

LOCAL, STATE & REGION

OREGON STATE PARKS

Effort increases accessibility



Makenzie Whittle/Bulletin file

The Cove Palisades State Park is in eastern Jefferson County, near Culver and Madras.

Associated Press

PORTLAND — The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department has announced an ambitious effort to make Oregon's parks more accessible to visitors with disabilities.

The department outlined a finalized plan to make state parks more accessible by removing barriers that have made enjoying a park difficult or impossible for many visitors, The Oregonian reported. Signs will be improved, ramps will be installed and bathroom stalls will be wid-

ened as part of a years-long effort, the department said.

The department said it identified 4,872 barriers at 273 facilities. Officials found barriers to access at nearly every part of the park experience.

Three issues — doors, parking lots and restrooms — make up 52% of all barriers, the department said.

Each barrier was ranked, with the easiest fixes expected to start in July and be completed within five years, the parks de-

partment said. Bigger projects that require more planning and funding will take up to 25 years to complete.

The long-term plan, called the ADA Transition Plan, shares its goal with the Americans with Disabilities Act that it's named for: to ensure equal participation in public life for all Americans with disabilities.

Disability Rights Oregon praised the plan, saying it was pleased that the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department is taking action.

TODAY

It's Saturday April 3, the 93rd day of 2021. There are 272 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

In 1968, civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. delivered what turned out to be his final speech, telling a rally of striking sanitation workers in Memphis, Tennessee, that "I've been to the mountain-top" and "seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land!" About 20 hours later, King was felled by an assassin's bullet at the Lorraine Motel.

In 1860, the legendary Pony Express began carrying mail between St. Joseph, Missouri, and Sacramento, California. The delivery system lasted only 18 months before giving way to the transcontinental telegraph.

In 1865, Union forces occupied the Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia.

In 1882, outlaw Jesse James was shot to death in St. Joseph, Missouri, by Robert Ford, a member of James' gang.

In 1936, Bruno Hauptmann was electrocuted in Trenton, New Jersey, for the kidnap-murder of Charles Lindbergh Jr.

In 1942, during World War II, Japanese forces began their final assault on Bataan against American and Filipino troops who surrendered six days later; the capitulation was followed by the notorious Bataan Death March.

In 1944, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Smith v. Allwright, struck down a Democratic Party of Texas rule that allowed only white voters to participate in Democratic primaries.

In 1946, Lt. Gen. Masaharu Homma, the Japanese commander held responsible for the Bataan Death March, was executed by firing squad outside Manila.

In 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed the Marshall Plan, designed to help European allies rebuild after World War II and resist communism.

In 1990, jazz singer Sarah Vaughan died in suburban Los Angeles at 66.

In 1996, Unabomber Theodore Kaczynski was arrested at his remote Montana cabin.

In 2005, a day after the death of Pope John Paul II, the body of the

pontiff lay in state. Millions prayed and wept at services across the globe, as the Vatican prepared for the ritual-filled funeral and conclave that would choose a successor.

Ten years ago: The United States agreed to NATO's request for a 48-hour extension of American participation in coalition air strikes against targets in Libya.

Five years ago: An international coalition of media outlets published the "Panama Papers," thousands of pages of leaked documents relating to offshore accounts that revealed attempts by world leaders, celebrities and businesses to dodge taxes in their home countries. A southbound Amtrak train struck a piece of heavy equipment just south of Philadelphia and derailed; two Amtrak workers were killed.

One year ago: President Donald Trump announced new federal guidelines recommending that Americans wear face coverings when in public to help fight the spread of the coronavirus, but Trump immediately said he had no intention of following that advice himself; he said he could not envision himself covering his face while sitting in the Oval Office greeting world leaders.

Today's Birthdays: Conservationist Dame Jane Goodall is 87. Actor William Gaunt is 84. Songwriter Jeff Barry is 83. Actor Eric Braeden is 80. Actor Marsha Mason is 79. Singer Wayne Newton is 79. Singer Tony Orlando is 77. Comedy writer Pat Proft is 74. Folk-rock singer Richard Thompson is 72. Country musician Curtis Stone (Highway 101) is 71. Blues singer-guitarist John Mooney is 66. Rock musician Mick Mars (Mötley Crüe) is 65. Actor Alec Baldwin is 63. Actor David Hyde Pierce is 62. Rock singer John Thomas Griffith (Cowboy Mouth) is 61. Comedian-actor Eddie Murphy is 60. Rock singer-musician Mike Ness (Social Distortion) is 59. Rock singer Sebastian Bach is 53. Rock musician James MacDonough is 51. Olympic gold medal ski racer Picabo Street is 50. Actor Jennie Garth is 49. Actor Jamie Bamber is 48. Actor Adam Scott is 48. Comedian Aries Spears is 46. Actor Matthew Goode is 43. Rock-pop singer Leona Lewis is 36. Actor Amanda Bynes is 35. Actor-comedian Rachel Bloom is 34.

— The Associated Press

Salmonella outbreak spreads to humans in Oregon, 7 other states



Bulletin file

Two songbirds eat seeds at a west Bend bird feeder in 2006.

BY DOUGLAS PERRY
The Oregonian

A salmonella outbreak among wild birds has spread to humans in a handful of states, including Oregon.

The illness has hit at least 19 people in eight states, causing fever, stomach cramps and in some cases more severe symptoms, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said in a public notice Thursday. The sickness has caused eight hospitalizations so far.

The salmonella outbreak started over the winter. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife said that activity at feeders increases in cold weather, and this pile-up of birds can lead to infection at feeders that are not regularly cleaned.

"When you feed birds, be sure to start with clean feeders and to disinfect feeders periodically," ODFW state wildlife veterinarian Dr. Colin

Gillin said in a statement.

Pine siskins, nuthatches and chickadees are among the birds that commonly spread salmonella and other viruses at feeders and bird baths, ODFW says.

Pine siskins, which are small, yellow-streaked songbirds, have been tied to the outbreak in Oregon.

People can get sick by touching their mouth or eyes after handling a bird feeder or a wild bird.

If you have a bird feeder, the CDC recommends that you clean and disinfect it weekly with a bleach solution of nine parts water to one part bleach. You should clean the feeder again even before a week has passed if it's "visibly dirty." After cleaning the feeder, you also should thoroughly scrub and disinfect any sink or counter you used.

You should not touch the feeder or wild birds with your bare hands.

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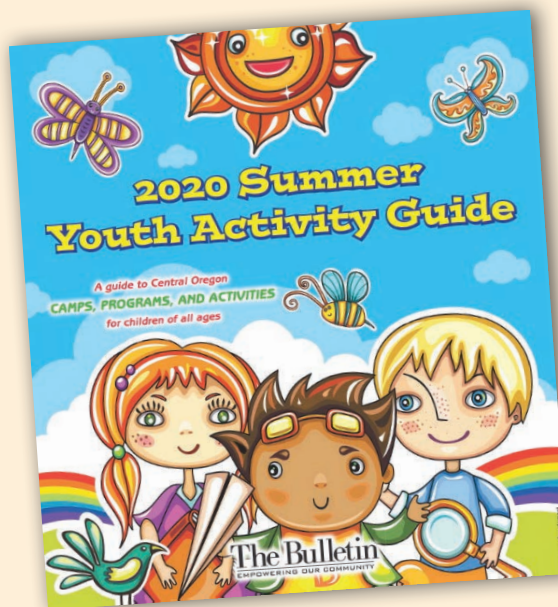


EACH WEEK IN THIS SECTION, you will find the area's most complete guide of outdoor activities and events, top picks of places to explore, as well as features from outdoor writers and field experts.

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