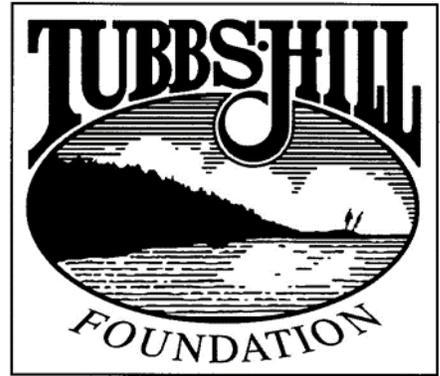


Friends of Tubbs Hill

Spring 2019 Newsletter



Tubb Hill Erosion Mitigation Project Continues

Our project to help the city assess and address the serious problem of erosion due to foot traffic on unofficial trails continued last fall with the help of local high schoolers. Students in Jamie Esler's environmental club at Lake City High School met up with Tubbs Hill Foundation board members in the fall to spend a few hours mapping some of the unofficial trails that are woven across the hill. Unofficial trails are footpaths that have been created by visitors, while official trails are the trails that appear on maps of the hill and were built by the city using proper trail building techniques that protect against erosion. The soil depth on Tubbs is very shallow and lacking significant subsoil to protect its displacement

by foot traffic, so it is especially crucial that we take care to preserve this resource. We used a popular GPS hiking app for smart phones to track our paths. This data is being uploaded by the city's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Coordinator, Debbie Frisbie, to create a map of all the unofficial trails. Thanks to the efforts of Debbie, Jamie, and the LCHS students, we are building a tool for assessing the many user-created pathways on Tubbs. As we get a clearer picture of the abundance of these user "trails," we will be able to prioritize them for restoration projects, focusing on the most serious areas of erosion first. This project is key to

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protecting the health of both the hill and the lake; eroded soils end up in the lake and disrupt the balance of its ecosystem.

We need the help of all visitors to protect the soils on Tubbs Hill. Coeur d'Alene is growing and the hill has seen a significant increase in use, making it more important than ever for visitors to stick to the official trails and refrain from taking anything but photographs, or leaving anything but footprints. We are so fortunate to have a place as special as Tubbs Hill in our city. Please, help us ensure that the hill can continue to support its forest and native plants.

By Jessica Bryant

Make a Day of It !

April 28, 2019

Spring Clean Up

9 a.m. — 12 p.m.

3rd Street Entrance

&

Earth Day Fair

12 p.m. — 4 p.m.

CDA Library

Come join the Friends of Tubbs Hill for Spring Clean Up. Just bring your smiles and gloves - trash bags will be provided by the City and coffee by THF. Rain or shine, we'll get to clean the Hill and enjoy all the beautiful spring flowers she is providing for Earth Day.

Following the cleanup there will be the Annual Earth Day Celebration in the Community Room and on the lawn area of the CDA Library. This community event includes activities, presentations and displays for all Earth Day celebrants.

Mature Timber — Tubbs Hill Memories

We moved to Coeur d'Alene in 1963, and shortly thereafter our family discovered Tubbs Hill. Regular hikes and swimming off the beaches on the hill were a frequent three-season activity. According to my Smokey Bear pocket calendar, I joined the Tubbs Hill Foundation (THF) Board of Directors sometime in 1997.

The ice storm of November 19, 1996 caused significant tree damage on Tubbs Hill and prompted me as a Forester to assess (cruise) the amount of damage. This amounted to about 1,000 trees that were blown over or had the tops knocked out, and totaled about 226,000 board feet.

I presented this information to the Coeur d'Alene Council at their December meeting. Not salvaging the storm damages would result in a tremendous build-up of bark beetles that would then move into the adjacent live Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine. The city agreed to set up a helicopter timber sale and during January 1997, with a volunteer crew, we paint marked the trees to be salvaged.

The timber sale was purchased by Idaho Forest Industries (IFI), and helicopter logging was under way by March 1997. Both logs and tree tops were flown to the third street parking area, now the west side of McEwen Park. IFI hauled the logs to their sawmill, and the tops were taken to the Coeur d'Alene Transfer Station for recycling. Later that spring, the city piled and burned tree limb concentrations in place on the hill. The city received \$10,000 or \$12,000 stumpage payment from IFI. This money was used to repair ice storm damage on the hill.

In 1998 Karen Haskew, Urban Forest Coordinator, appointed an ad-hoc committee to update the Tubbs Hill Management Plan. I served as one of two consulting foresters with an entomologist, a pathologist and THF president. This revised plan specified desired future conditions for Vegetation,

Roads & Trails, Fire Prevention & Protection and Public Service & Amenities. The plan provided for projects to be completed during ten-year periods for each resource category. The plan was approved by the City Council in July 2002.

I took on the task of updating The Tubbs Hill Nature Trails Brochure in 2003, and securing the advertising to pay for the publication. I don't remember how many were printed, but it was a bunch.

Due to the chronic and cumulative Douglas-fir root rot mortality, a series of tree plantings of ponderosa pine, western larch and white pine were started in 2006 in the worst mortality areas. I helped organize these periodic volunteer tree plantings that are continuing to the present (2018).

By 2010 it became apparent that non-native Norway maples had taken over crown dominance on the more moist sites on the north and east sides of the hill. The Tubbs Hill Mission statement in part refers to "the preservation of Tubbs Hill City Park as a unique and natural lakeshore forest..." To stay within our mission statement the Norway maples needed to go, and the city agreed. I worked with the city to develop the plan to kill these maples in place by girdling to open up the canopy, and to be followed by planting western larch and blister rust resistant white pine in these areas of treatment. The plantings were completed in 2011. Today (2018), some of the planted larch are over ten feet tall.

It was determined in 2012 that the THF By-Laws needed updating. I served with other foundation members on the committee to complete the update.

In 2015 the Coeur d'Alene Fire Dept. approached the Tubbs Hill Board of Directors about extending the existing fire road around to the north side service road that accesses the city water tanks. Building more road

on Tubbs Hill would be an additional impact on this natural area. After much discussion it was determined that a drive through road on the hill would provide greater wildfire suppression access, with water available from the city water tank, and a drive through escape route. Chuck Hosack and I laid out the fire road extension that was subsequently built by the city.

Over the years I have been pleased to contribute articles to the Tubbs Hill Newsletter about the tree plantings along with insect and disease. The latest was a photo tour in October 2018 with photographer James Fillmore describing the current tree insect and diseases conditions.

It's been a very rewarding 22 years serving on the TFH Board of Directors with members who are truly committed to maintaining Tubbs Hill as a "crown jewel" natural area city park. **By Mark Weadick**



THF Mission Statement

Tubbs Hill, Inc. is a non-profit association dedicated to the preservation of Tubbs Hill City Park as a unique and natural lakeshore forest typical of North Idaho while providing for compatible public use. We act as advocates for the park; advise the city administration on issues pertaining to the park; and support volunteer efforts, fund raising, community relations, and other tasks as needed to achieve this goal.

Tubbs Hill



Tubbs Hill Sunset

Jessica Bryant produced a Tubbs Hill calendar with a different water color of Tubbs Hill for each month. One is the picture above, titled Tubbs Hill Sunset. She is also the artist referred to in the article to the right.

Interested in joining the Tubbs Hill Foundation Board?

Please consider joining the Tubbs Hill Foundation Board! Mark Weadick has "retired" as you read in Mature Timber, after 22 years and David Taylor joined us in January. The city has also recently hired a new Urban Forester with whom we work closely.

Tubbs Hill Foundation is a non-profit association dedicated to the preservation of Tubbs Hill City Park as a unique and natural lakeshore forest typical of North Idaho, while providing for compatible public use of this special place. We act as advocates for the park, advise city administration on issues pertaining to the park and support volunteer efforts, fundraising, community relations, and other tasks as needed to achieve this goal.

We meet monthly at 8:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of every month at Calypsos, 116 E. Lakeside Ave in downtown Coeur d' Alene.

Come attend a meeting or two, and you too may find this an enjoyable group with a Mission Statement you support and is worth your time and energy!

Thanks, Pete, for the elegant calendar, depicting seasonal views from the main circle trail. Nicely rendered, and in watercolor, at that. A bit chancy during the snow scenes. I suspect that she worked from photographs, which is more than just legitimate: bold and brash Thomas Eakins, as well as shy and reclusive Edward Hopper, did just that, doing their actual paintings in the cozy solitude of their studios.

Much easier to concentrate, certainly the case with Ms. Bryant, who avoided being importuned by inquisitive yahoos trudging along the trail with their dogs or, worse, their kids, interrupting her with such thoughtful esthetic inquires as "What are you doing?"

Of course, "The City By The Lake" has changed immensely since you and I rode our bikes around The Trail to downtown, when there really was just that one main circle trail. An even earlier memory of Tubbs for me was going on an evening picnic with my parents, parking down by the old fish hatchery next to Ray's Boat Works, this even before we moved to East Lakeshore Drive. My first deviled egg, according to my mother, that relentless chronicler of my "firsts."

It was shady and moist on the east side of the hill in the evening, with a spring muddying the beginning of the trail, then a stream a bit farther along. I guess all that moisture was from the leaking original reservoir, a stone structure with a wooden shed roof.

Much in the city has changed, but in a tribute to the reassuring durability of terra firma, I can recognize each of the vistas she has painted. I've been there.

However, on one of my last trips around Tubbs, fifteen years or so ago, I was unable to find The Three-Storied Cave. Could those giant boulders which perilously created this cool place have at last tumbled down? If so, probably just as well.

Given the rabid development over the past 70 years since you and I began "going to Tubbs Hill," how absolutely wonderful and amazing that this pristine natural treasure has been saved. No doubt in large part because of the stubborn vigilance exerted by you and your fellow board members!

I join in the thanks of thousands of pilgrims, many of them yet unborn, who will one day "go to Tubbs Hill." **John Fox**

Seedling & Health of the Hill

It's a pleasure to introduce myself to people who are dedicated about Coeur d'Alene's natural open spaces in particularly Tubbs Hill, which is one of our community's true treasures. I am Nick Goodwin the new Urban Forester for the City of Coeur d'Alene Parks department as of December of 2018. I studied arboriculture locally at Spokane Community College but most of my arboriculture knowledge comes from my work as a field arborist for the City of Coeur d'Alene Parks Department. Although new to this position I have been with the parks and recreation department since 2011 as the lead of the cemetery division where I got to manage one of Coeur d'Alene's other true gems of the parks department, Forest Cemetery.

My experience is mostly related to individual tree care as an arborist which I have been since 2013. When working in an urban setting where the tree population is extremely diverse and far less dense than in a forest environment, each individual tree becomes that much more important to the Urban Forest. Our communities Urban Forest also contains a wonderful abundance of naturally forested areas, these naturally forested areas contribution to our community and Urban forest is massive therefore they are a huge priority for me as Urban Forester. I plan to continue previous efforts to get Tubbs Hill back to native and continue native seedling planting throughout the hill. I plan on dealing with issues regarding forest health, tree removals, and fuel reduction with the goal of keeping Tubbs Hill as natural as possible.

I've called the Coeur d'Alene area home since 2003 and I love our community. My wife Sandy and I have a four-year-old daughter and we enjoy taking advantage of all that our area has to offer. While not working I try to get outdoors as much as I can and spend quality time with my friends and

family. My office is at City Hall 710 E. Mullan Avenue, my number is (208) 769-2266 and my door is always open to talk about trees and give as much advice and help as I can. So, if you have questions, need some help, or want to say "Hi" stop on in or give me a call. I look forward to being the "tree guy" for our area for years to come and helping our urban forest including Tubbs Hill be the best it can be.

By Nick Goodwin

Health of the Hill Update

Mayor Widmyer is concerned, as are the Friends of Tubbs Hill, about the health and appearance of the Hill. He expressed his concern to the foundation and asked that we keep him informed as to what plans we had to maintain its long-term health, and added that the city could help with funding needed projects to that end.

The Tubbs Hill Foundation agreed to review the city's 10-year Tubbs Hill Management Plan and provide recommendations. The foundation has formed a subcommittee of George Saylor, Chuck Hosack and Jessica Bryant to review the recommended management actions called for in the plan, then to meet with the Parks Department for their input. Recommendations for any additional actions would go to the city via the Parks Department and Parks and Recreation Commission. We also recognize that there is a strong community interest in this area and there are possible experts in this matter who may be interested in participating in an ad hoc group to raise community understanding and possible action steps the foundation could forward to the city for their consideration.

For more information, check out our website at www.friendsoftubbshill.org.

By George Saylor

Health of the Hill Update Part II

In our December THF workshop, we identified three areas we are going to work on in 2019:

1. Trail issues — see Jessica's update in this newsletter.
2. Mistletoe eradication.
3. New planting survival — plastic tubing protection around newly planted trees.

Mistletoe eradication is worthy and necessary, but a time and labor consuming endeavor. It includes training on both identification and pruning. We anticipate developing a plan that meets with the Park Director's and City's criteria to accomplish this. The plan may well include the community.

We are also working with the City to provide plastic sleeving to protect new plantings. New plantings initially have two main encumbrances to maturing—deer chomping off the tops in the winter and lack of water during the summer. Solving the problem of lack of water may be a community service project.

You will be pleased to read in his introduction the City's new Urban Forester's s priorities of native seedling plantings, fuel reduction with the goal of keeping Tubbs Hill as natural as possible. **By Peter Luttrupp**



Let the Hill Come to You!

Everyone is a Friend of Tubbs Hill and Tubbs Hill loves her Friends. She would enjoy visiting your group, gathering or get together and modestly talk about her: Geologic History; Grass, Trees and Flowers; Critters; First People; The Treasure Called Tubbs Hill; and role of the Tubbs Hill Foundation. Her visit will last 30 to 40 minutes and be presented by a member or two of the Tubbs Hill Foundation through a Power Point presentation. If you are interested please contact our President Barbara Fillmore (sunshine@aranath.net) or immediate past president George Saylor (gsaylercda@aol.com)



Deer strolling on Tubbs Hill.

Board Changes

Barbara Fillmore is our new President and **Dave Yadon** our new Vice President

David Taylor is a new board member. He is a graduate of Post Falls High School and University of Idaho. He spent a 20-year career as Department of Defense Civilian Employee. He returned to North Idaho in 2001 and enjoys hiking Tubbs Hill along with many other hikes in the Idaho Panhandle National Forest. He welcomed the opportunity to do volunteer trail maintenance in North Idaho and Glacier National Park.

Mark Weadick has retired.



Ten dollars gets you ready for the next Tubbs Hill adventure. Recently uncovered in an officer's basement is a final sack of these wonderful Friends of Tubbs hats. Send check to THF P.O. Box 3061 CDA, ID 83816 or from the website with PayPal. Get yours now and stroll the trails in style while showing your support for our treasured Tubbs.

Friends of Tubbs Hill Annual Membership or Engraving Application

Mission Statement

Tubbs Hill, Inc. is a non-profit association dedicated to the preservation of Tubbs Hill City Park as a unique and natural lakeshore forest typical of North Idaho while providing for compatible public use. We act as advocates for the park; advise the city administration on issues pertaining to the park; and support volunteer efforts, fund raising, community relations, and other tasks as needed to achieve this goal.

To become a member or have a name engraved on one of the monuments, fill out the form below, attach a check or money order for your choice of membership or \$150 for each line of engraving and mail to Tubbs Hill, Inc., PO Box 3061, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816 -3061.

If you would like to engrave your company's logo on a separate corporate monument, the cost is \$500, plus the engraving charge. The maximum logo size is 4" x 4".

For more information please contact the City Parks Department, 208-769-2252.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Annual Membership

(Both include upcoming newsletters)

_____ Individual Membership, \$15 _____ Family Membership, \$25

Engraving

The monuments are located at the Third Street Entrance to Tubbs Hill and at the East Tubbs Hill Park. Please designate which location you prefer:

_____ Third Street Entrance _____ East Tubbs Hill Park _____ Corporate Rock

Please print the name as you would like it to appear below. Spaces count as one letter. Total cannot exceed 22 spaces. Please note IN MEMORY OF inscriptions may require two lines for a total cost of \$300.

THANK YOU for your generous support. Your contribution to the Tubbs Hill Foundation is tax-deductible as permitted by federal law for nonprofit foundations.

Tubbs Hill, Inc.
P.O. Box 3061
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816-3061

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Permit #31

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Friends of Tubbs Hill

Our Sincere Thanks To Our Recent Contributors:

The mission of the THF, to keep Tubbs Hill natural and still allow for compatible public use, is made possible in large part by the support of the many friends of Tubbs Hill. Your support comes in several ways, one of which is financial contributions. We want to thank the following for their generous financial support in 2018/2019 as well as those who made anonymous contributions during Art in the Park.

Evalyn Adams
Mary Duff
Buck & Joy Fitzpatrick
John Gatewood
Brandon Ives
Ryan Ives

Scott & Colleen Krajack
Paul Lima
Denise Lundy
Peter Luttrupp
Randall Sorbel
Linda Tiger

Board of Directors

Barbara Fillmore, President
Dave Yadon, Vice President
Barb Crumpacker, Secretary
George Ives, Treasurer
Ron Edinger, City Council Liaison
Kellie Kuster, Legal Counsel
Evalyn Adams, Director
Jessica Bryant, Director
Chuck Hosack, Director
Peter Luttrupp, Director
Nils Rosdahl, Director
George Saylor, Director
David Taylor, Director

Tubbs Hill Monthly Meetings

Please join us for our monthly meetings held the second Thursday of every month, at 8:30 a.m. at Calypsos, 116 E. Lakeside. For more details, visit tubbshill.org or email gsaylercda@aol.com.

Our sincere apologies if we have failed to include your name. Please let George Ives know at 667-7888. We will be sure to print your name in the upcoming newsletter.

New Members Wanted! Please join us!