

June 2021 Our Stories, Redmond Connections

Redmond Mayor Angela Birney

Hello, I'm Mayor Angela Birney, and welcome to another video in my monthly "Our Stories, Redmond Connections" series.

It's appropriate, with summer right around the corner, that June is National Great Outdoors Month. Redmond has a strong history of valuing and caring for our natural resources. Our community is fortunate to have so many opportunities, whether it's through our parks and open spaces, public trail system, or the City's own recreational programs, to be able to connect with the great outdoors.

This month, I thought it would be interesting to ask Redmond's Parks and Trails Commission Chair and a Redmond Life Scout, who's working with the City on his Eagle Scout project, how they like to spend their time outdoors in Redmond.

Gregg Gottgetreu, Redmond Parks & Trails Committee Chair

Outdoor activities I enjoy in Redmond include playing pickleball on the city's courts and utilizing the trail system. Besides being a form of vigorous exercise, particularly playing the game with my grandsons, pickleball is a great family outing and an opportune example to show my grandchildren sportsmanship and humility. I lose a lot!

Redmond's trail system is extensive and offers another chance for fresh air and exercise. Jogging along the trails or just going for a walk with my wife, children, or grandchildren, all provide a chance to listen to the gravel crunch under my shoes, hear the birds chirp, or watch the rabbits and sometimes deer and coyotes, too.

So as the Parks and Recreation Department motto says... "Get Out and Play!"

Walker Holmquist, Redmond Life Scout -Troop 520

Well, this is a difficult question to answer really. Redmond offers a lot of great parks and trails to explore. And as a member of the Boy Scouts, I really enjoy parks like Farrel-McWhirter Park, which has a great orienteering course, and we often use for outdoor activities, and teach some outdoor skills. I also love to canoe and kayak down the Sammamish River, near Sammamish River Park, and around Marymoor Park. And really, I could go on and on, but I'll save the best for Troop 520, which is my Troop.

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Personally, I like to spend as much time outdoors as I can. You can find me walking on the trails with my dog or friends and family, spending time in our parks watching athletic events -especially if there's a good soccer game to watch, or hanging out enjoying an outdoor concert or celebration.

Enough about me; I am interested to hear your thoughts. In the comments, please share how you like to spend your time outdoors in Redmond using the hashtag #RedmondConnections.

Thank you for making Redmond and our community a great place to live, work, and play in the great outdoors! See you next time.