late fall, firefighters still have a long road ahead to securing the region.



*Residents say "thank you" isn't enough to acknowledge the bravery of firefighters who risked their lives to fight the fire that ravaged the county.*

*(Photo: Taylor Bridge Fire Help Facebook Page)*

Kittitas County residents have come together, in the wake of the tragedy, to rebuild and recover. Throughout the fall, there are a multitude of charity events,

including benefit dinners and concerts, that people can attend in support of this cause.

But help is still needed. Donations in the form of cash, clothes, supplies and animal care products are in demand.

**Interested in helping out?** Donate directly to the United Way of Central Washington Kittitas County Fire Recovery Fund, the Upper Kittitas County Rotary or the Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund.

The Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce is also a great resource for finding the best and most direct ways to donate.

Call the Kittitas County Chamber at (509) 925-2002 for up-to-date information and on ways to help.

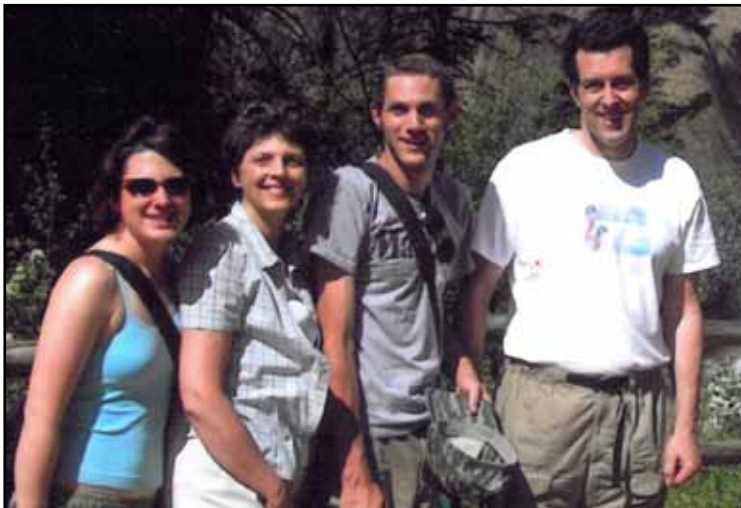
## MEMBERSHIP

*What do you love about the Mountains to Sound Greenway? Its extensive trails and recreation? Open spaces? Walkable, vibrant communities? Rich history?*

For Greenway volunteer, Jim Berry, the thought of leaving these lands as a legacy for the future has always been an important part of why he and his family are members.

"The Greenway is our backyard," says Berry. "It's where we grew up and where we live, work and play. That's why we choose to support the Greenway Trust."

Jim knows that, as a Greenway Member, his gift is a vital step toward securing the future of this spectacular landscape.



*Jim and his family enjoy getting out in the Greenway*

The Greenway is an incredible jewel in our region. But it is faced with increasing pressure from a growing population and reduced public land funding, making the efforts of the Greenway Trust even more critical.

**"We know that, in part to our membership support," says Berry, "that the Greenway Trust is keeping this region vibrant for us, our kids, and for the future."**

## Become a Member

### Stay connected

to what is happening in this region through print and e-communications.

### Gain access

to special member-only guided hikes and events that explore the hidden treasures of this area.

### Stretch your membership

through the Greenway Trust's Matching Fund at the [Watershed, Trail and Community Member](#) levels.

### Visit [mtsgreenway.org](http://mtsgreenway.org)

to become a member today or complete the envelope enclosed on the next page and mail in your membership request.

## Middle Fork Recreational Access and Improvements Underway

Projects are underway in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley, just east of North Bend. From a new trail and trailhead at Mailbox Peak, to a roads-to-trails project in Granite Creek Basin and the paving of the Middle Fork Road, the valley is primed for increased public use.

The magnificent Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley, which leads into the Cascades and the spectacular Alpine Lakes Wilderness, was once a tarnished area that was plagued by illegal dumping and unsafe conditions. Thanks to the unflagging advocacy and hard work of many, the valley has become a significant conservation success story.

In 1997, the Greenway Trust led an 18-month planning process for the valley. Over the past decade, the US Forest Service, State, County, and many local conservation and recreation groups have worked tirelessly under the direction of the *Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Public Use Concept Plan* to transform this former dumping ground into a recreational paradise for outdoor enthusiasts. The Plan provides for improved wildlife habitat and ecological preservation in this 100,000-acre valley that is less than an hour's drive from Seattle.

### Mailbox Peak

This summer, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (State DNR) broke ground on a new trailhead at the base of the valley. In conjunction with the new trailhead, Greenway Trust crews and volunteers and State DNR are building a new 5-mile trail to Mailbox Peak with help from Washington Conservation Corps crews and Washington Trails Association and EarthCorps volunteers. The new trail will

support increased usage by hikers and lead to the infamous mailbox at the summit for which the mountain is named. The new trailhead will boast increased parking, accommodating up to 50 cars. Both will open for use in late summer 2013.

**"The new trailhead will dramatically improve this entry portal into the base of the Middle Fork," said Doug McClelland, Assistant Region Manager for State DNR. "People will be able to park more easily to access the new trail. We especially want to thank the Spring Family Trust for Trails and the State Recreation and Conservation Office for funding this new trail."**



A new 5-mile trail on Mailbox Peak is under construction

### Granite Creek Basin

State DNR, the US Forest Service, and the Greenway Trust are also working together to decommission 11 miles of forest roads in the Middle Fork's Granite Creek Basin. Approximately 5 miles of the roads are being converted to trails that will access Granite and Thompson Lakes. This project is improving the health of the area's fish habitat by stabilizing erosion through the removal of culverts under the road. King County is also planning to add a small parking area along the Middle Fork Road that will access these new trails in the Granite Creek Basin.

### Middle Fork Road

The new trails at Mailbox Peak and in the Granite Creek Basin support the Federal Highways Administration's plans to improve 12 miles of the Middle Fork Road, the only road access into the valley. This road project will significantly improve ecological conditions along the road by replacing culverts, improving fish habitat and decreasing erosion into the river. The newly paved road will also expand public access to the many recreational opportunities in the valley, including hiking, kayaking, rock climbing, and camping.

Beyond the State DNR lands in the valley are over 70,000 acres of US Forest Service lands. The US Forest Service and Greenway Trust are moving quickly to develop 20 trail, river access and other recreational projects.

**"It is critical that we prepare public-use facilities to accommodate these recreational users," said Doug Schindler, Deputy Director of the Greenway Trust. "If we don't, we will likely find people creating their own use patterns, which will have us playing catch-up for several decades."**

In August, the national company, Waste Management, awarded the Greenway Trust a generous \$150,000 grant to assist in planning, permitting

and constructing these recreational improvements on these US Forest Service lands over the next few years.

**"The US Forest Service is excited to be partnering with the Greenway Trust to help improve access to this beautiful valley," said Jennifer Eberlien, Forest Supervisor for the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. "The Middle Fork is poised to become a major recreational destination for the Seattle metropolitan area. With the support and dedication of our partners, we are working to ensure a safe and accessible Middle Fork for everyone."**

## "Man of the Middle Fork" Mark Boyar

Mark Boyar is a Greenway Board Member, President of the Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition, devoted family man, medical software analyst, and Seattle resident. In this Greenway People profile, we look at his dedication to the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley, for which he won a Jefferson Award, and his hopes for the future of this spectacular place in the Mountains to Sound Greenway.

To say that Mark Boyar is passionate about the Middle Fork is an understatement. Not only has he worked tirelessly for the past 20 years to improve the valley, his devotion to the Middle Fork has brought others to the table to help realize a common dream - an accessible, ecologically healthy, recreational paradise that everyone can enjoy.

Since the early 1990's, when he joined other volunteers to build the arching foot bridge over the river at the Middle Fork trailhead, Mark has helped facilitate support for the Middle Fork by working with a variety of public agencies, elected officials, nonprofit groups, and local citizens.

"For a volunteer, it's a dream project. When I see land managers and nonprofits still hard at work after 20 years, and other volunteers in it for the long-term, it's easy to stay motivated," he says. **"Without the work of our partners, and without the leadership of the Greenway Trust, we wouldn't be where we are today.** What I try to do is support everyone's work and bring new people to the table. Although my focus is the Middle Fork, I know land managers and Greenway staff have a lot more than just the Middle Fork to worry

about, so I also watch for issues that fall through the cracks. I try to be useful so they'll put up with my pestering."

Mark has his own list for improving the valley. "I'm like a homeowner who can't relax in the backyard without noticing chips in the paint," he laughs. "When I'm out in the Middle Fork, I carry around a little notepad to scribble down my observations and project ideas."

His current projects include fundraising for invasive weed work, building a stewardship program with homeowners next to the valley, talking up trail

has expanded rapidly since it began in 2005, and now dozens of volunteers survey Greenway trails for weeds, with land managers and Greenway crews following up with weed control. Mark and project partners are discussing how to incorporate smart-phone applications into the program, which could eventually allow recreationists to also report trail maintenance concerns, such as trailhead vandalism, to land managers even before they drive home.

"It feels great to recognize and report an invasive weed that, if uncontrolled,

would carpet the forest floor or an entire river reach," adds Mark. "I hope we can make this as much of a part of the Middle Fork experience as eating your lunch or tossing a rock in the river."

### The Middle Fork in 20 Years

Mark's biggest hope is that, in 20 years, a visit to the Middle Fork remains an adventure for visitors, still wild and scenic, but easily accessible, even by public transportation. He feels that the work done now by the Greenway Trust

and partners is critical to this vision. By providing recreational amenities that can handle increased public use now, Mark sees less future impact on what makes the valley so special.

**"It's hard to find a balance between a wild valley and a growing population, but we're doing our best,"** he says. **"I want the Middle Fork to be a place where you can take a deep breath and know you're at home in a wild place."**

Visit King County's Noxious Weed website at [www.kingcounty.gov](http://www.kingcounty.gov) to learn more about the Weed Watcher program.



Mark Boyar surveys the Middle Fork Valley. "Every time I visit, I'm astounded we've got such a wild place in our backyard."

projects, and brainstorming with anyone who will listen about how to "support more recreation in the valley with less impact."

"I love taking folks into the Middle Fork," he continues. "It's always gratifying to see people's faces when we turn the corner on a trail and get another beautiful view of the valley."

### Weed Watcher Program Created

Building community around this work, such as the development of a Weed Watcher program where volunteers survey trails for invasive weeds, takes up much of Mark's time. That program

## RESTORATION

# Carter Motors' commitment reaches the 60,000<sup>th</sup> tree mark

Native trees are critical to the health of the Pacific Northwest. Trees improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gases and shade creeks and streams, cooling water for threatened salmon. Trees reduce erosion and filter pollutants, improving water quality and providing important wildlife habitat. Our nearby forests provide environmental, economic and social benefits throughout the Puget Sound region and without proper care they may be lost to future generations.

That's where Carter Subaru & Carter Volkswagen come in. Since 2008, Carter has been a committed partner of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust planting trees through their "On the Road to Carbon Neutral" program.

**"At Carter Motors, it is important to us that we do what we can to reduce our carbon footprint,"** says Jennifer Moran, Executive Manager for Carter Motors. **"By planting trees in the Mountains to Sound Greenway, we**

**know we are making a positive impact in the natural places of this region."**

The forest planted "one test drive at a time" with Carter's help is now 60,000 native trees and shrubs deep. **On Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, the Greenway Trust will celebrate the planting of these 60,000 trees at their annual Tree Planting Kick-Off Event at Sammamish Cove.** The event will feature food, music courtesy of KMTT- 103.7FM The Mountain, and plenty of trees to plant. With a goal of planting 2,012 trees at the kick-off event alone, volunteers are needed to help plant at the event as well as throughout the tree planting season. Planting trees is a great way to learn more about the Greenway while having fun outside. Pre-registration is required. A full schedule of volunteer opportunities



60,000 trees planted and counting

and registration information is available at [mtsgreenway.org](http://mtsgreenway.org). Greenway planting events are excellent for families, groups and individuals.

**Plant a tree. Leave a legacy!**

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

*Our volunteer events run year-round. Get outside and make a difference in the Greenway's natural areas. For a full schedule of events for individuals, groups and families, visit [mtsgreenway.org](http://mtsgreenway.org).*

### TREE PLANTING SEASON IS HERE!

#### Tree Planting Kick-Off Event

**Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> | 9 am - 3 pm | Sammamish Cove**

It's time to kick-off the tree planting season with our annual Tree Planting Kick-Off Event. Join us to plant trees, have fun, and learn more about the importance of native trees and shrubs in our local parks and open spaces. Sponsored in part by Carter Subaru and Volkswagen, KMTT- 103.7FM The Mountain, and REI, our annual kick-off event is great for anyone who wants to make a difference. Pre-registration required.

#### Trail Construction Project at Gallagher Hill Open Space

**Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup> | 9 am - 3 pm | Mercer Island**

Join us on Mercer Island to build a new trail through Gallagher Hill Open Space. The 11-acre natural area is part of Mercer Island's open space system. This new trail will serve as an important connection between SE 36<sup>th</sup> Street and E Shorewood Drive, encouraging pedestrian access through the area and increasing walkability around the island.

#### Tree Planting at Jubilee Farm

**Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> | 9 am - 3 pm (Full and half day shifts available) | Carnation**

Jubilee Biodynamic Farm is a 2-acre CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) farm where local community members come and help work on the land and in return get to benefit from the harvests. The Greenway Trust will plant 550 trees and shrubs along the Snoqualmie River at Jubilee to enhance salmon and wildlife habitat as well as put in a buffer between the river and the fields.

**Register today at [mtsgreenway.org](http://mtsgreenway.org).**



## Teaching the Teacher - by Clarissa Allen, Greenway Educator

As an educator, I often time-travel and reflect upon the powerful learning that occurs for students while in nature's classroom. This summer, while teaching in the Greenway, I had an opportunity to appreciate how what we teach today about conservation and the natural world impacts the future. It's a message I feel is important to share with other educators so they can bring nature's classroom to more students.



Clarissa exploring the Pacific Northwest

In June, as part of a 2-year partnership between the Greenway Trust and the YMCA, I got to do just that when I spent one day training Camp Terry staff in conservation education. Located along the Raging River in Preston, Camp Terry is an ideal setting for a day camp for children ages six to twelve.

I demonstrated methods of engaging campers in scientific inquiry of the natural world, shared resources and encouraged the counselors' natural curiosity about the forests, streams and fields around them. We identified plants, looked for scat and tracks and caught macro-invertebrates in the river. These highly motivated counselors participated in a nature scavenger hunt that they then could adapt for their campers.

Although I only worked with fifteen counselors that day, the impact of their learning experiences affected hundreds of campers during this summer alone.

In this way, the Greenway Trust casts ripples throughout the community of youth and young adults in the greater Seattle area. Taking the time to "teach the teacher" will undoubtedly bring the Greenway and the natural world to more children, which is something I feel strongly about.

*From Kentucky originally, Clarissa enjoys backpacking and canoeing because they both give her the opportunity to explore the world at a slower pace. She likes growing her own food and is excited to cross country ski in the Greenway this winter.*

### GREENWAY CITY SNAPSHOT

Welcome to Roslyn, WA

Population: 893 in 2010

#### Top 10 reasons to visit Roslyn:

1. Historic Cemeteries
2. The Brick Tavern (oldest in WA)
3. Northern Exposure tv series film site
4. The Miners Memorial
5. Vibrant Farmers Market
6. Roslyn Museum
7. Nearby Suncadia Resort and Swiftwater Cellars Winery
8. Coal Mines Trail
9. Nearby Ronald (historic town built over Mine #3)
10. Roslyn Visitor Center

#### Why do you visit Roslyn?

Tell us on our Facebook page!  
[facebook.com/mtsgreenway](https://facebook.com/mtsgreenway)

## EXPLORE THE GREENWAY FALL TRIP

### Enjoy the fall colors of the Greenway

Join us **Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>** and discover the incredible fall beauty of the Snoqualmie Valley with this special bike ride. We'll bike 13.5 miles along the Snoqualmie Valley Trail just in time to



see the amazing fall colors this valley is known for. Our trip will end at Jubilee Farm in Carnation, where we'll enjoy a well deserved BBQ. Then head out onto the farm and pick a pumpkin (separate fee). And since we provide shuttle service, you don't have to carry your pumpkin on your bike!

We'll meet at Jubilee Farm in the morning and catch a shuttle with our bikes to Duvall. We'll bike along the Snoqualmie Valley Trail through beautiful farmlands and communities with views of the

Snoqualmie Valley and its spectacular fall colors. Don't miss out!

On the south side of Carnation, we'll leave the trail and bike the remaining miles on local roads and return to Jubilee Farm for a tasty BBQ and farm activities like farm tours, kid's corn mazes, and pumpkin picking. **Register today!**

## Give to the Greenway

Take a moment to reflect on the beauty and grandeur of the Mountains to Sound Greenway.

Your gift will help us sustain what is most important to you in our region. You will help protect these lands and preserve them for public good.

Plan for the future.  
Invest in the Greenway.

Visit  
[mtsgreenway.org](https://mtsgreenway.org)



MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY TRUST  
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 SEATTLE, WA 98104

PHONE: 206.382.5565  
 VOLUNTEER LINE: 206.812.0122  
 EMAIL: INFO@MTSGREENWAY.ORG

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Receive Greenway news via email! Sign up at [info@mtsgreenway.org](mailto:info@mtsgreenway.org).



# A LOOK BACK

at Mountains to Sound Greenway **HERITAGE**

This photo was taken in the Greenway...but where?



Photo Credit located at [mtsgreenway.org](http://mtsgreenway.org)

WHERE AM I?

**Haiku Hint:**  
 Cougar Mountain coal  
 Built this town and Seattle  
 Now a quiet city

Find out at [mtsgreenway.org](http://mtsgreenway.org)!

## MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY TRUST

### Greenway Officers

- Bill Chapman, President
- Sally Jewell, Immediate Past President
- Jim Ellis, Founding President
- Sue McLain, Vice President - Funding
- Louis Musso III, Vice President - Kittitas County
- Dave Sturtevant, Vice President - Stewardship
- Tod McDonald, Treasurer
- Karl Forsgaard, Secretary
- John Baier, Assistant Secretary

### Greenway Staff

- Cynthia Welti, Executive Director
- Doug Schindler, Deputy Director
- Michael Woodsum, Director of Development
- Tor Bell, Stewardship Director
- Amy Brockhaus, Information Manager
- Erin MacCoy, Communications Manager
- Sonja Hanson, Accounting Manager
- Stephanie Dunlap, Office & Greenway 365 Coordinator
- Margaret Ullman, Membership & Community Manager
- Jeanmarie Hayes, Volunteer Program Coordinator
- Rachel Allison, Outreach Program Associate
- Jennifer McKeown, Restoration Project Coordinator
- Jon Paulson, Trails Project Coordinator
- Mackenzie Dolstad, Senior Program Associate
- Sally Kentch, Education Program Manager
- Clarissa Allen, Educator
- Ali Parizer, Educator
- Elizabeth Lunney, Grants Consultant

Photos by Greenway staff unless otherwise noted.

### MISSION

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust leads and inspires action to conserve and enhance the landscape from Seattle across the Cascade Mountains to Central Washington, ensuring a long-term balance between people and nature.

[mtsgreenway.org](http://mtsgreenway.org)

