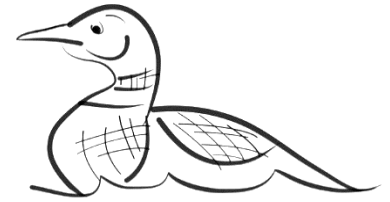


Sounds of the  
Loon



## Rum Ridge Newsletter President's Remarks April 30, 2024

Good Morning.

As you will recall, the weather prevented us from having our traditional Work Day last Fall, so we scheduled it for Spring, on May 18th. Let's meet at the pavilion at 8 AM. if you are available.

We have several projects that we need to undertake, so we are hoping for a good turnout. The following is a current list of projects:

**Trails-** As usual, the trails will need some clearing and the marking needs to be refreshed. I have some Blue and Yellow spray paint to highlight the existing markers and we can spray additional markers directly on the trees. Harry Tideswell will be the team leader, and he could use 2 or 3 helpers.

**Tree Trimming-** The branches overhanging several areas throughout Rum Ridge need to be trimmed, especially Loon Landing and West Grouse Roost. Jody Perry will lead this effort and could use 2 helpers.

**Trail Benches-** Last fall, we built 6 small benches to be placed along the trail network. 5 benches need to be stained. It takes about 45 minutes to stain each bench. Jody Ludwig could use a couple of helpers. Stain and brushes will be provided.

**Site Distance Improvement-** Several areas throughout Rum Ridge need to have small trees and brush removed to increase site distance. The intersections at Grouse Roost/Rum Ridge and Loon Landing/Rum Ridge are two places that will benefit from this effort. Larry Drake will supervise this effort and will need at least 2-3 helpers.

**Culvert Inspections/Improvements-** The need to have the culverts inspected and occasionally upgraded was highlighted on December 18<sup>th</sup> 2023 when we had 4.5 inches of rain within 24 hours. Since then, Woody cataloged and numbered all 75-80 culverts throughout Rum Ridge. Each of these needs to be checked for debris etc. 2 areas, "The Hole" and a culvert at the intersection of Grouse Roost/Rum Ridge need at least an extension to avoid a potential accident. Woody is the Culvert Man and could use a couple of helpers.

**Blue Trail Swamp Crossing-** There is a 50' deteriorated walkway across a wet area on the westerly portion of the Blue Trail. I think about 8 - 4"x6"x16' P.T. and some 5/4 decking would do the trick. Debbi said she can find the money in the budget. All we need to get this replaced is a crew of 4 young people (i.e. not yet on Social Security) and a team leader with some building expertise-someone like Chad Boone and his sidekick Sully.

So, as you can see, we have plenty of work to do, we just need workers. If possible, we would appreciate your help.

Thanks,

Blaine Hopkins