

## Fall 2010 Update

### Thank You Volunteers!



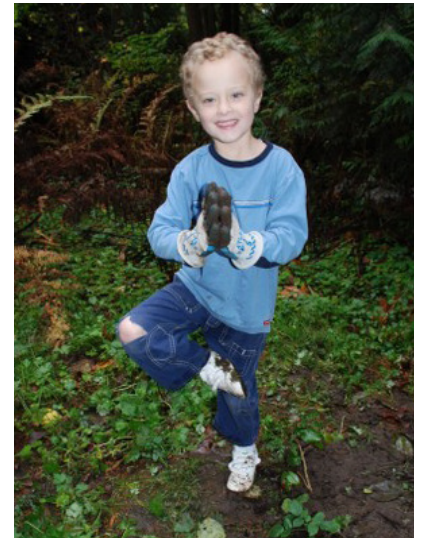
An enormous thank you to everyone who came out to volunteer at the last-Saturday work parties – and all of the other work parties this year! You were amazing. Your energy, hard work, commitment, and all-around good attitudes made our jobs as staff easy. But forget about us, the biggest thank you comes on behalf of the parks. Blackberry is no longer creeping into the forest behind the courts at Hartman, young conifer trees are holding their ground at Westside, and Idylwood has frankly been transformed. I encourage everyone to go for a walk along the trail and, for the first time in many, many years, see the lake! Where a wall of blackberry once was, Lake Sammamish can now be seen over a field of newly-planted trees and shrubs. Thanks to everyone who helped plant them at the last work party (and

the EarthCorps and City crews that put in a huge amount of work as well), and to everyone who helped at all of our sites this year.

The last-Saturday work parties are finished until next spring and things at the office are winding down as we switch gears to reporting, reflecting, and planning for next year. But don't go away just yet! Our incredible team of Forest Stewards will be hosting events around the city, as they do year-round. Look for a work party near you on the Volunteer Schedule at [www.greenredmond.org](http://www.greenredmond.org), and stay active with the Green Redmond Partnership. We've seen what you can do, don't let all that experience go to waste!

### Yoga Brings Kids and Trees Together

On Saturday, November 13, the Green Redmond Partnership held a unique tree planting/yoga combination event for kids at Farrel-McWhirter Park. Local children's yoga instructor and Forest Steward Dana Hein-Skaggs organized and led the event along with Cascade Land Conservancy's Chris Blado. The event featured a yoga lesson in the park's converted silo, followed by a tree planting and hot cocoa. The kids all had a great time, and together everyone got over 30 plants in the ground. Thanks to everyone who attended, and to Dana for organizing! Thanks also to Amy Pierce for providing photography. We're looking for more fun, new ways to get people involved in their parks! If you have an idea for a work party that combines taking care of the urban forest with your group or club's favorite activity, get in touch and let's see what we can put together.



### A Giant Helping Hand From Whole Foods Market



Our 10% day at the Redmond Store on September 22nd resulted in a donation of nearly \$3,000 to the Green Redmond Partnership. To cap it off, we were presented with a giant check at their November team meeting! Thank you so much to everyone who shopped at the store to support us, and to the phenomenal Whole Foods Market staff who were so helpful in pulling it all off (especially Liz, you were awesome). It was really fun to see everyone there throughout the day: volunteers, City and CLC staff, City Council members: the whole Green Redmond family. The donation will go towards working to engage new volunteers in restoration.

### Goodbye Chris Blado

Our year with CLC's fantastic AmeriCorps volunteer has flown by yet again, and Chris's last day here at the office was at the end of November. It's been so great working with him, we're going to miss his dedication, enthusiasm, and excellent sense of humor. The rest of the CLC office staff wishes him the best of luck in his future adventures! As we put together the last newsletter of the year, here's one more note after a great term of service:

*Hi everyone,*

*For the past 11 months I've served as an AmeriCorps volunteer, working on the Green Cities Partnerships. My experience in Redmond has been overwhelmingly positive, and I can't begin to tell you how much I've learned in such a short amount of time. It has been truly inspiring to work in a community like Redmond, a community with breathtaking natural beauty and informed, engaged volunteers. My AmeriCorps term is nearly up, but before I go, I would like to thank the Redmond parks staff for their dedication and diligence in working with the Green Redmond Partnership. Thank you, too, to our volunteers and volunteer Forest Stewards. It goes without saying that the Green Redmond Partnership wouldn't be what it is without you.*

*I would also like to thank Norah Kates for helping me get my bearings. We've worked together closely this year, and in addition to being patient and considerate in showing me the ropes, Norah has been a source of genuine inspiration. The creativity she brings to her work is a true asset, and I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to learn from her.*

*I've been rewarded many times over as a result of this AmeriCorps experience, and I would urge anyone interested in getting involved to visit [www.americorps.gov](http://www.americorps.gov) for more information. I'm also available to answer any questions myself. If you contact [greenredmond@cascadeland.org](mailto:greenredmond@cascadeland.org), they'll know where to find me.*

*Thanks again, and see you in the parks!*

*Chris Blado*



**We're thankful for our volunteers, now and all year round. Thank you for everything you've done this year to help keep Redmond's urban forest healthy. Have a safe and happy holiday season!**

**Norah, Chris, Ara, Teresa, and the rest of the Green Redmond Partnership**

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