

What winter adventures will you have?

Grab your coat and boots and head outside to explore your parks this winter. Whether you join one of the planned trips or just grab your map and go, there are many great ways to enjoy your parks, trails and open spaces in any weather!

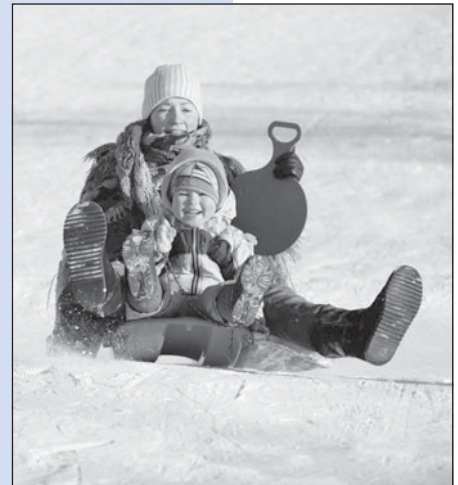
On snowy days, several parks are great for **sledding**. Grab your family and enjoy a ride down a hill at Fairgrounds Community Park or Harmony Ridge Neighborhood Park.

Frozen waterfalls are a photographer's delight. Visit Moulton or Lucia Falls for some beautiful **winter photography**. Hike the 2.5-mile trail for plenty of great views of the river and its falls.

Enjoy a hike on any one of the county's 66 miles of trails. A winter hike is a great way to spend time with family and friends. Don't forget to look for animal tracks, birds and other signs of our area's diverse wildlife. Wrap up your adventure with some hot chocolate and a snack in one of our many picnic shelters.

How about **fishing**? The steelhead trout are abundant in late winter on our many rivers, such as the East Fork Lewis River at Lewisville Regional Park. You can watch them jump up Lucia Falls, too.

What better way to search for signs of spring than to look for the early **blooming wildflowers**, such as skunk cabbage, trillium and spring beauties? Lacamas Lake Regional Park has a wide range of flowers and beautiful views.



Looking ahead to 2012!

2012 regional park & boat launch parking pass sales start Dec. 1.

Purchase your \$40 annual parking pass online at vanclarkparks-rec.org, or at: Marshall Community Center, Firstenburg Community Center, Battle Ground Community Center or Vancouver City Hall. For more information, visit vanclarkparks-rec.org and select "Parking Fees" from the "Parks & Trails" menu.

2012 picnic shelter reservations start February 1.

Did you know that there are more than 30 picnic shelters throughout the city and county park system? These shelters vary from rustic to modern and can accommodate 20-150 people. Starting in 2012, a brand new shelter at Marshall Park will also be available for reservations. Staff will start taking shelter reservations on Feb. 1, 2012 for events happening May 1-Sept. 30. Many community parks also offer shelters that are free and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Fact sheets available online. For informa-

tion about locations, sizes, amenities and fees, visit vanclarkparks.org and select "Picnic Shelter Reservations" from the "Parks & Trails" menu.

Park Use Permits

Are you planning a big event in the parks or on the trails next year? You may need a Park Use Permit. For more information or to fill out a permit application online, visit vanclarkparks-rec.org and select "Event Planning" from the "Parks & Trails" menu, or call 487-8337.

Community Gardens

Winter is the perfect time to start planning for next spring's garden. We have five community gardens throughout the City of Vancouver and several different plot sizes to meet your gardening needs. Returning gardeners can sign up for a plot starting Feb. 21, 2012. New gardeners can sign up for a plot starting Feb. 27. Get more information at vanclarkparks-rec.org; select "Community Gardens" from the "Parks & Trails" menu.



Celebrate volunteers who make your parks & trails better for everyone!

At Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation, we want to say thank you to all of the volunteers who have helped at parks, trails, open spaces and ball fields throughout 2011. Volunteers gave their time to count trail users, pull weeds, remove litter, create wildlife habitat, plant trees, learn new skills, make new friends and build a better community. We are grateful for their time, energy, muscle, and stewardship of their parks! While many volunteers helped throughout various community parks, trails and open spaces, here are some of the dedicated groups and individuals who took care of your parks this year:

- S. Aberle
- Backcountry Horsemen
- K. Boulton
- Camas Bike and Sports with E. Fisher
- Clark College students
- The Dojan family
- Eagle Scout Troop #381
- Executive Horse Council
- Fort Vancouver Rose Society
- Friends of Jorgenson Woods Park
- Girl Scout Troops
- Greyhawk Neighbors and J. Kinkaid
- T. Thacker
- Jack, Will and Rob Boys and Girls Club
- R. LeVausser
- LDS Youth Group
- Master Gardeners at Pacific Park
- Make a Difference Day volunteers
- K. McLendon
- National Trails Count volunteers
- Nature Explore Club volunteers
- New Hope Church
- People First with D. Thompson
- G. Nugent and B. Robertson
- Salmon Creek LDS Church
- Local Youth Sports Leagues throughout Clark County
- Skyview High School Students
- South Cliff Neighborhood Association and P. Douglass
- Stumptown Disc Golf team and S. Carson
- Sunrise Rotary
- Urban Abundance volunteers
- Vancouver Christian Middle/High School
- Venture Scout Troop #511
- R. Vissia
- Walgreens Store #9380
- Vancouver Watershed Council volunteers
- Vancouver Lake Watershed Partnership volunteers
- Wells Fargo employees
- A. Will
- Wolf Pack 443

Volunteers logged more than 5,000 hours in your parks in 2011, and that's something to celebrate!



Are you interested in volunteering? Go to vanclarkparks-rec.org and choose "Make a Difference."