

# Bird is the word at Willapa Bay

The Long Beach Peninsula will host a new festival showcasing the extraordinary birding opportunities in and around this 28-mile long finger of land.

"Wings over Willapa," slated for Friday through Sunday, Sept. 28 to 30, will celebrate the region's birds and nature with art, classes, workshops, guided tours and more.

The event is timed for the start of fall migration in this migration area along the Pacific Flyway.

Among the many tours offered will be an East Sand Island kayak trip, a bird walk at Cape Disappointment State Park, a pelagic trip departing from Ilwaco, two barge trips into Willapa Bay, as well as self-guided tours at Tarlatt, Teal and Greenhead sloughs. Guided tours of the Leadbetter Unit of the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge will include one of the beach and dunes and another with an animal tracking specialist of the bay and forest side.



MADELINE KALBACH PHOTO

Western snowy plovers are a protected species and are aided by habitat-conservation efforts on the north end of the Long Beach Peninsula.

Presentations will include beginning birding, nature photography, shorebirds, pelagic birds and eBird.

Bird box building, a decoy carving demonstration, beach baskets, a biking and birding tour, feather raku pottery, stationary making and a paint-and-sip class are some of the indoor offerings.

The festivities include a gathering with a keynote speaker, food and drink, and a silent auction at the Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum, the event headquarters.

Space is limited, and registration is required for each event. For more information, including a schedule, visit [friendsofwillaparefuge.org/wings-over-willapa/](http://friendsofwillaparefuge.org/wings-over-willapa/) or email [wingsoverwillapa@gmail.com](mailto:wingsoverwillapa@gmail.com).

# Winterize your garden

ASTORIA — Clatsop County Master Gardeners presents "Winterizing Your Garden," 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, at Clatsop County Fairgrounds. Admission is free.

The schedule of events:

- 10 a.m. Small-plant sale: Master Gardeners can help you identify the right plants for your garden's growing conditions.

- 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. "Fall Pruning and General Plant Health Care" with Austin Wienecke and Luke Colvin of Arbor Care NW. Home gardeners will learn what and when to prune, from big trees to shrubs. Disease and pest control, mulching and organic fertilizer will also be discussed. A Q-and-A will address individual home garden concerns.

- 1 p.m. "Gardening with Deer on the Coast": Joanie Chapel, a certified Master Gardener, provides solutions for controlling the hungry deer dining on our gardens. What to plant and other methods for deterring deer will be the focus.

Also on offer:

- pH Soil Testing (all day). The proper soil pH level is important because it affects soil nutrient availability. Use this information to rebuild your soil over the winter. Bring 1 cup of garden soil in a plastic bag. Master Gardeners will test your soil and advise on remedies for proper pH levels.

- Dividing iris and daylilies: Learn the correct method for dividing daylilies and iris. This is best done in the fall. Irises and daylilies will be sold following the demo.

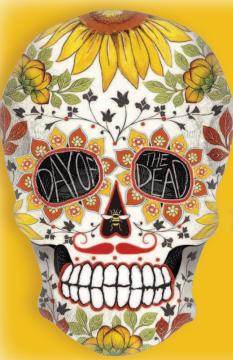
- Garden and home treasure sale: It's always a surprise what Master Gardeners find in their sheds — gently used tools, pots, books, wood boxes, Halloween decorations and art.

- Silent auction: Chances are good you'll win something wonderful while supporting Master Gardeners.

Proceeds from this event fund Clatsop County Master Gardeners Association projects.

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