

Ashland Newcomers Hiking Group

Hike Schedule for Sep 20 thru Oct 17, 2001

Hikes take place on Wednesdays. Meet in Safeway parking lot in Ashland at 9:00 am, unless otherwise specified; car pools will leave for trailhead by 9:10 am. We take a lunch break to allow for social interaction, so bring something to eat. The weather in the mountains is getting cool and showers are possible, so bring a sweater and/or parka. Sturdy boots with good ankle support are recommended although not essential. Bring water (about 1 quart/liter per person on hot days).

Coordinator: Alex Maksymowicz 482-1964

September 26, 2001: Squaw Lake (Sky Lakes Wilderness Area)

Trailhead: A little east of Lake of the Woods Visitor Center on Hwy 140, turn left onto FS Road 3661 (gravel) for 6 miles to Fourmile Lake campground

Estimated drive time to trailhead: 60 min

Hike description: level trail thru varied landscape to Squaw Lake; return same way

Distance: 5 miles RT

Elevation gain: less than 500 ft

Somewhat of a long drive to TH. Landscape was not very varied—mainly lodgepole and mountain hemlock and a few shallow lakes, although Squaw Lake was reasonably large.

October 3, 2001: Soda Mountain

Trailhead: Follow Hwy 66 for 14.5 miles to Soda Mt. Road. Turn right and follow this gravel road for 3.7 miles to intersection with PCT just beyond power lines.

Estimated drive time to trailhead: 45 min

Hike description: hike along PCT through fairly open terrain, for 1.3 miles, then take dirt road 0.8 mile to top of Soda Mountain; return same way

Distance: 4.2 miles RT

Elevation gain: 800 ft

This was a fun hike to the fire lookout, where we were invited inside and entertained by the watcher. Norm and Ann Rogers came along.

October 10, 2001: Heavenly Twin Lakes (Sky Lakes Wilderness Area)

Trailhead: At milepost 41 on Hwy 140 turn left onto FS Road 3651 (gravel) for 10.1 miles to Cold Springs Trailhead

Estimated drive time: 1 hr 15 min

Hike description: hike South Rock Creek Trail 2.4 miles thru woods to Heavenly Twin Lakes; return via Cold Springs Trail, also thru woods

Distance: 5.4 miles RT

Elevation gain: 400 ft

Another long drive and woodsy hike.

October 17, 2001: PCT thru Brown Mountain Lava Flow

Trailhead: Turn right to Summit Snow Park between mileposts 32 and 33 on Hwy 140

Estimated drive time to trailhead: 45 min

Hike description: hike well-built trail thru basalt rock deposited by Brown Mt lava flow to high point of trail; return same way

Distance: 5.8 miles RT

Elevation gain: 550 ft

Beautiful hike on a beautiful day along edge of lava. Trail fringed quite densely with Golden Chinquapins. High point of trail had no view and no good place for lunch.