



OUR EARTH

Our Town, Our Future

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In The Community

Wood River Land Trust to Begin Boardwalk Construction

The Wood River Land Trust will begin construction on a long-awaited wetland and wildlife viewing boardwalk located at the Croy Creek wetlands adjacent to Lion’s park in Hailey on July 19th. The boardwalk will provide public access to one of the most biologically diverse places in the valley, and one that is in the heart of Hailey. The boardwalk will be ADA accessible, and is designed to direct public access for education and enjoyment while minimizing impacts to the sensitive site.

The Croy Creek Wetlands lie at the confluence of the Big Wood River and Croy Creek on the Draper Wood River Preserve and City of Hailey property adjacent to Lions Park. The boardwalk, as it loops through this riparian area, will allow people to experience and learn about these sensitive wetlands and wildlife habitat with minimal impact.

The initial stages of this project involved the Land Trust removing 2.7 million pounds of debris from the City of Hailey’s old dump site; hauling out large items such as appliances and other trash and restoring the elevation of the area close to its floodplain level of the past.

During high water flows and sheet flooding events, these riparian areas slow water down and act as a kind of sponge to help recharge the aquifer. The native vegetation that the Land Trust staff and volunteers planted in 2009 will filter sediments and absorb excess nutrients, improving the quality of water as it drains into the Big Wood River.

The wetlands have been used for educational birding classes for four years, hosting groups of 11 and 12th graders in Wood River High School teacher Larry Barnes’ ‘Birds of the Rockies’ class. “The bird diversity is higher than anywhere else in the Wood River Valley except for Silver Creek,” Barnes said.

Beside an educational resource to our community the boardwalk will also be an economic asset to the local economy, providing another destination for visitors and locals who enjoy wildlife watching.

Wood River Land Trust has raised 60% of the \$211,000 in funding needed to complete the boardwalk. Beside tax deductible donations the Land Trust is looking for volunteers to assist in its construction.

The boardwalk belongs to the entire community. There will be bilingual signage naming the plants, birds and wildlife and a donor board thanking everyone who participated in building the boardwalk through donations or as a volunteer.



To donate to this project visit www.woodriverlandtrust.org or call 788-3947.

Sustainable Building Fact:

King County, Washington (Seattle area) has been tracking green building data since 2007 and have recognized that green certified homes made up 33% of the new homes market and were on the market for 24% less time compared to non-certified homes (Daily Journal of Commerce, February 18, 2010).

Grocery shopping?

Don’t forget those reusable bags!

Thank you from the *Just Bag It!* team.

Reduce ♦ Reuse ♦ Recycle

RIDE THE MOUNTAIN RIDES FREE HAILEY CIRCULATOR BUS!

For schedule and other information, go to www.MountainRides.org or stop by Hailey City Hall for a flyer.