



Bald Hill Farm ... A Legacy for Corvallis

“It is too easy to take the Willamette Valley for granted ~ to assume it will always be here like it always has. But just imagine if you had never known it, or worse, your grandchildren never will.” ~ Greenbelt member

The Vision

The **Campaign for Bald Hill Farm** is our window of opportunity to protect 587 acres of strategically located open space and to help sustain the rural character of the Willamette Valley. This Campaign is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our community to determine what this Valley will look like in 100 years.

A Local Organization

Greenbelt Land Trust is a locally-based nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring people to care for the land of the mid-Willamette Valley. It takes a community to protect a place as special as this.

In the past 21 years, Greenbelt has worked with landowners to protect over 1300 acres of native habitats, working lands, and lands of natural beauty. We have a membership base of over 800 local families and businesses, people who share a belief in the future of our natural areas.

By protecting the best lands today, we can ensure that the Willamette Valley retains its working farms, its rural character, its wildlife and recreation opportunities, and its natural beauty for generations to come.

What Will Our Legacy Be?

Bald Hill Farm

A visionary Farm adjacent to Bald Hill Natural Area, where public trails combine with cows, endangered wildlife and plants find refuge, and children come to learn about the natural world. This is an urban Farm that supports local food production, recreation and education. There is nothing else like it.



Cows at Bald Hill Farm

The preservation of Bald Hill Farm creates a critical link in the current network of green infrastructure surrounding Benton County's urban areas.

Our Community

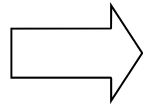
Each of us, whether we work, play or live in the Willamette Valley, has our own reason that we love this special place. The **Campaign for Bald Hill Farm** is a rare opportunity for us to stand together in protecting this beautiful place, preserving the possibilities for the future—of local farming as a way of life, of a community grounded in the natural beauty and rural character of this region, and of a place where people and wildlife flourish.

The Goal

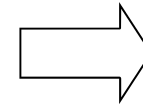
Raise \$2 million in gifts from people like you who take pride in preserving the natural beauty, recreation areas, farming heritage, and diverse wildlife of the Willamette Valley. **Join Me ... Lend Your Voice ... Give Today**

Local Food Production ...

Rotational Grazing



Local Food Production



Sustainable Agriculture

- Use of cross-fencing ensures light-impact on the land and daily movement onto fresh forage, while maintaining safe corridors for native plants and wildlife
- Pastured livestock and poultry, moved frequently, offer landscape healing and nutritional superiority
- Plants and animals are provided a habitat that allows them to express their physiological distinctiveness
- This natural model stewards the land, thickens the forage, reduces invasive weeds, stimulates earthworms, reduces pathogens, and increases nutritional values in meat

- Bald Hill Farm will maintain the character and tradition of farming near urban areas, a rapidly diminishing legacy of Willamette Valley agriculture
- Food originating on the land will serve customers and restaurants from Eugene-Portland
- We will connect residents with the people, animals, and plants that produce our food
- *Why do we buy local?* To support community farming families and the local economy, and to ensure food safety.

- Habitat for endangered plants and wildlife will be enhanced and maintained through responsible rotational grazing
- All proceeds from the lease of the Farm will go directly into a fund for the property, ensuring long-term stewardship
- An adaptive and flexible management plan will accommodate plant diversity and growth
- Bald Hill Farm will not only sustain itself financially and biologically, but it will continue to be a living model of sustainability for our children



Bald Hill Farm

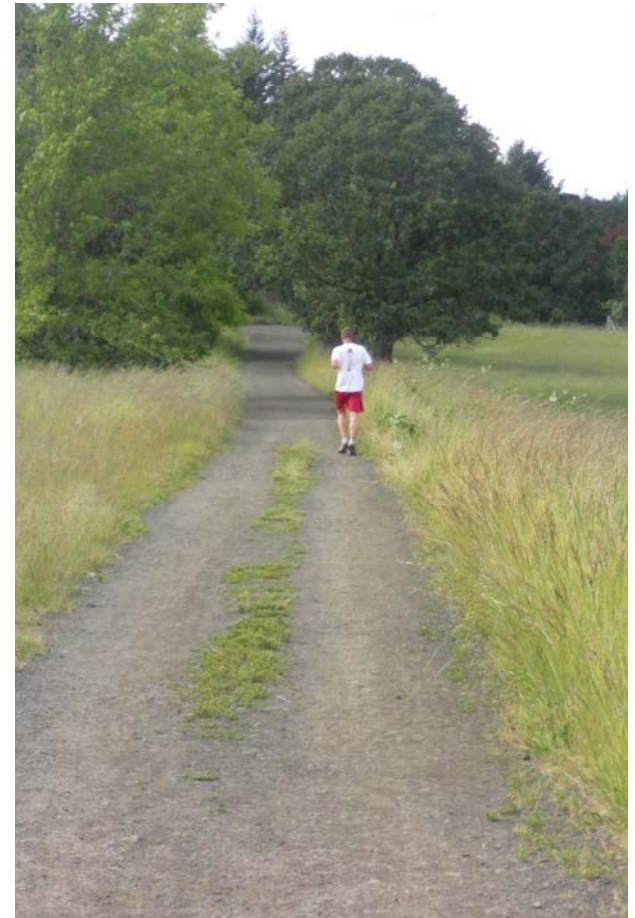
Trails ... Connecting People and Open Spaces

“Walking the footpaths and wooded trails of the greenbelt would become our most popular recreation, and a passionate interest for many. Everyone would enjoy a greenbelt and none more than our myriad successors destined to trod its trails far into the future.”

- Charlie and Elsie Ross, GLT Founders

- Bald Hill Farm will serve as a critical trail connector from Philomath to Corvallis and from Bald Hill to Fitton Green
- This connector is identified in the 2003 Benton County Trail System Plan as the first priority for potential trail connections
- Trail connectors will be identified in conjunction with Benton County Parks and Natural Areas, the City of Corvallis Parks Department, and local trails groups
- Pathways will protect critical conservation areas, while allowing users to enjoy a landscape with rare plants and wildlife
- Bald Hill Farm will add at least 2.8 miles of trails to the existing network at Bald Hill and Mulkey Creek
- Maintenance and enhancement of trails will be led by Greenbelt Staff and volunteers, and partner organizations
- Key research has shown that park and open space proximity is associated with higher levels of physical activity among a variety of populations, particularly youth

A 2010 Benton County survey showed that residents ranked walking, hiking, and enjoying the natural environment as the most enjoyed and used forms of recreation in the mid-Willamette Valley.



Trail runner at Bald Hill Natural Area

A Living Classroom ...

"The problem, then, is how to bring about a striving for harmony with land among a people many of whom have forgotten there is any such thing as land, among whom education and culture have become almost synonymous with landlessness. This is the problem of conservation education." - Aldo Leopold

Bald Hill Farm offers us the opportunity to:

- Connect with local schools, providing opportunities for outdoor education, tours, and conservation projects
- Work with OSU to establish research and monitoring opportunities
- Build a competitive internship model that will engage future farmers and conservationists
- Work with local organizations such as The Institute for Applied Ecology, Freshwater Trust, and Mary's River Watershed Council to provide a site for ongoing conservation projects with regional schools
- Engage local residents on the land through restoration tours, workdays, and hikes
- Involve organizations such as the Audubon Society, the Sierra Club, Neighborhood Naturalist, and others in plant and wildlife monitoring and trail building



Philomath Head Start youth learning at Lupine Meadows

In 2009 Greenbelt engaged over 700 youth in outdoor education and collaborated with over 500 adult volunteers to monitor, restore, and steward our special lands.

Our Native Home ...

“This parcel has a tremendous opportunity to take us to a real recovery of the butterfly.”

- Tom Kaye, Director, Institute for Applied Ecology

- We will restore native habitats on Bald Hill Farm and create a mosaic of habitats within the property that include oak savannas, wetlands, riparian forest, and sustainably managed upland forests
- Populations of 3 federally listed plant and wildlife species currently occur on Bald Hill Farm
- Mulkey and Oak Creek, vital urban waterways, drain across the property, providing aquatic habitat for native fish and wildlife
- Bald Hill Farm is the critical connector in Corvallis/Philomath for the recovery of the threatened Kincaid’s lupine, and the Fender’s blue butterfly. The property is highlighted in the Benton County Prairie Conservation Strategy as a integral component to the restoration of a butterfly corridor
- Grazing will be used as a tool to help control invasive shrubs and grasses, while the enhancement of riparian areas will help manage against invasive encroachment
- “We have already started Willamette daisy and Kincaid’s lupine plantings at Bald Hill Natural Area, and have been able to successfully introduce and monitor these re-establishments. This expanded property allows us to start thinking on a larger scale ... a project like this can result in real habitat connectivity. How this works with responsible grazed farming is not impossible or impractical.” - Tom Kaye



Kincaid's lupine at Lupine Meadows

A Sustainable Forest ...

The world's forests meet the social, ecological, and economic rights and needs of the present generation without compromising those of future generations - **Vision of the Forest Stewardship Council**

- Less than 2% of native oak woodland habitat remains in the Willamette Valley ~ at Bald Hill Farm we can restore this critical native habitat , while working to improve and protect its natural biodiversity
- Healthy forests provide sanctuary for imperiled animals such as the acorn woodpecker and the slender-billed nuthatch
- A long-term conservation-based forest management plan will be developed in coordination with professional advisors from Trout Mountain Forestry
- Thinning of encroaching conifers will encourage larger, more productive oak trees and native ground cover for use by vulnerable species
- Timber is FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certified, ensuring compliance with the highest social and environmental standards in the market
- All proceeds from timber sales will be invested into the ongoing Stewardship of the property, ensuring its continued management



Pileated woodpecker at Bald Hill Farm

A History of Bald Hill Farm ...

From the Kalapuya Indians practicing fire ecology, cultivating a habitat of oak savanna and native prairies, to the introduction of western settlers in the 1840's, raising sheep and hay, the 587 acres at Bald Hill Farm have seen numerous changes in the last 200 years.

Kalapuya Influence

For hundred of years, the Kalapuya lived and thrived in the mid-Willamette Valley. The Kalapuya Native Americans were skilled at the art of using fire to propagate the harvest of camas, a native perennial of the lily family. Periodic burning would clear the understory to native grasslands, while strengthening the fire-resistant oaks, and yielding a habitat conducive to elk and deer.

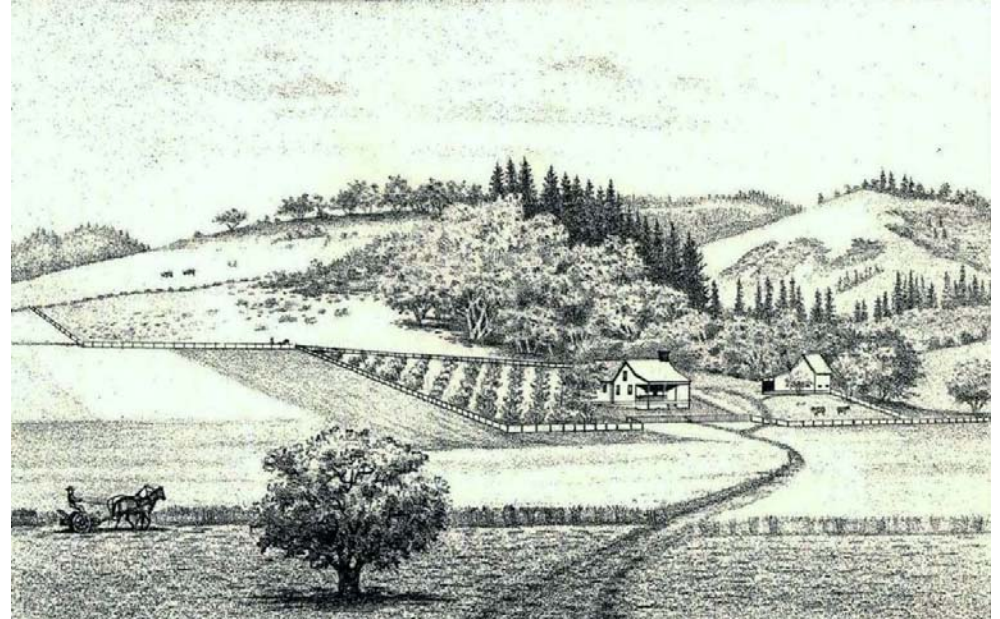
In 1855 the Mary's River Band of the Kalapuya, along with several tribes from the Willamette Valley, signed the 1855 Dayton Treaty, ceding territory from the Columbia to the Cascades.

Western Settlement

In 1845 brothers Luke and Johnson Mulkey claimed a combined total of 1281 acres under the Donation Land Claim Act, the remaining remnant of which is survived by Bald Hill Farm and the City's Bald Hill Natural Area.

Johnson Mulkey was the first western settler to winter in what is now Benton County, and his family enjoyed the first house with running water in the region. Built in 1847, this farmhouse stood on the edge of current-day Bald Hill Natural Area, with the Mulkeys re-directing a portion of Oak Creek to run through the kitchen. On what is now Bald Hill Farm, the Mulkey's raised sheep and cattle, while harvesting the fields for hay.

The Mulkey's built one of the first school houses at current-day Bald Hill Farm, rather than sending their young on the longer journey to town. Many of the early descendents of Corvallis have recorded their fond recollections of the 'Old Mulkey Schoolhouse' to historians.



Farm residence of A.G. Mulkey, current-day Bald Hill Natural Area

“The soil of Oregon was so very fertile that everything grew with little attention. There were no pests to speak of and very little cultivation needed. All one had to do to grow wheat was to plow, or scratch over the ground a little, and throw on the wheat seed.”

~ Maude Cauthorn Keady (1939), granddaughter of settler Johnson Mulkey

Footnotes

1. Fagan, David; *History of Benton County, Oregon*; A.G Willing, 1885
2. Phinney, Mark; *Historical Records Survey, Oregon-Benton County*; Works Progress Administration, 1938.

The Campaign for Bald Hill Farm ...

Raise \$ 2 million in pledges from individual donors by June 2011. These dollars will be leveraged to obtain over \$ 3 million from state and federal agencies to purchase Bald Hill Farm

A Goal of \$2,000,000		
Gift Amount	# of Gifts	Cumulative Total
\$100,000	6	\$600,000
\$50,000	10	\$1,100,000
\$25,000	15	\$1,475,000
\$10,000	20	\$1,675,000
\$5,000	20	\$1,775,000
\$1,000	50	\$1,825,000
\$500	150	\$1,900,000
\$250	200	\$1,950,000
\$100	500	\$2,000,000



Our Supporters ...

These organizations have formally endorsed the Greenbelt Land Trust's initiative to purchase Bald Hill Farm:

- Marys River Watershed Council
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Corvallis Audubon Society
- Benton Soil and Water Conservation District
- Benton County Parks and Recreation
- Benton County Commissioners
- The Institute for Applied Ecology
- The Sierra Club—Marys Peak Group
- Northwest Habitat Institute



Trail on Bald Hill Farm