

# FOSLS NEWSLETTER

Friends of Schafer and Lake Sylvia

Trina Young, Editor

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## FOSLS ANNUAL DUES

**\$15 - Individual**  
**\$25 - Family**

**OR**  
**Volunteer Time**  
**4 hours - Individual**  
**8 hours - Family**

**Pay online at**  
**[www.fosls.org](http://www.fosls.org)**

## SPRING CLEANUP, ANNUAL MEETING, AND POTLUCK LUNCH, - THIS SATURDAY - March 11th

Join the fun at Schafer State Park for our Annual **SPRING CLEANUP** and FOSLS **Membership meeting** on Saturday, March 11th!

We begin the day at 9 am for a work party and spring cleanup. Check in with the Rangers for your work assignment. There will be leaf raking, painting, and post setting duties for you to choose from. Bring appropriate gloves, garden tools, paint brushes and proper clothing.

We break for a **POTLUCK LUNCH** in the large community shelter at noon, followed by our Annual Membership meeting at about 1 pm. At this meeting, members in good standing (dues are paid current) will elect the next FOSLS Board members and we will review the annual report and make plans for the coming year. Of special note is the 2024 Centennial Celebration for Schafer Park that we will begin planning for so please let us know if you are interested in working on this project.

## TIME TO RENEW YOUR FOSLS MEMBERSHIP DUES !

This spring we are trying to bring our membership list up to date. Receiving the FOSLS Newsletter does not mean that your dues are current. Once you become a member, you are added to our email list and you stay on the list regardless of whether your dues are current or not. That is our gift to you. Your annual FOSLS dues money is what funds the many events and activities that we organize in our state parks as described in the following articles. Your FOSLS dues money is a good investment into an organization that vows to preserve, maintain, and promote our local state parks. You can sign up for membership and also pay your dues online now on our website at [www.fosls.org](http://www.fosls.org) and look for the membership tab.

The FOSLS Dues year runs from April 1 – March 31 of each year. Dues are \$15 for Individual membership and \$25 for Family Membership. Dues can also be earned by working 4 and 8 hours respectively volunteering for FOSLS or State Parks each year. Make sure your volunteer hours are signed off by a park ranger or FOSLS Board member. Volunteer time spent at FOSLS gatherings and events count towards volunteer hours. If you are unsure if your dues are current, respond to this email or contact us at [info@fosls.org](mailto:info@fosls.org) , for verification. We appreciate our members and your attention to this matter. Thank you!

## IMPORTANT FOSLS DATES FOR SPRING

- Sat March 11** Schafer Park **SPRING CLEANUP** and Work Party  
9 – 12 and possibly after Lunch if needed.  
Potluck Lunch at Noon in the large community shelter and **FOSLS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING** at 1:00 at Schafer Park
- Mar 9** State Parks **FREE DAY** -Billy Frank Jr. Birthday
- Mar 19** State Parks **FREE DAY** -State Parks 110th Birthday
- Mon April 3** Fall Festival Planning Meeting 6 pm - Montesano Library and via ZOOM
- April 22** State Parks **FREE DAY** — Earth Day
- Sat April 22** Trillium Trek and Children's activities at Lake Sylvia State Park- meet at the Legacy Pavilion at 1 pm for the guided hike.

### CELEBRATE EARTH DAY TAKE THE TRILLIUM TREK and Enjoy Our Children's Activities **SATURDAY, APRIL 22**

Help us celebrate Earth Day this year by joining FOSLS in some spring activities at the annual TRILLIUM TREK at Lake Sylvia State Park! Stop by the Legacy Pavilion (next to the ranger station) to see some examples of spring plants you might find on your walk in the woods. Then you can take a Ranger-guided hike through the park to count the trilliums.

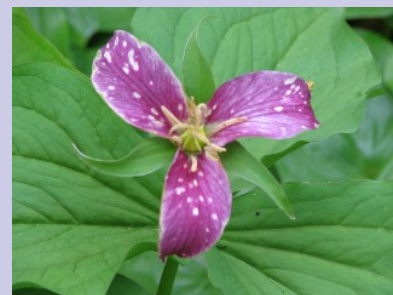
We will also have some Children's Activities available, as well as a plant scavenger hunt for all ages. Festivities begin at 1 pm at the Legacy Pavilion. Dress appropriately for the cool spring weather, wear sturdy shoes (there will be mud ☐) and bring your camera!

**DID YOU KNOW?** Trilliums can live for 70 years and they are very fragrant. You can not pick the trilliums in the park but if you have trilliums at home and feel you must pick one, pick it above the leaves.

## TRILLIUMS



*Common Western Trillium*



Older Western Trilliums turn purple when they no longer have pollen.

This is a rare Small Flowered Trillium, or *Trillium Albidum*. Note that the flower forms in the same place as the leaves as opposed to being above the leaves. Please let us know if you spot one of these beauties so we can mark it.





# FOSLS SHAPING THE FUTURE

## FOSLS 2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Last year our FOSLS group was very busy and we are proud of our many accomplishments. Included in our activities were the following:

- ◆ First Day Hike at Lake Sylvia and Schafer parks with over 100 hikers attending
- ◆ Annual Meeting and Work Party at Schafer Park
- ◆ Trillium Trek at Lake Sylvia
- ◆ Spring School Field Day with Mary M Knight School at Schafer Park and with Montesano Grade School at Lake Sylvia
- ◆ Began working on building a new storage shed at Lake Sylvia to store FOSLS tools and equipment.
- ◆ Participated in the Montesano Welcome Day for Non Profits in July
- ◆ Sponsored the Lake Sylvia Fall Festival in September
- ◆ Fall School Field Day showcasing the Return of the Salmon with Elma Grade School at Schafer State Park in October
- ◆ Sponsored the Yule Log Celebration in December
- ◆ Our Weekly Horticulture committee put in hundreds of hours all year long, in weekly invasive weed eradication efforts at both parks.

In addition, we held monthly FOSLS Board Meetings, monthly Fall Festival Planning Meetings, did community outreach via the radio, participated in legislative issues affecting State Parks, and much more.

Our officers protected our financial affairs, maintained an extensive membership database, began a project putting our records on an online shared storage platform, updated FOSLS job descriptions and produced multiple newsletters.

We purchased security cameras for the parks and are also monitoring the new Schafer Park Remodel as it progresses.

FOSLS is a vibrant organization that works for you and is committed to keeping our State Parks visible to the local community and beyond.



## FOSLS 2023 FUTURE PLANS

In addition to continuing our annual events listed for 2022, our future plans include the following:

- ◆ Recruiting more volunteers,
- ◆ Work on improving our internet presence,
- ◆ Partnering with our local schools in utilizing students for special projects, We are currently working with the Montesano high school students to design stickers for sales at the state parks and other events as well as videography and other art design projects.
- ◆ Participating in more community outreach, via radio interviews
- ◆ Adding more children's activities,
- ◆ Adding a fishing derby at the Fall Festival,
- ◆ Conducting more work parties at both parks including cleanup, trail maintenance, river bank fortification,
- ◆ Completing the FOSLS Storage shed.
- ◆ Planning the 2024 Schafer Park Centennial Celebration

We continually work with and coordinate with our State Parks Rangers and staff on a regular basis and with our events and projects. Our biggest project for the future will be planning for the 2024 Schafer Park Centennial Celebration. At 100 years old, Schafer State Park is one of the oldest parks in the Washington State Parks system and we want to honor its history with a special celebration..



## 2023 STATE PARKS FREE DAYS

### *No Discover Pass Needed*

- Jan. 1 — First Day Hikes; New Year's Day
- Jan. 16 — Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- March 9 -- Billy Frank Junior's Birthday
- March 19 — State Parks' 110th Birthday
- April 22 — Earth Day
- June 10 -- National Get Outdoors Day
- June 11 — Free Fishing Day
- June 19 — Juneteenth
- Sept. 23 — National Public Lands Day
- Oct. 10 -- World Mental Health Day
- Nov. 11 — Veterans Day
- Nov. 25 — Autumn Day

### FOSLS WEEKLY WEEDERS

FOSLS Volunteers who belong to the WEEKLY WEEDERS group are a very special group of people. They are dedicated to helping keep our local state parks free of invasive species such as ivy, holly, and herb Robert and they work on other related projects. They meet regularly each Wednesday from 10 to noon, led by FOSLS member Helen Hepp. If you are interested in spending a few hours a week in the woods helping our state parks and getting some fresh air and exercise, meet at Lake Sylvia at 10 and get to know these wonderful people. They would love to have you join them!

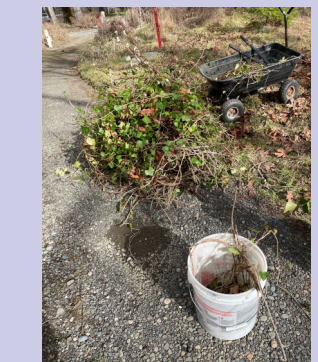
Helen Hepp pulling Ivy



Ivy being pulled off a tree



Karen Van Noy cleaning a slope



Jerry Cote cutting Ivy

### WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

As you can see by the list of our recent activities, there is a lot for this little group to do. If you are interested in volunteering in any of our events or regular activities, please let us know. We are always looking for folks of all ages, with interests or skills in vegetation, social media, database, or newsletter management, or building skills, trail maintenance, photography skills, public outreach or any other skills. Maybe you have a skill that we don't even know we need yet! Volunteering for FOSLS is a rewarding way to serve the public, and to preserve, maintain, and promote our wonderful local state parks. Its also a great way for students to get their community service credits. So if you are looking for a way to build your skill levels, make some new friends or to get more time outdoors, FOSLS is the place for you! Contact us at any of the numbers at the bottom of this newsletter.

## FOSLS Contact Information

FOSLS  
PO Box 642  
Montesano, WA 98563

[info@fosls.org](mailto:info@fosls.org)



## FIND FOSLS ON THE INTERNET !

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

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfSchaferLakeSylvia/>

<https://www.facebook.com/LakeSylviaStateParkFallFestival/>

<https://www.instagram.com/>

## SAVE THE DATE !

Lake Sylvia State Park  
FALL FESTIVAL will be  
held on SUNDAY,  
September 10, 2023



## DISCOVER PASSES



Discover Passes are available  
from your local Park Ranger or  
at some of these locations:  
Dept of

Licensing offices, Dennis Co.,  
and Timberland Bank.

Discover Passes are only \$30 for an annual, two-  
vehicle pass covering all Washington State Parks!

### How to Purchase

The Discover Pass may be purchased

- Online at **[www.discoverpass.wa.gov](http://www.discoverpass.wa.gov)**
- In person from any of nearly 600 recreational license vendors where state fishing and hunting licenses are sold
- By phone by calling 866-320-9933
- When you renew your vehicle license
- At State Parks headquarters and region offices, and at state parks when staff is available.

## FOSLS EXECUTIVE BOARD 2022-2023

<b>President</b>	<i>Karol Danner</i>
<b>V President</b>	<i>Jerry Buendel</i>
<b>Secretary</b>	<i>Linda Ronholt</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<i>Louise Baxter</i>
Stet Palmer	Board Member, Legislative
Trina Young	Board Member, Membership, Newsletter, Social Media
Joshua Shin	Board Member, Web Master
Pat Wadsworth	Board Member
Susan Duvall	Board Member
Helen Hepp	Board Member Emeritus, Weekly Weeders Committee
Bob Carter	Member, Shed Project Committee

*Newsletter Editor - Trina Young*