

The Hiking Group

Hike Schedule for December 2008

Meet in Safeway parking lot in Ashland at 9:00 am for car pooling; passengers reimburse drivers 8¢ per mile. Bring water, lunch, hat, and rain gear. TH = trailhead; EDT = estimated drive time; PCT = Pacific Crest Trail; *100 Hikes = 100 Hikes in Southern Oregon*, 1st edition

Coordinator: Alex Maksymowicz: 482-1964; alexmaks@jeffnet.org

Dec 3: Ostrich Peak Loop

TH: Alex & Lillian's house, 310 Skycrest Drive, Ashland

Description: Full loop going counterclockwise around Ostrich Peak; exact route varies from year to year; snow is possible on higher sections of trail.

Distance: 8 mi RT; total elev. gain: 2250 ft. RT mileage: 3 mi (\$0.25)

Dec 10: A winter loop hike from Safeway with lunch in downtown Ashland. Leader: Dan Stubblefield

TH: Safeway parking lot in Ashland

Description: From Safeway go up Mountain Avenue to the Pinball trail to the Alice in Wonderland trail to the new Bike to Ashland Creek trail. Lunch in a downtown restaurant to be selected by Social Director, Dan Stubblefield; recommendations welcome

Distance: 6 miles; elev gain: 1,600 ft. RT mileage: 0 mi (\$0)

Dec 17: Jacksonville Trail System

TH: City parking lot in Jacksonville behind post office; EDT: 30 min

Description: Close-to-home, pre-Christmas leg stretcher on Jacksonville trail system; includes several steep stretches. Warm up at the coffee shop after the hike.

Distance: about 6 mi; elev. gain/loss: 850/850 ft. RT mileage: 30 mi (\$2)

Dec 24: Bear Creek Greenway

TH: Safeway parking lot; EDT: zero;

Description: take city streets to Ashland Dog Park, then follow Bear Creek Greenway to Talent (Valleyview Rd); eat lunch in Talent; take RVTB bus back to Ashland (**buses leave Talent at 18 and 48 min after the hour**)

Distance: about 4 mi one way; elevation gain: minimal. RT mileage: 0 mi (\$0)

Dec 31: Ashland City Streets and Trails Ramble

TH: Safeway parking lot; EDT: zero

Description: **walk to Lithia Park; then take Winburn St** to Granite St; climb up Granite St steps to Ditch Trail; follow Ditch Trail to turn off (left) onto Strawberry-Hald Park trail system and proceed to the Maksymowicz residence (310 Skycrest Dr) for hot beverage and cookies; finish the hike by taking Orchard St to Westwood to Strawberry Lane; return to Lithia Park using one of several alternate routes.

Distance: 5 mi RT; elev gain: 350 ft. RT mileage: 0 mi (\$0)