

December 19, 2010

Dear Friend of Badger Mountain,

As we approach the end of the year, we want to share with you some of our significant achievements, and invite you to our annual meeting.

This year we celebrated the fifth anniversary of the Badger Mountain Centennial Preserve. The park has been very popular across many demographics. An indication of just how popular is that we had <u>100,000 visits to the trails this year by October 16th!</u>

While the trail usage is a remarkable milestone for the park, we've also been fully engaged in stewarding this precious resource. This year, with the help of many volunteers and the Washington Trails Association, we <u>extended the Skyline Trail to the new Sagebrush Trail</u>, a total of 1.5 miles of additional access.

We've also been busy on the land acquisition front. In January, we purchased 25 acres on the south side of the mountain. This property fits into the long range plan for an additional access trail. There's a photo of the property near the top of our <u>Web site's Pictures page</u>.

This is the season for reflecting upon and appreciating all the gifts we've received. We would like to express our sincere gratitude for your contributions to the success of the FOBM. As an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, we exist only to the extent that people like you commit your time and treasure to our support. If you've contributed to FOBM financially in the past, we hope to count on your continued support. If you've volunteered your time, I want you to know that many hands make what we do possible -- FOBM counted over 2700 volunteer hours on our trail projects this year! It starts with each individual making a choice to give their time.

We are planning a celebration for all the Friends of Badger Mountain at our **annual meeting on Saturday, January 29, 2011, at Goose Ridge Winery** (see our Activities page for details). We hope you will join us. This is an opportunity to meet like-minded folks for an enjoyable evening. The event will also allow us, as board members, to thank you personally for your contributions.

Whether you are new to FOBM or an "old-timer," please consider sending in or renewing <u>your annual membership</u>. We have significant plans to continue to preserve the natural landscapes of the area ridges, and to do our part in creating a "ridges to rivers" trail. We will continue to need financial and volunteer support to make these plans a reality. If your circumstances permit, we would greatly appreciate your considering us for a year-end, tax-deductible contribution.

Our commitment to you is that we will use your resources wisely and in a way that enhances the quality of life in the Tri-Cities through preserving natural open spaces. To join or contribute and for details about our annual meeting, please visit our website: http://www.friendsofbadger.org.

With warmest wishes for joyful holidays, on behalf of the Board of Directors for the Friend of Badger Mountain,

Sharon Grant, President sharon@friendsofbadger.org

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