

Directions and details

Cedar Grove – how to get there

- From Highway 26, between Dayville and Mt. Vernon, turn south on Forest Road 21/Fields Creek Road, at about milepost 144.
- Drive about 10 miles, and turn right on Forest Road 2150, at the sign which reads “Cedar Grove Trail 203A” and “Aldrich Mtn. Lookout 15.”
- Drive about 6 miles to the Cedar Grove Trailhead 205A. You’ll see a sign which reads “Aldrich Mtn. L.O. 9” and “Cedar Grove Tr. 203A.” Across from the sign, the south side of the road seems to be wide enough to park along. The trail starts right next to that sign.

Visit: www.fs.usda.gov/

Billy Fields Forest Camp

- Located about 6.5 miles south on Fields Creek Road, from Highway 26, between Dayville and Mt. Vernon. Day-use area, camping for tents and small trailers, vault restrooms, six-horse stalls. No water and no fees.

Visit: www.fs.usda.gov/



Eagle photos/Cheryl Hoefler

The well-marked trail cuts through lush, shady forests, welcome on even the hottest of summer days.

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A few signs, including this one, point the way to the Cedar Grove Botanical Area Trail.

Hidden local gem makes a nice day or weekend adventure

By Cheryl Hoefler
Blue Mountain Eagle

Yes, it’s true, Grant County has its very own “botanical” site.

Cedar Grove Botanical Area, about 10 miles south of Highway 26, and

not far from Fields Creek Road, offers a hiking trail through lush woods of the Malheur National Forest, amid a bounty of wildflowers, down to a peaceful botanical area.

Perfect for a day trip escape or during a weekend adventure.

But it’s a group of trees that gives the 26-acre Cedar Grove its “botanical” distinction and name – a grove of Alaskan yellow cedars, which is the only known stand east of the Cascades in the United States. The trees, some more than 300 years old, are a relic from the Pleistocene age.

Despite being easy to get to and not far from any towns, Cedar Grove seems to only see light use, which could be for several reasons. Though recovering now, wildfires did burn through the area some years ago and it was closed for a time. Plus, there’s no camping, restrooms, water or other services nearby,

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