Winter finally arrived in February with visitors and school groups enjoying some refreshing mornings and first tracks in the snow while exploring our winter wonderland.

With spring upon us now and more and more visitors returning to Hopkins, we are putting the finishing touches on the NEW restroom facility. By the time you are reading this, the restrooms will be open and ready for use.

A couple other projects have been moving forward over the winter, too. The first one, more obvious in the parking area, is the conversion of the former Forest Host Storage Shed into a Welcoming Center. This space will become a resource for visitors, both new and returning, to find information and a staffed Volunteer Host during our busier days of the year.

The second project is down in the forest where the wetland ponds continue to transform with native planting projects, interpretive trails and resources being developed. Come see all the new plants and watch them grow!

Behind the scene, projects that are in the queue or funding stage that will begin to move forward soon are the creation of a Forest Classroom Yurt, completion of the Lookout Tower, the Molalla Log Cabin relocation, and construction of an Educational Pavilion behind Hopkins Hall. The progress and opportunities are growing almost as fast as the trees!

Clem Hunter, well-known woodland owner in Clackamas County, OSU Master Woodland Manager, and former Board member at Forests Forever, Inc., passed away in December. Clem was 92. Clem and his wife, Phyllis, owned Fir Vista Tree Farm in Highland, lived there, and managed their property for nearly 50 years—long enough to grow a crop of trees! Just this past year, Clem established the Phyllis Genevieve Hunter Memorial Fund at Forests Forever in memory of his late wife and created an endowment to further the mission of FFI and the Hopkins Demonstration Forest. We are proud to know that Clem had the opportunity to establish this fund, and visit with the Board of Directors about his hopes and dreams for our future, prior to his passing. May the Hunters rest in peace. For more information about the fund, contact FFI Executive Director, Ken Everett.
**EDUCATION**

**School Groups Brave Winter Weather to Experience the Woods**

With the warming of the weather, school groups will begin to return to Hopkins on a daily basis. However, in the quieter winter months, many schools visited the forest and braved the cool weather in the name of science inquiry and service learning.

After a morning of data collection or tree planting, a warming fire was always a welcoming place to take a lunch break and even roast a marshmallow or two.

**FNRL Helps Host High Schools at Oregon Logging Conference**

FFI continues to support the high school career technical student leadership organization, Future Natural Resource Leaders (FNRL) as it continues to grow and make a statewide impact!

Over 800 students from nearly 30 Oregon high schools attended the second annual Future Forestry Workers Day at the Oregon Logging Conference in February. Exposing students to a variety of career opportunities in forestry, the Eugene event offered the chance for the Future Natural Resource Leaders (FNRL) to help welcome the visiting students before they toured static displays of logging equipment. Other activities included hands-on stations to learn about wildland firefighting, forestry and reforestation, and heavy equipment mechanics and operation, as well as a FNRL display booth run by the State Officer and Local Student Chapter skills demonstration area on site.

**VOLUNTEERS**

**Dosha/Aveda Field Day Kick-off for April Earth Month Events**

On March 10th, Dosha Salon Spa and Aveda Institute of Portland/Vancouver held their 4th annual Field Day at Hopkins. Lead by their Green Team, this fundraising kick-off day of forest tours and volunteerism begins a two month effort to raise funds that support the goals and mission of Hopkins. Over 150 staff, students, and family members joined FFI Board Members, Master Woodland Managers/Gardeners, and Friends of Hopkins for a day which culminated with a native wetland planting service project. Check Aveda’s website for more details (http://www.avedapdx.com).

**Upcoming Events (spring’19):**

- **April 13th**
  - Community Forest Day
  - 8:30am-2:30pm
  - ‘Welcoming Center Development’

- **April 20th**
  - Woodland Fire Equipment Field Day
  - 8:30am-3:00pm

- **April 26-27th**
  - Future Natural Resource Leaders, State Convention
  - 7:30am-4:30pm

- **May 11th**
  - Community Forest Day
  - 8:30am-2:30pm
  - ‘Forest Classroom Yurt Construction Project and Lumber Milling’

- **May 16th**
  - Hopkins Home School and Forest Field Day
  - 8:30am-1:30pm

- **June 8th**
  - Community Forest Day
  - 8:30am-2:30pm
  - ‘Wetland Ponds Restoration and Native Planting Inventory’

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