

Friends of Badger Mountain Membership/Donor Form



We are delighted you have decided to join us in our mission: the preservation and stewardship of the ridges of the Lower Columbia Basin for the benefit of the community and the environment. We encourage you to attend the Friends of Badger Mountain annual meeting and celebration, lend a hand in trail maintenance, and participate in activities and events to set aside additional land for the benefit of our community. Find information on trails, special events, and the latest ridge news online at www.friendsofbadger.org.

Sign Me Up!

Member/Donor Benefits

Your voice heard on issues of trail-building, maintenance and other matters of interest.

FOBM's Quarterly e-Newsletter

Invitation to FOBM 's annual celebration and membership meeting

Election of Board of Directors

Notices about guided hikes and other special events, including:

- I-MAC New Year's Day hike
- Badger Mountain Challenge: 15K, 50K, 50 & 100 mile races
- Wildflower walks & habitat restoration
- Fun Fit & Over Fifty weekly hikes
- Chinook Bicycle Club Time Trials
- YMCA "Trick or Treat on the Trail"
- "Rise Above Cancer"
- "Hike Wine Dines"
- Equinox, solstice and full-moon hikes

Membership year is Jan. 1-Dec. 31. (Questions? Ask treasurer@friendsofbadger.org)

Membership levels: Individual \$20 Family \$30

I'd like to make an additional donation: Townsend's Squirrel \$50 Jack Rabbit \$100
 Coyote \$500 Badger \$1,000 Other \$ _____

I'd like to make a donation but not become a member \$ _____.

To donate by credit card go to: www.friendsofbadger.org

All dues and donations are used to support the mission of Friends of Badger Mountain, an all-volunteer, non-profit 501(c)3 organization.

If you give through United Way, 100% can be designated to FoBM. For information on special tribute or memorial donations, please contact us directly.

Please print clearly. Date _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

We could use help in these areas (please check):

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accounting | <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Event Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Work | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Web Site | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations | <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Design | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography |

Send this completed form and your dues and/or donation to:

Friends of Badger Mountain P.O. Box 24 Richland, WA 99352

To join and give online and for more information: www.friendsofbadger.org or call 509-783-6558

Friends of Badger Mountain

History. Friends of Badger Mountain was founded in 2003 by a group of area residents dedicated to preserving and maintaining the ridges and special natural habitat in the Mid-Columbia region for the benefit of the general public and our environment. We are **an all-volunteer organization** with 501(c) 3 tax-exempt status. Membership fees and donations support trail work, special projects to increase enjoyment and stewardship of the mountains, and our very important efforts to acquire and preserve ridge land and create additional open space vistas and preserves.

Success to Date. In 2004-5, FOBM raised the money to acquire 574 acres of Badger Mountain. In June 2005, by prior arrangement with Benton County we ceded the land to the County who named it the Badger Mt Centennial Preserve. In 2010-11 we acquired 73 new acres, bringing the total land in the Preserve to 647 acres! **In 2014-15 we acquired 196 acres for \$1.2 million to create the Candy Mt Preserve!** In each case we ceded the land to Benton County.

Stewardship. Adopting the role of steward of the mountain, FOBM organized the building of the Canyon Trail in 2005 for hikers only, the Skyline Trail in 2006 for hiking, mountain biking and horse back riding, in 2010 the Sagebrush, which extends the Skyline and creates a loop trail with the Canyon, and in 2012 in a partnership with the City of Richland, Eagle Scouts, and Tri-City Rotary Clubs, the Badger Flats trail built at the base of the Canyon. Spring 2014 we began creating a new trail winding at a 5-10% grade for 2.5 miles along the south side of Badger. Named the Langdon the trail was completed 12/14. Fall 2016 we began building **the new Candy Mt trail and with a great outpouring of volunteers the trail was completed in December.** Benton County completed the new parking lot in May 2017. With the heavy use of the trails we have a regular need for trail maintenance. Sign up with trailmaster@friendsofbadger.org.

In **2012** over **187,000** users were counted on the Badger Mt trails, **217,000** in **2014** and **235,000** in **2016!** The Preserve is a magnet for many special events...wildflower walks; native plant restoration; Solstice, Equinox and full moon hikes; weddings; weekly hikes by Fun, Fit and Over Fifty; graduation rituals; celebrations; and fund raisers of all kinds. *REI* is always a strong financial and volunteer backer. 2016-17, *CH2M, Bechtel Next Gen, US Bank, Lamb Weston, LDS church and missionaries, Chinook Cycling Club, Ameri-Corps, Tri-City Rotary clubs, WSU, Fun, Fit and Over Fifty, the Inter-Mt Alpine Club* and a host of other volunteers made significant contributions to trail building and maintenance. Thank you!

Outreach to Youth. Scout troops, church groups, the *Jubilee Leadership Academy* and *Juvenile Justice youth* guided by mentors regularly help us maintain the trails. *Eagle Scouts* have created a number of improvements. Schools bring their classes for a day on the mountain. The Boys & Girls Club and the YMCA sponsor hikes with special themes attracting kids. Botanists teach about the interaction between soil, plants and human activity, biologists about the creatures and their habitats, and geologists the Ice Age floods. To integrate these activities into a hands-on curriculum for teachers and students, contact us. Our beautiful wildflower brochure attracts people to our guided wildflower walks held every spring.

Health and Wellness. People of all ages and level of health use the mountain to maintain fitness. Companies thru the Regional Chamber "Good Health is Good Business" program challenge employees to hike Badger and Columbia Basin Racquet Club mounts a "Biggest Loser's Campaign" with climbing Badger as the measurement of success. Many groups, including area Rotary Clubs, organize hikes for team building. A Time Trials event held each fall attracts cyclists from around the region. The **Badger Mt Challenge** with 15k 50k, 50 and 100 mile races and events attracted 670 entrants in Spring 2017. The 8th Annual Challenge will be held March 30-31, 2018.

Key Elements of our Strategic Plan 2013-2018. Mission and Values: the preservation & stewardship of the ridges for the benefit of the community and the environment -- guided by the vision to preserve and provide access to high value ecologic, scenic and topographic sites desired by the public. **Goals:** 1) Open Space Preservation & Access; 2) Stewardship of the Preserves and trails; 3) Organizational Capacity.

The Latest! Our newest ridge preserve, 196 acres of Candy Mountain, has proven to be very popular. Last fall we *organized the building of a 1.7 mile trail to the summit* which with great volunteer support was completed in two months! In May of this year the parking lot was completed and in the fall donor monuments were installed, the **burnt area was reseeded** by the Native Plant Society with sagebrush and native grasses and **a one-mile gentle loop at the base** was completed. Candy Mt Preserve is a major lynchpin in our *vision of a 20 mile trail* connecting Amon Creek across four ridges to the Yakima River in the west. We continue to make progress in other links in our vision. In the coming year we hope to secure land to finalize a trail across **Little Badger**, continue work with vineyard and winery owners to create a trail across **Red Mt** with a route linking to the **Red Mt AVA** wineries, and define other gaps to finalize our vision of a ridges to river trail. Creating such a trail attracts strong interest and will benefit our community's economic vitality and quality of life for generations. We can only achieve these goals with your support. **Be a part of this historic effort. Help us achieve our vision of a Ridges to River trail. Thank you!**