



Bitterroot

WILDFLOWER WALKS in the TRI-CITIES*



Oregon Sunshine

Badger Mountain: Saturdays - April 25, 2009 and May 2, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

Steve Link will lead a wildflower walk along the Skyline Trail on Badger Mountain (4 mile roundtrip). Meet at the Dallas Road parking lot (<http://www.friendsofbadger.org/access.html>). Call 628-0709 for more information

McBee Grade: Friday - May 8, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. Meet at the Park & Ride next to the gas station at the I-82 Benton City exit. We'll drive our cars up the gravel McBee Road to the top of the Horse Heaven Hills south of Benton City, where hikers will park their cars and walk ~2 miles round trip along the ridge top with Janelle Downs, NPS member. Bring appropriate clothes for the weather. Call 628-0709 for more information.

Horse Heaven Hills (Hover Peak): Saturdays - April 18, April 25 and May 2, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. Bob Fortman will lead hikes over a 250 acre site owned by Kennewick General Hospital. Hikes range from ½ mile to 2 miles, lasting 2-3 hrs. Bring water and a snack. Directions: Meet at Bob Fortman's house at 70301 Road 2410 PR SE, Finley. Take State Road 397 south from the Cable Bridge through Finley; at the end of SR 397, turn right on Piert Rd (Sandvik Special Metals Plant is on the left); continue of Piert Rd over the railroad overpass; take the exit at the bottom of the overpass (continuation of Piert Rd); continue for about 1/3 mile, road curves to left and becomes Meals Rd; continue for ~2 miles; turn right on Tierney Rd (private road); turn left on Rd 2410; Bob's house is 1st house on left (70301). Give Bob a call for more information: 509-948-3999.

Yakima Bluffs: Monday - May 4, 2009, at 5:30 p.m. This is a short, easy hike along the top of the bluff; sturdy walking shoes will suffice. Take the Queensgate North exit (Richland Wal-Mart); turn north on Duportail (toward Yakima River); just before end of Duportail turn left at dirt pile. Park off to the side. Contact: Donna (jenluc99@clearwire.net) or Shannon (mike.shannon@verizon.net) for more information.

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Wallula Gap: May 9, 2009, Saturday, 10:00 a.m. Join Bob Fortman for a hike on the Kennewick side of the Columbia River to Wallula Gap. Native plants (especially grasses) and Ice Age Flood features are extensive near the Gap. The hike will take about 5 hrs; bring water and a lunch. Directions: Take State Road 397 south from the Cable Bridge through Finley; at the end of SR 397, turn right on Piert Rd (Sandvik Special Metals Plant is on the left); continue on Piert Rd over the railroad overpass; take the exit at the bottom of the overpass (continuation of Piert Rd); continue for about 1/3 mile, road curves to left and becomes Meals Rd; continue for ~2 miles; turn left on Ayers Road; go about 1/4 mile and park on left. Give Bob a call for more information (509-948-3999).

CELEBRATE NATIVE PLANT APPRECIATION WEEK: May 3 – 9

* Walks are sponsored by the Columbia Basin Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society and are open to the public. See our webpage for more information and maps: <http://www.wnps.org/cbasin/walks.html>