

Flathead CORE 3-20-2019

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1. Winter Trails Day – Lone Pine did night hike and worked out really well. Kids decorated luminaries. There were 44 people. Denny, Flathead Audubon, planned an Owen Sowerwine Natural Area trip on Feb. 9 and it was so cold it had to be rescheduled for a week later.
2. CORE website committee -will schedule a sub-committee meeting to continue work on updating the resource providers list. Hailey (FCD) volunteer to help get events on the website if folks forward the information to her email. The website has been getting requests about the 4-H camp. Somewhere there is a link that directs people to the CORE website. This needs to be investigated. Denny (Flathead Audubon) recommends contacting Jake Bramante to see if he can help us trouble shoot problems.
3. Teacher Workshop – Flathead Watershed through the Seasons. Laura will send flyer and information to CORE participants. Hailey, will put it on the CORE website.
4. Spring events (will be posted on www.flatheadcore.org):
 - Forestry Expo, May 6th week - it has more schools participating this year than every before. Many CORE participants help with this.
 - Libby Dam - teacher workshop and a raptor day coming up in May.
 - Earth Day event at Whitefish Middle School, April 27- Many CORE participants help with this.
 - Arbor Day, April 26 – Woodland Park for 3rd graders, District 5.
 - Arbor Day, May 3, River's Edge Park, Columbia Falls 5th graders.
 - Flathead Lake Bio Station – doing small events with different schools this spring rather than a big event. All the spots are already filled.
 - Artist Wilderness Connection – Artist from the state of MN is creating a unit on trees and journaling and he is doing a teacher workshop, Thursday, April 4. It is on PIRnet and Kathy Martin has the information about it and will send it to us to put on the website.
 - “Connect to Kalispell” Event at Lone Pine State Park – Friday, March 22, 6-8 p.m.
 - Flathead Audubon, Tally Lake overnight campout first weekend in June at group campground.
 - Glacier Bioblitzes – A June mushroom one and a weed blitz later in July. Keep an eye out.
 - Science and History Day at St. Mary VC in Glacier NP, Tuesday, July 23.
 - STEAM teacher workshop on June 13-15, at Glacier Institute Field Camp, is fully funded by the Glacier National Park Conservancy. It is looking at landscape changes and documenting them.
 - National Kids to Parks Day, May 18 – Lone Pine State Park is planning an event. Check their website. Glacier NP is not having an event, but other national parks around the nation are having events.
 - Green Drinks – Citizens for a Better Flathead and Climate Smart Glacier Country are having an event on March 28, at the Kalispell Brewing Company. The program is on conserving agricultural lands in the Flathead, by Ron DeYong, MT Dept. of Agriculture.
 - Montana Audubon Birding Festival, June 7-9 in Glasgow.

5. Road Scholar is hiring for summer.

6. Brian Baxter is available for leading training courses.

7. Swan Valley Connections also volunteered that they could lead training sessions if CORE folks are interested. We can talk about this more at spring meeting.

8. CORE Trunk Workshop – There are some new trunks now at Hockaday, Flathead Lake Bio Station, and Flathead Audubon. We need to market our products better as many teachers do not know about our services. October 17, 2019 at Lone Pine would be the traditional time and location for the CORE trunk workshop. Brian will see if Derrick can coordinate. Laura can check with Cherie about helping us market the trunks. We all need to see if our trunks are updated and of value.

Round Robin

- MCC, Carolyn has \$\$ to do “GUTS” for 6th graders at Columbia Falls. “Girls Using Their Strength”, they have 10 participants. They had 30 applicants for the 10 spots. It is modeled after YWCA. She will do it again in the fall. She might be contacting CORE groups to come to sites for an hour with these girls.
- STEAM organization non-profit here has been active in “Maker Fair.” Also a STEM group with businesses has joined forces. It is to give support to students, parents, teachers for help with STEM and STEAM.
- Swan Valley Connections, Lindsay is partnering with teachers in the Swan to do hands-on, place based education. There are community potlucks with guest speakers, the first Wed. of each month at 5:30 at Condon Community Hall. June 1st is the Bear Fair in Condon. April 25th is the “Bear Wake-Up” social and is open to the public. Check the Swan Valley Connections website for updates.
- Denny, with Flathead Audubon, is working on grants and processing a bird education project with Flathead Land Trust, MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks, and other groups for 4th graders and 7th graders in spring/fall. They are working with district 5 schools right now. On Riverside Drive, Ranchette Road there are 400 tundra/trumpeter swans right now.
- Citizens for a Better Flathead – Allison goes to schools, K-6, to talk about recycling. In May they do compost field trips to FVCC agricultural area.
- Hockaday, there is zero money for high school field trips so Hockaday is working on how to get students there in one period by walking. The museum’s Peoples’ Choice Award had a three-way tie. The “Mark Makers” Exhibit is going on right now. Plein Air Painters of America Paint Glacier will be working with Museum in June.
- Geotourism map is free for teachers and has a lot of information on heritage and other place-based topics. Of note at the Business of Outdoor Recreation Summit, one award (\$5,000) went to Free Flow students and one went to MT Conservation Corps.
- Lone Pine has really improved the amount of programs that they are offering with new interpreter who is doing lots of new things.
- Flathead Lake Bio Station – in a lot of classrooms talking about invasive species and teaching students to do “mussel walk”. An artist will be making mussel models (since can’t have real ones). First Tuesday of every month has speaker at Flathead Brewery and \$5 charge/person goes to Flathead Lakers.

- FLBS will have an education intern this summer and they would like to go to summer camps around lakes. Brian and Hailey can send Monica about contact information for these camps. There are volunteer submarine people who will be at the FLBS for open house in August.
- Flathead Conservation District – Natural Resource Based summer camp has openings and can find out information on their website. Demonstration garden is being worked on and should be open this summer. Working with city of Kalispell for a rain garden initiative.
- May 22, 2019, next meeting at FCD from 3:30 – 5 p.m.