

Siskiyou Crest Conifer Field Trip Series continues through summer

BY SUZIE SAVOIE



Hiking through a forest near Miller Lake (trip scheduled for July 27). Photo: Suzie Savoie.

The Siskiyou Crest Conifer Field Trip Series is under way, with more exciting trips still coming up this summer.

At the heart of the Klamath-Siskiyou ecoregion, the Siskiyou Crest is home to one of the richest coniferous forest regions of the world in species diversity, including endemic conifer species that grow nowhere else on earth.

The Siskiyou Crest Conifer Field Trip Series highlights the 25 species of conifers that grow in the Siskiyou Crest region. From moist, low-elevation forested canyons to dry rocky ridgelines at high elevations, the field trip series will visit each conifer species in the wide variety of ecosystems they inhabit.

Each field trip will be led by Luke Ruediger, of Applegate Siskiyou Alliance,

and Suzie Savoie, of Klamath-Siskiyou Native Seeds, as well as expert botanists and ecologists from around the region. Some trips have already occurred at the time the *Applegater* is published, but there are more great trips planned for this summer, including:

- Julie Spelletich and Richard Callagan, Anderson Butte, June 1
- Scot Loring, Sundew Lake, June 2
- Barb Mumblo, Whisky Peak, July 5, and Big Red Mountain/Dutchman Peak/Tamarack Meadows, July 7
- Matt Dybala, Miller Lake, July 27
- Julie Kierstead, Mt. Ashland, August 3

Field trip discussions will include a wide variety of topics related to the specific conifers visited and, depending on the trip, will also cover general ecology, botany, biodiversity, habitat connectivity, wildlife associations, nonvascular plant associations, and fire ecology. These trips will be fun adventures at popular destinations, as well as remote backcountry areas that are seldom visited. Field trip leaders will point out and help identify wildflowers, shrubs, and other tree species during the trips as well.

Come join us on this conifer adventure series and meet some new friends—humans and plants—along the way.

This field trip series is a fundraiser for Applegate Siskiyou Alliance. Register here: eventbrite.com/cc/siskiyou-crest-conifer-field-trip-series-3218659.

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New summer programs at Jacksonville Community Center

BY SUE MILER

As spring blooms and seedlings develop into our valley's beautiful and enjoyable yields of flowers, fruits, and vegetables, we are nurturing a new crop of programs and activities for adults and youth at the Jacksonville Community Center (JCC), including camps for youth, free concerts, and a resource fair for older adults and their families. The following activities are already scheduled for the summer. Additional programs planned for later this summer include sessions on sound healing and senior wisdom cafes. Consult the JCC website at jacksonvillecommunitycenter.org for the most up-to-date information about additional programs.

Youth programs

The summer months bring an expansion of JCC's activities for youth, including three summer camp sessions.

Jacksonville Woodlands Explorer Camp. Two sessions: 9 am-noon June 17-19 and June 24-26, ages 6-12. During these three-day camps, kids will have a blast exploring our local woodlands with Tara Laidlaw, an experienced instructor from the Southern Oregon Land Conservancy. Campers will meet at JCC and walk into the Jacksonville Woodlands for exploration, nature journaling, games, and activities. This camp will help local kids learn about and connect with nature, make friends, and have fun outside! Register for one session or both.

Art Adventure Camp. 9 am-noon July 15-17, ages 6-12. Kids will make new friends as they create awesome arts and crafts, including friendship bracelets, tie-dye, eco printing, and a variety of painting methods. This camp will take place at JCC. Kids will also enjoy a lunch break and supervised play at Doc Griffin Park.

For adults, youth, and families

Free House Concert: Alquimistas Trio. 5:30-7 pm June 12. Go on an ecstatic journey through Afro-Brazilian rhythms and melodies and enjoy the alchemical magic of the music of this group, which is famous for playing at monthly block parties in Ashland.

Single-session adult programs and activities

Senior Resource Fair: Aging Successfully. 10 am-noon June 11. This free event will provide resources for preparing for the changes that come with aging. Speakers and service providers will be sharing information on legal matters, Medicare benefits, companion programs, and support services to age gracefully. Refreshments provided! Preregistration is encouraged but not required. Walk-ins welcome.

Oregon Black Pioneers: 450 Years in 45 Minutes. 4:30 pm June 14. The popular narrative of our state's history excludes the experiences of African-Americans before the mid-20th century. For this presentation, Mariah Rocker, of the Oregon Black Pioneers organization, will correct the record by highlighting key individuals and events that characterize Oregon's unique and centuries-old Black history.



In a youth cooking class, friends work together to make strawberry shortcake. Photo: Sarah Greco.



Children enjoy local trails and nature activities during Jacksonville Woodlands Explorer Camp. Photo: Sarah Greco.

Ongoing adult wellness classes

JCC offers ongoing weekly wellness classes intended to promote healthy activity and social connections. Class fees vary; scholarships are available. Consult the JCC website for details. Classes currently include:

- Line Dancing for Fitness: 1-2 pm Mondays
- Flow Yoga: 5:30-6:30 pm Mondays
- Gentle Chair Yoga: 9:30-10:15 am Wednesdays
- Beginner Tai Chi and Qi Gong: 8:30-9:30 am Thursdays
- Intermediate/Advanced Tai Chi and Qi Gong: 9:10-10:15 am Thursdays
- Beginning Yoga: 10:30-11:30 am Fridays

JCC serves adults and children of all ages, and we welcome residents of our entire area, including the Applegate Valley, Medford, Ashland, Central Point, Talent, Phoenix, Gold Hill, Rogue River, and other communities in the valley. Online registration for many JCC activities is highly recommended, and in some instances required. For those needing help or having technical issues with the registration process, call JCC at 541-702-2585 and leave a voicemail to receive personal assistance.

JCC is located at 160 East Main Street, Jacksonville. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Raefield, executive director, at jraefield@jacksonvillecommunitycenter.org.

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During the Outdoor Leaders Institute six-day overnight, teens will whitewater raft on the Rogue River and backpack in the Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest.

Upcoming summer SFI classes

BY SAMANTHA VOYAGER

People come to the Siskiyou Field Institute (SFI) to learn about and explore the Klamath-Siskiyou bioregion. SFI is a conduit for scientists and naturalists to share their passion and knowledge with the public each year through adult education field courses and youth education programs.

Many programs are coming up at SFI, including a transformative six-day overnight Outdoor Leaders Institute (OLI) for teens aged 14-18 from June 17-22. During their OLI journey, youth participate in outdoor activities, gaining new leadership skills and deepening their connection to the natural world. This summer youth will backpack in the Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest and whitewater raft on the Rogue River. Throughout their adventure, students step out of their comfort zone, embrace new experiences, learn from challenges, acquire new technical skills, and forge lifelong friendships. All meals, snacks, and equipment are included in the price of attendance. Visit thesfi.org/summer-camp or contact edmanager@thesfi.org to learn more.

Our summer Adventure Learning Program classes are open to ages 12 and up (some classes open to ages 16 and up) and cover a wide array of topics. The following classes run through July. Visit thesfi.org to learn more.

Birding by Songs and Calls, 7 am-4 pm June 8, Ashland. In this intermediate-level workshop, an expert will guide students on auditory bird identification, mnemonic strategies to strengthen memory of bird sounds (such as copying the sounds with your own voice), and other skills to help you confirm identification without visual aids. While visiting two different habitats—riparian and forest—you'll practice repetition to build up your auditory memory and learn to identify the majority of singing birds without seeing them.

Geology of the Grayback Pluton and Williams Watershed, 6-8 pm June 13 (online introduction) and 9 am-4 pm June 15 (field day), Williams. Explore the surprising connections between geology and hydrology in the Williams Basin and the Grayback Pluton complex. In an online [See SFI CLASSES, page 14.](https://thesfi.org)

SEEKING TREASURER

Volunteer position on the Applegater Board of Directors

Oversee the nonprofit newsmagazine's financial administration, including:

- Attend monthly board of directors meetings in the Applegate Valley
- Pick up mail and deposit checks
- Pay bills
- Supervise bookkeeper re invoicing, reconciling bank statements, etc.
- Should be fluent in Excel, QBO, PayPal, Square, online banking

Send resumé and inquiries to Diana Coogle at diana@applegater.org.