

The background is a dark gray with white line art illustrations of various outdoor activities and nature elements. On the left, there are two long skis and two ski poles. In the upper center, there is a compass rose and a mountain range. To the right of the compass, there are two tall, thin evergreen trees. In the center, there is a pair of hiking boots. Below the boots, there is a mountain bike. At the bottom right, there is a recycling symbol and a large, detailed illustration of a tree stump with several leaves.

CHELAN COUNTY GOOD NEIGHBOR HANDBOOK

A LAND AND RESOURCE GUIDE FOR
CHELAN COUNTY RESIDENTS

WELCOME TO CHELAN COUNTY

Est. 1899

The quality of life in Chelan County is unsurpassed, evident by a steadily increasing population and a strong, diverse economy. The area's natural beauty and abundance of recreational opportunities are two of the many reasons people come to Chelan County. It's a place characterized by sparkling clear rivers, clean air, flowered hillsides, expansive views, spectacular mountains, brilliant skies, and productive orchards and farms.

Whether you are new to the area or a long-time resident, one thing is apparent to all—Chelan County is growing. Since the last time the Good Neighbor Handbook was published in 2008, the area has seen a 10% population increase. In part, this is due to increased awareness of the high quality of life available to those who choose to live and play in Chelan County. In 2017, Wenatchee was ranked by *Forbes Magazine* as one of the '25 Best Places to Retire' in the Country.

Today, the natural heritage that greatly contributes to our high quality of life and economic vitality is in danger due to rapid growth. As the area continues to grow, we all need to take steps to protect the qualities that either brought us here or that preserve the things we have always loved.

The Good Neighbor Handbook, originally created by the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust, is an effort by multiple entities to provide information on how we can each do our part in keeping this a special place to live.

Welcome to the neighborhood!

North

CHELAN COUNTY WASHINGTON



LEGEND

- Water Bodies
- US Highways
- Public Land Survey System

LAND OWNERSHIP

- State
- Federal

0 7.5 15 30 Miles



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1 HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

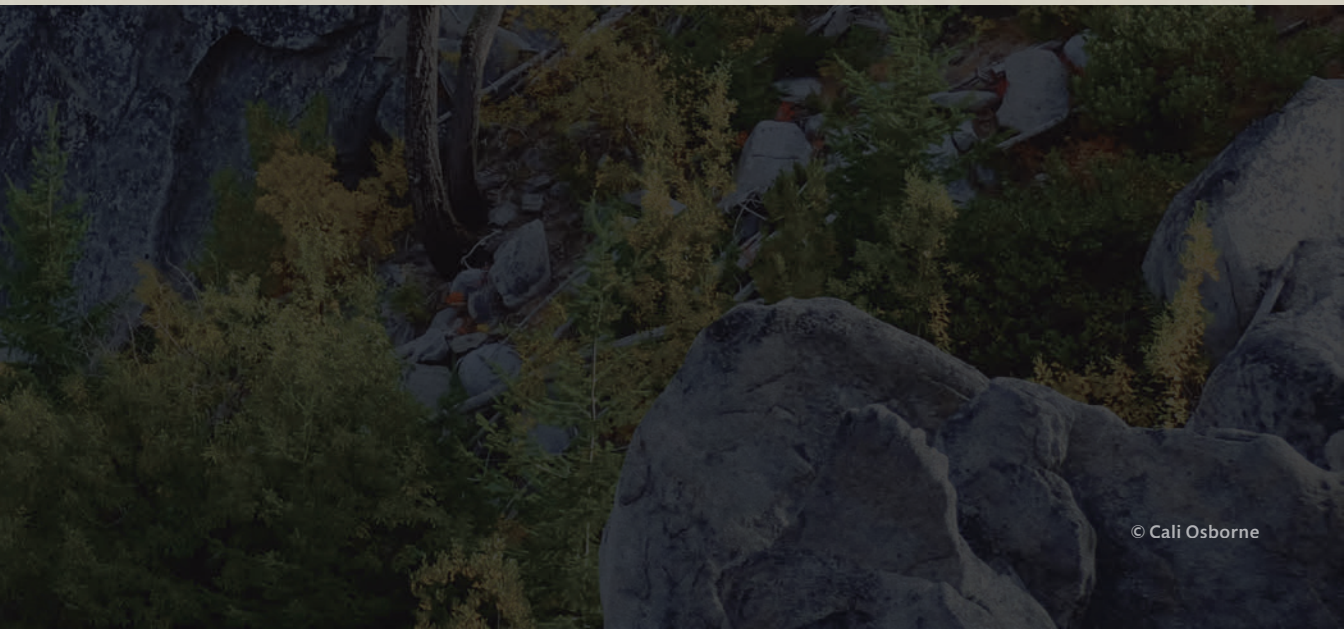
Chelan is an Interior Salish word meaning “deep water”—referring to the 55-mile long Lake Chelan, the third deepest lake in the country at 1,486 feet. Interior Salish is the language spoken by the tribes that traditionally inhabited Chelan County: Chelan, Entiat and Wenatchi-P'Squosa. These first residents were proud stewards of the bountiful natural resources in the area, gathering roots and berries and fishing the rivers and lakes that are now named after them.

Situated in the heart of Central Washington, Chelan County is bordered by the Columbia River to the east and Cascade Mountains to the west, and stretches from Lake Chelan to the north and Mission Ridge to the south. Its geographic location and unique surrounding topography makes Chelan County one of the most climatically diverse counties in the Country.

Though it was visited by fur traders in the early nineteenth century, the first white settlers did not arrive in the area until the 1870s. Initially, settlers and travelers reached the area via steamboat on the Columbia River or by horse and wagon over the Colockum Pass. The area was forever changed with the introduction of the railroad in 1892, providing easier transport of people and goods. Chelan County was established in March of 1899 after being partitioned from parts of Okanogan and Kittitas Counties.

With abundant water from the nearby Columbia and over 300 days of sunshine annually, people discovered that Chelan County had much to offer in the way of agricultural opportunity and industry. In the decades following its settlement, the population jumped from 3,931 in 1899 to 15,104 by 1910 and 20,906 by 1920.

Today, Chelan County is home to over 76,000 residents. Chelan continues to draw tourists with the beauty of its lake, Cashmere produces its unique Aplets and Cotlets candy; Leavenworth has marketed itself since the 1960s as a slice of Bavaria; and the agriculture industry within Chelan County is still very present and accounts for a large portion of the local economy.



2 ENJOYING THE OUTDOORS

Outdoor enthusiasts consider Chelan County to be the recreational hub of the state—and for good reason. Access is plentiful (over 80% of our land is in public ownership), our geology is unique, and our seasons are distinct. The result is a staggering array of beautiful, rugged landscapes and diverse recreational opportunities.

With so much to see and do, here are a few of the best recreation resources to begin exploring all that Chelan County has to offer.

2.1 OUTDOOR RECREATION RESOURCES

Wenatchee Outdoors

wenatcheeoutdoors.org

A comprehensive information source dedicated to human-powered outdoor sports within an hour's drive of the Wenatchee Valley. Outdoor enthusiasts will find guidebook information, articles, updates, topographic maps, condition reports, and photo galleries of activities around the region. The site also links to regional land agencies, conservation groups, outdoor clubs, and other outdoor resources.

Chelan-Douglas Land Trust

cdlandtrust.org

The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust is a great resource to learn about trails and other natural resource issues in our area. Trails provide entry into the special places that make our area so spectacular—places that provide space for wildlife to live and people to spend time outside.

Leavenworth Area

leavenworth.org/recreation

Lake Chelan Area

lakechelan.com/play

Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest

fs.usda.gov/recmain/okawen

Washington State Hikes

wta.org

Hunting & Fishing

wdfw.wa.gov

**1.5 MILLION
ACRES**

There are 1.5 millions acres of federal and state public land ownership in Chelan County.

**TOP 10
MOUNTAIN
TOWN**

National Geographic rated Wenatchee one of the top ten mountain towns in the U.S.

**800 MILES
OF TRAILS**

There is access to over 800 miles of Forest Service hiking trails outside of Leavenworth.

**TOP 10
CLIMBING
CITY**

Rock & Ice rated Leavenworth one of the top ten climbing cities in the U.S.



2.2 OUTDOOR RECREATION APPS



Hiking
AllTrails



Climbing
Mountain Project



Biking
MTB Project



Biking
Trailforks



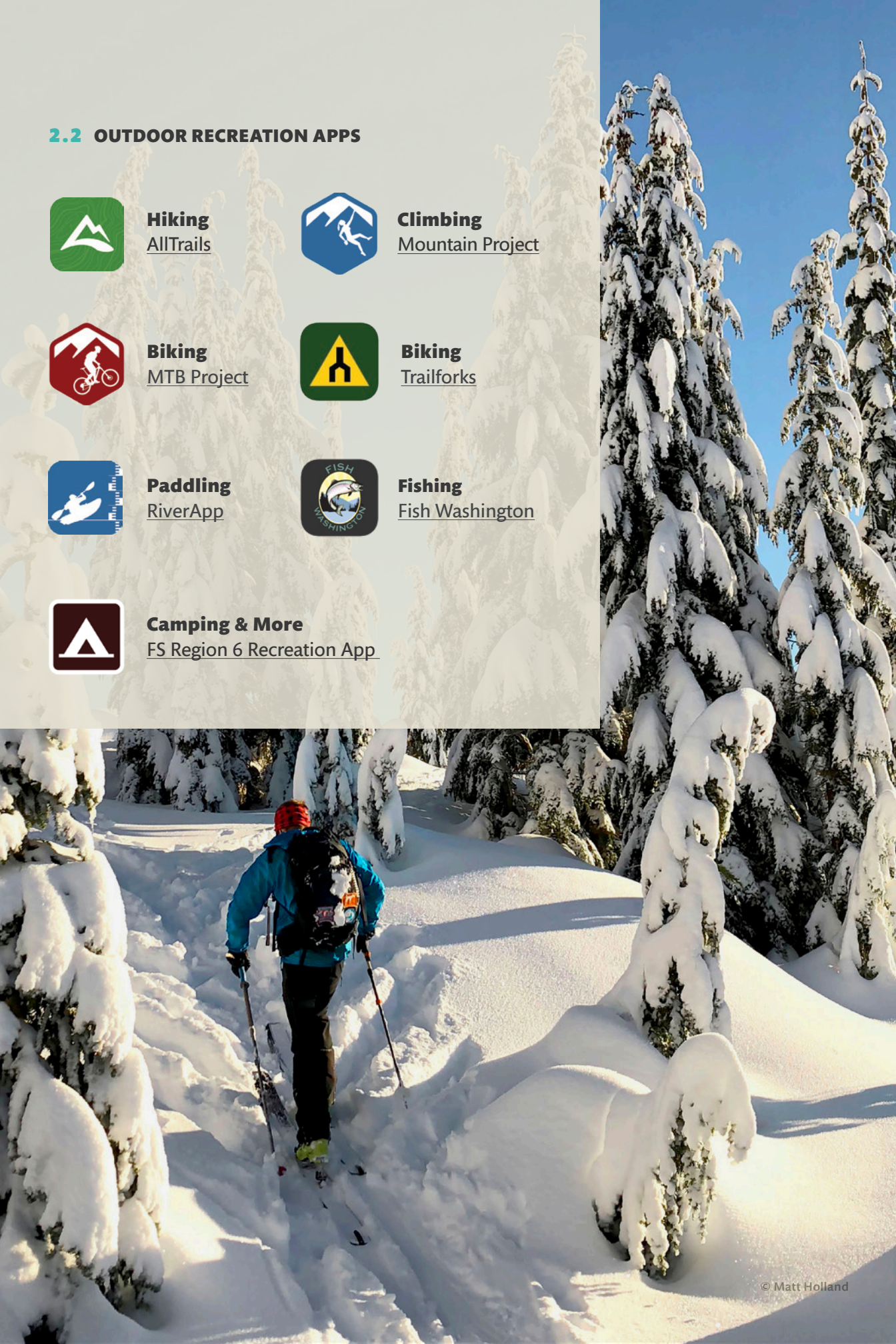
Paddling
RiverApp



Fishing
Fish Washington



Camping & More
FS Region 6 Recreation App



2.3 OUTDOOR RECREATION CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

CLIMBING

Leavenworth Mountain Association
Riverfront Rock Gym

leavenworthma.org
riverfrontrockgym.com

BIKING

Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
Wenatchee Valley Velo Club

evergreenmtb.org
wenatcheevalleyvelo.com

SKIING & SNOWSHOEING

Leavenworth Winter Sports Club
Lake Chelan Nordic Ski Club
El Sendero Backcountry Ski & Snowshoe Club

skileavenworth.com
lakechelannordic.org
fb.com/elsenderobackcountry

WHITE WATER PADDLING

Wenatchee River Alliance

wenatcheeriveralliance.org

HUNTING AND FISHING

Wenatchee Sportsmen’s Association
Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers

wsassoc.org
wenatcheevalleyflyfishers.com

WILDFLOWERS

Native Plant Society

wnps.org

BIRDING

North Central Washington Audubon Society

ncwaudubon.org

CONSERVATION AND TRAILS

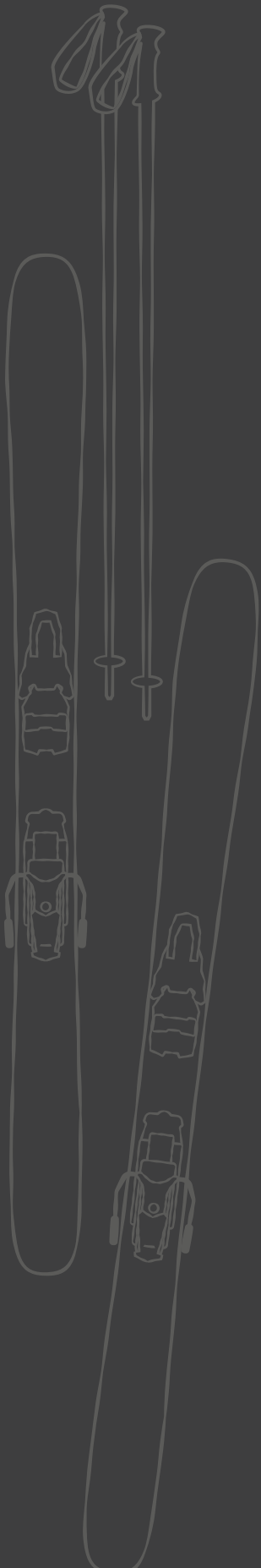
Chelan-Douglas Land Trust
Wenatchee Valley Tread

cdlandtrust.org
wvtread.org

2.4 PARKS IN CHELAN COUNTY

Cashmere
Chelan
Entiat
Leavenworth
Wenatchee
Chelan County PUD Parks
Washington State Parks

cityofcashmere.org
cityofchelan.us
entiatwa.us
leavenworth.org
wenatcheewa.gov
chelanpud.org
parks.state.wa.us



SNOWSHOE the One-Two Divide in Wenatchee, Tronsen Meadows on Blewett Pass, or Icicle River Road in Leavenworth

BACKCOUNTRY SKI Dirtyface Peak in Lake Wenatchee

FEB

ALPINE SKI at Mission Ridge or Stevens Pass

NORDIC SKI at the Fish Hatchery in Leavenworth, Echo Ridge in Chelan, or Lake Wenatchee

JAN

SNOWSHOE to Clara Lake

NORDIC SKI at the Stevens Pass Nordic Center

DEC

MOUNTAIN BIKE

Horse Lake Road

NOV

HIKE Old Pipeline (Penstock) Trail in Tumwater Cyn

OCT

RUN Saddle Rock Traverse

HIKE up Mount David, Poet Ridge, or Asgard Pass

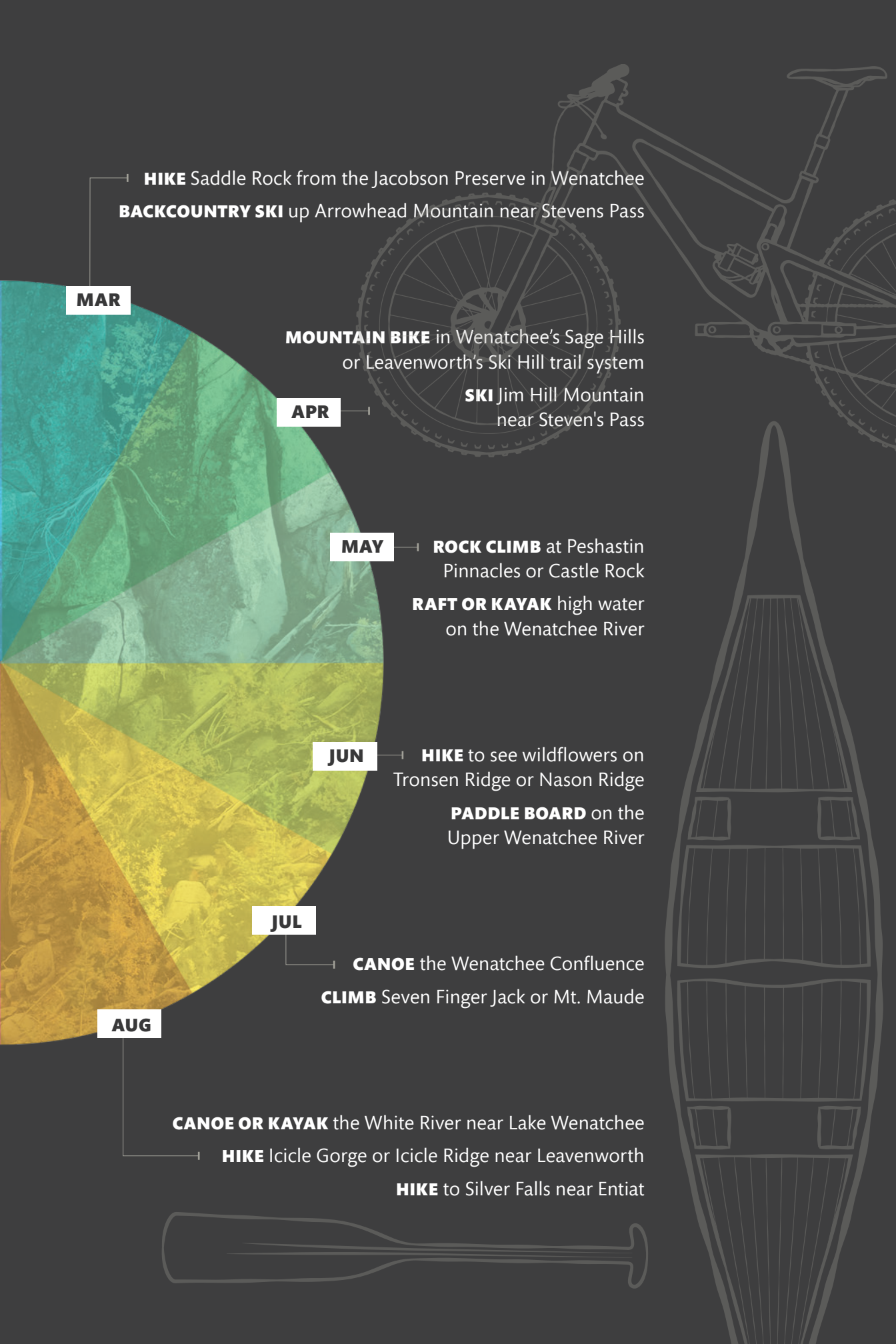
SEP

BIKE & LOOK FOR SALMON on Wenatchee River and White River Roads

MOUNTAIN BIKE Devil's Tie in Wenatchee, Devil's Gulch in Cashmere, and Devil's Backbone in Chelan



**BECAUSE
A YEAR
OUTSIDE
IS THE
BEST
KIND.**



MAR

HIKE Saddle Rock from the Jacobson Preserve in Wenatchee
BACKCOUNTRY SKI up Arrowhead Mountain near Stevens Pass

MOUNTAIN BIKE in Wenatchee's Sage Hills or Leavenworth's Ski Hill trail system

APR

SKI Jim Hill Mountain near Steven's Pass

MAY

ROCK CLIMB at Peshastin Pinnacles or Castle Rock

RAFT OR KAYAK high water on the Wenatchee River

JUN

HIKE to see wildflowers on Tronsen Ridge or Nason Ridge

PADDLE BOARD on the Upper Wenatchee River

JUL

CANOE the Wenatchee Confluence
CLIMB Seven Finger Jack or Mt. Maude

AUG

CANOE OR KAYAK the White River near Lake Wenatchee

HIKE Icicle Gorge or Icicle Ridge near Leavenworth

HIKE to Silver Falls near Entiat

2.5 LEAVE NO TRACE

LNT.org

No matter where your favorite activities take you, Leave No Trace principles provide a framework for making good decisions about enjoying the outdoors responsibly. If all outdoor enthusiasts stop and think about the potential impacts and associated consequences of a particular action, it can go a long way towards ensuring protection of our shared spaces.

Educate yourself on the seven principles of Leave No Trace at LNT.org.

2.6 SOCIAL MEDIA AND THE OUTDOORS

By posting pictures, videos, and descriptions of the places we love to visit, we are inspiring others to get out and enjoy these places for themselves. The unfortunate consequence is that some places are being loved to death, or in certain cases, purposely harmed.

Tag thoughtfully (or not at all) – avoid geo-tagging specific locations. Instead, tag a general location such as a state or region, or better yet, completely forego geo-tagging to keep your favorite places a little harder to find.

Be mindful of what your images portray – give some thought to what your images might encourage others to do, and the level of safety and stewardship you are demonstrating.

Give back to places you love – learn about volunteer opportunities and get involved in the protection of our shared lands.

#ponderthatpost





**BE SAFE.
BE A STEWARD.
AFTER THAT?
SEND IT.**

3 LIVING WITH WILDFIRE

Lightning-caused wildfires have always played a vital role in shaping the landscape in North Central Washington. As residents of an area that is fire-prone, it is important that we acknowledge the dangers that exist around us, and take the appropriate actions to protect ourselves well before a wildfire starts. Together, we can prepare our homes and communities for living more safely with wildfire.

3.1 OUR FIRE-PRONE ECOSYSTEM

Historical Role of Fire on the Landscape

Periodic low-intensity wildfires historically thinned the forests and sage lands by clearing out undergrowth and brush. These low-intensity fires were frequent in nature and low in severity. Fire historically was used as a management tool by Native Americans to encourage a mosaic of healthy forests, lowlands, and floodplains utilized for hunting, gathering, or travel. Fire is a natural part of the landscape and our forests and watersheds are dependent on periodic fire to thrive.

Current Conditions

For decades, fire exclusion has been a guiding methodology. This meant that any fire, ignited by any means, was suppressed and put out as quickly as possible. (Think of it as the opposite of “including” fire on the landscape.) As a result, we now have an unnaturally dense landscape of trees, shrubs, and undergrowth. In addition, climate change has led to drier summers, causing stress and increased outbreaks of beetle infestation. The resulting forest conditions are more flammable, and when ignited, burn with an intensity that is much more difficult to control.

Recent Fires in Chelan County

Wildfire is common here, and many homes in Chelan County have been threatened in recent years. In late July 2018, the 41,400-acre Cougar Fire put homes in the Entiat Valley, Lake Wenatchee and Plain areas at risk, though thankfully no homes were lost. Earlier that month the 3,386-acre Rocky Reach Fire and 1,842-acre Chelan Hills Fire both threatened homes prompting evacuation alerts, with three homes sustaining damage.

The Sleepy Hollow fire was a devastating 3000-acre arson-caused fire that burned in June 2015. Over 30 homes in the Broadview subdivision and several businesses burned. This was a devastating blow and painful wake-up call to Wenatchee area residents.

2000-2018 Wildfire Map

[View Interactive Map](#)

We urge you to educate yourself on recent fire history in North Central Washington. This interactive map shows wildfire locations and perimeters over the last two decades.

THE ERA OF MEGA FIRES

Dr. Paul Hessburg's groundbreaking TEDxBend talk "The Era of Mega Fires" is shaping a new understanding of wildfire in Washington.

[Watch the Talk](#)



*“ This is a social problem
and we need to work together
to bring about the needed
change. In the end, we can learn
to live with wildfires in a
completely different way.*

— Dr. Paul Hessburg

3.2 CREATING DEFENSIBLE SPACE

Creating defensible space with a well-designed landscape is one of the most important actions a homeowner can take to prevent loss due to wildfire.

Maintaining a defensible landscape protects your home, as well as the homes around you, and helps create safe ingress and egress for firefighters who may be called to your property in the event of a wildfire.

Have an expert assess your risk of wildfire damage to home and property and help you develop a plan to reduce those risks, including addressing hazardous fuels.

Cascadia Conservation District	cascadiacd.org
Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition	chumstickcoalition.org
Chelan County Fire District 1 in Wenatchee	chelancountyfire.com
Chelan County Fire District 3 in Leavenworth	chelanfd3.org
Chelan County Fire District 7 in Chelan	chelan7.com
Lake Wenatchee Fire and Rescue	lwfr.org

Understanding the Home Ignition Zone

The home ignition zone is the area from the home out to one-two hundred feet, depending on the characteristic of the land. Keeping the home ignition zone lean, clean and green is important to reduce risk of loss.

However, it’s important to understand that all vegetation is potential fuel for a fire—all plants will burn if the conditions are right. There are, however, plants that are fire-prone, and those that are fire-resistant.

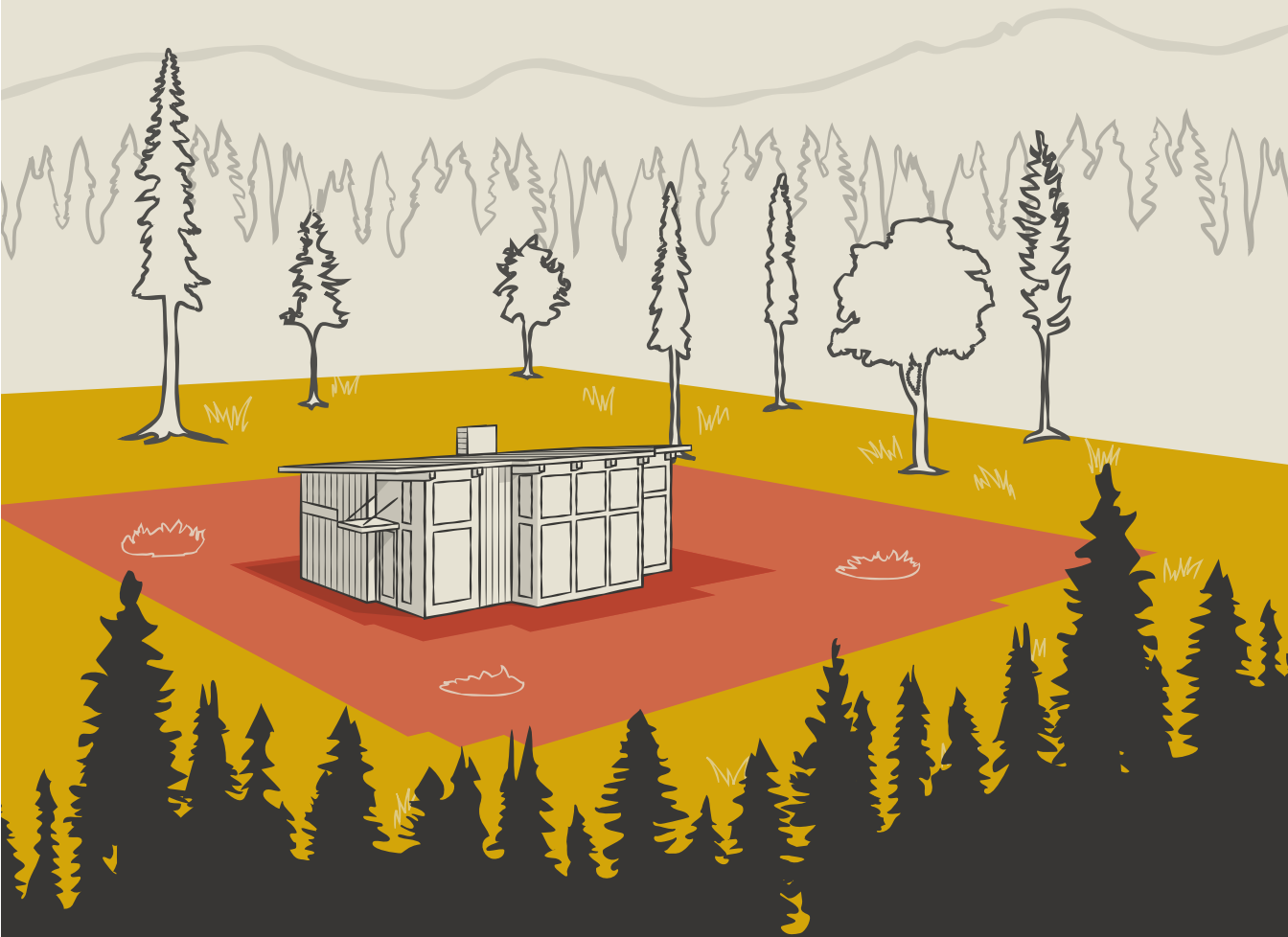
Learn more about the three sub-zones within the Home Ignition Zone on the following page, and incorporate fire-resistant plants and xeriscaping in your defensible space approach.

Fire Resistant Plants for Chelan County	Get the Guide
--	-------------------------------

A local step-by-step landscaping guide for choosing the right plants, for the right place, with the goal of creating defensible space and minimizing water use.

Xeriscape Landscaping in Chelan County	PUD Xeriscape Info
---	------------------------------------

Xeriscape is attractive, low-water-use landscaping that can reduce typical outdoor watering by 20-80%, save considerable time and energy, and significantly lower the risk of ignition.



ZONE 1 0-5 ft around your home

Use hard surfaces such as concrete or noncombustible rock.
Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles.
Store firewood and other combustible materials away from this zone.
Trim back touching or over-hanging branches.
Replace or repair any loose shingles and tiles.

ZONE 2 5-30 ft around your home

Use non-wood, low-growing vegetation.
Create vegetation "islands" to break up fuel ladders.
Keep grass mowed under 4 inches tall.
Rake all leaf and needle debris.

ZONE 3 30-200 ft around your home

Trim trees to keep branch a minimum of 10-feet from other trees.
Remove all dead trees and shrubs.
Remove ladder fuels to create a separation between low-level vegetation and tree branches to keep fire from climbing trees.

3.3 WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS

Cascadia Conservation District

cascadiacd.org

Community Wildfire Protection Planning and free wildfire risk assessments to help you take steps to prepare for wildfire on your property, and make it safer for firefighters to defend your home.

Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition

chumstickcoalition.org

Comprehensive resources for before, during and after the fire—including this helpful ["After the Fire" video](#). CWSC also provides bilingual evacuation checklists and evacuation level guides.

Chelan County Citizen Notification System

[Sign Up for Alerts Here](#)

Chelan County offers a Citizen Notification System self-enrollment service to provide emergency alerts via text message, email, pager or voice mail.

Air Quality Updates During Wildfires

[Washington Smoke Blog](#)

Air quality information for Washington communities affected by wildfire smoke.

3.4 PRESCRIBED FIRE & FUELS REDUCTION

Understanding Prescribed Fire

waprescribedfire.org

Prescribed fire is the planned, professional application of fire in the right place, at the right time. It is a time-tested, cost-effective tool for reducing hazardous fuels and decreasing our chance of catastrophic wildfire and prolonged smoke exposure.

Forest Service Prescribed Fire Updates

[View Interactive Map](#)

In addition to the interactive map, people can track real-time smoke and fire updates on the Okanogan Wenatchee National Forest by calling 509-996-4040, visiting [Facebook](#), or following [@OkaWenNF](#) on Twitter.

Landscape-Scale Forest Restoration

ncwfhc.org

Learn more about landscape-scale forest restoration on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest in Chelan and Okanogan counties.

3.5 OUTDOOR & RESIDENTIAL BURNING

Before lighting any fire, please check with local authorities for any burn restrictions, allowances, conditions, seasonal restrictions or permit requirements.

Chelan County Fire District 1

[Local Restrictions](#)

Washington State Department of Natural Resources

[DNR Burning Resources](#)



EDUCATE YOURSELF AND TAKE ACTION.

WHERE TO BEGIN? Watch "What Homeowners Can Do"



4 NOXIOUS WEEDS

Noxious weeds in Central Washington are serious business—and a serious problem. These weeds displace native plants, reduce habitat for native animals, and threaten the diversity of wildlands. They spoil pastures and rangelands, alter soil fertility, dry up water supplies, poison animals, decrease agricultural production, clog rivers, and reduce the recreational value of wildlands.

PREVENT THE SPREAD OF NOXIOUS WEEDS

- For noxious weeds in bloom or with exposed seeds, gently pull the plant out by the root and place in a secure bag. Dispose of via hot composting or contained burning.
- Control weeds on your property by removing and replanting.
- Avoid driving through areas with noxious weeds and check vehicles for plant material.
- Avoid unestablished trails and check your boots/clothes for plant material.
- Using only certified weed-free seeds for crops or gardens.
- Keep pets and pack animals out of patches of weeds/brush them to avoid transport.
- Feed animals processed food pellets in the backcountry to avoid spreading seed in feces.
- Check trailers and watercraft for aquatic weeds.

IDENTIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

Managing weeds on your property is an important part of being a good neighbor in Chelan County. Here are some resources to help you get started:

Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board	nwcb.wa.gov
Chelan County Noxious Weed Control Board	co.chelan.wa.us
The Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health	invasive.org
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife - Aquatic Species	wdfw.wa.gov
Washington State University Weed Identification Service	ss.wsu.edu
WSU Master Gardeners Clinic - Plant Identification	509-667-6540



1 Bulbous Bluegrass



2 Cereal Wild Rye



3 Cheatgrass



4 Dalmatian Toadflax



5 Diffuse Knapweed



6 Field Bindweed



7 Russian Knapweed



8 Russian Thistle



9 Salsify

**11 NOXIOUS
WEEDS TO LOOK
OUT FOR IN
CHELAN COUNTY**



10 Tall Tumble Mustard



11 Whitetop

5 LIVING WITH WILDLIFE

We share Chelan County with abundant wildlife, and their presence is vital to the unique character of our region. Some animals can pose challenges for people, but most conflicts are easily avoided.

5.1 COMMON LOCAL SPECIES



MULE DEER in Chelan County typically summer in the Cascade Mountains and winter at low elevations near the Columbia River. The most common conflicts involve damage to plants/crops and vehicle collisions. Fencing and deer-resistant landscaping can help prevent damage to plants. Safe driving habits, especially around dawn/dusk and in areas where posted signs indicate deer activity, can help prevent vehicle collisions.



BLACK BEARS are common in Chelan County, yet are seen only on occasion and human attacks are rare. A majority of conflicts involve bears that become habituated to human food sources. Prevent bear from accessing human food sources by securing garbage, pet/bird food, and other food-smelling items.



MOUNTAIN LIONS, or cougars, are common in Chelan County, but human attacks are rare. The most common conflicts occur at the wildland-urban interface and involve a cougar that targets livestock or pets as prey sources. Protect domestic animals using appropriate enclosures. Feed pets indoors. Secure garbage and other sources of food for small mammals and deer that are cougar prey.



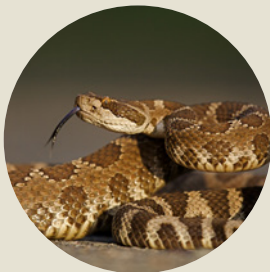
NORTH AMERICAN BEAVERS are native to Chelan County and create habitats benefitting a multitude of fish and wildlife species. The most common conflicts occur when beavers cut desired trees or when a beaver dam raises the level of a pond. Fencing protects trees while flow devices maintain a pond at a desired level. Beaver can also be relocated or lethally removed by authorized personnel.

AVOIDING WILDLIFE CONFLICT



The WDFW "Living with Wildlife" site has extensive information about many wildlife species in Washington State, common problems, and good ways to keep your family, livestock and pets safe.

wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/living



NORTHERN PACIFIC RATTLESNAKES are also known as western rattlesnakes, and are the only poisonous snakes in Chelan County. Rattlesnakes hunt mostly at night for lizards and small mammals, are not aggressive and want to avoid humans. If you encounter a rattlesnake, just move away. If a rattlesnake feels cornered it will coil and rattle, striking only as a last resort. Although a rattlesnake bite is generally not fatal, you should seek medical attention immediately.



WESTERN BLACK WIDOWS are poisonous, jet-black, and the underside of the adult female usually shows a reddish, hourglass-shaped marking. Black widows are shy and bite only when harassed. While typically not fatal, you should seek medical attention immediately following a black widow bite.



HOBO SPIDERS are poisonous, medium-sized, brown, and have a multiple chevron pattern on their abdomen. This spider builds funnel webs in dark, moist areas and sits in the mouth of the funnel waiting for prey. Hobo spiders may bite with little provocation. While typically not fatal, you should seek medical attention immediately following a bite from a hobo spider.



TICKS are common throughout Chelan County, although there are very few reports of tick-related disease in this area. When hiking or working outdoors you can protect yourself from ticks by wearing long-sleeved shirts, pants, and close-toed shoes. Insect repellants may help deter ticks. Examine yourself and pets regularly, especially after spending time in underbrush or wooded areas.

5.2 ENDANGERED AND SENSITIVE SPECIES

Chelan County is home to several species of State and Federally listed sensitive, threatened, and endangered wildlife species. Learn more at the [Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Priority Habitats and Species Program](#).

The Upper Columbia spring Chinook salmon population and Upper Columbia steelhead population are both currently considered to be at a high risk of extinction.

A diverse array of partners, with key support from the following organizations, are working together on salmon restoration in Chelan County, and need your help. Reach out and see how you can volunteer in your watershed.

Conservation & Stewardship Organizations

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group	ccfeg.org
Chelan-Douglas Land Trust	cdlandtrust.org
Trout Unlimited	troutunlimitedwashington.org
Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board	ucsrb.org
Washington Water Trust	washingtonwatertrust.org
Wenatchee Fly Fishers	wenatcheevalleyflyfishers.com

Local Government

Cascadia Conservation District	cascadiacd.org
Chelan County Natural Resources Department	co.chelan.wa.us/natural-resources

Federal and State Government

Bonneville Power Administration	bpa.gov
Bureau of Reclamation	usbr.gov/pn/
NOAA - National Marine Fisheries Service	fisheries.noaa.gov
United States Fish & Wildlife Service	fws.gov
United States Forest Service	fs.usda.gov/okawen
Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife	wdfw.wa.gov
Washington State Department of Natural Resources	dnr.wa.gov
Washington Recreation & Conservation Office	rco.wa.gov

Tribal Entities

The Yakama Nation	yakamanation-nsn.gov
The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation	colvilletribes.com



6 SALMON IN YOUR BACKYARD

Salmon are an icon of the Pacific Northwest, representing important social and recreational values for humans. Salmon have been an integral part of cultural heritage of North Americans for millennia.

Yet over the past century, numerous salmon runs in the Columbia River Basin, including those in Chelan County's primary watersheds, have been listed as threatened or endangered. Reversing the decline of salmon in the Columbia River is an important challenge facing communities in the Pacific Northwest. Without any action, salmon runs will continue to disappear along with the cultural values they embody.

WHY DO SALMON MATTER TO US? [Watch "The Way Home"](#)



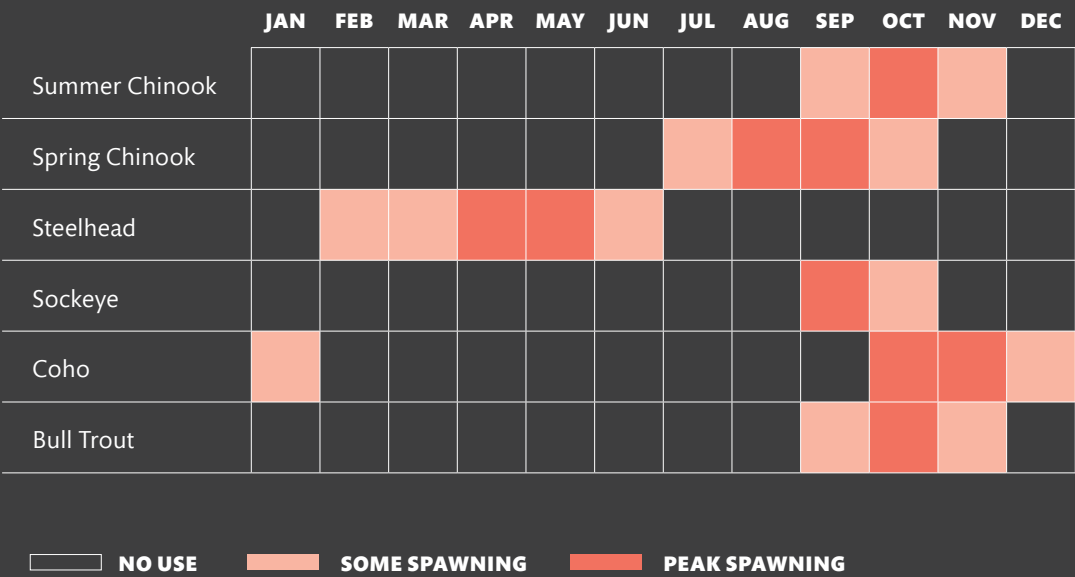
stateofsalmon.wa.gov

6.1 SEEING SALMON

When & Where to See Salmon in Chelan County

[Sightings Guide](#)

The UCSRB Salmon Sightings & Spawning Areas Guide lists convenient areas for viewing salmon from Leavenworth to Okanogan, January to December.




6.2 PROTECTING HABITAT

In order to thrive, salmon, trout and other native fish need habitat that represents the four “C”s:

- COLD

Salmon have evolved to live in cold water and prefer temperatures between 45-53 degrees F. If streams become too warm, fish health will decline.

WHY IS COLD WATER SO KEY? [Watch "Cold Water Refuges"](#) 
- CLEAN

Salmon need water that is free from excessive fine sediment that can smother eggs, and chemical pollutants that can harm their health.
- COMPLEX

Salmon use a variety of habitats that vary during their lifetime. Important habitats include small rocks and boulders, deep pools, tangles of tree roots along riverbanks, downed trees, and log jams. Salmon use these habitats in main channels, side channels, as well as wetlands and ponds.
- CONNECTED

For salmon to access the variety of habitats needed during different seasons and life stages, they need to be connected at all streamflow levels.

6.3 WATERSHED RESTORATION

Salmon restoration has been a priority in Washington State since the species was listed under the Endangered Species Act in the late 1990s. Human activities acting in concert with natural occurrences (such as drought, floods, landslides, fires, and variable ocean cycles) have impacted the abundance, productivity, spatial structure, and diversity of Upper Columbia spring Chinook salmon and steelhead. Watershed and habitat restoration is a team effort that often involves federal, tribal state, county, and city governments, local landowners, nonprofits, and consultants.



Large Wood Installation



Culvert Renovation & Fish Passage Barriers



Floodplain & Side Channel Reconnection

COMMON TYPES OF HABITAT RESTORATION IN OUR COUNTY

Photos © Interfluve & Chelan County Natural Resources Department



Riparian Plantings



Instream Flow

6.4 SHORELINE PROTECTION & PERMITS

[Chelan Co. Community Development](#)

Do you own property in shoreline in Chelan County? Shoreline development, construction in streams, rivers or lakes, or in a designated critical area in Washington State is regulated, which means any work in these areas may require one or more permits from local, state and federal agencies. Contact the Chelan County Community Development Department to learn about the Shoreline regulations that apply to all developments, uses, or activities in any shoreline environment in Chelan County.

The [ORIA Information Center](#) also provides free permit support for Washington state residents.



7 COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE

LOCAL PRODUCE STORES

Royal Produce

myroyalproduce.com

Stemilt Retail Store

stemilt.com/retail-store

Wenatchee Natural Foods

wenatcheenaturalfoods.com

Plaza SuperJet

plazasuperjet.com

Sage Mountain Natural Foods & Deli

sagemtn.com

FARMERS' MARKETS

Wenatchee Farmers' Market

Pybus Public Market, Wenatchee

wenatcheefarmersmarket.com

Leavenworth Farmers' Market

Lions Club Park, Leavenworth

leavenworthfarmersmarket.org

Manson Farmers' Market

Wapato Way, Manson

moretomanson.com

Chelan Farmers' Market

Corner of S. Emerson & Wapato Streets, Chelan

chelanfarmersmarket.org



BECAUSE LOCALS KEEP IT FRESH.

CSA DELIVERY

Rhubarb Market

Gathers from local farms all over the valley.

rhubarbmarket.com

Radix Farm

Based in Malaga, delivers to Wenatchee.

radixfarm.com

Big Sage Organics

Dropboxes in Othello, Moses Lake and the Tri Cities area.

bigsageorganics.net

Oh Yeah! Farms

Based in Leavenworth, and working to expand distribution.

ohyeahfarms.com

8 WATER CONSERVATION

In Chelan County, the Entiat and Wenatchee watersheds extend from the snowfields, glaciers, and steep forested mountains of the Cascades, through orchards in the valley foothills, to the shrub-steppe, and to the confluence with the Columbia River. Many of our population centers are found along these rivers and their tributaries.

8.1 OUR SNOW, OUR WATER

In North Central Washington, our snow is our water. Areas east of the Cascades average about only 8” of rain per year. Our ridgetops and high elevation forests are largely pristine and intact, and are the primary source of snowpack that provides water to our rivers, especially during summer months.

Conservation is Critical

With a growing population and warming climate, pressures on our water supply continue to grow. Chelan County residents are urged to think critically about their water use, and employ conservation methods whenever possible, including:

INSTALL	Low flow toilets and low flow shower heads
RUN	Dishwasher/washing machine only when full
USE	Reusable water bottles
FIX	Leaky faucets and pipes
WATER	Lawns and gardens in the early morning
REPLACE	Lawns and gardens with drought-tolerant landscaping

8.2 UNDERSTANDING YOUR WATER RIGHTS

[Water Resources Explorer](#)

It is important as a homeowner to know where your drinking and irrigation water comes from. At the most basic level, a water right is a right to use water, not own water, and different rules apply to surface water and groundwater rights. Water rights are handled by the [State Department of Ecology](#), and are governed by their own set of laws.





OUR WATER HAS REAL LIMITS.

CALCULATE TO CONSERVE [PUD Water Use Calculator](#)

9 RECYCLING & WASTE MANAGEMENT

We can have a major impact on the amount of garbage produced in Chelan County by becoming aware of how much we throw out, and changing some of our habits about buying and using things. Recycling conserves natural resources such as timber, water and minerals, saves energy, and decreases greenhouse gases that contribute to global climate change.

Before you buy, use or discard an item, ask yourself:

- REDUCE** Can I buy this product with less packaging?
- REUSE** Can I or someone else use this again?
- RECYCLE** Can I recycle this item after I use it?
- BUY RECYCLED** Can I get this item with recycled content?

Recycling in Chelan County wmnorthwest.com/chelancounty

Current recycling programs in Chelan County no longer accept glass, and do not accept compost or commercially composting materials. Few recycling programs are perfect, but if we strive to live a lower impact lifestyle, we can significantly reduce our domestic waste stream.

Home Composting [Get Composting Tips](#)

While Chelan County does not have a commercial composting service, you can still compost food waste in your own home and use the soils it produces in your garden/landscaping.

Waste Loop wasteloop.org

In Leavenworth, community members are banding around a nonprofit organization called Waste Loop to address excess waste and work to create sustainable resources out of waste.

Sustainable Wenatchee sustainablewenatchee.org

This organization provides classes, workshops and hosts events to educate community members about relevant environmental issues and solutions.

*An estimated 40%
of what gets put in
landfills could be eliminated
if we all used better waste-reduction
and composting practices.*



10 COMMUTING IN CHELAN COUNTY

An average one-way commute in the Wenatchee valley is less than 20 minutes. While our commutes may be short relative to large cities, the Wenatchee Valley Transportation Council is predicting severe congestion on Wenatchee’s main streets by 2025.

Wider Roads Aren't An Option

Because of the geographic constraints of the Columbia River, Wenatchee River, and western foothills, there is no room to add more streets or widen roads to accommodate more traffic. Local officials say having fewer cars on the roads is the only long-term solution to traffic woes in the valley. While most commuters drive their own cars, others are working to reduce congestion by carpooling, utilizing the Link Transit bus system, or biking to work.

COMMUTING OPTIONS

Commute by Bike

[Read the Bike Commuting Guide](#)

Detailed information on bike commuting in the county, check out the Bike Commuting Guide at Wenatchee Outdoors.

Commute by Bus

[Visit Link Transit](#)

Link Transit is the local bus system for Chelan and Douglas Counties. They provide fixed route bus service and also door-to-door service for residents with disabilities. All Link Transit buses and trolleys are equipped with bike racks to make it easy to take your bike with you.

Commute by Carpool – Park and Ride Locations in Chelan County

Chelan	Chelan Park and Ride	SR 97 Alt and N East Center Street
Entiat	Entiat Park and Ride	SR 97 Alt and Entiat Way
Leavenworth	Big Y Park and Ride	SR 2 and SR 97
	Leavenworth Park and Ride	SR 2 near USFS
Wenatchee	Columbia Station	Kittitas St. and South Columbia St
	Easy Street	SR 2 and SR 97
	Olds Station Park and Ride	Penny Road and Euclid Ave
	South Wenatchee	S. Mission Street and Stevens Street

Need a charge for an electric vehicle?

[Visit pluginncw.org](#)



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