

Outdoor cookstove heats without propane

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For the Oregon Daily Emerald

Imagine this: A group of University students are camping in a remote location somewhere in the Cascade Mountains. The young campers are cooking what is sure to be a delicious meal on a propane camping stove.

Suddenly, the propane runs out, and it begins to rain. These fictitious campers have just entered "The No-Gas/No Luck Camping Zone."

In 1981, Paul Hait, now president of Pyromid Outdoor Systems Inc. of Redmond, Ore., came up with the idea of an outdoor stove that was not dependent on propane after experiencing the same fate as the aforementioned fictional campers.

Hait, who was on a hunting trip, had been cooking a meal on a propane cooking system. Suddenly, the gas ran out, leaving him with the dismal prospect of building a fire in inclement weather. This inspired Hait to begin the process of inventing an outdoor stove that would be an alternative to gas stoves.

In 1986, after creating several prototypes, Hait invented the Pyromid cooking stove, which does not need gas or electricity as a heat source. The stove, which resembles a Lunar Module-type space vehicle, only

requires the use of briquettes, wood or pine cones as a heat source.

"There are a lot of advantages that the Pyromid stove has over gas systems, hibachis or kettle cookers," said Lara Wettig, Pyromid director of sales and marketing. "It only needs nine briquettes to feed six people. It can be used for barbecuing meat, frying eggs and for cooking on the tailgate of vehicles without fear of scorching."

"Another advantage of the Pyromid is that it gets to about 1100 degrees in less than an hour," Wettig said. "Gas systems and hibachis take longer to heat up and do not attain very high

temperatures."

Wettig also said the average camper or outdoor enthusiast can use the Pyromid to bake biscuits or cookies, make beef jerky, smoke fish or even vertically smoke an entire chicken or turkey.

The Pyromid folds up to a mere 11 3/4 by 11 1/2 by 1 3/8 inches when closed, cleans up easily and is environmentally safe, she said. Although the stove is a relatively new product, it is not unknown.

Heather Brandon, public relations coordinator of the University's Outdoor Program and former resident of the Redmond

area, said she had some knowledge of the Pyromid and how it works.

Although the Outdoor Program doesn't make a practice of endorsing cooking equipment, Brandon said, "if someone asks about outdoor cooking equipment, I usually recommend the Pyromid."

On Saturday, Oct. 15, a demonstration of the Pyromid will take place in the tent area of the Alumni section at Autzen Stadium. The demonstration will include vertically smoking whole turkeys and chickens as well as cooking Brocworth and hamburgers. For more information, call 1-800-824-4288.

Forest Service exhibit informs public

BEND (AP) — With 190,000 people going through the High Desert Museum every year, the U.S. Forest Service saw a perfect opportunity to teach the public about its holistic new approach to forests.

"We have begun to realize that we can no longer look at forest management as a cookie cutter, where timber comes off here, wildlife comes off over here, and watershed comes off over here," said Andy Youngblood, a silviculturist at the Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Research Station.

"We are now looking at processes across watersheds, across whole regions," he said.

In partnership with the agency, the museum designed "The Changing Forest," an exhibit that describes the policy of ecosystem management.

It uses a series of panels to explain how insects, fungi and wildlife, as well as fire and logging, play roles in keeping a forest healthy.

"Past harvesting practices, dictated by the economics and technology of the time, have diminished the resiliency of the forests," the exhibit tells visitors. "Now more susceptible to agents like fire and disease, their ability to provide for the future is in question."

Ponderosa pine logs were erected to bring the forest inside the open-air pavilion. A squirrel and boring insects have set up housekeeping.

Telescopes focus the visitor's attention on the forest outside to view trees, brush and standing dead trees known as snags.

The exhibit draws from scientists who try to explain the new philosophy:

— "Ecosystem management means

thinking on a larger scale than we're used to. It means sustaining forest resources over long periods of time." Jack Ward Thomas, chief of the Forest Service.

— "Contemplating the lace-like fabric of streams outspread over the mountains, we are reminded that everything is flowing — going somewhere, animals and so-called lifeless rocks as well as water." John Muir, naturalist and founder of the Sierra Club.

— "Biological diversity is the key to the maintenance of the world." Edward O. Wilson, Harvard biologist and author of *Biophilia*.

Focusing too much on timber got the forest service into trouble in the Northwest.

Judges found the agency wasn't obeying laws that require it to keep fish, wildlife and plants alive in addition to trees that can be turned into lumber.

The result was a drastic cutback in logging to protect the northern spotted owl, a threatened species, as well as salmon and other wildlife.

"Stimulated by catastrophic loss of jobs, catastrophic fires, catastrophic insect damage and other high-visibility resource-related problems, the public has developed, almost overnight, a great interest in resource problems," High Desert Museum President Donald M. Kerr said at the exhibit opening last month.

"What we're trying to do here is simply to bring people closer to the problem," Kerr said.

Walter Rogers grew up in Bend when it was a lumber mill town, rather than the outdoor recreation boom town it is today. Rogers currently lives in Alameda, Calif.,

and he looked over the exhibit while on a recent visit to central Oregon.

"It's a change in thinking from the way I was taught when I was younger," Rogers said.

"I'm from Chicago, and I don't know much about the outdoors," said his companion, Lynn Wallock. "I learned a lot."

Dean Herron, a retired mill worker visiting from Sheridan, said he was disgusted with the changes he has seen in the forest. Snags used to be cut so they wouldn't fall on loggers.

Now they have to be left. Insects boring into snags are food for woodpeckers. And the holes left by woodpeckers become nests for mountain bluebirds and swallows.

"Man don't mean nothing," Herron said. "That kind of thinking I don't understand."

Like the forest, the exhibit will continue to change, Youngblood said.

He would like to see an interactive computer added, to keep track of how people react to the exhibit, as well as collect their ideas.

Trails into the surrounding Deschutes National Forest could be developed to demonstrate in real life the ideas presented in the exhibit.

"We wanted to help explain not only the biological process, but the history of the use and management and the changing values people had for the forest," Youngblood said. "How the forests were valued during the heyday of railroad logging and how they are valued today are very different. As the values have changed, the forest structure has changed, and all these things influence future management."

Poll shows Packwood vote divided

PORTLAND (AP) — A new poll indicates Oregon voters are divided evenly on the question of whether Sen. Bob Packwood should resign.

When compared with a poll conducted in February, the new survey indicates fewer Oregonians feel strongly that the Republican should quit because of allegations of sexual misconduct.

As the Senate ethics investigation of Packwood nears its second year, 47 percent said the senator should resign and 48 percent said he shouldn't.

By comparison, 62 percent urged him to quit in a poll taken last February for *The Oregonian*.

That survey came after Packwood had lost court rulings to avoid turning over his diaries to investigators.

The new poll was conducted by Davis and Hibbitts Inc. of Portland for *The Oregonian* and KATU-TV. The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

In the new survey, 25 percent of voters said they would definitely or probably support him if he runs for in 1998. In contrast, 69 percent said they definitely or probably would not vote for him again.

Packwood's support was highest in southern and Eastern Oregon and among his fellow Republicans.



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