

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

within the Vancouver National Historic Reserve



2009 Programs and Events Calendar

All programs and events take place at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site unless otherwise stated and may be subject to change. Fort Entrance Fees: \$3/adult, \$5/family, and free for children 15 years & under. For additional information about these and other programs offered by the National Park Service at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, visit our website at www.nps.gov/fova or call Vancouver National Historic Visitor Center at 360.816.6230

May

Saturday, May 9 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration-Antique Button Display & Lecture at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Plain or fancy, buttons have an interesting role in the history of fashion. Join us for a fascinating display and lecture!

Thursday, May 21 (10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.) Cultural Demonstration- Horse Plowing

Come join us for a demonstration of this old technology when a couple of teams of horses plow and harrow a small field just outside the walls of Fort Vancouver.

Monday, May 25 (~12:00 p.m.): Memorial Day 1860's Cannon Salute

Memorial Day was established to honor our nation's fallen soldiers with a traditional military salute of arms. Come view this 1860's weapons demonstration on the Parade Ground across from the Howard House. Free of charge.

June

Saturday, June 6 (10:00 a.m.): Portland Rose Festival- Grand Floral Parade

Fort Vancouver National Historic, the only national park in the Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area, will share the rich history of the Pacific Northwest by participating in Rose Festival's signature event, the Grand Floral Parade. Drawing more than 400,000 spectators, Fort Vancouver will bring to life 200 years of history with the use of historic costumes.

Saturday, June 13 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- Quilling at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Dainty strips of paper are transformed into a lovely garden. Join us and try this form of creative expression for yourself!

Sunday, June 14: Flag Day

Join us in Celebrate Freedom's patriotic Flag Day Ceremony, the event will be held at the Bandstand on the Historic Reserve Parade Ground. Free of charge.

Saturday and Sunday, June 20-21(10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.): Brigade Encampment

Again the brigades of fur trappers return to Fort Vancouver. They will share their stories of adventure and life in the wilds with family and friends and you are invited. Encampment takes place outside the fort. Event is free of charge. Entrance Fees to visit the fort apply.

Saturdays-Parade Ground and Sundays-Fort, June 27- September 7 (1:30 p.m.): Historic Weapons Program (Small Arms and Cannon)

Learn more about the weapons in use at the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort Vancouver and the U. S. Army's Vancouver Barracks. On Saturdays meet on the parade ground for historic military weapons firing demonstrations; s meet in the courtyard of Fort Vancouver for historic weapons demonstrations of the weapons of the Hudson's Bay Company, unless a weekend event is scheduled. Black Powder programs on the parade ground are free of charge. Entrance fees to visit the fort apply.

July

July 5 –September 7: Summer Programs including...

Fast Facts at Fort Vancouver: An introductory talk for visitors on-the-go. Talks discuss Fort Vancouver's past, why it is considered nationally significant and why it operates as a unit of the National Park System. Daily

Beyond the Fur Trade: The fort has many untold stories that go beyond the fur trade. Discover the rich history of the area that is now a historic site. Daily

Digging Deeper into History: Join a Ranger as you tour the buildings and grounds of Fort Vancouver. Finding out how the pieces of the Fort Vancouver puzzle hidden for so many years were put together to reconstruct the buildings and lives of the residents for visitors to enjoy today. Daily

Apples to Zinnias: Agriculture at the Fort: The original garden at Fort Vancouver covered approximately 6 to 8 acres and was both a vegetable garden and a formal flower garden. It is one piece of Hudson's Bay Company large agricultural industry, find out more about fort's agricultural history. Mon-Fri

Roving Ranger: Interested in finding out more about the Historic Reserve, look for the Park Ranger roving the Land Bridge, Parade Ground, Officers Row, & Vancouver Barracks Daily

An Evening At Officers Row: Join costumed staff and volunteers in a traditional evening activity along Officers Row. Friday

Thursdays, July 9- August 27 (~1:00-3:00p.m.): Teens XCape Camp Sessions at the Fort

11-15 year olds are invited to come and share experiences that help them grow through fun historically themed interactive activities. Pre registration required through the City of Vancouver's Marshall Community Center at 360.487.7086.

- July 9- Survivor (Outdoor Skills of the Fur Trade)
- July 16- Fear Factor (Perilous Journey of the Salmon)
- July 23- Biggest Loser (Gardening- Fun, Food, & Work)
- July 30- Who's Got Talent (The Art of Blacksmithing)
- Aug 6- Fantasy Sports (Land Bridge-Recreation&Sport)
- Aug 13- Amazing Race (From Furs to Felt & more)
- Aug 20- True Beauty (Nature in Your Backyard)
- Aug 27- Iron Chef (1840's Cooking & Baking)

Friday, July 10 (9:30 a.m.-12:00p.m.): Fort Vancouver Urban Youth Program-NAACP Rites of Passage Program

African American youth participate with Park Rangers in hands-on activities that help them learn about the site's distinctive history.

Saturday, July 11 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration-Lucet Cord-Making at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Come and learn this ancient technique for making braided cord.

Saturday, July 11 (11:00 a.m.): Kids Dig at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Children ages 8-12 are introduced to archaeology by participating in a "mock dig", mapping their artifact finds, and recording their data. As they excavate and screen with the help of park staff and volunteers, participants will discuss how we learn from archaeology, and why we should preserve these pieces of our past. Each two-hour session is limited to 20 children, on a first-come, first-served basis. Fort Kids Dig, entrance Fees to visit the fort apply. Program is free.

Friday, July 17 (~8:00 p.m.): The Life and Times of General George E. Pickett

A two act play that covers Pickett's life from his boyhood in Richmond, Virginia, to his untimely death in the 1870s. For more than 14 years Mike Vouri and folksinger Michael Cohen have been explaining who and why in drama, comedy and song in "The Life and Times of General George E. Pickett" bringing the Victorian-era Army veteran back to life. Vouri, as Pickett, offers a brisk interpretation of the 19th Century United States and its territories through Pickett's life, which touched almost all of the major themes; while Mr. Cohen plays the banjo and sings period songs. The performance is in conjunction with the 160th Anniversary of the US Army's Arrival to Vancouver at the Vancouver Barracks and will be located at the Foster Auditorium on the Clark College Campus.

Saturday and Sunday, July 18-19 (9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.): Soldier's Bivouac- 160th Anniversary of the US Army at the Vancouver Barracks

Much of the news today is about soldiers in battle. However much of their time is spent at camp and in the community. Explore the camps of soldiers from Vancouver Barracks' past, seeing what life was like in the military from a soldier's point of view. Takes place on the Parade Ground. Free of charge.

Saturday, July 18 (6:00 p.m.): 1860's Vintage Base Ball

The first vintage base ball game of the season, this gloveless game with wooden bats is played by very different rules! Bring a picnic and watch staff and volunteers recreate a game, playing by the rules established in 1860. The 1st Oregon Volunteers will once again play the Vancouver town team. Come and cheer for your favorite team, but beware... the umpire can fine the audience for "ungentlemanly" or "unladylike" behavior. All games take place on the Parade Ground next to the Bandstand. Free of charge.

Saturday, July 25 (11:00 a.m.): Kids Dig at the Fort

Refer to July description.

August

August 7&8 and 17&18: Environmental Living Program- Crossroads and Conflict

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site first ever Environmental Living Program, an immersion program where participants live as a group in a particular time in history. The program will immerse participants to life on the frontier before the American Civil War. They will use tools, perform duties, work, cook, and bake as if they were here in 1849. Reservations required for this overnight program and limited to one group of 15 people. Fee based program.

Saturday, August 8 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- *Ribbon Flowers* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Flowers were very important to Victorian ladies. Try your hand at creating lovely blossoms from ribbon!

Saturday, August 8 (11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.): Kids Dig at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Refer to July description.

Saturday, August 15 (6:00 p.m.): 1860's Vintage Base Ball

Refer to July description

Saturday, August 22(11:00 a.m.): Kids Dig at the Fort

Refer to July description.

September

Monday, September 7-Labor Day (1:30 p.m.): Historic Weapons: Important Tools of the Past

The soldiers of the US Army used black powder weapons for sport and military purposes. Join rangers and volunteers as they explain the role of various weapons used by the soldiers at the Vancouver Barracks. Free of charge located on the Parade Ground.

Saturday, September 12 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- *Potpourri* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

What Victorian home would be complete without a bowl of fragrant potpourri? Learn the secrets of making it yourself!

Saturday, September 12 (5:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.): Campfires and Candlelight

Stroll back in time and experience the night life of U.S. Army soldiers, Oregon Trail immigrants, and the residents Fort Vancouver Village. Once inside the Fort, visitors have the opportunity to observe life evening activities by campfires and candlelight. Free of charge.

Washington and Oregon Archaeology Month: Celebrating archaeology by raising awareness about archaeology and cultural heritage, both states offer a number of activities for everyone. To learn more, please go to www.oahp.wa.gov. Entrance Fees to visit the fort apply.

- **Saturday, September 19 (11:00 a.m.): Archaeological Walking Tour of the Fort & Village**
- **Saturday, September 19 (1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.): Collections Open House**
- **Saturday, September 26 (11:00 a.m.): Kids Dig at the Fort**

October

Saturday, October 3: Old Apple Tree Festival (TBD)

A celebration for the Oldest Apple Tree in the Pacific Northwest, come join in the festivities located at the Old Apple Tree Park. Walk back in time over the Land Bridge to learn more about the Hudson's Bay Company and its employees who planted this special tree.

Saturday, October 10 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration-*Teneriffe Lace* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Learn how this unique form of needle lace is created!

Saturdays, October 10 & 24 (7:00 p.m.): Tales of the Engagé

Step back in time with a "campfire program" of the 1840's. Join the Engagés of the Hudson's Bay Company as they share their stories of life at Fort Vancouver. The 1hour program will take place just outside the fort walls. Free of charge.

Saturday, October 24(6:00-9:00 p.m.): Spirits of Oregon City-McLoughlin House in Oregon City

The Spirits of Oregon City is a mobile theater tour that takes you back in time to several of the heritage sites in town. There will be living history vignettes about the characters of Oregon City's past. Reservations are strongly recommended - call the Rivershore Hotel at (503) 655-7141 to reserve your space. Tickets are \$15.00 per person. It's a little spooky, but not scary - an interesting and fun event for all ages!

November

Saturdays, November 7 & 21(7:00 p.m.): Lantern Tours

Join in a wonderful opportunity to tour the Fort at night. Each adult attending the program will carry their own lantern and tour with the Park Ranger through the Fur Store, the Counting House, and Bake House. You will learn what activities would have occurred once the sun set at Fort Vancouver. The 1 ½ hour tour meets at the Fort. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children under 15 years of age. Reservations required by calling the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Visitor Center at 360.816.6230.

Saturday, November 14 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- *Ribbon Trims* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Ribbon trims are the perfect finishing touch for a day dress or a ball gown. Come and learn how it is done!

Wednesday, November 11: Veterans Day (Free Fee Day for Veterans and their families)

Honoring those who have served and who are serving. Military personnel and their families are admitted free into the Fort.

December

Saturdays, December 5 & 19 (7:00 p.m.): Lantern Tours

Refer to January description

Saturday, December 5: Heritage Holidays at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Step back in time, to the 1850's. The holiday season is approaching, and everyone is preparing for the festivities. Learn what it might have been like to celebrate Christmas with the McLoughlin Family.

Saturday, December 12 (10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.): Christmas at Fort Vancouver

Experience first hand the festive traditional sights, smells, and sounds of the holiday season at Fort Vancouver. Visitors will be able to view and participate in activities undertaken by residents at the fort during the holiday season. Entrance Fees to visit the fort apply.

Please remember to visit the other venues within the Vancouver National Historic Reserve. For more information regarding their hours of operation and events please contact:

Pearson Air Museum- 360.694.7026

Officers Row

Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust located in the
Howard House- 360.992.1800

The Restaurant located in the Grant House-360.906.1101
Marshall House-360.696.3103

Water Resources Education Center- 360.487.7111