Friends of Outdoor School
2015 Winter Update

Your Donations are Making ODS Happen for Kids!

“If you love children, you will help kids go to Outdoor School. When I went there were so many kids that didn’t get to go, and they missed so much fun. My mom and I could hardly even pay for me to go. Camp is a place for new beginnings. Even the counselors were really cool. I had so much fun and I love everything about my new friends, to the bugs and the hike we went on. I learned how to respect nature and to enjoy it. I hope everyone can have the same experience I had. Again, if you love children, you will help.”

~ Shelby R., 8th grader, Prineville

The Oregon Outdoor Education Coalition (OOEC) had a major success this year with the passage of the Outdoor School Bill (SB 439) which established a historic, statewide commitment to Outdoor School.

However, no funding was attached to the bill. So, the Coalition is now focused on securing the permanent public funding needed to enable every Oregon student to experience Outdoor School.

The Coalition recently formed the Outdoor School for All Political Action Committee (OSFA PAC). This group is exploring the possibility of placing an initiative on the November 2016 ballot. If passed, the measure would require $22 million in Oregon Lottery funds be allocated annually to Outdoor School.

You will soon receive an invitation from the OSFA PAC to join this effort. You will be mailed only once, so it’s a great time to join when you receive their letter.

To learn more, visit OutdoorSchoolForAll.org

GiveGuide.org
Nov. 4 - Dec. 31
Big Give prize package days: Dec. 1, 10 & 17

Who will win
Photo of the Year 2015?

vote online now through December 6th
PhotoOfTheYear.net
In November, NWRESD and MESD field instructors gathered at the Oregon Garden in Silverton to network, collaborate, and learn during a full-day forestry education training, facilitated by the Oregon Forest Research Institute (OFRI).

As part of its ongoing efforts to support professional development of participating teachers and ODS staff, OFRI also developed comprehensive curriculum materials to link classroom instruction about Oregon’s forests with the ODS experience.

"OFRI is very excited to partner with Outdoor School," said Norie Dimeo-Ediger, director of OFRI’s K-12 education programs. "We look forward to continuing to find opportunities to use our resources to help Oregon kids."

The number of high school students who volunteered to be MESD ODS Student Leaders this fall jumped nearly 50% compared to spring 2015. Yes!

NWRESD camps hosted 3,443 students from 36 public schools and five private schools.

The ODS program also welcomed two new Site Supervisors. Ryan "Pacific Yew" Landyn (at Cedar Ridge) and Lauriel "Sunshine" Amoroso (at Trickle Creek) successfully completed their first sessions!

ESD Update

What is your Outdoor School legacy?
Consider a planned gift. You have many options, but with a simple bequest or beneficiary designation, you can support ODS students for generations. And, it doesn’t have to cost a single magic penny during your lifetime. To learn more, please contact kim@friendsofoutdoorschool.org, visit our website, or contact your financial advisor.

Workplace Giving is the easiest way to support ODS! Sign up just once with your employer, then a small amount is donated to us each pay period. Ask if your employer matches donations — you might be able to double your impact!

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