

Registration opens for land trust's On the Land outings

The North Coast Land Conservancy is offering free guided outings this summer at sites from Warrenton to Neskowin.

The excursions highlight conservancy properties the public does not normally get to see, and adjacent lands with the kinds of natural habitats the organization seeks to protect.

The outings will include a botanist-led walk on Mystery Peak in the proposed Rainforest Reserve; a cross-country trek to a grove of ancient cedars; a "plein air" drawing workshop at Circle Creek Conservation Center; and



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Naturalist Mike Patterson discusses the natural history of *Ariolimax columbianus* with participants in an "On the Land" outing.

lessons in smartphone nature photography from Neal Maine, a Gearhart naturalist.

The outings are free, but groups are kept small;

preregistration is required. To register, or to learn more details, visit NCLCtrust.org/on-the-land-summer-outings

Land conservancy seeks kayakers for new citizen science project

SEASIDE — Experienced kayakers interested in helping two local environmental groups eliminate "policeman's helmet," an invasive weed, can attend a training session 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 20, in Seaside.

The North Coast Land Conservancy and the Necanicum Watershed Council have begun a "three-year project to aggressively seek out and destroy policeman's helmet," the land conservancy said in a release.

Within the last four years, the plant has spread throughout the Necanicum watershed. Enlisted kayakers will adopt stretches of the Necanicum



SIMPLICIUS/SUBMITTED PHOTO
A stand of policeman's helmet (*Impatiens glandulifera*).

River and survey it this spring, looking for the plant, which tends to grow on or near riverbanks, according to the land conservancy.

Participants at the training

will learn how to spot the plant, how the weed is affecting the Necanicum watershed, and how to use free apps to map the weed along the river.

The kayakers — who must have their own boat, paddling gear and smartphone — will become responsible for surveying a section of the river and must be able to do so by June 15, or before decreasing water levels impede paddling.

The recruits will receive a waterproof mobile phone case, which will keep their smartphone dry during the survey.

For more information, visit NCLCtrust.org/citizen-science-kayakers.

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