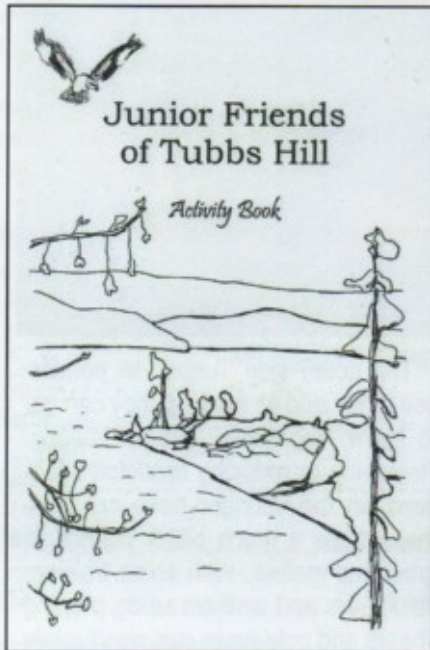


# Friends of Tubbs Hill

Spring 2012 Newsletter



## **NEW!** Junior Friends of Tubbs Hill Activity Book!

Artist Jessica Bryant, her husband, and two children who attend Sorenson Magnet School, have enjoyed visiting our national parks for some time. Before hitting the road to visit a park, they always go online and print two copies of the park's Junior Ranger Activity Book. (Each park has its own book which is also available at the visitor centers.) The kids learn about the geology, biology, ecology and history of the area, as well as how to better care for their environment in a fun way. After they each complete their booklet, they head to the visitor center at the national park where a park ranger reviews their work and has them pledge to protect the park and all natural areas. They are then official Junior Rangers of the Park, and

receive a special badge that closely resembles the park rangers' badges. Jessica reports that her kids remember things from visits when they were just three and five years of age. The entire family enjoys this activity and comes away with a deeper knowledge of the park.

This brings us to Tubbs Hill, which is a favorite place for Jessica's family. This winter Jessica created a junior-ranger-style publication for our own beloved Tubbs Hill. It is a 20-page booklet filled with information and activities for children to complete as they really get to know Tubbs; its history, geology, flora and fauna. Taking care of our Treasure is covered in depth.

This brand new activity book is filled with illustrations, most of which were provided by students of Sorenson teachers, Kerry Erwin and Moira DuCoeur, while Jessica supplied the rest.

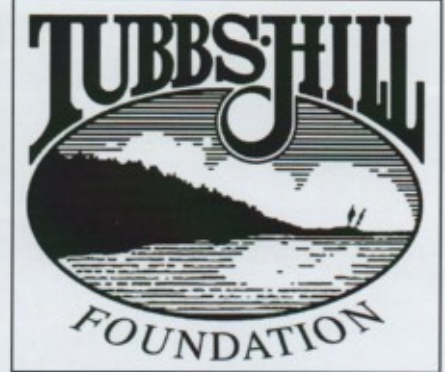
Look for posters around town advertising this special activity booklet.

Please check out our web site: [www.tubbshill.org](http://www.tubbshill.org) and click on "Junior Friends of Tubbs Hill" to print your own copies. (This will save the cost of reprinting copies which have been made available at the Visitor Center on Sherman Avenue as well as our Parks Department in the lower level of City Hall.)

Get a Junior Friends of Tubbs Hill Activity Book and enjoy a special day on Tubbs with a youngster in your life.

The Tubbs Hill Foundation extends our heartfelt thanks to Jessica Bryant and all the young artists at Sorenson Magnet School for this marvelous contribution to our community. What a wonderful gift for the future protectors of Tubbs Hill!

*By Linda Wolovich*



## **Trail Changes?**

In May Of 2011, the city council passed a motion separating Tubbs Hill from the McEuen Park project and at the same time mandated a committee be formed, under the Park and Recreation Commission, to create a plan for increased trail accessibility on Tubbs Hill. Two members of the Tubbs Hill Foundation, including myself, along with representatives from the Parks Department, the Disability Action Center, Kootenai Environmental Alliance, the fire department, the Open Space Committee, and the Ped-Bike Committee, along with members of the Park and Recreation Commission, met monthly for the next seven months to create such a plan.

Any proposed changes to Tubbs Hill are bound to generate controversy, and this was no exception. However, early in our process two priorities emerged that all parties agreed to: make Tubbs Hill more accessible for all members of our community and protect the natural character and unique quality of Tubbs Hill. Gradually a consensus developed that those two goals were not in contradiction and both could be achieved.

Over the course of our discussions and field trips to the hill it became clear that the best way to achieve those goals was to improve the east side trail from where it begins near the marina out to the southeast corner, where there is a natural turn-around

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## Dwarf Mistletoe, What You Should Know



Mistletoe is a plant that grows on other plants, and would be classed as a parasite. There are eight species of mistletoe that can infect all of our native conifers. Each conifer species has its own mistletoe species. On Tubbs Hill mistletoe infections can be found on ponderosa pines growing on the driest portions of the south side.

Witches brooms, cankers, and swellings on tree branches and stems are indicators of mistletoe infections. Each mistletoe infection continues to grow and take nourishment from the tree; nutrients and water that would otherwise be used for growth and reproduction.

The mistletoe plants are either male or female with seeds maturing around mid-August. These seeds are spread by jet propulsion! The seeds develop inside a watery case that builds up an interior pressure. On a warm and windy day the pressurized cases will break from the plant and squirt the seeds into the air. These seeds can also be dislodged by passing animals and Foresters. The sticky seeds then arc out and down, and if landing on another ponderosa pine branch or stem, it sticks. The seed then sends a "root" called a hypha down into the tree cambium and starts a new plant.

The south side Tubbs Hill ponderosa pine need all the help they can get to grow, reproduce and be happy. Removing or reducing mistletoe infections on the younger trees can give these trees a much better chance to grow and mature. With some training, volunteers and workers using pruning shears and pole-saws can significantly reduce these mistletoe infections on selected trees.

Unfortunately this is not the kind of mistletoe that can be used for holiday kisses!

*By Mark Weadick*

*Photos by George Saylor*

## Trail Changes? Continued

and viewpoint. This portion of the trail can be made wheelchair accessible with only minor modifications and done in a way that keeps it looking much as it does now. Eventually a conceptual plan was developed and presented to the Park and Recreation Commission, and later to the Tubbs Hill Foundation. The Commission is recommending to the city they proceed with the engineering and cost study for the plan, and eventually the trail. The Foundation has voted to approve the concept as presented but with the right to give further input after the engineering study is done.

A north side trail was also proposed by the Parks Department but there

was less support for that idea. The Tubbs Hill Foundation did not endorse it, and is generally opposed to it. A very general trail was outlined but without enough specifics for the Foundation to say whether it believed such a trail could be feasible. Our main approach was to protect the aesthetics of the north side of Tubbs, and support a trail along the base of the hill adjacent to McEuen.

The final proposal calls for the east side trail to be made more accessible for a distance of about 1,500 feet, and do it in such a way that it will not disrupt the natural state of the hill, thus showing the public that accessibility for all is compatible with protecting the

natural state of the hill. Once it is established that the two goals mentioned are compatible and can be reached successfully, then at some point in the future there would be a more thorough analysis of the feasibility of the north side trail. Any final action on such projects must have city council approval.

Be assured the Tubbs Hill Foundation board has been very involved in the process. The issue has been more thoroughly discussed than any other in recent memory. We are committed to making the beauty and enjoyment of Tubbs Hill available to all members of our community while at the same time preserving its natural beauty and character.

*By George Saylor*

# Have Your Name or Company Logo Engraved On One of the Tubbs Hill Monuments

## STAY ALERT!

It has been a busy year for the Tubbs Hill Foundation Board. We helped plant over 2,600 new trees and bushes to replace trees that are dying due to disease. We held our annual hill clean up last fall, we've had a board member on the Open Space Committee which is looking at establishing policies for all the new wilderness areas the city is acquiring for parks, we've participated in Art in the Park and Earth Day and we updated the management plan for the next 10 years in the life of Tubbs Hill.

We also clarified our board's purpose for guiding our actions on behalf of the larger community:

**Our goal:** To serve as a champion for Tubbs Hill as a natural area, so that it stands as a beacon, both now and into the future, for everyone who wishes to enjoy the presence of the same natural forest experience in an urban setting that has been here for generations past. We speak on behalf of the Hill to preserve for future generations this visual jewel of a forest sanctuary set in the heart of downtown Coeur d'Alene.

But most importantly, we have been a very persistent voice in working to remove Tubbs Hill from the McEuen Park makeover and to continue to speak for the Hill against intrusive alterations that would significantly change how we all experience our "downtown wilderness."

Much time has been spent looking at ways to accommodate the very young, the aging, and those using wheelchairs on part of the Tubbs trails without changing the ruggedness and variety that so many members of our community enjoy. In other words, how can we accommodate the vastly varied needs of many. What we are looking at doing is widening, decreasing the grade and correcting the slope on a section of the main trail starting at the Eastside park and traveling to marker 14ish.

*By Jennifer Johnson, President*

Tubbs Hill is comprised of 120 acres of publicly owned land, and has an abundance of tranquil, breathtaking scenery and hiking trails. Tubbs Hill is dedicated to the citizens of Coeur d'Alene and everyone is encouraged to use and enjoy its magnificent splendor.

To become a member or have a name engraved on one of the monuments, fill out the form below, attach a check or money order for your choice of membership or \$150 for each line of engraving and mail to Tubbs Hill, Inc., PO Box 3061, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816-3061.

If you would like to engrave your company's logo on a separate corporate monument, the cost is \$500, plus the engraving charge. The maximum logo size is 4" x 4".

For more information please contact the City Parks Department, 208-769-2252.

## Tubbs Hill Foundation Annual Membership & Engraving Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Annual Membership

(Both include upcoming newsletters)

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual Membership, \$15    \_\_\_\_\_ Family Membership, \$25

### Engraving

The monuments are located at the Third Street Entrance to Tubbs Hill and at the East Tubbs Hill Park. Please designate which location you prefer:

\_\_\_\_\_ Third Street Entrance    \_\_\_\_\_ East Tubbs Hill Park    \_\_\_\_\_ Corporate Rock

Please print the name as you would like it to appear below. Spaces count as one letter. Total cannot exceed 22 spaces. Please note IN MEMORY OF inscriptions may require two lines for a total cost of \$300.

Please mail all memberships and applications to: Tubbs Hill, Inc., PO Box 3061, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816-3061.

THANK YOU for your generous support. Your contribution to the Tubbs Hill Foundation is tax-deductible as permitted by federal law for nonprofit foundations.

## Mission Statement

Tubbs Hill, Inc. is a non-profit association dedicated to the preservation of Tubbs Hill City Park as a unique and natural lakeshore forest typical of North Idaho while providing for compatible public use. We act as advocates for the park; advise the city administration on issues pertaining to the park; and support volunteer efforts, fund raising, community relations, and other tasks as needed to achieve this goal.



# Friends of Tubbs Hill

## Our Sincere Thanks To Our Recent Contributors:

Roger & Irene Smith  
Mark & Donna Stambaugh  
Dick Wandrocke  
The Hosack Family  
Helen Yuditsky  
Joe Brown  
Evalyn Adams & Karen, Chris & Eva Jo Hallvik

Doug Eastwood  
David Groth  
Theresa Runge  
Edith Campbell  
Shawn & Jean Sweetapple  
Jennie Lamb & Richard Runkle

*Our sincere apologies if we have failed to include your name. Please let Editor Evalyn Adams know at 765-5535. We will be sure to print your name in the upcoming newsletter.*

### Recycle!

Don't forget to recycle your plastic grocery and newspaper bags by turning them into the Park & Recreation Department at Coeur d'Alene City Hall. They are used for those who want to pick up dog or people litter on Tubbs!

### Fall Clean-up!

Watch for notices about the Tubbs Hill Clean-up this fall.

### Dues!

Don't forget to send your dues in if you haven't paid them for 2012!

## Board of Directors

Jennifer Johnson, President  
Julie Clark, 1st Vice President  
George Saylor, 2nd Vice President  
Barbara Fillmore, Treasurer  
Barb Crumpacker, Secretary  
Ron Edinger, City Council Liaison  
Mark Wallace, Legal Counsel  
Evalyn Adams, Director  
Chuck Hosack, Director  
George Ives, Director  
Peter Luthropp, Director  
Ken Roberge, Director  
Nils Rosdahl, Director  
Don Waddell, Director  
Mark Weadick, Director  
Linda Wolovich, Director  
Barb Zimmer, Director  
Doug Eastwood, CDA Parks Director  
Bill Greenwood, CDA Parks Supt.

## Tubbs Hill Monthly Meetings

Please join us for our monthly meetings held the second Thursday of each month, 7:30 a.m., at the Iron Horse Restaurant, 407 East Sherman Avenue, Coeur d'Alene.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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**Tubbs Hill, Inc.**  
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