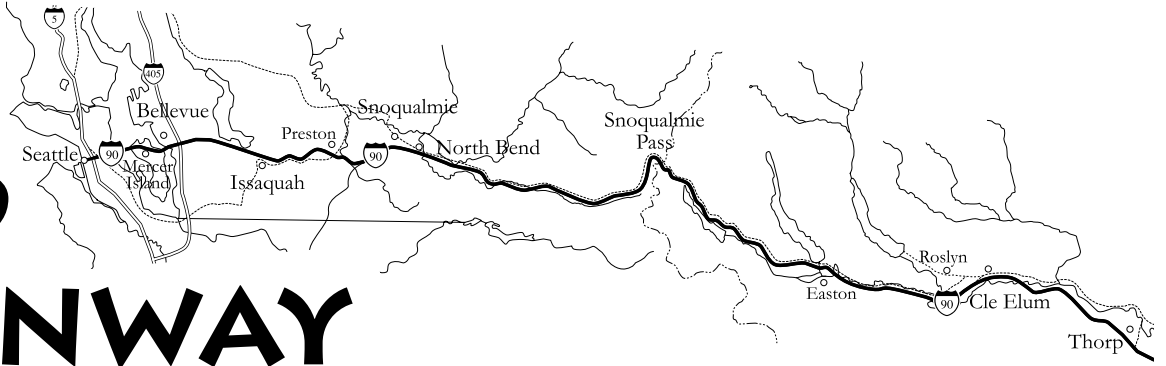


# MOUNTAINS

# TO SOUND GREENWAY



Linking Forests, Trails, Wildlife and History along I-90 in Washington State

Volume 14, Number 2  
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*Hikers at the summit of West Tiger #3 are rewarded with sweeping views of Seattle and Puget Sound to the west and the Cascades to the east. Mountains to Sound Greenway field crews and volunteers are improving this popular trail just east of Issaquah. See story page 2.*

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# Greenway Crews Rebuild Popular Tiger Mountain Trail

The High Point Trailhead at I-90 exit 20 leads into the dark, quiet woods of Tiger Mountain, filled with big trees and solitude of the woods. But wait – where is that construction sound coming from?

Hikers may have come across a small trail machine in recent weeks in the middle of the forest. Greenway field crews and machinery are improving and rerouting the popular West Tiger #3 Trail that leads to the third summit of Tiger Mountain. Offering an elevation gain of 2000 feet in less than three miles, the West Tiger #3 Trail is often used as a conditioning hike. Crews will build new drainage ditches, culverts, steps, retaining walls and a new gravel surface. Volunteers will help put finishing touches on the trail later this spring and summer.

The thousands of hikers who start at the popular High Point Trailhead just east of Issaquah have left their mark on this trail, according to Mike Stenger, Greenway Trails Program Coordinator. Because the original trail is so steep it is not ideal for such heavy

use, causing frequent “braided” trails and erosion. It gets muddy enough that hikers tend to walk outside the trail, making it wider than necessary and trampling plants in the forest, Stenger explains.

“The first mile of trail will see significant drainage improvements,” says Stenger. “The

second 1.5 miles will be re-routed and rebuilt entirely to withstand heavy use.” By relocating the trail, users should be better able to find the right path up the mountain, says Stenger. “The original trail crosses the Cable Line trail several times, and hikers get confused,” Stenger points out. “The trail under the cable line goes straight up and gets very slick when it’s wet.”

The project is funded by the Non-highway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities Program administered by the Interagency for Outdoor Recreation, as well as Washington State Department of Natural Resources Natural Areas capital improvement funding.

“By this fall, hikers should have a new trail to the summit, with its sweeping views of Mount Rainier, Seattle and the Cascade Mountains,” says Stenger.



*Greenway field crew members Addie Candib (foreground) and Cameron Shaughnessy (background) put the finishing touches on a new drainage culvert on the W. Tiger #3 Trail.*

## JUNE 23-24: GREENWAY DAYS FESTIVAL KICKS OFF YEAR FOUR

For the fourth year in a row, the Greenway Days festival of games, tours, treasure hunts, outdoor events and a 100-mile relay race bids to be the first major festival of the summer season on June 23 and 24, 2007. Events for the general public and people of all ages and interests are planned from Cle Elum to Seattle to highlight the natural and historic treasures in the Mountains to Sound Greenway.

“The highway is the pathway to lots of wonderful places,” says Greenway Days Coordinator Cynthia Welti, “but you have to get off Interstate 90 to enjoy them.”

### Race Draws Hundreds of Competitors

The 100-mile Mountains to Sound Relay will draw individuals and teams from around the country to compete on mountain and street bikes, in canoes and kayaks and on foot, racing from Snoqualmie Pass to Golden Gardens Park. The relay is produced by Chris Lewis and CityLeague sports in partnership with the Greenway Trust. Register at [www.mountaintosound.com](http://www.mountaintosound.com).

Other outdoor events range from spectator

events to gentle hikes and walking tours. Vintage vehicles will be on display at classic car shows in S. Cle Elum on Saturday and Issaquah on Sunday. Two events offer prizes for successful participants: the 100-mile Scavenger Hunt among historic sites and museums, and the Greenway Treasures Trek, designed for families and children.

### From GPS to Cowboys

Merging the great outdoors in the Greenway with modern technology, the Geoteaming event teaches people to use global positioning devices to find treasures. Other Greenway communities are planning festivities including music, train rides, food, a fishing event, a film festival and a Cowboy Rendezvous in Cle Elum.

Details are at [www.mtsgreenway.org](http://www.mtsgreenway.org) and in the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Festival

Guide distributed by media co-sponsors the Seattle Times and Seattle P-I in the week preceding the festival.

Major sponsors for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Greenway Days include **REI, Boeing, AAA Washington, Rowley Properties, Puget Sound Energy and Yarrow Bay Development.**



*Mountain bicyclists race for their bikes at Hyak for the first leg of the 100-mile Mountains to Sound Relay.*

# NEWS ALONG THE GREENWAY

## Northwest Railway Museum Expands

The Northwest Railway Museum in Snoqualmie is one of the most dynamic and popular historical features in the Greenway. While the red Victorian depot on Snoqualmie's main street and the nearby collection of 70 old railroad cars are the most visible parts of the museum, it's the train rides from North Bend to Snoqualmie Falls on a vintage train that can give the public a vivid experience of railroading in days gone by.

As the non-profit Railway Museum organization celebrates 50 years of successful stewardship of the depot and a collection of rolling stock, it has recently added a major new achievement. In November, 2006, staff and volunteers began maintenance work on vintage railroad cars in a new, 8,200 square-foot Conservation and Restoration Center (CRC) building located beside their tracks on the edge of Meadowbrook Farm east of downtown Snoqualmie.

"Our staff and volunteers are now working there to restore a 1912 wooden coach car," says Museum Executive Director Richard Anderson. "Now, we have about 10 people working on it. Our volunteers



*The Northwest Railway Museum's new Conservation and Restoration Center provides space for restoration of vintage railroad cars.*

come with a passionate interest in the heyday of railroading in this country and most of them also bring carpentry and other construction skills. Our second project will restore a Weyerhaeuser Company caboose built in 1944."

### Major Railway Center Planned

The CRC is the first of three projects designed to teach, preserve and perpetuate northwest railway

history. The second phase will construct a Collection Storage and Exhibit Center that will put much of the railroad car collection under a roof and offer public access and visitor tours. An administration building with library and archives is planned nearby. The Conservation Center was built with \$1.9-million in funds from a wide variety of public and private donors.

Train rides to and from Snoqualmie Falls on 5.5 miles of the Museum's

track are offered on weekends from April through October, with special holiday excursions in the winter.

Information about the Northwest Railway Museum's history, collection and excursions can be found at [www.trainmuseum.org](http://www.trainmuseum.org).

## Conservation Groups Join to Save 300 acres at Snoqualmie Pass

The high country around Snoqualmie Pass is nationally recognized as crucial habitat for mountain wildlife, from bears and birds to cougars, martins and countless smaller creatures. When the Department of Transportation came out last year with a wildlife-friendly plan to rebuild I-90 at Lake Keechelus, they identified areas where special design was needed to improve north and south passage across the high-speed highway for animals. In some cases, WSDOT's solution to connectivity was a series of wildlife bridges.

But the bridges are just one part of the wildlife equation. They need to connect to good habitat land. Since 2004, conservation organizations, a recreation group and government agencies have been working to protect 300 acres of permanent natural habitat adjacent to the planned wildlife bridges, at the foot of Amabilis Mountain, just east of Snoqualmie Pass. At the end of 2006, they succeeded.

"This is known as the Swamp Lake area," says Peter Dykstra, Washington State Director for the Trust for Public Land (TPL), the organization that began the protection effort. "Keeping it undeveloped will protect one of the best remaining habitat links for north-south wildlife movement in

the Cascade Range." The property also includes trails that have long been used by the public for cross-country skiing.

TPL, the Cascade Land Conservancy (CLC), and the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) joined to make a successful grant request for US Fish and Wildlife funds. "These grant programs enable the protection of irreplaceable habitat for threatened and endangered species," said State Land Commissioner Doug Sutherland, head of DNR. The Greenway Trust and two other local groups, the Cascade Conservation Partnership and the Kongsberger Ski Club also supported the project.

"The power of partnership was really what made this a success," Dykstra says. "Cascade Land Conservancy will manage the Swamp Lake land subject to an agreement with DNR and with funds provided for long-term stewardship of the property by TPL."

"We're thrilled to bring together such diverse partners to keep recreation lands available," said Jill Arango, Conservation Director for CLC in Kittitas County. "Development of the land would have fragmented wildlife habitat which is dwindling throughout the Cascades."

### CHARITY NAVIGATOR NAMES HIGHEST RANKED CHARITIES

For the second year in a row, online nonprofit evaluator Charity Navigator named the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust a 4-star Charity, the highest possible endorsement. This ranking was given to only 12% of the organizations rated on their web site.

"We're working to protect the Greenway landscape today and to make sure that it remains for future generations," says Greenway Trust Executive Director Nancy Keith. "Our ability to continue this work depends on the charitable gifts of donors, and this high rating by Charity Navigator shows our supporters that their contributions go directly to achieving that enduring success."

PEAKS OF THE GREENWAY  
SERIES #12

# MT. DEFIANCE

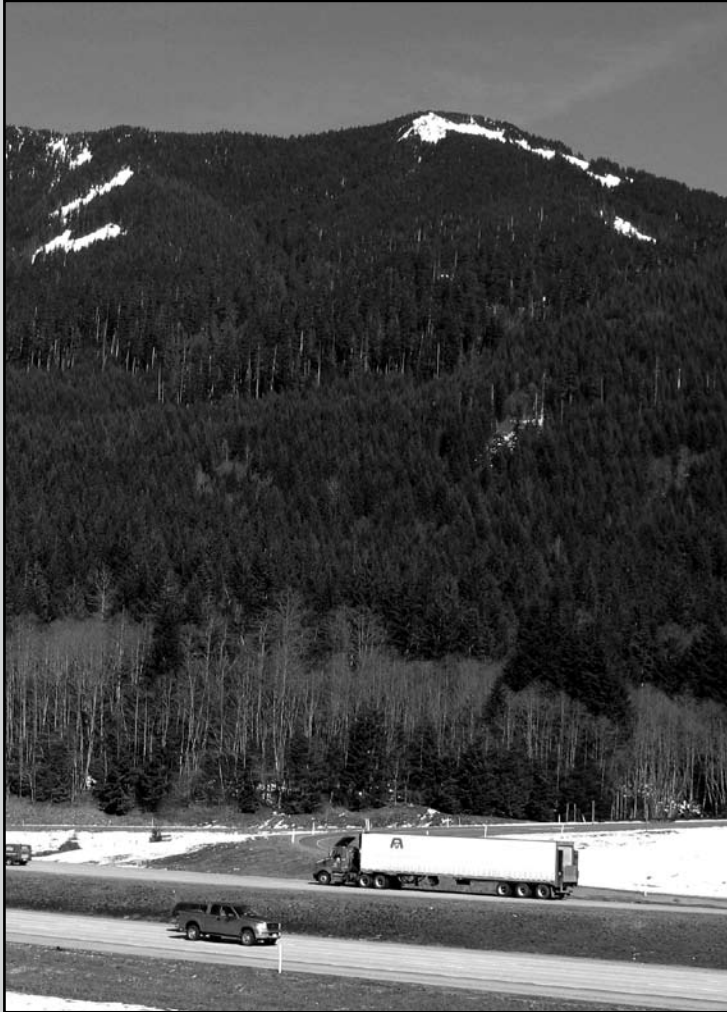


Photo by Larry Hanson

**M**ount Defiance can only be seen from one brief spot along I-90, at exit 42. At the top of the 5584-foot peak, hikers are rewarded with sweeping views of Puget Sound, the Cascade mountains and directly down onto Interstate 90 to the south. Spider Lake is nestled just below the peak to the north. The steep trail makes for a strenuous hike and limits the number of hikers. Those that make the climb are rewarded by alpine meadows along the ridge on the way to the summit.

Mt. Defiance is owned and managed by the U.S. Forest Service, and the summit sits just inside the Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary.

# Greenway People:

**B**ack in 1998, the Greenway office got a call from a man in Washington, D.C. setting up a Millennium Trails Program for the year 2000. It was a one-year program to provide money for hiking and bicycling trails across the nation. That phone call led to a grant to the Mountains to Sound Greenway of \$450,000 and got engineers started on designing a key missing link in the regional trails system – the High Point to Preston Trail, just east of Issaquah.

“This call came out of the blue,” says Greenway Executive Director Nancy Keith. “He thought the Greenway was a perfect model for the kind of trail planning that Millennium Trails should support. ‘How did you hear about the Greenway?’ we asked.”

“I came out there on a vacation,” he replied, “and someone gave me the name of a guy named Jan Klippert who might take us hiking. He did – he took us out to the Middle Fork Valley and we had a great hike and he told me all about this organization that was saving this landscape and pushing for trails to help people get into it.”

### Linking People to Government

Connecting people and passing on good ideas is Jan Klippert’s forte. For 30 years, he was Community Relations staffer for King County Public Works. His low key and congenial style made him the right person for a job that came with an ample supply of controversies. “I was always in a funny position,” he says. “Out in the community, I was the enemy from the government. Back in the office, I was the rabble rouser bringing in all these reactions from the locals.” For the locals, Jan Klippert became the man with a special knack for connecting them to services and support for good causes like historic preservation and community clean-up.

In retirement, Klippert has created a huge new cause: the Washington Coastal Clean-up that last year brought 751 volunteers to the edge of the Pacific Ocean and sent 20 tons of flotsam and jetsam to a proper garbage dump. He had the idea, he mobilized the volunteers and he continues to energize a growing list of partners in protecting the health and beauty of Olympic Peninsula beaches.

### Junk Inspires Action

“In 1997, I hiked the wilderness beaches from Cape Alava to Cape Johnson and I was amazed at the amount of marine debris all over the place - rope, crab pots, nets, water tanks, huge pieces of plastic, barrels of unidentified liquid!” says Klippert.

“There’s nearly a hundred miles here of wilderness on the ocean and it’s changed very little for a thousand years or more. This is a unique place; it’s such a wonderful part of the world. Maybe you have to come from somewhere else as I did, from New York, to appreciate this huge ecosystem. And all that junk and garbage just shouldn’t be there.”

“When I retired, was I going to watch daytime



Jan Klippert at Ruby Beach

# JAN KLIPPERT



*Jan Klippert*

TV or do something useful?" Klippert started talking with Olympics conservation groups, the National Park Service and noted hiker and photographer Ira Spring and they all said, "Yes, go ahead and try getting people out to clean it up."

Thirty years in community relations gave Klippert a huge network and organizing know-how. He recruited 250 volunteers for the first cleanup in 2000. They collected 30 tons of garbage and because of the remoteness of the beaches, used a skiff to take bag after bag to a Coast Guard boat anchored offshore and from there to a real garbage dump. "I got lots of e-mails saying what a great project it was," he says. "People would say they've had hiked here so many years and had such great memories of this place that they were glad to have a way to pay back to the wilderness."

## **Every Year: More People, Cleaner Beaches**

Klippert's Coastal Cleanup has grown every year since 2000 with new partners supporting an ever-increasing number of volunteers. "First the Makah Nation joined in, this year the Quinault Nation is part of it too and several Audubon groups and the Surfrider Foundation – they're all helping. A fellow called me up and said 'You need a website.' I didn't think we did but I sent him some information and pictures and three days later we're on the web." ([www.olympiccoastcleanup.us](http://www.olympiccoastcleanup.us))

"This year, on April 21 and 22," says Klippert, "we're going to do the whole coast, from Tokeland to Cape Flattery – 140 miles. And I think some of our partners are planning six barbecues along the way. It's such a wonderful place that plenty of people come out early and camp for the weekend."

It's a good retirement job too. "I just do my organizing in the winter," says Jan, "then I get to spend the weekend out there at the beach, then I write a little report on it, then summer comes and I can go hiking with a clear conscience."

## **SNOQUALMIE MILLPOND: ABANDONED OXBOW LAKE**

*Geology of the Greenway Series #6*

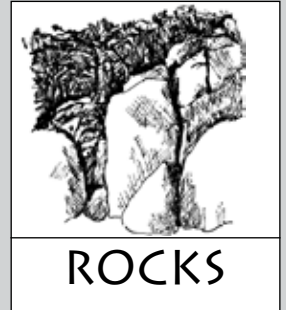
Glance at a map of the Snoqualmie Valley west of North Bend and you'll see many "oxbow lakes" near the Snoqualmie River. A freely meandering river leaves behind these oxbows when its course changes during flooding, with the result that an old bend in the river is cut off from the new main channel. These abandoned former channels are bypassed by the main river channel, but often continue to hold water, forming crescent-shaped lakes.

As lumber mills came into western Washington in the late 1800s, these lakes were used as millponds to store cut logs in water and protect them from deterioration before they were milled. Oxen were used to skid logs to lumber mills in the early days of logging, and the name for this kind of lake came from the semi-circular "bow" part of the yoke that fit under the ox's neck.

The largest lumber mill in the Snoqualmie Valley stood a little more than a mile east of Snoqualmie Falls. This millpond began as a semi-circle and the mill builders excavated it to form a complete circle. A dam was built to prevent the mill's precious logs from being carried away by winter floods. Mill Pond Road today traverses this dam. The former Weyerhaeuser mill site is no longer open but you can take Mill Pond Road, from SR 202 near the Falls, drive by the millpond, and see a smokestack and one of the mill buildings that remains.

Today the pond offers habitat for wildlife and a reflecting pond for Mt. Si.

–Phil Fenner and Bob Carson



There's more at: <http://www.mtsgreenway.org/newsandpublications>  
Click on "Geology Tour:"

## **WORKPLACE GIVING**

You can help preserve the Mountains to Sound Greenway and protect our Northwest quality of life by making a payroll deduction! Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust works with businesses who offer their employees the choice to give through United Way, the Washington State Combined Fund or employer matching gift programs.

Ask your employer if they offer the ability to make charitable gifts by payroll deduction, or if the company donates matching funds when employees give money or volunteer time to a nonprofit organization.

If you would like to arrange a Mountains to Sound Greenway presentation at your workplace, please contact Wendy Tyner at 206.382.5565 or [wendy.tyner@mtsgreenway.org](mailto:wendy.tyner@mtsgreenway.org).

Giving through payroll deduction is a simple and convenient way to give to the Greenway!

Visit [www.mtsgreenway.org](http://www.mtsgreenway.org) and click on *Donate* for more information.

# Volunteers Improve the Greenway

## VOLUNTEER EVENTS

All events run from 9 AM - 3 PM unless otherwise noted. Shorter shifts may be available.

Sat, Apr. 14th  
Trail Work @ Squak Mountain (Issaquah)  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Upper Luther Burbank Park (Mercer Island)

Sat, Apr. 21st  
Earth Day Weekend!  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Ribary Creek (North Bend)  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Issaquah Creek

Sat, Apr. 28th  
Trail Work @ Tiger Mountain (Issaquah)  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Issaquah Creek  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Mid Fork Valley (North Bend)

Sat, May 5th  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Ribary Creek (North Bend)  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Issaquah Creek

Sat, May 12th  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Mid Fork Valley (North Bend)  
Trail Work @ Tiger Mountain (Issaquah)  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Upper Luther Burbank Park (Mercer Island)

Sat, May 19th - Volunteer's D.I.G. (Day in the Greenway)  
Projects from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
BBQ Picnic from 1-3, sponsored by Puget Sound Energy  
Trail Work @ Tiger Mountain (Issaquah)  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Issaquah Creek  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Ribary Creek (North Bend)  
Tree Care @ the Mountains to Sound Nursery (Issaquah)

Sat, May 26th  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Tibbetts Creek (Issaquah)

Sat, Jun 2nd  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Squak Mountain "Tract D" (Issaquah)  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Mid Fork Valley (North Bend)

Sat, Jun 9th  
Trail Work @ Tiger Mountain (Issaquah)  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Issaquah Creek  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Upper Luther Burbank Park (Mercer Island)

Sat, Jun 16th  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Squak Mountain "Tract D" (Issaquah)  
Tree Care @ the Mountains to Sound Nursery (Issaquah)

Sat, Jun 23rd  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Mid Fork Valley (North Bend)  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Tibbetts Creek (Issaquah)  
Trail Work @ Tiger Mountain (Issaquah)

Sat, Jun 30th  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Tibbetts Creek (Issaquah)  
Invasive Plant Removal @ Lake Sammamish State Park (Issaquah)

To sign up, visit [www.mtsgreenway.org/volunteer](http://www.mtsgreenway.org/volunteer) or contact 206.812.0122.

## Mountain Works

What would lure 90 teenagers to spend a week in the woods with no showers or toilets? Perhaps a chance to enjoy the beauty of the Mountains to Sound Greenway, participate in an exciting trail project, make friends, go hiking, and learn about environmental issues. The community service credit probably doesn't hurt, either.

This summer there are 9 camps, with 10 kids each, scheduled on Rattlesnake Mountain and in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River Valley. Sessions will be led by EarthCorps staff.

Mountain Works is free to participants between the ages of 13 and 18, and is supported by generous donors to the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust. Donations are still needed for this year's program.



2006 Mountain Works volunteers on Rattlesnake Mountain.

## Welcome New Saplings

Thanks to the help of 225 volunteers, 8,000 new trees and shrubs are now growing at the Mountains to Sound Nursery at Lake Sammamish State Park in Issaquah. Since January, a variety of species including Nootka rose, Douglas Fir, Red Elderberry and others have been planted into 2-gallon pots. Each of the species chosen for the nursery has specific wildlife and ecological values that make them "restoration superstars," says Tor MacIlroy, the Greenway Trust's Restoration Projects Coordinator.

## Earth Day Projects April 21, 2007

This year Earth Day falls on a Sunday, but we'll be celebrating on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at two beautiful Greenway creeks—Ribary Creek in North Bend and Issaquah Creek in Issaquah. Volunteers will work to rescue young saplings from the spread of invasive plants. These projects would be of particular interest to anyone who wants to celebrate not only Earth Day but the progress being made on these two important restoration projects. Tools and training will be provided.

# LOCAL COMPANY SHEDS LIGHT ON GREENWAY FIELD CREWS

*At their base in Issaquah, the 13 people who work full time on Greenway trails and restoration sites now have electricity and even heat in the wintertime in their field office.*

*Gary Tucci, CEO of Potelco, Inc., (photo below) along with a several members of Potelco's management team, volunteered to provide electricity to the Greenway field crew base.*

*Potelco is a gas, telecommunications and power infrastructure services provider. The company is also a major donor to the Mountains to Sound Greenway Legacy Fund, an endowment fund that will protect the Greenway in perpetuity. Thank you, Potelco!*



*Field crews in the Greenway currently include eleven members of the Washington Conservation Corps Program through the Washington State Department of Natural Resources plus two additional Trails Specialists.*

*Photo above, back row: Justin McClane, Liam Wilkins, Jacob Tully, JC Lujan, Skyler Farmer.*

*Middle row: Addie Candib.*

*Front row: Chris Korwel, Trails Specialist Matt Emmons, Jenn McKeown, Pete Kingham, Cameron Shaughnessy and Sarah Bowman.*

*Not pictured: Trails Specialist Katherine Buell.*



## D.I.G: Volunteer Day in the Greenway May 19, 2007

It's almost time for the annual volunteer "D.I.G. - Day in the Greenway," sponsored by Puget Sound Energy. This year there will be four projects from which to choose, between Issaquah and North Bend. The highlight of the day, of course, is the traditional BBQ picnic at Lake Sammamish State Park in the afternoon.

Bring your whole family for a project from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, and a picnic afterwards!

Sign up at [www.mtsgreenway.org/](http://www.mtsgreenway.org/) volunteer or call 206.812.0122.

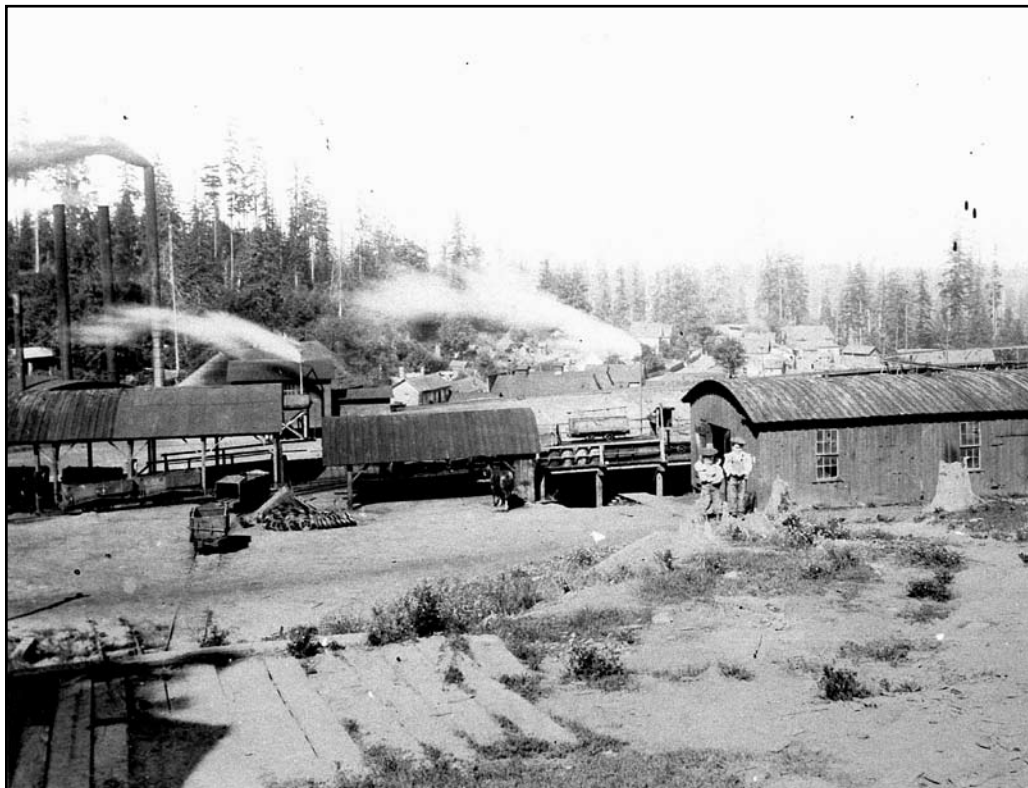
## New Environmental Education Center coming to Mercer Slough



*In cities along I-90, parks and trails are part of the Greenway. The 400-acre Mercer Slough offers a huge swath of green next to I-90 and in the heart of one of the largest Greenway cities. Located in the 320-acre Mercer Slough Nature Park in Bellevue, the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center will soon expand. This partnership between the Pacific Science Center and Bellevue Parks and Community Services will bring additional classroom space for science-based education programs for students and families.*

# A LOOK BACK

at the Mountains to Sound Greenway



## Newcastle Coal Mines

Coal mining was a major industry in the early days of towns on both sides of the Cascades. The discovery of coal at what is now the city of Newcastle in 1863 helped spur the town's rapid growth. Coal from the mines at Newcastle, on the west slope of Cougar Mountain, was moved by cart and barge to the Seattle waterfront. The last mine closed in 1963.

Photo courtesy of the Renton Historical Society.



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

## MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY TRUST MISSION:

Protect and enhance a 100-mile corridor of permanent open space lands along Interstate 90 from Seattle to Central Washington. The Greenway embraces city parks and trails, wildlife habitat, working and protected forests, recreational opportunities in nature, local history, scenic beauty, tourism and educational activities that promote a sustainable balance between population growth and a healthy environment.

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