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display that lightly covers the trail and crunches beneath hiking feet.

Between the trees, the blue hue of the sky and the green hue of the Lewis and Clark River can be seen as the path winds between a handful of viewing areas.

As hikers cross the wooden bridge, the sounds of wildlife buzzing can be heard over the crunching of leaves and pine needles.

Birds and squirrels chirp and sing as they scamper, gathering and preparing for winter. A beaver's work can also be seen on the river.

Above the river critters and the chatter of birds and squirrels, the fall colors shine through on a chilly, yet oddly sunny November day – a beautiful view to bring in the new season.

As the warm-colored leaves fall to the ground, look up at the canopy and appreciate those still clutching the branches. Take it all in. Smell the mud, the grass and the forest all around, because the colors and the sunshine won't last long, and a sunny autumn day on the coast cannot be taken for granted.



Photos by Malia Riggs

TOP Fort Clatsop on a sunny autumn day.

ABOVE The warm-colored leaves cling to branches on the Netul Landing trail.

RIGHT A bright leaf caught in a web on the trail.