

Upcoming Opportunities for Partner Support



Grit Mill

In the summer of 2014 the Wasatch Legacy Project will commence the rehabilitation of the Little Cottonwood Canyon Grit Mill, an eyesore at the gateway to the canyon. The project will include demolition and removal of the abandoned structure, revegetation of the site and its return to a natural condition.



Silver Lake Boardwalk

Located at the top of Big Cottonwood Canyon, the Silver Lake Boardwalk hosts thousands of visitors annually including school groups, guided hikes and families. This handicap accessible facility is in disrepair and will be replaced in the summer of 2014.



Zinc Remediation

A legacy of the canyon's mining heritage, the Little Cottonwood Canyon zinc remediation is an ongoing project to remove high levels of zinc in the watershed. This important measure will help ensure safe and pure water downstream.

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Cottonwood Canyons Foundation Wasatch Legacy Project



The Cottonwood Canyons Foundation works to improve the environments of Big and Little Cottonwood canyons through education and stewardship.

The registered 501(c)3 is one of the primary implementation organizations of the Wasatch Legacy Project, a public-private partnership established in 2010 to better leverage the resources of governmental agencies, citizen organizations and willing private sector organizations.



Cottonwood Canyons Foundation and Wasatch Legacy Project

Background



Cottonwood Canyons Foundation was created in partnership with the Cottonwood Canyon ski areas, Salt Lake City and the US Forest Service to help educate the public on the canyons' importance and how they can promote their ecological health. The organization also provides individuals with hands-on ways

they can give back to this area through volunteering.

Based in part on the model of the Cottonwood Canyons Foundation, the Wasatch Legacy Project has achieved a significant amount of forest and watershed restoration projects in its short existence.

Programs and Accomplishments

Cottonwood Canyons Foundation reaches over 14,000 people annually through its programs.

School Field Trip Program

Hosts approximately 2,500 students annually (over 13,000 students since 2004)



Wildflower Festival

Volunteer guides lead educational wildflower walks for the public over three days at the four Cottonwood Canyon resorts. 700+ participants annually.

Tour with a Ranger

Naturalist-trained volunteers lead nature tours at the four Cottonwood Canyon ski resorts, and interact with the public to provide watershed,



public lands, natural history and ecological information. Over 7,000 people reached annually thanks to more than 5,000 hours of volunteer service.

Winter Snowshoe with a Naturalist Tours

Full moon tours and weekend tours for the public at Alta and Spruces Campground

Volunteer Naturalists in Albion Basin and Silver Lake

Volunteers convey watershed and leave-no-trace message for hikers and visitors, inform visitors of alternative hikes, provide natural history and ecological information.

Summer Hikes and Educational Programs

Moose Walks
Pika Hikes
Beaver Walks
Night Owling
Wildflower Walks
Bat and Night Hikes
Fall Foliage Walks
Tiger Salamander Walks
Kids Day at Silver Lake



Naturalists at Silver Lake Nature Center

CCF staffs a naturalist five days a week June through Labor Day, to staff the Nature Center, provide education programs, provide information, conduct board-walk monitoring, trash removal, public awareness, etc.



Stewardship Programs

Each summer field season CCF staffs the only comprehensive trail restoration and invasive species mitigation program in the Tri-Canyon area of Big and Little Cottonwood and Millcreek canyons. The trail crew is the primary trail crew and volunteer coordinating entity on the Salt Lake Ranger District's 400 miles of trails. 800 volunteers annually who contribute over 4,000 hours of volunteer time for trail work and invasive species removal.



Public Lands Information Center

Located in the Salt Lake City REI, CCF staffs the Public Lands Information Center, which provides information

on sustainable use of National Forest lands, state parks, national parks, BLM lands, and also avalanche awareness and Leave No Trace education.

CCF programs are carried out by:

1 year-round full-time director
2 part-time, year-round staffers at the Public Lands Information Center
1 summer naturalist staff person
1 summer invasive weed coordinator
5 summer trail crew members
2-3 interns per year

Wasatch Legacy Project

The Wasatch Legacy Project (WLP) has restored 145 miles of hiking trail including logging, brush cutting, drainage clean out and tread repair.

The WLP, as part of National Trails Day, created a new 1.5-mile section of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.

Initial studies and remediation efforts of the Little Cottonwood Creek zinc impairment are under way using a combination of state and federal agency funding as well as private contributions from Alta and Snowbird.

The WLP, U.S. Forest Service, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, PacifiCorp and Trout Unlimited are working to restore native Bonneville Cutthroat to the Mill Creek drainage.

