

Beaches

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able landmarks. It rises 235 feet from the edge of the shoreline. At low tide, you can walk right up to it and explore the colorful tide pools and observe the diverse bird life. But please don't touch the animals or climb the rock. It is protected as an Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge and Marine Garden.

Lighthouses. Heceta Head Lighthouse between Yachats and Florence is one of the most popular lighthouses on the Oregon coast. Seven of our lighthouses are open to the public seasonally, if not year-round. Heceta Head rises 205 above the ocean and is a working lighthouse, casting its beams some 21 miles out to sea. It is said to be one of the most photographed lighthouses in the United States.

Wonders. The Oregon Dunes is the largest expanse of coastal sand dunes in the country, stretching approximately 40 miles from Florence to Coos Bay. The wind-sculpted sand dunes tower 500 feet above sea level and extend 2.5 miles inland. The 32,186-acre National Recreation Area also includes forest, streams, and lakes and provides numerous recreational opportunities such as off-highway vehicle use, hiking, photography, fishing, canoeing, horseback riding, and camping.

Hidden gems. Secret Beach is a tiny piece of coastal paradise between Gold Beach and Brookings just north of the California border. The Oregon coast is full of paths that lead to ocean overlooks and pocket beaches, and this is one of the most spectacular. Secret Beach is located along the breathtaking 12-mile-long Samuel H. Boardman State Scenic Corridor. You can access it by taking a quarter-mile trail from a small parking area near milepost 346 on the west side of Highway 101.

Shipwrecks. The Peter Iredale is the most visible shipwreck on the Oregon coast, found on Clatsop Beach in Fort Stevens State Park near Astoria. Only the steel hull remains of the ship, which ran aground in 1906. Extremely low tides and winter storms occasionally reveal remnants of other shipwrecks, such as the J. Marhoffer in Boiler Bay just north of Depoe Bay and the Emily G. Reed near Rockaway Beach. Only the rusty remains of the Marhoffer's boiler are visible, thus the name of



THE OREGONIAN / COURTESY OF OREGON HISTORIC SOCIETY
Gov. Tom McCall faces off against the Surfsand Motel on May 13, 1967, in an iconic image that represents the fight for the Beach Bill.

that bay.

Ghosts. The Neskowin Ghost Forest is a hauntingly beautiful sight to see. Some 100 stumps of an ancient Sitka spruce forest, estimated to be 2000 years old, are revealed when the tide is out. Scientists believe the forest was destroyed by an earthquake or tsunami, burying its remains deep.

Wicked waves. Two locations on the Oregon Coast are named after the devil. The Devil's Churn is a deep chasm in the rocky shore at Cape Perpetua near Yachats. The Devil's Punchbowl is a cauldron located in Otter Rock just south of Depoe Bay. As the tide crashes in at both locations, sea water violently swirls and sprays upward.

Oddities. A massive Sitka spruce called the Octopus Tree is a popular attraction at the Cape Meares State Scenic Viewpoint. It looks like an upside down octopus with its branches growing like giant tentacles from its 50-foot base. Local historians and Tillamook tribal descendants believe its odd shape comes from its function as a ceremonial site, shaped to hold cedar canoes and other ritual objects.

Boardwalk. The Seaside Promenade is a 1.5-mile long concrete boardwalk between the town and its beach. It features an automobile turnaround with a statue of Lewis and Clark as its centerpiece. The Promenade was built in the 1920's, first out of wood, then of concrete.

Longest beach. The 804 Trail includes a 7-mile stretch of sandy beach between Yachats and Waldport that you

can walk or bike. The trail to the beach is ¾ mile and begins from the parking lot of Smelt Sands Recreation Site. Along the way, you pass by beautiful rocky shores and three state parks.

Parks. More than 80 properties are listed in the coastal section of the Oregon Parks Guide, including state parks, recreation sites, scenic viewpoints and corridors, and natural areas.

The legacy

Surfsand. The motel still stands today. In fact, it is now called the Surfsand Resort and has undergone major renovations over the past decade. The resort is now owned by Martin Hospitality, which owns and operates luxury restaurants and hotels in Cannon Beach and Seaside. It supported an event held on the beach last month to commemorate the 50th anniversary of McCall's famous visit.

In memory of. Tad McCall, son of the late governor, traveled from Arlington, Virginia, to Cannon Beach to help celebrate what his father helped save. "This beach is the beach of history," he said during his address to the crowd on May 13. "This is where the picture of freedom of the beach was painted."

Life as art: A portrait of his father, painted by Henk Pander in 1982 and commissioned by the state, adds to the myth of what happened that day five decades ago. The scene portrays McCall's highly publicized visit, with a helicopter hovering in the background. The painting is displayed in the Capitol with portraits of other former governors.

Ownership. Some stretches of beach remain privately owned. A 1966 state parks study showed that 112 of Oregon's 262 miles of sandy beach were in private ownership. In a 1977 publication by the department, it was noted by Beach Bill sponsors that the state might have to spend millions to purchase private land. The department estimates today it has since added about 16.5 miles of beach above high tide to the state park system.

Acquisitions. State parks has made around 200 beachfront acquisitions, most of which were additions to existing properties. The most recent examples are the 1.3 miles at the new Sitka Sedge State Natural Area in Tillamook County and extension of the Floras Lake State Natural Area in Curry County. The department estimates it has spent \$32 million on acquisitions since 1967.

Protectors. The Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition was founded in 1971 by some of the same folks who led Citizens to Save Oregon Beaches in the campaign to support the bill. Bob Bacon joined forces with other coastal enthusiasts to found the new organization that has been conserving and protecting the landscape and public access to our beaches ever since.

Stewards. Straub said it best in the foreword of the 1977 publication called "Oregon's Beaches: A Birthright Preserved." He was governor at that time. "The Beach Bill is more than landmark legislation. It is a tribute to Oregonians' commitment to a vigilant stewardship of a truly wonderful (sic) natural environment."

Mini-documentary. Visit Tillamook Coast commissioned a five-minute mini-documentary to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Beach Bill. It includes archival footage of Gov. McCall and cameos from several dignitaries, including current Gov. Kate Brown. Sea Legs Media of Salem collaborated on the project with Visit Tillamook Coast, Tillamook County's tourism organization.

Documentary: "Politics in the Sand," by Tom Olsen Jr. is a documentary that follows the efforts to protect the Oregon Coast from private development. DVD copies can be purchased at the Cannon Beach History Center and Museum and through the museum's online gift shop for \$10 each.

Photo collections. The Oregon State Library and the Oregon State Archives have created digital collections to mark the 50th anniversary of the Beach Bill.

The celebration

July 8 in Salem. The Beach Bill Birthday Bash is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Oregon State Capitol. The event is free and will feature a concert on the lawn and free birthday cupcakes and Tillamook ice cream while supplies last. Mo's

chowder will be sold during the event. Limited-edition commemorative glass floats will be given away. Inside the Capitol, a 30-minute Oregon Public Broadcasting Beach Bill documentary will air, and a special Beach Bill exhibit will be on display in the Galleria.

July 6 at Cannon Beach. The Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition and Haystack Rock Awareness Program are sponsoring a special beach walk in commemoration of the Beach Bill anniversary. The celebration begins at 1:30 p.m. at the Cannon Beach Community Hall, 207 N. Spruce St. The walk begins around 2:15 p.m. and will loop from the shoreline just south of Ecola Creek, south to Haystack Rock and back to the Community Hall. Refreshments will be served after the walk, including beer donated by Public Coast Brewing Co. The party continues until 6 p.m.

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Volunteer

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At age 17, Williams is a sheriff's office cadet and CERT trainer, and that's just the beginning. She's also volunteered for search and rescue, is a Silverton Fire District explorer and occasionally trains with cadets from Yamhill County.

"Anna has so much discipline and direction ... I have never seen her so happy," said her mom, Crystal.

A home schooled student who will graduate high school by summer's end, the blond, quiet teenager spends nearly every unobligated moment volunteering. Often, she's so busy she doesn't eat dinner until 10 p.m.

"I like it all," she said. "I don't mind being busy."

Homeschooling under the supervision of a Pennsylvania-based diploma program allows flexibility and extra time to volunteer, but it isn't Williams' time commitment alone that won the county's attention. She's scrupulously dependable and reliably cheerful, said Anderson.

"Finding a volunteer as young as her - who stays engaged and stays focused - you don't see that very often," he said.

"She's dedicated. She's 110 percent. She cares for what she does."

Williams started volunteering for the county as a 14-year-old. Her mom, an administrative volunteer for the Mt. Angel Police Department, had received disaster preparedness training through CERT. Like others, the Mt. Angel group, administered by the federal government and overseen by Marion County, is charged with training members in disaster and emergency preparedness.

Marion County's CERTs have moved on to proactive community service, such as door-to-door wellness checks during severe weather and crowd control services during the upcoming eclipse. Each year, they can also be found helping at Oktoberfest, the St. Paul Rodeo and the Great Oregon Steam Up in Brooks.

Like her mom, Williams enjoyed Mt. Angel's CERT members and wanted to help. She went through the 21-hour training, took additional classes, and is now the county's youngest CERT instructor and an integral part of Mt. Angel/Silverton CERT.

At Mt. Angel Police Chief Mike Healy's suggestion, Williams applied to be a sheriff's office ca-

det. She was accepted and finished her eight-week basic training at age 16, immediately taking to the law enforcement community.

Among other things, she's learned to shoot, direct traffic and speak publicly. On her own, she enrolled in Krav Maga self-defense classes and plans to study Spanish.

Last year, she volunteered 500 hours as a cadet, and that doesn't include her time riding along with deputies. In July she and others from Marion County will compete against other cadets in the Law Enforcement Challenge at Camp Rilea on the Oregon Coast.

In the future, Williams said she hopes to attend Chemeketa Community College and study emergency management or something similar. The last person to tell you about herself, she's the first to say this kind of volunteering has permanently changed her.

"Now I do more, and talk more," she said, a smile tugging at the corners of her mouth.

Among other things, last year, her training translated into helping a motorcyclist who'd crashed on Silverton Road and directing Oktoberfest pedestrians - some of them obviously tipsy - safely across the busy highway. Last week,

it meant training with police dogs, helping with Fourth of July fireworks and setting up for the Marion County Fair.

"Anna is a wonderfully mature and responsible young lady with a great future ahead of her," Healy said. "She will go far in any profession she chooses."

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