

How to get to Lost Lake now

Visitors to Lost Lake in southeast Clatsop County will need to access the lake from Henry Rierson Spruce Run Campground, not from Highway 26, at least temporarily.

A logging operation in the area has closed public access to Lost Lake from Highway 26, according to the Oregon Department of Forestry. The closure is expected to last two weeks. Lost Lake is still accessible from Henry Rierson Spruce Run Campground on Lower Nehalem Road.

For more information about the road closure, call Larry Sprouse at the ODF Astoria District office, (503) 325-5451.

Great Oregon Spring Beach Cleanup on March 24

The 22nd annual Great Oregon Spring Beach Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, March 24. Thousands of volunteers are needed to help clean Oregon's beaches, from the Washington to California borders, between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

"Large amounts of trash have washed ashore during winter storms," says Jack McGowan, SOLV's Executive Director. "We need thousands of volunteers on March 24th to help restore our coastline to its pristine condition."

Volunteers are asked to check in at one of 42 registration sites, pick up a bag, and head down to the beaches to improve our coastline for wildlife and summer visitors.

Coordinators suggest that volunteers dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes and bring gloves. Beach Captains at the meeting sites will furnish bags to volunteers. Groups of 20 or more are asked to contact the appropriate Zone Captain prior to the event. Zone Captains and registration sites are listed at www.solv.org or volunteers can call SOLV at 800-333-SOLV (7658) for more information.

"Express Check-In" will save volunteers time and avoid the need to wait in line. The Volunteer Registration and Waiver form along with Express Check-In instructions, can be found on SOLV's web site at www.solv.org. Volunteers should bring their completed

and signed forms to turn in at the registration site.

Safety is all-important during this spring's cleanup. Volunteers are asked to watch for sneaker waves, stay away from logs, exercise caution on rocks and cliffs, and never turn their backs on the ocean.

The small coastal shorebird known as the snowy plover, a threatened species, may be present on Oregon's beaches during the cleanup. Coordinators ask that volunteers be mindful of their nesting sites, usually just above the high tide line on open sand, and stay outside of all roped and signed areas.

During the Great Oregon Spring Beach Cleanup of 2006, 5,472 volunteers removed 46

tons of trash from Oregon's beaches. This statewide event started in Oregon in 1984, and has spread to 55 states and US territories and nearly 100 countries and sovereign territories.

Founded in 1969 by Oregon Governor Tom McCall to address litter and vandalism problems, SOLV's mission has expanded to reach every county in the state and to bring together government agencies, businesses and individuals in programs and projects to enhance the livability of Oregon. Because of this expansion SOLV no longer calls itself "Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism" and has adopted the acronym, SOLV, as its official name.



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Hazardous waste event in St. Helens

The March 2007 monthly Household Hazardous Waste collection event will be held on Saturday, March 31. No appointment will be necessary for this event.

Columbia County's new Household Hazardous Waste Intake Facility is located at the Columbia County Transfer and Recycling Center, 1601 Rail-

road Ave., St. Helens (Hwy. 30, East on Gable Road at Walmart to Railroad Ave.). Drop off hours will be from 8:00 a.m. to noon.

Water-based latex paints, antifreeze, used motor oil and automotive batteries can be recycled at the Transfer Station in St. Helens any day of the week from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

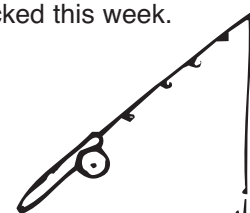
The intake facility can accept the following hazardous items: Paints and stains; pool and spa chemicals; pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and poisons; motor oil, antifreeze and other automotive fluids; thinners and solvents; household cleaners and disinfectants; batteries, art and hobby chemicals; aerosol spray products; propane tanks or bottles from barbecue grills; fluorescent lamps and ballasts; and PCBs.

Items **not** accepted as hazardous waste include radioactive material, standard household garbage, explosives including ammunition, and biomedical waste.

For additional information regarding this event or any other solid waste issues please call Columbia County Solid Waste Administrator Todd Dugdale at 503-399-7207.

Vernonia Lake gets more trout

Vernonia Lake is scheduled for another trout stocking the week of March 19. At some time during that week, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will bring in 4,000 trout to join the 3,000 that they stocked this week.



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