

Camp Westwind 2025 Spring Foraging Camp Handbook



Your Guide to a Safe
and Enjoyable
Experience at Westwind



About Westwind

Westwind is a 529-acre camp, farm, and wilderness area set in the middle of the Cascade Head UN Biosphere Reserve in Oregon. Owned and operated by the Westwind Stewardship Group, Westwind is home to Camp Westwind, Outdoor School, workshops, events, and volunteer programs.

Our Vision

Westwind will always welcome people to these wild shores and green hills to discover that caring for the land is caring for ourselves and our communities.

Our Mission

The Westwind Stewardship Group inspires people to be stewards of the environment and their communities by conserving Westwind's diverse ecosystems in perpetuity and fostering life-changing experiences for children, families, individuals, and groups.

General Information

Lodging

If you would like to share your cabin with a friend or family member who is also attending, you can request this in your reservation. We will do our best to accommodate all requests.

You will likely be paired with other individuals in a cabin.

If you or anyone in your party requires any special or additional lodging accommodations, please let us know in advance via email.



Important Information

Please remember to confirm that all important information is updated in our online registration system. This includes dietary request forms, cabin requests, and final payments. **It is very important that we are aware of any dietary restrictions or allergies.** Our online system will remind you automatically if you have any incomplete forms.

Lost and Found!

Email info@westwind.org to schedule a time to find your belongings. Westwind is not responsible for items that are lost, stolen, or damaged. Do not bring items that cannot be easily replaced or that you consider to be expensive.

Foraging Camp Specific Information

Foraging Responsibly

- You are welcome to forage and take items home with you. We share this property with many others, even outside of Foraging Camp, who also enjoy the bountiful supplies this site has to offer. Please be mindful as to how much you collect for yourself and be sure to leave some for others.
- When foraging, respect the land by taking only what you need, practicing Leave No Trace, and causing minimal disruption to the forest and undergrowth.

Workshops/Lectures/ID and Free Time

- You will have the option to attend different workshops.
- Lectures throughout the weekend will take place inside Wilson Lodge. These lectures are optional but highly recommended.
- ID and Free Time: during the day, there will be opportunities to gather around our findings and identify what we have found. The display tables will be at Wilson Lodge. This time can also be used to go on a hike, visit our tide pools or beach or walk to our estuary.
- A schedule will be available for you upon arrival.



Arrival, Departure, and Parking

Check-in for Foraging Camp is 4:30 – 6pm.

*We recommend arriving as early as possible to avoid hiking in the dark!

Arrival

- Parking is at Fraser Farm.
- Drive to 7500 N Fraser Rd, Otis, 97368. Fraser is off of Highway 101. After turning onto Fraser Rd., proceed through the yellow and green gates, and another ¼ mile to our black gate.
- Continue through the black gate and continue up and around to the far side of our field. There will be traffic cones and staff directing parking.
- At approximately 5:30pm, the luggage truck will arrive at Wilson Lodge.
- Please follow staff directions and park closely to other cars. Once you are parked, you can load your luggage onto our Westwind truck or trailer.
- From there, please enjoy the 2 mile walk down our beautiful Rainforest Trail into camp.
- If a member of your group needs to be driven to the lodge and dropped off, please call 541-994-2383 or email laura@westwind.org and make arrangements.
- We recommend arriving before 6pm so you are not walking in the dark.

Departure

- Check-out time is at 12:00pm. Please have your cabin packed, empty, and cleaned by 10am with your luggage at the lodge before the morning foray.
- Remember to check out with a staff member to pay any remaining store balances!
- We will have lunch at 12:30pm and then you may begin your hike out! Enjoy the walk back to the farm!

Staff Assistance Contact Information:

Westwind Office: 541-994-2383

Laura, Program Director:
503-927-9557

Reishelle, Assistant Camp Director:
503-680-8314

Late Arrival and Early Departures

The unique location of Camp Westwind is part of what makes camp so magical—it also makes accommodating late arrivals and early departures difficult. Your request for special accommodations for late arrival and early departure must be made to program staff by email or phone in advance.



Recommended Packing List & Tips

Packing List:

- Clothing appropriate for length of stay
- Warm clothing layers
- Warm jacket
- Warm hat and gloves
- Waterproof rain gear (pants and coat)
- Sturdy shoes or boots for hiking (waterproof recommended)
- Warm sleeping bag
- Pillow
- Toiletries
- Medications
- Water bottle
- Flashlight/headlamp and extra batteries

Optional

- Camera
- Twin sheet to cover mattress
- Basket or cloth bag for collecting plants
- Compass
- Field guides
- Loupe
- Small paint brush with soft bristles
- Small knife
- Snacks and drinks (BYOB)
- Glass jar for workshops

Packing Tips

- Pack items in bags you can easily carry up a steep, sandy hill. Wheeled bags are NOT recommended.
- **Remember coastal weather- it is typically 10+ degrees cooler than Portland. Please pack accordingly.**

A Note about Personal Care Products

Westwind is on a septic system and we need your help to keep it running properly. Please DO NOT use antibacterial soaps (the septic system relies on healthy bacteria to run properly), body washes, and other products high in fats and proteins. There are biodegradable, castile, and other environmentally-friendly products available at most grocery stores.

Our septic system is also unable to process flushable wipes. Please do not bring, use, or flush flushable wipes while at Westwind.

Please DO NOT bring these items to camp:

- Electronic equipment you don't want damaged
- Weapons
- Any illegal substance
- Pets