



## News from Friends of Badger Mountain April 23, 2012

**Spring has sprung** and on Badger this means improvements to our well-loved trails, and walks and runs to benefit worthy causes, including the exciting and successful 2nd Annual Badger Mountain Challenge! Soon the hills will be covered with a dazzling display of wildflowers, and we are very blessed to have people who want to share their knowledge and love of our native flora and fauna with you. Join a walk or a work party, hike a new route or at a new time of day, and in all ways enjoy the bounty of the mountain!

**Monday May 7, 4:00 PM - FOBM Wildflower walk on Badger.** These walks/talks are open to all and if people would like to help with walks for youth -- family, neighborhood children, members of a church or youth group, etc -- that would be great. Meet at the **Skyline Trail parking lot off Dallas Road**. Hike is limited to 10 people, so sign up with [Ann Roberts by e-mail](#) or by calling 627-1593. You can [download a flyer here \(PDF\)](#). We hope to have one more walk. Check the [Activities page on our Web site](#) for updates and details.

### Join the FOBM team. Give a little. Help a lot

- **Membership Chair** Job open starting July 2012. Main duties include outreach to potential members and sending computer-generated Thank You cards to people who donate to or become members of FOBM. The current Chair will help you get on board. Contact: [Gretchen Makinson by e-mail](#) or by calling 943-1264.
- **Public Relations & Fundraising Liaison for the Badger Mountain Challenge** The Badger Mountain Challenge is becoming the signature fundraising event for FOBM. In this position, you'll work with us to coordinate with the organizer of the BMC, the media, and with sponsors of the race to create the best experience for all involved. Contact [Sharon](#) to learn more about getting involved with this event that is capturing such interest locally, nationally and even internationally.

**Take a Hike for Hunger, Saturday May 5, 7:00 AM - Noon** Join with friends and family and hike the Canyon and Sagebrush Trails Loop on behalf of [Second Harvest Tri-Cities](#). Registration from 6:30 to 10:30 AM at Bethel Church or Trailhead Park. Suggested donation: \$10. For information, call Debbie Olson at 585-3924. Here's a [printable flyer](#) you can download.

**Badger Mountain Challenge** The 2nd Annual Badger Mountain Challenge was a resounding success, with 659 entrants (some of whom are shown in the photo at the top of this page). Several hundred were from out of town, coming from as far away as New York, Virginia, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Hawaii, across Canada, and Christ Church, New Zealand! The winner of the 100 mile endurance run was Shawna Tompkins, age 40, from Mt. Vernon, WA. Even though she got lost for over an hour, she came in at 21:34. The winner of the 50K was Justin Yates, age 29, from Missoula, who came in at 3:54. David Hurtado, age 29, from Richland, won the 15K, shaving three minutes off his last year's win, coming in at 1:6:01. In the 15 and 50 races, other runners were minutes behind, making for a lot of excitement.

The BMC attracted an age range of 9 to 79 years old, had twelve entrants from the local "Fun Fit and

Over Fifty Club", two soldiers from Ft. Lewis on their first 100 miler, and five from the Kennewick Fire Department, who tackled the 100 miles as a relay. Everyone who entered was proud and felt the excitement of being part of this seminal event -- the buzz is still being heard three weeks later! See photos at [the Badger Mountain Challenge Web site](#), [our Web site](#), and at the [Tri-City Herald](#). You can also search online for articles, pictures, videos, and personal accounts of the race.

**The new parking lot** at Trailhead Park. Isn't this a worthwhile addition? Thanks to George A. Grant Inc. construction for leveling and grading the new lot, the City of Richland for laying the chip seal, REI for providing the funds for materials, and our own Trailmaster, Jim Langdon, for planning and design.

**Rerouting of the Canyon Trail** Another big Thank You! is due Trailmaster Jim and all those who worked with him almost every day for a month to reroute the Canyon Trail. If you hike the Canyon, you know we dropped the trail below the very rocky Windy Ridge to create an easier, smoother route that curves around the flank of the mountain. The Columbia Basin Chapter of the WA Native Plant Society has been revegetating the rocky area with plants removed in the reroute. Let us know what you think and, again, many thanks to all!

**The Skyline Trail** The water tank being installed near the Skyline Trail is just outside the boundaries of the Preserve. It's intended for the new Badger Mountain South development, which will be built on the south side of the mountain, between the orchard and the freeway. The development will set aside 30% of their land as open space, and build trails to connect to the mountain trails. FOBM has asked and the owners have committed to reducing the impact from the installation of the tank by restoring the ground with native vegetation. Look for the restoration work to begin in the next few weeks.

**Here Comes the Sun** [Watch this fine video](#) by Mike Clouse that captures the essence of an Earth Day work party on the Skyline Trail. The work was coordinated by REI and FOBM.

**Captured on Badger Mountain!** Yes, this sampling of photos from our Web site were all taken on Badger Mountain by... YOU, or hikers just like you, who brought their cameras along. Go to our [Pictures page](#) to see what we've been posting (we update it every couple weeks), and to learn how to send us your own shots. Thanks!



**Your help** All of these efforts take commitment, resources, and teamwork. Please consider joining or donating to Friends of Badger Mountain to support the care and feeding of your favorite mountain. You'll find a [membership and donation form on our Web site](#), or you can donate online [from our home page](#). You are also welcome at our FOBM Board meetings, held the second Tuesday of the month, 6:00 - 8:15 PM, at the Richland Library. Please let us know if you plan to come, as occasionally our meeting location changes.

With warm regards on behalf of the Board of Directors for the [Friends of Badger Mountain](#),

Sharon Grant  
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April 23, 2011

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