

# Coastal Gem Walkers set jaunt for May 31

Come join the Coastal Gem Walkers on Tuesday, May 31, as the group walks the Three Lakes YRE near Florence.

Walkers will meet at the Commons in Yachats at 9 a.m. to can carpool, or meet at the Sportsman, 249 Highway 101 in Florence, at 9:45 a.m. to register.

This 10K walk is rated a 1a for mostly flat terrain and good footing. It is not appropriate for wheelchairs and difficult for strollers.

Leashed pets are welcome

on walks, but bring water and clean up materials for pets. A sturdy 6-foot leash, not the retractable type, is required.

On Wednesday, June 1, The Gem Walkers will hold their monthly meeting at the Yuzen restaurant in Seal Rock.

There will be a leg-stretcher walk at 4 p.m., dinner at 5 p.m., and the meeting at 6 p.m.

For more information or directions, call Maryann Brown in Waldport at 541-961-4279, or visit [www.yachatscoastalgems.org](http://www.yachatscoastalgems.org).

# GET THE SCOOP ON CLAMMING AND CRABBING AT FREE CLINICS



COURTESY PHOTO

Purple varnish clams are abundant along Oregon beaches beginning in June.

LINCOLN CITY — The Oregon Coast is teeming with life all year-round. And during the summer, you can learn how to harvest the coastal bounty with crabbing and clamming clinics in Lincoln City.

Led by local expert Bill Lackner, these clinics are a great way to learn how to catch fresh Dungeness crab and purple varnish clams.

This will be Lackner's fourth season hosting the crabbing and clamming clinics, and he is prepared for another fun and educational program.

"This is my passion. I love teaching visitors of all ages how to do this, especially the kids," says Lackner. "At first, they are a little intimidated by it. But after I show them how fun and easy it is, then their faces light up."

"There is nothing more rewarding than watching a kid feel a sense of accomplishment. These clinics are great character building exercises for

kids and kids at heart."

The first crabbing clinic will be Wednesday, June 8, at 9 a.m., at the SW 51st Street beach access (near Mo's Restaurant) in the Historic Taft District of Lincoln City.

Each participant over the age of 12 will need a five-gallon bucket, a large package of chicken legs for bait, a pair of rubber gloves, and a valid shellfish license.

Crab traps and gauges can be purchased from Lackner at the clinic. Prior to crabbing, participants will meet for a brief orientation on crabbing regulations, harvest methods, identification, and cleaning and cooking techniques.

The first clamming clinic is Thursday, June 9, at 10:30 a.m., beginning with a presentation at Driftwood Public Library, 801 SW Highway 101, on the second floor of City Hall.

Talks last approximately 45 minutes, followed by clam dig-

ging on Siletz Bay. Participants will need a five-gallon bucket, a pair of gloves and a shellfish license.

Clam bags and shovels will be available for purchase on site.

Looking back on four years of hosting the crabbing and clamming clinics, Lackner thanked the city for its support of the clinics.

"Lincoln City is a leader in supporting recreational opportunities like crabbing and clamming," says Lackner. "When we started these clinics, we wanted to show off the wonderful bay-front here in town and all of the great things you can do on it. Now it has taken on a life of its own, and I am thankful that the city continues to support it."

For the full clinic schedule and more information on the crabbing and clamming clinics, call 800-452-2151 or visit [www.oregoncoast.org](http://www.oregoncoast.org).

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## Learn to protect your home from wild fires

Lauren Grand will give a presentation, "Reducing Fire Risk to your Home in the Woods."

It will take place Wednesday, May 25, at Big Bear Camp Retreat Center, near Walton, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Doors open at 6 p.m.

As a woodland owner, you can take steps to increase the survivability of your family, home and property before a wildfire begins. This presentation will prepare you to assess the fire risk on your property, utilize firewise landscaping methods, and obtain the support you need to start protecting your home and property.

Lauren Grand is the OSU

Extension Forester serving Lane County. Grand's role in the county is to provide objective, research-based information and educational opportunities for woodland owners, members of the industry, and the general public.

To fulfill this role, she offers classes and workshops related to forest ecology, forest stewardship, and small woodland management.

Before becoming an extension forester Grand worked as a wood products consultant for Vinawood Ltd., and as research assistant with fire ecology labs at UC Berkeley and the Forest Service.

Her expertise also includes amphibian conservation man-

agement, which was the focus of her graduate work at the University of Washington.

In addition, Sharmila Premdas, Siuslaw Field Office BLM, and Christopher BLM District Planner will present "The BLM's New Resource Management Plan."

There will also be updates on Siuslaw Watershed Council projects and programs.

Folks may like to arrive early and check out the camp, go for a hike or check out the SWC restoration and work done in 2010 - including woody structures, tree planting, clearing berries and see some of the native plant examples.

**Siuslaw News**  
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