

# Volunteer for advisory committee for Violence Against Women Act grant

The Tribe received a Violence Against Women Act grant from the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women that runs through September 2014. This grant was awarded to establish the Siletz Tribal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Program.

This program will be designed to ensure that basic, culturally appropriate services are provided for Tribal victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. The goals of the program are to offer basic services, develop response protocols and policies, increase the public's awareness and understanding of violence against Indian women, forge partnerships with various community programs and enhance the ability of law enforcement and Tribal Court to deal with domestic violence and other issues.

Siletz Tribal member Kelley Ellis has been hired as the VAWA program coordinator/advocate. An outreach specialist will be hired as well.

In order to adequately address the needs of our Tribal community and continue with the development of this crucial program, we are asking for our local community to contribute by volunteering as a VAWA Advisory Committee member. Our communities can benefit greatly from the development of relationships between community volunteers and programs.

The VAWA Advisory Committee member responsibilities will be:

- Consistently attending Advisory Committee meetings. The frequency

of meetings will be determined by the committee in consultation with the program coordinator.

- Reviewing agenda and materials prior to attending the meeting
- Learning about the program through reading provided materials, attending training sessions, etc.
- Actively and regularly participating in meetings, work groups and training
- Advising the program coordinator about issues related to the VAWA program goals from respective communities
- Sharing VAWA programs, events and other information with the community
- Advising the program coordinator in establishing and management of program protocols and procedures
- Do not hesitate to comment, criticize constructively or disagree.
- Keeping in mind that the committee has authority to act as a group, not individually.

Volunteering is an important activity for all communities. We encourage all to consider joining in the adventure of developing this crucial program for our community.

If you are interested in becoming a VAWA Advisory Committee member, please complete the application and mail it to Kelley Ellis, P.O. Box 320, Siletz, OR 97380-0320; or fax it to 541-444-9678.

If you have questions, please call 541-444-9680 or 800-648-0449, ext. 1680; or e-mail [kelleey@ctsi.nsn.us](mailto:kelleey@ctsi.nsn.us).

## Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Advisory Committee

**Current Vacancy – Staggered terms will be established with one-, two- and three-year terms.**

**Application deadline for consideration is June 15, 2012.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Roll No: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Day ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that if selected as a member of the VAWA Advisory Committee, my responsibilities will be:

- Consistently attending Advisory Committee meetings. The frequency of meetings will be determined by the committee in consultation with the program coordinator.
- Reviewing agenda and materials prior to attending the meeting
- Learning about the program through reading provided materials, attending training sessions, etc.
- Actively and regularly participating in meetings, work groups and training
- Advising the program coordinator about issues related to the VAWA program goals from respective communities
- Sharing VAWA programs, events and other information with the community
- Advising the program coordinator in establishing and management of program protocols and procedures
- Do not hesitate to comment, criticize constructively or disagree.
- Keep in mind that the committee has authority to act as a group, not individually.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail or fax your application to Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Attn: VAWA Coordinator, P.O. Box 320, Siletz, OR 97380-0320; fax: 541-444-9678.

## Two firewood areas now open, so get your wood before summer heats up

The Natural Resources Department now has two areas open for Tribal member personal use firewood cutting.

In addition to the Rock Creek #2 unit (12 miles from Siletz) that opened in March, the new South Fork #3 unit (16½ miles from Siletz) is open.

The South Fork #3 unit will close in September when logging in the unit resumes. Both units could close earlier during the summer fire season, depending

on how dry it gets, so now is the time to get your firewood for next season.

Permits are required and can be obtained at the Tribal Natural Resources office in the Tribal administration building in Siletz from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Maps and directions also are available at the same location.

Permits will be issued to Siletz Tribal members only, who will need to show their Tribal ID card and provide the license number of the vehicle they will use to

haul the wood. Woodcutters from outside of the Siletz area can call the numbers below to have a permit mailed to them.

Permits are for Tribal member woodcutting for personal use only. This firewood may not be sold. The person named on the permit must be present when cutting and hauling the firewood.

Tribal members who wish to cut wood for Tribal Elders must present a signed note from the Elder stating that the individual is authorized to cut firewood

on their behalf when requesting a permit. The note must include the Elder's Tribal ID number.

Permits are good for two weeks and allow up to two cords of wood to be cut on each permit. Each Tribal member is allowed up to five cords total per year from Tribal firewood units.

For more information, stop by the Natural Resources office or call Natural Resources Manager Mike Kennedy at 800-922-1399, ext. 1232, or 541-444-8232.

## Language classes set to include Nee-Dash practice this month

Tribal members interested in learning about and practicing the Feather Dance (Nee-Dash) – During the regularly scheduled language classes in May, the language lessons will focus on the history, protocols and songs of the Feather Dance. There also will be time to practice the dance.

Join us in perpetuating one of our ancient traditions. See the monthly Athabaskan language class schedule (page 2) for dates and times in the area offices.

## Pow-wow dance classes available

May 20 and June 9

1 p.m.

Siletz Tribal Community Center

Instructors: Tony Whitehead, Jennifer Easter and Sara Bell-Tellez

## Time to gather basketry materials

The time to gather basket materials is quickly approaching. Gathering these materials is the necessary first step in our basket-making process.

Hazel sticks (kvn) generally are ready to pick and peel in the middle of spring. Hazel from areas in and around the Willamette Valley generally is ready a couple of weeks earlier than hazel found near the coast.

Many variables help determine the best time to pick hazel. Beginning in April, hazel should be checked to see how easily the bark peels. If hazel is picked too early, the bark won't slip and has to be scraped off. This is labor-intensive and also takes the natural sheen off the sticks.

Hazel is the foundation for most Siletz baskets. When gathering, most people pick a range of sizes, peel them and then grade them for length and

diameter. They are then bundled and stored for later use.

Spruce root (xii-wan-tr'e) is the other main material used in our baskets. It can be gathered year round. An area with spruce trees is found and the roots are dug and rolled up. They then are boiled until the outer layer or membrane will slip off. The roots then are graded and stored for later use.

Tribal members interested in learning to gather and process these materials can call Bud Lane in the Siletz Cultural Department at 800-922-1399, ext. 1320, or 541-444-8320; or e-mail [budl@ctsi.nsn.us](mailto:budl@ctsi.nsn.us).

Gathering trips will be scheduled as we get further into springtime. Remember, there is a short window for gathering hazel sticks, usually 30 to 40 days depending on weather conditions and other factors.