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Everyone who loves Mt. Hood has an incredible opportunity to get involved with the grassroots organization working to defend these public lands this summer!

Bark is the Portland-based, volunteer-driven, watchdog organization working to transform Mt. Hood National Forest into a place where natural processes prevail, where wildlife thrives and where local communities have a social, cultural, and economic investment in its restoration and preservation. Bark is awesome! Bark is the resource for community action to protect Mt. Hood National Forest and surrounding federal lands. We prioritize grassroots organizing and believe in the power of an engaged public. We recognize that the forest should thrive not just to provide resources for the human community, but also for the inherent value of nature itself. We maintain an organizational culture that is transparent, inclusive and cooperative, where volunteers, staff and board work together to realize the vision of Bark.

This summer we're organizing our biggest volunteer camp out ever, and you're invited to join in!



Base Camp is a public campout in the beautiful Mt. Hood National Forest, during which campers will support Bark's work by contributing time to [gather critical field information](#) on proposed logging projects and other activities in the surrounding woods. Most importantly, this event will provide us an opportunity to make connections and find intersections between our work and that of other environmental, social, and other place-based movements.

Why hold this event in the forest? Because this forest is amazing! Mt Hood is currently one of the top carbon-storing forests in the country, placing

its future management at the forefront of averting the most catastrophic effects of climate change. Mt. Hood also brings nearly five million visitors to our region each year, and provides a domestic water supply for 1.1 million Oregonians. This forest provides habitat for culturally iconic salmon and steelhead, and countless other wildlife species. The immediate area around our camp has spectacular scenic beauty including majestic waterfalls, intact ancient forest, high mountain lakes, and dazzling native plant species such as the endemic Clackamas Iris.

We envision the forests of Mt. Hood as a symbol of inclusivity and the public good.

Mt. Hood's forests are public, meaning they belong to us all. Through our work to protect the forests, we witness our future compromised by the constant pressure of an insatiable economy and the same corporate dominance that tears apart communities and ecosystems worldwide. What better place to meet and discuss the work to be done in order to create a better world for us all?

For four weeks, from August 2-15 and again from August 30 - September 12, Bark will be hosting [Base Camp](#) as an opportunity for folks to get to know us, learn about the unique ecology of Mt. Hood, get involved with our work to defend the forest, and enjoy this incredible place together.

We will be camping in a free undeveloped campsite in the Upper Clackamas River watershed in Mt. Hood National Forest, near the proposed [Hunter Timber Sale](#). Campers will spend their days [groundtruthing](#) timber sales, exploring the upper reaches of the Clackamas, attending workshops from our friends and guests on a variety of topics. Base Camp is family friendly, so feel free to bring your kids and parents!

There are many ways you can support this ambitious endeavor. Here are a few:

1. Come for a day, a few days, or stay for two weeks. [Let us know](#) you're interested in coming, and we'll send you important updates to prepare.
2. Donate group camping supplies and food. Bark will provide breakfast and dinner each day, and we're especially looking for fresh produce and other locally-sourced food. Here's our [wish list](#).
3. Spread the word!

Bark's Summer Base Camp will be held during the months of August and September, for two 14-day sessions:

Session 1 - Aug 2-Aug 15

Session 2 - Aug 30-Sept 12

This event will be open to all participants who wish to join for any length of time (even if it's just one day).

Sign up to drive in the carpool or find a ride [here](#).

[Bark staff and volunteers will camp along the Clackamas River, near Bagby Hot Springs](#). The campsite will be free of charge and family-friendly, with breakfast and dinner provided (please provide your own lunches, and food to donate to the collective kitchen). We will be offering for workshops in the forest, and will provide opportunities to get involved to protect the forest from the effects of Forest Service projects like the [Hunter Timber Sale](#).

Driving directions to the camp's location will be posted the week before the event.

[SIGN UP HERE](#) if interested in attending Base camp!



Sign up to drive in the carpool or find a ride [here](#).

What to expect:

Please review the Ground Rules for Base Camp [here](#).



Schedule:

People can arrive as early as 5pm on Tuesday, August 2nd to set up group camp. We will begin our work the following day. Each day will begin with a morning orientation for new participants to help prepare for the day ahead.

A typical weekday may look something like this (weekends will be more centered on community-led workshops and fun time!):

8:00AM: Breakfast

9:00AM-10:00AM: Training/overview of the day's work

10:30AM: On field days; Divide into teams, and get field routes prepared. Depart to the field checking area.

10:30-4:00PM: Most days, groups will be in the field participating in [pertinent field work and groundtruthing](#). Other days this time may be dedicated to in-camp workshops or nearby day trips

4/5:00PM: Teams arrive back at camp no later than 5:00PM to debrief

6:00PM: Dinner, additional trainings or discussions.

We will provide:

- A beautiful, free, & **primitive** campsite (NW Forest Pass will *not* be necessary to park)
- Drinking water
- Basic breakfast
- Coffee and tea
- Dinner - We can accommodate many diets (vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free), but *please come prepared to meet your own more specific dietary needs*
- Childcare during field checking, as capacity allows (if you have questions about kids at Basecamp, or want to help with childcare, contact brenna@bark-out.org)
- Trainings and information!
- Supplies for [groundtruthing](#) and other group activities

Since our campsite will be primitive (to allow free camping for all), come prepared for: no electrical hookups, no cell service or Wi-Fi, no garbage pickup, no plumbing (although we will have plenty of water available on site) or flush toilets (we will be using dug latrines).

The following you will need to provide for yourself:

- **You must bring a pack lunch for each day you are attending!** (extra snacks and/or food to share appreciated)
- A "mess kit" (water bottle, mug, bowl, fork and spoon)
- **Tent, sleeping bag and sleeping pad** (bringing an extra tarp is recommended)
- A flashlight or headlamp and extra batteries (very important)
- Extra warm clothing & rain gear (just in case!)
- Personal hygiene needs
- Personal medications
- A camp chair or other comfort needs
- **Boots are necessary** and a spare pair of shoes
- A vehicle (if you have one)

[SIGN UP HERE if you're interested in attending Basecamp](#) or call **(503) 331-0374** for more information. It is helpful to know you are coming so we can have enough food/space for all! If possible, please let us know approximately which days you are interested in attending.

[BASE CAMP ON FACEBOOK](#)

If you plan to drive please review Bark's Expectations for all Drivers, [here](#).

See you in the forest!

~Bark

