



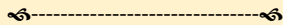
Delbert Hunter Arboretum & Botanic Garden

Volume 30 - No. 2

Autumn, 2022

WELCOME

The trails await you!
Open daylight hours.
Dogs on leashes are welcome!



Visitor Center Hours

631 Park Street
Dallas, Oregon

The building is open from
9 am – Noon, Tuesdays
March – November

Volunteers Wanted

Tuesday mornings starting
at 9 am. No experience is
needed ~ tools are provided.

Contact Information

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Dallas, OR 97338
Message phone: 503 623-7359
(phone messages are checked weekly)
hunterarboretum@outlook.com

Website

www.delberthunterarboretum.org

Visit Us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/DelbertHunterArboretumandBotanicGarden

We are a 501(c)3 Non-profit Org



When the dry grasses of summer turn to hay-scented stubble, and tree and shrub trade verdant leaves for reds, orange-golds, and shades of the Earth, a cool breeze whispers through the brambles, telling us Autumn will soon be here. The Hummingbirds who timed their arrival to feast on the blossoms of Flowering Current shrubs this spring are now preparing to migrate, as are many other migrating species of birds, amphibians, and insects. Time to go to new feeding grounds and locations suitable for their next stages of life. We too begin to put away the hurried events that filled our spring and summer and set our minds towards preparing for winter.

The long wet spring we had this year had a restorative effect on the landscape at the arboretum. There was comparatively little plant loss, or sustained stress from drought this summer. Volunteers have been weeding and mulching, and recovering the paths with trail dressing. We've finally almost caught up with all the arborist care from last year's drought die off and storm damage. The arboretum is looking good and we're looking forward to seeing folks come out and enjoy the fall colors.



Arbor Day Tree Planting and Ivy Pull Fun Day

The city Parks Advisory Board hosted an Arbor Day celebration on April 23rd, at Sgt. Ian Tawney Park in downtown Dallas. Girl scout troop 20171 planted a cedar tree and later participated in a scavenger hunt and an ivy pull along the trail by the creek. Mayor Dalton, and City Manager Latta joined in, as well as participants from Delbert Hunter Arboretum, Polk Soil and Water Conservation District, and crew of the Dallas City Park. The city hopes to make the Arbor Day celebration an annual event.





Delbert Hunter Arboretum Welcomes

The Polk Soil & Water Conservation District Native Plant Sale

We're honored to host the Fall Native Plant Sale with our friends at SWCD this fall. There are many new plants this year. Follow the link below to order online: <https://www.polkswcd.com/plant-sale.html>

Pick up your plants here at the arboretum

Friday, October 14 - (9 am- 4 pm)

Saturday, October 15 - (9 am - 12:30 pm)

We'll have volunteers to help you load up your plants and answer questions. There is more parking available in the park and nearby street than there is downtown, which is one reason we collaborated to use our facility this year. If people like it, we might make this an annual event. Please let us know what you think!

Helpers needed, if you have an hour or two. All volunteers will receive a **25% discount** on plant purchases!

Sign up here to volunteer: <https://www.polkswcd.com/volunteer---native-plant-sale.html>



Floor, Phone, Plumbing, and Money Woes

Come see the new floor in our Visitor's Center! We finally had to replace the old deteriorating carpet, so we chose an easy-clean wood grain floor tile which should last another 20 years, we hope. It was an unexpected chunk of money. The city was able to help with the cost, but only if we did it before the end of the fiscal year, which is why we took advantage of this savings while the opportunity lasted.

We wondered why no one was leaving phone messages lately, then we discovered our answering machine wasn't working. We replaced the whole phone module, and then discovered the problem was the phone cable! The phone line coming into the building was weather damaged. Thankfully, one of our volunteers knew how to fix it, saving us money. Which is a good thing, because soon after that, a leak in the plumbing near the building was found, and that had to be fixed right away.

Last year's arborist work cost over \$7,000, which is more than we were able to bring in through donations. We relied on reserve funds to cover other expenses. This fiscal year started with a much reduced pool of

funds-brought-forward from the previous year's budget. Daily ops includes upkeep on the equipment and gasoline, trail dressing, repairing vandalism, consumable supplies (office goods and building maintenance), service fees, and cost of mailing our newsletters.

Truth be told....we're very low on funds this year. In a non-profit org, there is comparatively little overhead, however, there is also no revenue other than donations. We are not funded by the city, so our success entirely depends on our worth to the community. Because donations have been low, we're looking to cut spending, such as giving people the option to receive our newsletter thru email instead of mailing copies to homes.

People give to the arboretum in several ways: cash donations for daily ops, giving to our trust fund for our future existence, and remembering us in their will or annuity funds. We feel that the arboretum is a little treasure tucked away in the corner of Dallas, and we know our visitors feel the same, which is why we volunteers are so motivated to keep it going!

New Visitors to the Arboretum

Hunter Arboretum has long been habitat for many of our wild neighbors. This year we have seen evidence of new users: beavers (*Castor Canadensis*) are using the riparian zone in the arboretum. We have noted evidence between the Arboretum Center and Rickreall Creek and further upstream near the bridge on the Creek Trail. Trees of various sizes have been felled with the telltale marks of beaver teeth. Since beavers are vegetarians, we expect we will see more trees dropped in the riparian area. We'll be monitoring activity to see if we'll need to use protection around some of the smaller tree trunks.

You might ask, "If there are beavers, where are the dams?" We have not seen any dams, and don't think we will. We believe these are bank beavers, which build their dens in the stream bank, usually where water is deeper so the entrance to the den remains underwater to deter predators. There is evidence of earlier beaver dens on Rickreall Creek, though none that we have seen in the arboretum. Beavers that make dams do so in slow moving waters, which is why the ones who use creeks and rivers with fast moving water excavate homes along the edges. - Submitted by Dale Derouin



The Winners of our Photo Contest

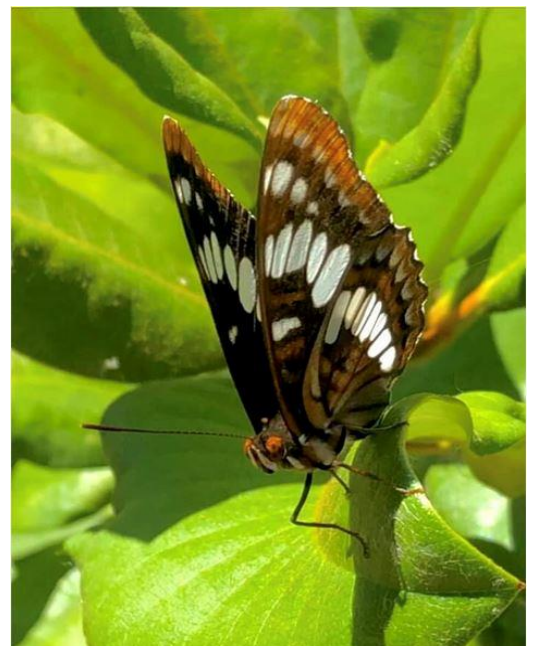
Delbert Hunter Arboretum hosted a photo contest for people to share scenes from the arboretum that they enjoy. The contest was announced in our Spring Newsletter and the winners, selected by our Board of Directors, have their photos in our Fall Newsletter and posted on our website.

Donn Anderson - First and second place

Donn's subjects reflect the many trails and a giant leaf of the Bigleaf Maple; a variety of tree common to the arboretum.

Tom Birkholz

takes third for his beautiful photo of a Lorquin's Admiral butterfly





P.O. Box 604
Dallas, Oregon 97338-0604

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Kathy Slack won an Honorable Mention in our Spring Photo Contest for her photo of this shy deer.

See more winning photos inside!



Art in the Park

DHA had a booth at the Art in the Park festival on July 31st. It was great to be directly across from Daryll's Nursery's booth, as he has been a friend to the arboretum for many years. We didn't have any signups and received very few donations, but we truly enjoyed talking with people who stopped by our booth to chat, or just to express their love of the arboretum. ~ We hope to see you again next year!