

FOCIP ADOPT A PARK MONITORING & STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM INFO

Thank you for considering the FOCIP Adopt-a-Park program. Here is a list of the tasks that would be of help to FOCIP in the stewardship of Camano Island Parks and trails.

1. Basic Responsibility

Walk the trail(s) in the park you are adopting. At least twice a month would be ideal, but we appreciate any time that you can spare. Wear work gloves and carry loppers and/or pruners to take care of invasive blackberry vines, nettles, branches of other shrubs/trees. Please cut back as far as you can reach. You are responsible for your own personal tools replacement if they are broken during your monitoring.

Optional tasks:

Raking leaves off trail or reporting heavy leafed areas. In the late fall, areas of the trails with Maples and Alders need to be raked to prevent mud due to leaves composting on the trail. Leaves should be raked just off the side of the trail providing mulch for the other plants.

Mowing trails with a grass base. Some trails can be mowed (Four Springs - wetland trail and North Loop intersecting trail; Elger Bay Preserve - start of main trail and portions of the nature trail; Iverson Spit - quite a few areas). Our FOCIP string lawnmower is in the north FOCIP storage shed.

2. Report trail problems to FOCIPAdoptAPark@googlegroups.com

Please try to be as detailed as possible with regard to the location. Only authorized FOCIP Work Party crews can use power equipment to take care of these problems.

- Overhead high limbs or vines that might need attending to with a tree lopper. We need to take care of potentially dangerous situations where a falling limb could hurt someone.
- Fallen tree limbs or trees need to be **chain-sawed** and moved off the trail. **Please do not use a chainsaw yourself.** You can offer to join Tom or Jerry if they need help.
- Uprooted or damaged signs
- Vandalism to park benches, platforms, kiosks, etc.
- If off-road vehicles are using the trail, please let Tom know and he will notify park personnel.
- Brush closing in on the trails. A work party crew is needed with the brush cutters and long handle hedge trimmers and other people to pitch cut materials clear off the trail and carry the gas for the brush cutter. Removal of invasive plants: ivy, scotch broom, holly may be done with hand tools and/or special equipment.

If a work party group is needed please let [Tom Eisenberg](#) know with as much detail as possible. He will schedule volunteers to attend to the problem at a Tuesday work party.

Please contact [Tom Eisenberg](#) about any major problems with the park, trail or trail use. He will contact the appropriate park personnel.

3. Be aware of the Winter Walk Schedule, Education Days, Birding trips, events and the need for the trail to be in good condition just prior to those dates. You can view the calendar in our newsletter or at <http://www.friendsofcamanoislandparks.org>.

4. REPORTING TIME

We need a record of who was working in the park and date – this is very important for liability purposes. Please keep track of your time and report your hours to FOCIPAdoptAPark@googlegroups.com at the end of each month. We usually include a reminder with our monthly FOCIP update emails. Note the names of the volunteers, the date, park/trail name, number of hours (including travel time) and a brief description of the work you performed. Trail/park status is also appreciated.

WA State Parks has strict monthly reporting deadlines because of L&I requirements, so we need to submit State Park volunteer hours immediately following the month they were completed. We submit Island County Park volunteer hours on a quarterly basis.

5. If you have ideas for trail/park improvements (i.e.: re-vegetation, placement of benches, signage), please let [Tom Eisenberg](#) or [Jerry Nielsen](#) know.

6. Liability Forms

BE SURE YOU AND WHOEVER WORKS WITH YOU HAVE SIGNED A CURRENT YEAR FOCIP LIABILITY RELEASE FORM. FOCIP MEMBERS MUST SIGN ONE EACH FISCAL YEAR June 1-May 31. FAMILY MEMBERS OR FRIENDS MUST SIGN ONE EACH TIME THEY WORK. This form is available at FOCIP events; you can also download it at the bottom of our Adopt-a-Park web page <http://www.friendsofcamanoislandparks.org/get-involved/adopt-a-park>

7. FIRST AID ADVICE

ALWAYS CARRY A FIRST AID KIT, CELL PHONE, AND IT IS GOOD TO HAVE AN ANTIHISTAMINE IF YOU ARE ALLERGIC TO BEE STINGS. WORKING IN PAIRS IS ALSO A GOOD IDEA.

If you are injured in a State Park, please contact a State Park Ranger ASAP. If you are injured in a county park, call or email [Tom Eisenberg](#) & he will contact the appropriate county department. It is important that you inform your health care provider that your injury occurred during a volunteer activity.

8. Other Info

Messages addressed to FOCIPAdoptAPark@googlegroups.com are sent to Tom Eisenberg, Jerry Nielsen, and the volunteer(s) who compile and report volunteer hours.

Tom's email address is FOCIP.TomE@gmail.com; Jerry can be contacted at FOCIP.JerryN@gmail.com

This information is also available at www.friendsofcamanoislandparks.org – look for Adopt-a-Park in the navigation panel on the left.

Please return your signed forms to FOCIP via mail to

FOCIP Adopt a Park
P.O. Box 1385
Stanwood, WA 98292

or submit in person at the Annual Meeting or work party, or scan and submit via email to FOCIPAdoptAPark@googlegroups.com

THANK YOU again for your interest in maintaining our State and Island County Parks/preserves on Camano.