



☀️ Adapting to the Elements and Making Progress at Olmsted Park! ☀️

Our plans for the March 14 work party evolved thanks to several days of heavy rain. As it turns out, the weather gave us exactly what we needed.

With water actively flowing down the hillside toward the pond, we were able to clearly see how drainage is impacting our trail routing. While the saturated soil meant scaling back our use of machinery (and postponing work on filling low spots and preparing the ground for the rock retaining wall) it gave us valuable insight that will help us build a more sustainable trail.

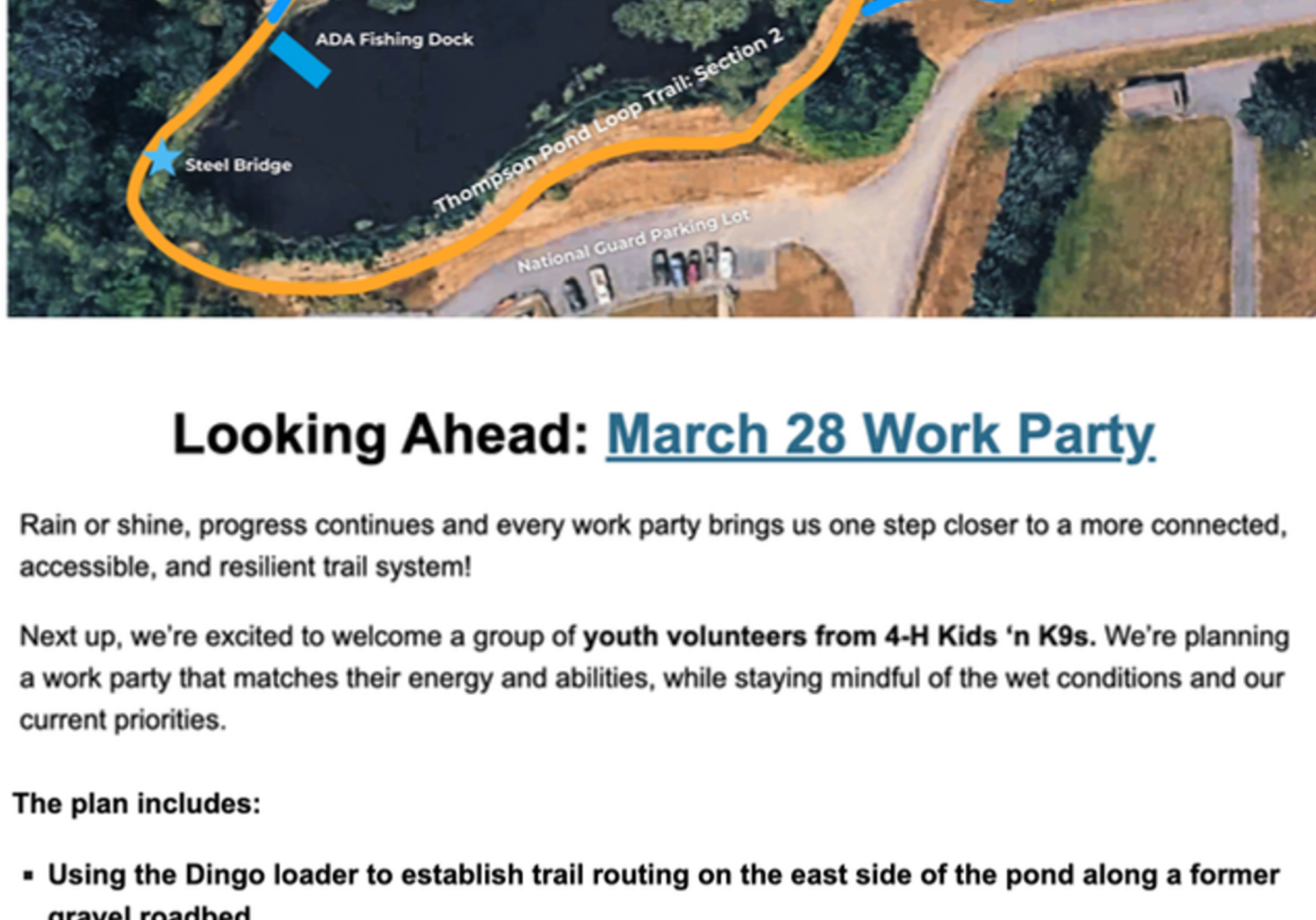
Even with the change in plans, our team made meaningful progress.

We focused on the west side of the pond, where volunteers cut and removed sod along the trail corridor, stockpiling it in an area designated for future fill. From there, we continued building out the trail; completing the section from the sidewalk to the end of the contractor's trail (marked in blue on the map), and extending another 100+ feet beyond the "Y."

We also tackled one of the muddiest trouble spots where the trail connects to the ADA route by excavating the saturated soil and replacing it with gravel to improve drainage. At the steel bridge, we built up the approach using ¾" rock to create a more stable, accessible entry point for our power carriers.

One of the biggest takeaways from the day was the low area between the ADA trail and the "Y," where significant runoff is collecting and flooding the trail. After discussing options with the City, we've been cleared to build up this section with rock, an important step toward a long-term solution.

Despite the weather challenges, we met our goal the "Y" was fully walkable in time for the **March 20 ribbon cutting at Olmsted Park!**



Looking Ahead: March 28 Work Party

Rain or shine, progress continues and every work party brings us one step closer to a more connected, accessible, and resilient trail system!

Next up, we're excited to welcome a group of **youth volunteers from 4-H Kids 'n K9s**. We're planning a work party that matches their energy and abilities, while staying mindful of the wet conditions and our current priorities.

The plan includes:

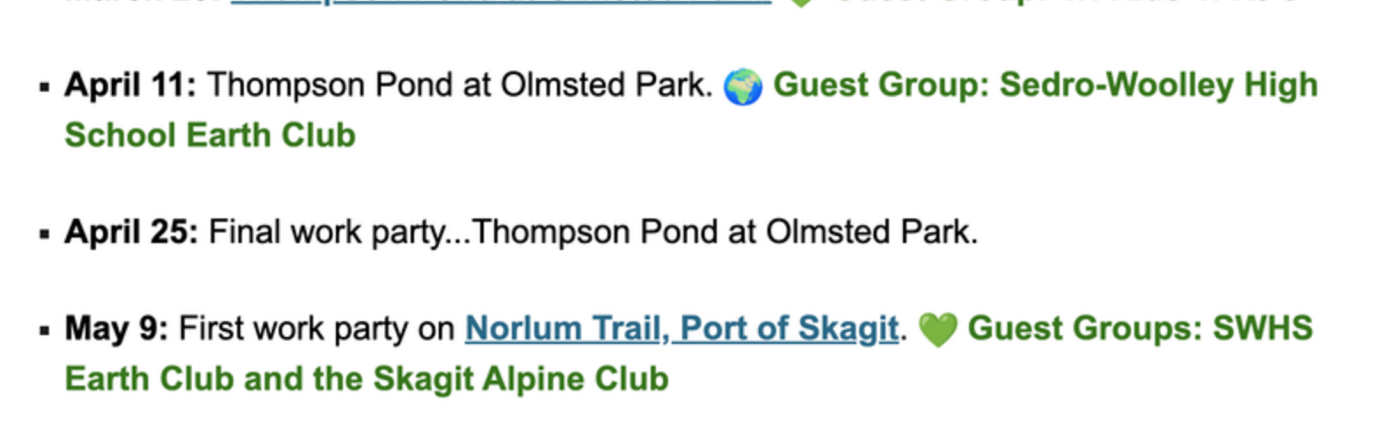
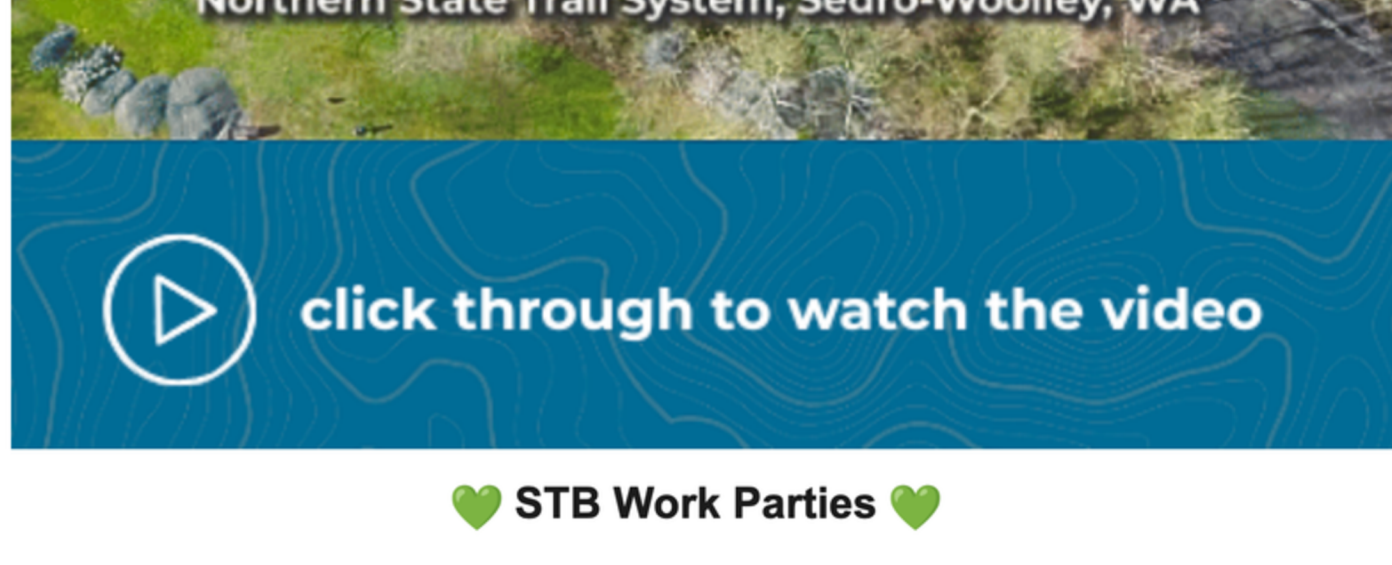
- Using the Dingo loader to establish trail routing on the east side of the pond along a former gravel roadbed
- Having volunteers gather and stage discards in a designated area
- Raking and tidying the trail corridor
- Making sure our volunteers have a good time!

🔪 Reminder to volunteers under the age of 18 🔪

We need your parent/guardian to sign a [new minor waiver form for 2026](#)

Your options....

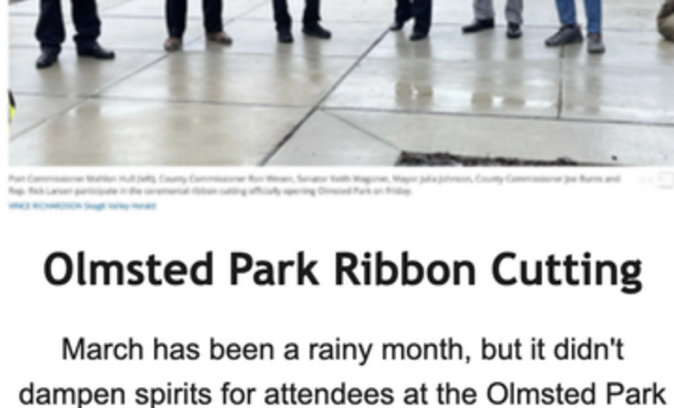
1. [Download](#), print, then turn in before the [next work party](#).
2. Request an e-signature version by emailing jenny@jsandbo.com (our project manager)



🎵 **click through to watch the video**

♥️ STB Work Parties ♥️

- **March 28:** [Thompson Pond at Olmsted Park](#). ♥️ **Guest Group:** 4H Kids 'n K9's
- **April 11:** Thompson Pond at Olmsted Park. 🌍 **Guest Group:** Sedro-Woolley High School Earth Club
- **April 25:** Final work party...Thompson Pond at Olmsted Park.
- **May 9:** First work party on [Norlum Trail, Port of Skagit](#). ♥️ **Guest Groups:** SWHS Earth Club and the Skagit Alpine Club
- **May 23:** Norlum Trail, Port of Skagit. 🏔️ **Guest Groups:** SWHS Earth Club and the Mountaineers GoHike
- **June 13:** Norlum Trail, Port of Skagit. 🏔️ **Guest Group:** Mountaineers GoHike
- **June 27:** Norlum Trail, Port of Skagit. Final work party before summer break!



Olmsted Park Ribbon Cutting

March has been a rainy month, but it didn't dampen spirits for attendees at the Olmsted Park Ribbon Cutting ♥️.

We were honored to be recognized by City and State leaders for our volunteer's contributions to Sedro-Woolley's newest park.

Read the story at [GoSkagit.com](#)



♥️ WTA Work Parties ♥️

Our friends at [Washington Trail Association](#) will be hosting several work parties this spring to build the technical approach to the South Knoll.

This spur trail is accessed from Quarry Trail, STB's latest project for the Port of Skagit.

Sign up at [WTA.org/volunteer](#)

Proud to be a program of United General District 304!

[View the 2025 Impact Report](#)

Read our Trail Story: A Path from the Past to the Future

The mission of **Skagit Trail Builders** is to design, build, and advocate for a connected network of **multi-use trails** across Skagit County. Our trails serve all kinds of users—hikers, runners, cyclists, dog walkers, and families. Community volunteers are central to our work. Everyone is welcome!

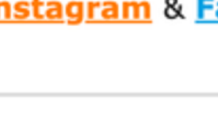
We are a program of [United General Hospital District 304](#) and operate as a 501c(3) nonprofit. District 304 provides insurance and fiscal support to so we can focus on our core mission of designing, building, and advocating for trails in Skagit County.

The Northern State Trail System is made possible by our amazing team of volunteers and our partnership with [Skagit County Parks and Recreation](#), the [Port of Skagit](#), and the [City of Sedro-Woolley](#).

Volunteer work parties are open to all – no experience required (we will train you). All ages, sizes, genders, and skill sets are encouraged to contribute to this popular community trail system.

Basic information for volunteers:

- 1) Work Parties are held the **2nd and 4th Saturday** of each month, Sept-June (except for holidays), 9am-4pm.
- 2) Please [sign up](#) through our website so we know you are coming!
- 3) Arrive at the parking area no later than 8:45 am to sign in.
- 4) Bring lunch and water.
- 5) Dress for varied weather (wear layers and bring a raincoat).
- 6) Wear close-toed shoes (for safety).
- 7) Bring your favorite work gloves (we also have some you can borrow).
- 8) Volunteers under 18 years of age need to bring a signed [minor waiver form](#).



Join our online community on [Instagram](#) & [Facebook](#) @SkagitTrailBuilders