

# CAPE PERPETUA SERIES TO EXPLORE COASTAL GEOLOGY

YACHATS — The picturesque Oregon Coast attracts many with its breath-taking beauty. But it also elicits cautionary fear with its warnings of earthquakes and tsunamis. Ironically, the very geologic forces that threaten lives also are responsible for the spectacular mountains, valleys and coastlines cherished by Oregonians.

Oregon State University Emeritus Professor of Geosciences Bob Lillie, Ph.D.,

shares the connection between hazards and scenery in "Beauty from the Beast" at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, during the Cape Perpetua Winter Discovery Series at the Visitor Center, three miles south of Yachats.

Dr. Lillie draws on his experience as a geology professor, park ranger and graphic illustrator to reveal plate tectonics in action and explain the basics of Earth science in easy-to-understand ways.

"Beauty from the Beast reminds Northwest residents and visitors that their hometowns and iconic parklands are subject to geologic processes that affect their lives and livelihoods," Dr. Lillie said. "By learning to live with the beast of earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanic eruptions, people can more fully appreciate the beauty that surrounds them."

Dr. Lillie will also be available to sign his new book "Beauty from the Beast: Plate

Tectonics and the Landscapes of the Pacific Northwest." The book can be purchased at the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center.

The Cape Perpetua Winter Discovery Series is an opportunity to explore topics and resources relevant to the Oregon Coast during the off-season months between November and March.

All presentations and guided walks are free, but a Northwest Forest Pass, Oregon Coast Passport or \$5 day-use fee is

required within the Cape Perpetua Scenic Area.

For more information, contact the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center at 541-547-3289.

Upcoming Winter Discover Series events include:

- Dec. 19 (2 p.m.) – Old-Growth Forest Hikes: Learn about the characteristics and ecology of coastal old-growth forests during ranger-led hikes. All ages and hiking abilities welcome.
- Dec. 27-31 (11:30 a.m. to

1:30 p.m.) – Whale Watch Week: Volunteers trained through Oregon State Parks' "Whale Watch Spoken Here" program will be at the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center and viewpoints throughout the Cape Perpetua Scenic Area to help visitors spot and learn about grey whales during the mammals' winter migration to their breeding grounds off Baja, Mexico.

No RSVPs necessary.

# Holiday Sea of Lights brightening aquarium this weekend

NEWPORT — SCUBA Santa, sparkling lights and an ocean of holiday cheer will greet visitors every weekend this December at the Oregon Coast Aquarium's Sea of Lights celebration.

Over half a million colorful lights and holiday decorations will surround visitors with the spirit of the season as they explore the aquarium after

hours. Santa will be present every night of Sea of Lights until Christmas to pose for photos and note visitors' Christmas wishes.

This family-friendly event kicks off with a special celebration today and tomorrow, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Admission to the first weekend of Sea of Lights is \$2 with 2 cans of nonperishable people

or pet food for the local food bank.

Entry is \$8 per person without donation. Admission is free for aquarium members, but they are encouraged to bring an item to donate.

Sea of Lights will continue to illuminate the aquarium every following Saturday and Sunday of December from 5 to 8 p.m.

Admission is \$8, or free with same day paid admission.

"Sea of Lights lets the aquarium give back to the community, but we also organize it for the sheer fun of it. There is no other place to go see a big light display on the central Oregon Coast," said Michele Steen, the event's organizer.

This year's Sea of Lights is proudly presented by Walmart.

Customers who spend more than \$100 at Walmart's Newport will receive a voucher for one free admission to Sea of Lights at the Oregon Coast Aquarium.

Offer valid while supplies last and certain dates are subject to blackout. See store for details. Attendees using a voucher are encouraged, but not required, to make a food or

toy donation. Join in the merriment this December at the Oregon Coast Aquarium, 2820 SE Ferry Slip Road, Newport, Ore. 97365.

The aquarium is open every day, except Dec. 25, this winter from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information visit [www.aquarium.org](http://www.aquarium.org) or call 541-867-3474.

# Skip the lines for ATV, State Parks permits by purchasing online

The ATV permit and Oregon State Parks day-use parking permits are now available for online purchase at [www.oregonstateparks.org](http://www.oregonstateparks.org).

On the website, follow the "Shop" link to buy the 24-month ATV permit and 12- or 24-month day-use parking per-

mit from the Park Store.

"We're expanding our online services in response to visitor comments and requests," said Lisa Sumption, director of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. "In the coming months, we'll offer additional items in our Park Store that we

believe will appeal to our park visitors."

The 12-month parking permit is \$30 and the 24-month parking permit is \$50.

Both are honored at all 26 Oregon State Parks that charge a day-use parking fee.

The \$10 ATV permit must be

displayed on ATVs operated on public lands designed for ATV use.

Park Store purchases can be made using either VISA or MasterCard.

The permanent permits and day-use permit hangtags are delivered via U.S. mail at no

cost to the customer.

Customers should print the temporary permit attached to the Park Store e-mail receipt so they can visit a park or ride an ATV that day.

The temporary permit is valid 14 days from the purchase date and is designed to fit on a

vehicle dashboard or kept with visitors operating motorcycles, open vehicles and ATVs.

Day-use parking permits and ATV permits are also available from permit agents statewide.

Visit [www.ospparkingpermitsagents.org](http://www.ospparkingpermitsagents.org) for parking permit retailers.

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