



Parks Foundation

CLARK COUNTY

Inspiring kids of all ages to connect with nature.

February 2010

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A Fresh Look at an Old Love

For many of us nature is an old friend - a companion in good times and bad, a true love we often take for granted. As kids we tromped around in the mud, ran after each other with sticks, and rolled down a hill of fresh grass. Unfortunately, many of our kids today do not experience the freedom and joy we found in nature. And sadly, many of us adults neglect our connection to nature. When was the last time you rolled down a hill?

In partnership with the Vancouver Clark Parks & Recreation Department and community leaders across Clark County, the Parks Foundation is embarking on a new initiative focused on connecting “kids of all ages” with nature.

We are in the process of developing a coalition of education, health, environment, and recreation organizations to build awareness, secure funding, and develop programs aimed at getting kids of all ages back to nature.

So get out there! Reconnect. Introduce someone to nature. And share your stories with us. We are now on Facebook - so post your pictures and stories and inspire all the “kids” you know to get out there, too!

Cheri Martin
Executive Director



City Spotlight Ridgefield

The purchase of a 17-acre parcel of land will serve as a future community park for citizens and visitors of Ridgefield. The property consists of rolling topography of primarily buildable land that backs up to a stream corridor and forested open space. Park design and timelines for construction will be considered by the City in the future.

“Acquisition of this parcel is extremely exciting for me and the Ridgefield City Council,” said Mayor Ron Onslow. “The opportunity to purchase such a significant piece of developable land at this price and set it aside until growth warrants a new community park could not be passed up. Through this purchase we have been able to secure a community park for Ridgefield’s future.”




Take a hike!



it's as easy as your abc's...


Letters are hiding on the ground, in the trees, on the water, and in the sky. When you look at the world a little differently, letter shapes pop out at you from everywhere.


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Go outside with your eyes open wide. Start by looking for the letters in your first name. Found them all? Now try the rest of the alphabet.
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To see something new, try a different view. Lie on your back and look up at the sky. Get down low on your hands and knees. Stand on your head to see an upside-down scene.
- 

Over, under, all around. Up high and on the ground. Letters can be hiding almost anywhere.
- 

Examine the patterns in clouds, mud, and snow; in branches and leaves; in sunlight and shadow.
- 

Look at big shapes and small ones. Use binoculars or a magnifying glass to really zoom in.
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As you discover every letter, a picture will help you remember it better. Carry a camera or sketchbook and take your letters home as photos or drawings.

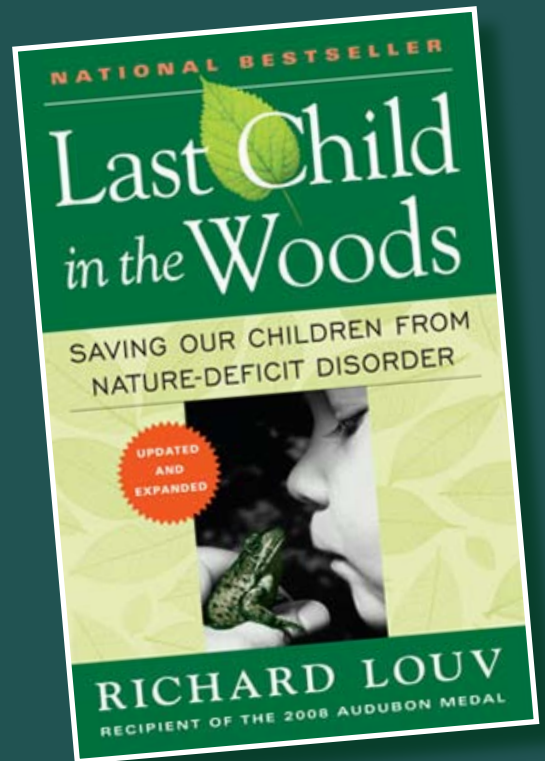
National Wildlife Federation

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Save the Date

Richard Louv, author of *Last Child in the Woods*, to speak at Clark County's inaugural Nature Play Summit. **June 22** details coming soon