



Linn County Parks

NEWSLETTER

What's happening at Linn County, Oregon Parks Spring and Summer 2025

New parks RV dump station constructed in Sweet Home

Courtesy Scott Swanson
The New Era

SWEET HOME — A parade of Knife River dump trucks delivered loads of asphalt February 26 to pave the new recreational vehicle dump located on the north end of 24th Avenue.

Watching a paving machine lay down steaming strips of brand-new asphalt, was Tristan Davis, county Parks and Recreation Operations Supervisor, who has overseen the process of planning and building the four-lane public recreational vehicle wastewater disposal facility.

“I’m really excited about this facility,” Davis said, adding that he’s particularly happy that the dump will be accessible to the public. “This facility will be usable by anyone, so if you’re on Hwy. 20 driving over the mountain, or you’re coming home or wherever, you’re welcome to pull in here. If you’re on I-5 and you want to detour and go see a friend in Sweet Home and dump your RV, well, here you go.”

The facility is on 4.62 acres owned by Linn County, which was carved off the former Willamette Industries (Weyerhaeuser) mill site before the remaining portion was sold three years ago to local businessman Josh Victor.

The site, just east of Bi-Mart, will be accessed by a two-lane driveway from 24th Avenue, which was part of the pav-



This aerial view shows the new county RV dump site under construction on county property between the FAC homeless shelter and BiMart.
Photo by Mack Knebel

ing project last week and will also serve the homeless shelter.

Linn County park dump sites for use by campsite users are currently located at Riverbend County Park (\$15 dump fee) and Waterloo County Park (\$15

dump fee). Other nearby dump sites can be found at Sweet Home RV Center, 4691 Hwy. 20, and Gill’s Landing RV Park, 1400 Grant St. East, Lebanon.

Davis said the Riverbend and Wa-

terloo dumps are restricted to campers staying at those sites due to EPA requirements. The Sunnyside facility will

RV Dump ... See P. 9

Entering second year of partnership ...

Improvements made at USFS campsites

By Alex Paul
Parks Newsletter

ALBANY — The Linn County Parks & Recreation Department doubled in size in 2024, becoming the concessionaire for U.S. Forest Service campgrounds and other facilities in both Linn and Marion counties.

The move — which added 400 USFS campsites — brought the total number of camping spots managed by Linn County parks to nearly 1,000.

Parks & Recreation Director Stacey Whaley submitted a 259-page application to secure the five-year contract with an option for a second

five years.

Whaley said her staff — veterans and newcomers alike — stepped up to tackle the many challenges of growing so rapidly.

“We were fortunate to have staff and camp hosts who are so knowledgeable and did a great job.”

— Stacey Whaley, Parks Director

Long-time staff Assistant Supervisor Adam Brenneman

took on a new role managing all of the facilities in the Detroit area, including Breitenbush and the Big Lake areas.

“Adam really stepped up and did a terrific job,” Whaley said. “He took the lead on the Forest Service

campgrounds, from Detroit to Big Lake.”

Whaley said Brenneman learned about all of the new sites, trained the new seasonal staff and camp hosts and worked with a new Ranger.

Drew Crockett, who previously worked for the Linn County Juvenile Department, moved to the Parks & Recreation Department and managed facilities in the mid-valley, along Highways 20 and 126.

“We were fortunate to have staff and camp hosts who are so knowledgeable and did a great job,” Whaley said.

Whaley said that overall, the first season went well.

As part of its contract to man-

age the U.S. Forest Service campgrounds, Linn County agreed to make maintenance and other improvements each year.

“We think the public is going to be very happy with the improvements our staff made,” Whaley said. “We always exceed the amount of work we are expected to do.”

Linn County brought 12 years’ experience managing Forest Service campgrounds along Highway 20 near Cascadia into the new adventure.

Among the many projects tackled over the past year by the Parks & Recreation staff were:

- Remove hazard trees. Due to the

Parks projects ... See P. 3

To make campsite reservations visit www.linnparks.com or call 541-967-3917



Members of the Linn County Parks & Recreation Department staff keep our Linn County parks clean and well-maintained. Left to right: Wes Pike, Devin Kress, Tristan Davis, Tim Reith, Christy Pierce, Adam Brenneman, Kade Pulliam, Drew Crockett, Justin Brenneman, Charlie Altishin, JR Erspamer and Michelle Schmitt. The photo was taken in September 2024 at Big Lake.

Our parks team goes above and beyond every day

Teamwork Makes The Dream Work

One of my favorite things about the Linn County Parks Department is the teamwork involved. Every person has an important role in the department to help things run smoothly. If you ask any of the staff what makes working here so great, they will tell you that they love the teamwork of working together on projects. Full-time staff work together every year to train up the large number of seasonal staff that help in

Stacey Whaley

Linn County Parks Director



the busy summer season in everything from customer service, money handling, troubleshooting, water systems, reservations, cleaning protocols and more. Seasonal staff can have a variety of roles — camp hosts, assistant rangers, mowers, guest services, maintenance assistants, cleaners and caretakers. For the

temporary time they are with us, seasonal staff help meet the extra needs of the public in our parks during the busiest times of year. Our full-time staff is pretty small, considering all the facilities we operate and maintain. We only have 16 full-time staff in the whole department, yet we operate approximately 55 recreation sites such as campgrounds, boat ramps, a resort, picnic shelters, day use parks, waysides, and even a museum! (In the summer, we rent more than 1,000 campsites a night.) Did you know that most of the construction projects that we tackle are completed by our own Parks staff? On any given day, rangers and maintenance staff might be truck drivers, concrete finishers, carpenters, plumbers, construction

laborers, tree trimmers, water testers, and more. With all this work to do, the Parks Team has to work together every day. Sometimes that means spotting for someone else and cleaning up debris when we have to remove a hazardous tree, and other times that can mean holding the other end of the concrete finishing tool as we pour and smooth out a new sidewalk. It can even mean running an excavator while your coworker hauls the material in a dump truck.

Director's Notes ... See P. 3



Concrete crew (front to back) Tristan Davis, Operations Supervisor; Kade Pulliam, Ranger; Amanda Shaw, Construction Maintenance; Brett Tetzlaff, Construction

Would you like to come work for the Linn County Parks Department? We hire most summer seasonal positions between February and April, but we have winter seasonal positions at some locations as well. Grab an application on linnparks.com and email with your resume to parksjobs@co.linn.or.us.

Parks Director's notes ... *From P. 2*

Recently, that has also meant working together to build yurts, including the new river view yurt at River Bend Campground that was completed in September, forming and pouring new sidewalks at Lewis Creek Park last fall, and to remodel the lodge at Clear Lake in the winter of 2023-24, just to name a few.

It is a point of pride to be able to say, "I helped build that!"

Even the office staff is an essential part of the team every day. Whether it's taking reservations, creating social media or website content, creating and managing the budget, paying the bills, or hiring the more than 60 seasonal staff each year, the office staff are in

constant contact with the field staff to ensure that all systems are running smoothly.

Other county departments also team up with us all the time — the GIS Department creates all of our park maps, the Sheriff's Office helps us keep visitors safe (and conducts search and rescue operations when they aren't), and the Treasurer's Office and the Accounting Department helps us turn user fees into funding for staff members to keep parks clean and functional.

There are a lot of moving parts in the Linn County Parks Department, and let me tell you, this staff is amazingly talented!



Parks staff working at Cove Creek Campground.



New wastewater holding tanks at River Bend Campground.



We keep adding yurts because they are so popular with our guests.

Campground projects ... *From P. 1*

Labor Day 2020 fires that roared across thousands of acres of public and private timber lands in the Santiam Canyon, there are many dead standing trees remaining, including in campgrounds.

- Major road shoulder repairs at Big Lake West Campground. Whaley said shoulders on both sides of the single-lane road were rebuilt with crushed compacted rock.
- Working in partnership with the Back Country Horsemen, several projects — including cleaning the manure shed and repairing trails — were completed at the

Big Meadow Horse Camp on Highway 22.

- Working in partnership with the Oregon Equestrian Trails group, completed clean-up projects at the Sevenmile Horse Camp on Highway 20.
- Information about all campgrounds including updated maps, campsite numbering was completed in partnership with the Linn County GIS Department.
- Repaired part of the road into the Longbow Group Camp east of Sweet Home.
- Removed loads and loads of

leaves at campgrounds.

- Graded the Lost Lake entrance road.
- Installed a new large wastewater holding tank at River Bend Campground.

- Completed extensive work at Lewis Creek Day Use Area including a new concrete swim area with handicap access, new sidewalks and new restrooms.
- Made major leak repairs to the Cove Creek water system (Detroit Lake).

To make reservations for Linn County Parks, visit
www.linnparks.com.

To make reservations for U.S. Forest Service
campgrounds, visit:
www.recreation.gov.

Linn County Board of Commissioners



Roger Nyquist



Sherrie Sprenger



Will Tucker

Comments, questions?

Do you have a comment or story idea for the Linn County Parks Newsletter? Please contact Editor Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer at 541-967-3825 or email apaul@co.linn.or.us.

River Bend yurt features outdoor kitchen; amazing view

By Alex Paul
Parks Newsletter

CASCADIA — A new yurt at River Bend Campground near Cascadia, has received accolades from not only visitors, but also Parks Director Stacey Whaley and Park Ranger Kade Pulliam.

The 20-footer was constructed late last summer and opened to the public in September.

It is the fourth yurt at River Bend and is being praised for its outstanding accessibility for all, including someone who may use a wheelchair, and for its outstanding view of the South Santiam River.

The 20-footer is single level, plus it features some very nice amenities such not one, but two fire pits — propane and wood — and an outdoor kitchenette.

“It is popular and people are just learning about it,” Pulliam said. “It is fully ADA accessible, plus it has a wrap-around deck and a propane-powered fire-pit on the back side. It features a kitchenette with lights and it is easily accessible from the parking lot.”

Pulliam said there is a bar top that seats three or four people and is wheelchair accessible.

“There are three new moveable benches and a wood-fired firepit as well,” Pulliam said.

And the cherry on top of the ice cream sundae is the beautiful view of the South Santiam River.

“It’s only about 35 yards from the river,” Pulliam said. “We did some clearing and the view is amazing,” Pulliam said.

As with other Linn County Parks cabins and yurts, furniture was constructed by Brett Teztlaff, Daisy Brennemen and Amanda Shaw, Pulliam said.

“I love this yurt and especially the flooring,” Pulliam. “We went with a natural look. We installed tongue and groove planks, burnished them with fire and then covered it with a clear coating like what goes on gym floors. It is beautiful. We’re excited to see how it works out.”

Pulliam said that although pets are allowed in park cabins (with a pet deposit) they are not allowed in yurts.

Whaley said the new unit is close to the cabin area.

Whaley said the new yurt is the 16th yurt installed by parks staff in recent years. Two more yurts were added at Clear Lake in 2024.

“People really like yurts because they feel like camping, but everything is all set up for them when they arrive,” Whaley said. “There are comfy beds and a kitchen. They are light and airy and have a vaulted ceiling feel to them.”

Whaley said the 20-foot yurt sleep up to five people and rents for \$125 per night, during the spring and summer months. It rents for \$100 per night from November through March.



Light and airy interior of the new yurt at River Bend Campground near Cascadia.



Propane fire pit in outdoor seating area. There is a wood-fired fire pit as well.



The new yurt offers an outstanding view of the South Santiam River.



Kitchenette offers a covered outdoor cooking experience.



Furniture was constructed by Linn County Parks staff members.



Park Rangers JR Erspamer (standing) and Kade Pulliam (crouching).



A major improvement at Lewis Creek Park was the installation of a handicap-accessible concrete swimming ramp.

Many projects completed at Lewis Creek



Many yards of concrete were needed to form up new, extra-wide sidewalks.



Installing a new pre-built restroom and the finished product, left.

On-line parks reservations



Linn County Campgrounds: www.linnparks.com

Forest Service Campgrounds: www.recreation.gov





Safe boating tips from the Oregon State Marine Board

Safe Boating Check list

- Personal flotation devices
- Whistle and/or signal horn
- Fire extinguisher
- Distress signals such as flares
- Properly operating running lights
- Container for cans/paper/plastic
- Ski flag
- Flashlight
- Tow rope
- Proper documentation
- Tools
- Communication devices: cell phones/CB radios

Courtesy Oregon State Marine Board:

- When leaving your vehicle unattended at the boat ramp, take your valuables with you.
- Avoid alcohol. Alcohol is involved in 30 percent of Oregon boating fatalities each year.
- Operate at a safe speed.
- Don't overload your boat.
- Watch out for low water areas and submerged objects.
- Always tell someone where you are going and when you will return.

- Always wear a properly fitted life jacket.
- Use the Touchdown Test:
- With the jacket on, raise your arms as though signaling a touchdown. When looking to the left, right and over the shoulder, if the chest part of

the jacket doesn't hit your chin, it probably fits.

- For children: Have your child stand normally, arms at sides. Grab the life jacket at the shoulders and firmly lift up. If you can move the life jacket more than three inches up and down the child's body, it doesn't fit

Linn County Historical Museum Events



Carriage Me Back

1st weekend in May

Stand By Me Day

July 23

Hands on History

4th Saturday in August

Moyer House Holiday Open House

Dec. 26-New Year's Eve

541-466-3390

101 Park Avenue
Brownsville, Oregon
lchm@co.linn.or.us

We want to hear from you.

Please take our survey.



Just point your phone camera at this QR code and answer a few questions we can use to help make your Linn County Parks & Recreation experience better.

2025 Linn County Parks & Recreation Visitors Guide

Coming in May!

Look for it online at: www.linnparks.com

You can help stop the spread of invasive species!

Linn County Sheriff's Office

Of the many glorious things that come with spring, one of the things that many of us take advantage of around here is boating!

With boating though, comes the danger of invasive species.

Invasive species are animals, plants, and microorganisms that are not native to Oregon and once here can reproduce so vigorously that they replace our native species. Agriculture, forestry, tourism, and water resource infrastructure, including hydropower facilities, are at serious risk of being adversely impacted by invasive species.

Recreating in areas such as Foster Lake, Green Peter, and the Santiam River, can all potentially lead to invasive species growth within our environment.

One way to help prevent this, is to keep your boat "Clean and Dry":

- Clean all aquatic plants, animals and mud from your boat, motor or trailer and discard in the trash. Rinse, scrub, or pressure wash, as appropriate away from storm drains, ditches or waterways. Lawns, gravel pads, or self-serve car washes are best.

- Drain your motor, live well, bilge and internal compartments on land before leaving the waterbody. For paddle boats, drain by inverting or tilting the craft, opening compartments, and removing seats if necessary. Rinse or flush under flooring, at inflation chamber joints or other areas that can trap mud and debris.

- Dry your boat between uses if possible. Leave compartments open and sponge out



standing water. Find a place that will allow the anchor line to dry.

If you are going to boat, help stop the spread.

Also: please don't transport firewood to reduce movement of the Emerald Ash Borer.

For more information, please visit: <https://buff.ly/3Ki8PmO> and <https://buff.ly/3Ki6xUz>.

Landslide cleared: Quartzville Road has reopened

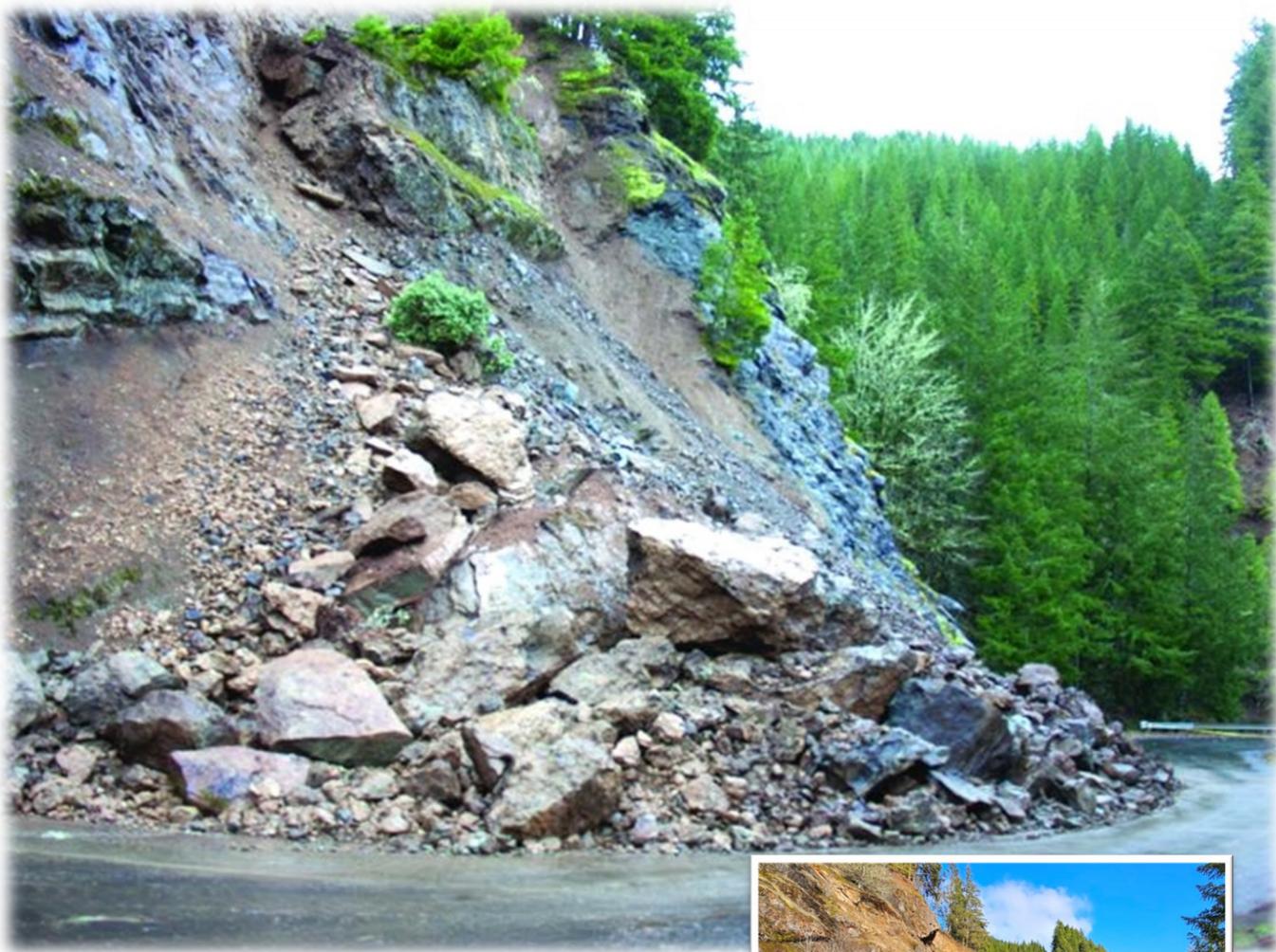
SWEET HOME — Quartzville Road opened in late February after being closed for nearly two months following a rockslide.

The rockslide, at Milepost 13, covered most of the road, above the Quartzville arm of Green Peter Lake, and Linn County closed the road until the Bureau of Land Management, which is responsible for that section of the Quartzville Back Country Byway, got it cleared.

BLM employees and contractors cleared the rockslide and placed barriers at the base of the previously disturbed slope. The BLM advises continued caution while driving throughout the Cascade Range, particularly in the winter months.

"Thanks to a coordinated effort between hardworking contractors, Linn County representatives, and BLM employees, we are pleased to reopen the byway to the public," said Dennis Teitzel, the BLM's Northwest Oregon District Manager. "Please remain alert and watch for loose rocks and debris while driving and recreating."

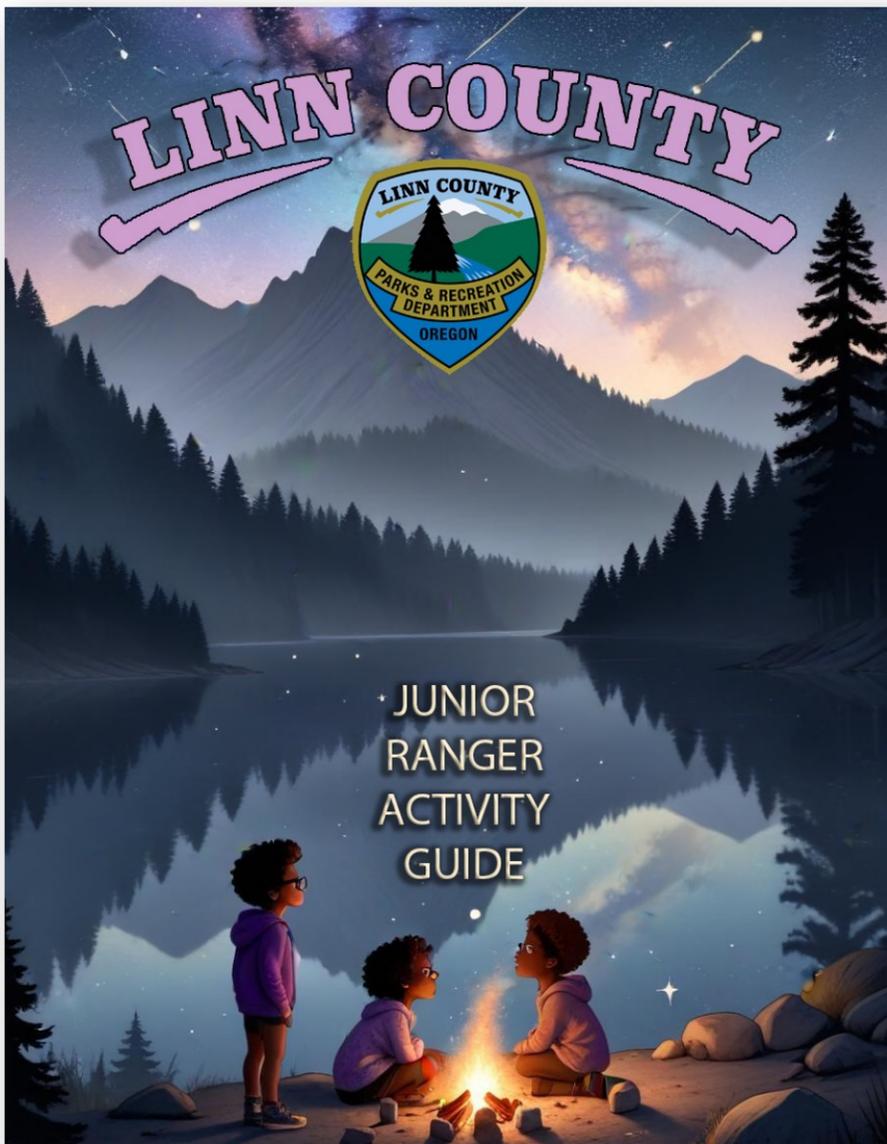
For more information on traveling and recreating in along Quartzville Road, visit www.blm.gov/visit/quartzville-back-country-byway.



A rock slide in December led to the closure of the Quartzville Road until late February.

The road connects Sweet Home with the Marion Forks area and provides a colorful drive for motorists.





Cover of the 2025 Linn County Parks Junior Ranger Activity Guide.

Hey, kids! How would you like to become a Jr. Ranger?

The Linn County Parks Junior Ranger Program keeps growing.

From a handful of participants in 2023, the Junior Ranger Program had more than 75 participants in 2024. The Jr. Ranger program is growing every year.

Featuring a new and improved Junior Ranger Activity Book for kids, ages 5-12, becoming a Junior Ranger is fun for everyone. Pick up your copy of the Junior Ranger Activity Book from any park rang-



Thank you to all of the Junior Ranger participants for 2024! Madilee was the winner of the Grand Prize camping package, awarded by Linn County Parks & Recreation's Allie Bates.

Kids: Don't forget to wear your Junior Ranger shirts to the parks this summer.

er and complete the activities inside.

All participants who complete the activity book will receive a custom T-shirt to commemorate their achievements at the end of summer.

Completed books will be entered into a drawing for a "Grand Prize."

"Our Park Rangers really enjoy this program," Parks Director Stacey Whaley said. "They have fun finding kids doing things



Scuffy

right and give them stickers or other prizes. It is very positive."

The Junior Ranger program guides participants through a range of activities that encourage them to learn about nature, the animals they may encounter in our parks, essential packing tips, safety advice and much more.

The Junior Ranger program also features "Scuffy" a charming cartoon bobcat, who guides kids along their journey with encouragement to explore nature and have fun doing it.

Include your contact information on the back and turn the book into any Linn County Parks & Recreation Ranger or the fee tube at the park.

Participants will be entered in the grand prize drawing.

If you have questions about the Junior Ranger Program, please ask any Linn County Park Ranger.

Do Not Tamper With Water Safe Barriers!

SWEET HOME — It is illegal to play on or tip over the colorful synthetic swimming safety boom at Lewis Creek County Park.

It is there for the safety of swimmers at the popular day-use area on Foster Reservoir. It is large and colorful so people can easily see it and know they should not swim beyond it, or if in a boat or other watercraft, get too close to the swimmers.

It was installed in 2021 because in July 2020 a young boy was killed when the driver of a jet ski accidentally hit the gas controls and could not get the vehicle stopped before it slammed into two six-year-old children.

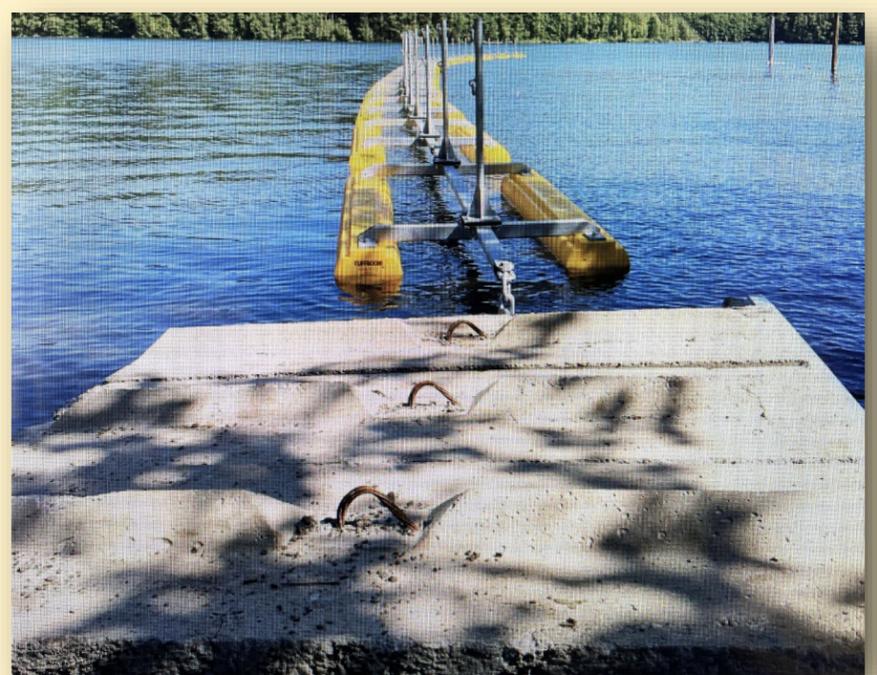
Kennedy Swenson was injured, including a broken jaw. Zachary Maynard was suffered severe head trauma and died.

The driver of the jet ski was 23 years old and had not been drinking. He was attempting to remove his life jacket that featured a safety switch wire that would stop the jet ski should he fall off. He placed the life jacket over the jet ski's handlebars and that created enough pressure to accelerate it and throw the driver off.

There was no way to stop the watercraft since the kill switch had not been activated and he was no longer in control of the machine.

Linn County installed the \$255,000 barrier in hopes of never experiencing another accident like that in the future.

The boom is designed to stop a 27-foot boat and reduce it from 60 miles per hour



to zero in a half-second.

It is not to be played on or tampered with under any circumstances.

Linn County Parks RV dump station is up and running ... *From P. 1*

eventually be decommissioned because it cannot meet required EPA standards, he said.

Plus, during busy seasons, there's often a long wait for RVs to access the facilities, he said.

“We have RV dumps at numerous county parks that we're struggling with, trying to keep up with the high use on those, keeping them within standards.”

Former Linn County Parks Director Brian Carroll, now retired, proposed the idea of the larger public dump, Davis said, working with the Oregon State Parks Department to procure \$355,000 in grant funds that covered part of the cost of the \$900,000 project. Additional funding came from the Transient Lodging Tax and RV license fees. The project has taken 3½ years to complete, with the official opening anticipated by early May.

“We got the idea of constructing a multi-lane RV dump facility for people, that's kind of like a one-stop shop,” Davis said. “There'll be potable water here, a garbage facility and black tanks. We just worked through a design phase to put it in here.”

The new facility will also deposit directly into the city's main sewer trunk line, he said. That is expected to alleviate a problem that Linn County has been coming up against with its park septic systems.

Linn County Parks Director Stacey Whaley told The New Era that toilets in households use a lot of water to flush the effluent away, thus diluting the contents, but toilets in RVs use very little water in the process. As such, the county park septic systems are becoming increasingly more difficult to meet DEQ standards.

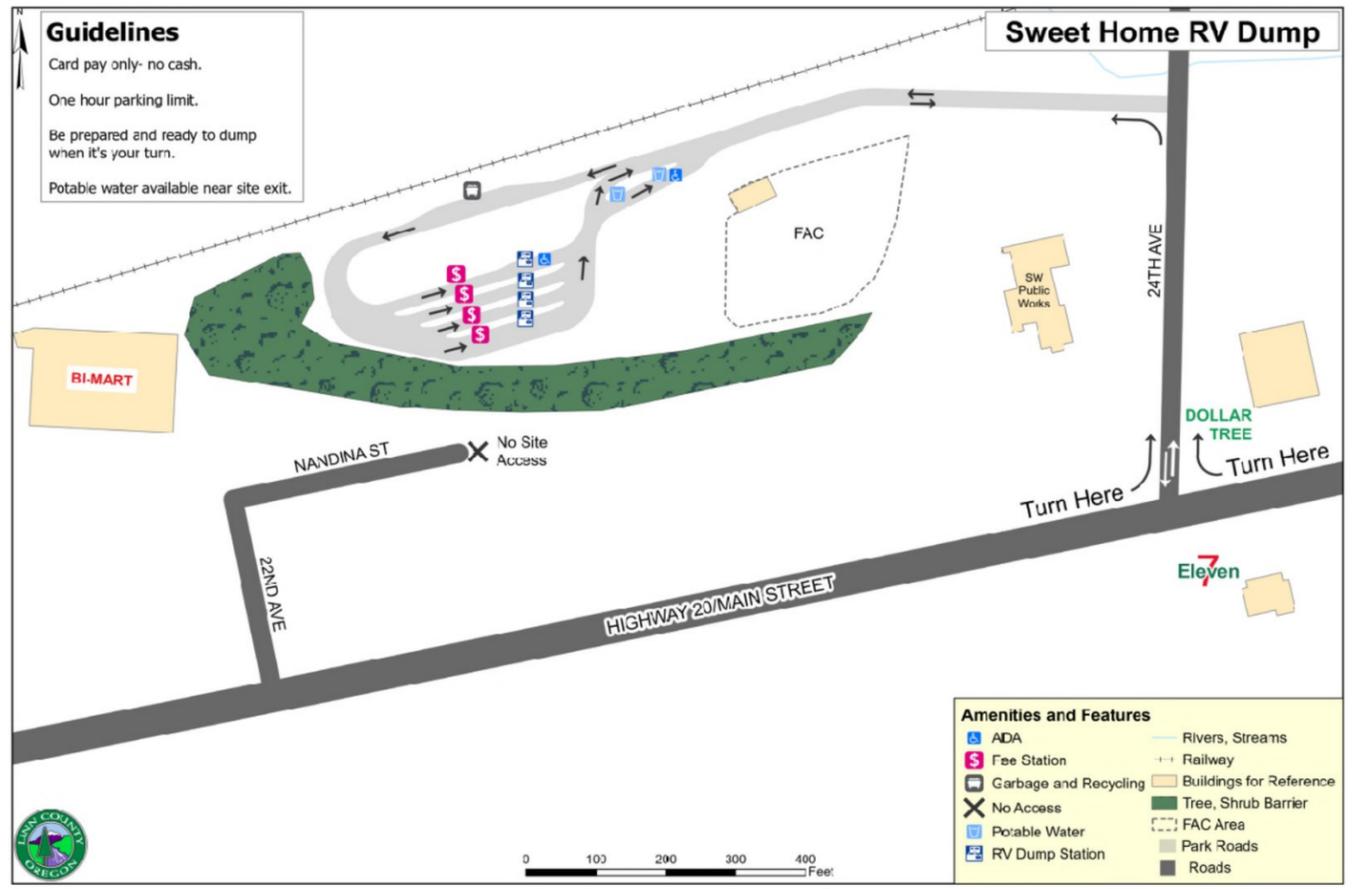
Davis said there were some construction challenges along the way, “as is typical with large projects,” including the discovery of methane gas produced by wood chips from past mill operations.

“This is the old log pond,” he said, gesturing toward the area where each of the four lanes passes by its own water tower.

The methane problem was solved by installing two diffusers, which dissipate

“We have RV dumps at numerous county parks that we're struggling with, trying to

Ribbon cutting at 2 p.m., Thursday, May 8.



Trailers and RVs of all sizes will find plenty of space at the new Linn County Parks RV Dump. Enter off Highway 20 on 24th Avenue in Sweet Home. There are four dump lanes and a bypass lane for easy access. The system will only accept credit cards.

any gas collected by an underground system, he said.

The Sweet Home City Council in 2023 agreed to prohibit parking on 24th Avenue north of Main Street, in part to improve access for large vehicles trying to access the dump facility.

Whaley said users will access the dump services at a kiosk that will accept credit cards. Cost will be \$10 per vehicle. Davis said the county has contracted for that with a Sisters-based firm, SaniStar, which already has a pay station at River Bend Campground.

“You just tap your credit card, it unlocks it and you can dump,” he said.

The new facility will be particularly useful in the summer, he said.

“Even during the Jamboree when there's hundreds of RVs around town, this will be great for them,” he said. “You pull in, there's four lanes, there shouldn't be a 45-minute wait like we see at River Bend sometimes.”



The new Linn County Parks RV dump station in Sweet Home features four dump units and a pass-through lane.



Knife River workers pour asphalt at the new Linn County Parks RV dump station in Sweet Home on February 26.

Native + American + Cultural + Encampments

Brought to you by Linn County Parks
& Recreation

Open to the public

Hello everyone, we invite you to our home away from home and hope you will have a great time learning about our culture, heritage and traditions and to share with you our native ways.

We always end our weekend with a feast on Sunday afternoon. We hope you will enjoy your time with us.

Hiya Masi (Thank You)

What is a cultural encampment?

Cultural encampment is a group of Native Americans from different parts of the United States coming together, making village-type settings with tipis and tents. We share our individual cultures and traditional information with the community.

Many moons ago, traveling through an area, you might see groups of tipis or tents for a short time in each area. They were there to gather together, trade or meet family members and to celebrate life by having a big feast and sharing food with one another as they traveled from one area to another. Come see what we have to offer.

A little bit about us.

We are a group of Native Americans with different backgrounds from different tribes in the U.S. We have come here to share with you our culture and traditions. We are working to enlarge our group and add more interested tribal people so we are always reaching out to many different indigenous groups around the U.S. to bring more information about native culture from all over the U.S. to share with the community.

You can ask questions about us and we will answer the best way we can with the knowledge that has been passed down to us. We have brought



to you some of our history of our people and their journey through this area they traveled many years ago — trading, gathering, fishing and hunting.

At each encampment, there will be an agenda posted at the entryway to our village. There you will find dates and time of each event happening Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Please come in and visit and talk with us.

FRIDAY

Morning Prayer

We always start each day with a morning prayer. If you are up before the sun you may join us at our camp. A prayer is a good way to greet the day and make sure that the day goes smoothly and to ask our Creator/Great Spirit to bless the grounds we are on and everyone who may visit and thank him for our blessings.

Usually, we start at sunrise with the prayer and to catch the first rays of the sun when it touches our camp area about 5:30 or 6 a.m. When the prayer is finished we usually start a campfire and cook breakfast.

We will open the village at 10 a.m. Friday through Sunday

Meet & Greet 10-10:30 a.m.

It is important for us to introduce ourselves and welcome you to our camp,

answer questions that you might have. We will do this every day of the encampment.

We will have things on display and items for sale from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Please come and see what there is for offer.

Each encampment will have its own craft class you can participate in. Instructors will help you complete your craft item before you leave each day. Class times are from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Storytelling & Flute Music: 4-6 p.m.

We start with a flute song, then storytelling and we combine the two as we go along. We also answer questions about stories and our music at this time. When the last story is told, we thank you for coming to listen to us.



Evening Prayer

After we are finished with the stories and music, we finish with a prayer to end the day. We thank everyone for coming and remind them of the next day's events.

SATURDAY

Today, as before, we start with a prayer at sunrise; camp opens at 10 a.m. and the Meet & Greet will be

from 10-10:30 a.m.

Craft Class from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Native American

Traditional Dancing Demonstration and

Information 1-3 p.m.

Beautiful bright colors moving in the breeze, feather flowing in the air, the heartbeat of Mother Earth, voices singing a song for everyone to dance to and prayers in each step.

Evening Prayer

Please join us in prayer after we have finished daily presentation.

Sunday

Morning Prayer: We start the day at 6 a.m. with a prayer at sunrise. You may join us if you wish. Camp will open with a meet and greet from 10 -10:30 a.m.

Native American Traditional Dancing

Demonstration & Information 1-3 p.m.

Dance demonstration and information about our dance regalia and meaning of the dancing. We will also answer questions and are happy to share our dancing traditions with you.

Thank You Feast 5-7 p.m.

We welcome all of our new friends with a feast to thank everyone for coming and sharing our culture and traditions. We thank all those who helped us with everything. We hope you enjoyed yourselves.

Hiya Masi (Thank You)

Ending Prayer

We thank the Creator for everything and everyone who has come to share with us and all those who have helped us.

Blessing to all.

Hiya Masi —

Thank You

We wish to thank our friends at Linn County Parks & Recreation for bringing us back this year, the Park Rangers for everything they have done for us and all of the help needed to bring these encampments together.

Contact Information

You can reach Deitz Peters/Cultural Encampment Director/Cultural instructor at: petersdeitz@gmail.com and at naculturalencampment.org and the Linn County Parks web page.

Call 541-570-5950.

Also: Kathy Keating-Peters Non-Profit information Liaison.

naculturalencampment.org/



Cultural Encampments

ROARING RIVER PARK

— JUNE 26-30

WATERLOO COUNTY PARK

— JULY 24-28

CASCADIA COUNTY PARK

— AUGUST 21-25



Linn County Parks will not accept checks starting this season.

New Remote Off-Grid Kiosks are being installed or upgraded at campgrounds. Credit cards will be used to pay for everything from campsites to firewood purchases.

Cash will also be accepted.

Parks will not accept checks in 2025 ...

Linn County Parks adds tap and go pay system

Linn County Parks guests will see new equipment as they use high volume sites — Remote Off-Grid Kiosks — or ROK that accept credit and debit cards.

Linn County Parks & Recreation is moving toward a cashless system. No checks will be accepted, but cash will still be accepted as usual for everything from first-come, first-serve camping, to extra vehicle fees and firewood purchases.

“Handling cash is quite time-consuming,” Parks Director Stacey Whaley explained. “We also get some bad checks.”

Another advantage is that camp hosts will not have to handle cash.

The new tap and pay system will allow staff time to do other needed parks chores.

The new machines facilitate the use of credit cards to pay fees for camping or wood purchases, or to use an RV dump station.

They are made by a company called Sanistar, based in Sisters.

Sani-Star has installations in 46 States and five Provinces across the U.S.A and Canada; in large national travel centers, National Forest campgrounds, city and county campgrounds, gas stations and convenience stores and even national retail stores.

Linn County Parks & Recreation sites that have ROK systems already in place are Sunnyside Campground, Lewis Creek Park day use area, Waterloo Campground, Clear Lake Resort and both Cove Creek and Hoover Campgrounds, U.S. Forest Service campgrounds at Detroit Lake.

RV dump sites have similar machines made by Sanistar, but are specific to the dump station application:

- RV dump sites at River Bend and Waterloo
- Sweet Home RV dump station

At the parks, some of the ROK kiosks only provide day use passes (Lewis Creek), while others do multiple functions such as sales of firewood, ice, first-come first-serve campsites, day use parking fees, extra vehicle fees, etc.

When you purchase something at a ROK with your card, it will print out a ticket.

For parking or extra vehicle fees, place the ticket facing up on your dash.

For camping, follow campground specific instructions on the machine.

For firewood and ice, bring your printed ticket to the camp host or other parks staff to redeem for the purchased product.

Day Use Fees

Remember, the following Linn County sites require day use fees:

- Sunnyside County Park
- Lewis Creek Day Use Area
- Waterloo County Park

\$9 per day per vehicle or \$75 for a season pass

\$9 day use fee added at Waterloo County Park

A \$9 per vehicle day use fee has been added at Waterloo County Campground in 2025, according to Parks Director Stacey Whaley.



A day use fee has already been in place at Sunnyside County Park and Lewis Creek Day Use Area on Foster Reservoir and at Clear Lake Resort.

Visitors can also purchase a season pass for \$75 that allows them unlimited visits.

Whaley said the implementation of day use fees helps support county parks maintenance and also helps reduce “drive-through traffic” visitors, who are not camping.

There is a \$9 per vehicle fee at Clear Lake Resort, in part to help reduce parking congestion. Since the resort is on U.S. Forest Service land, some National Forest passes are accepted at Clear Lake.

There is no longer a boat launching fee at Clear Lake Resort, Whaley said.

“We have limited parking and we really can’t expand it,” Whaley said.

Visitors who are renting a cabin or yurt, do not have to pay the fee for the first vehicle. Whaley said.

“We get lots of visitors from other counties who enjoy visiting Clear Lake,” Whaley said. “The parking fee helps us spread maintenance cost across more users and across all services.”