

2018

Annual Report

WASHINGTON OUTDOOR WOMEN



EDUCATION

OUTDOOR TRADITIONS

MOTIVATION

STEWARDSHIP

A personal note from the Executive Director



Washington Outdoor Women (WOW) is rooted in wilderness education and traditional skills, where people come together to share in the bounty of Washington's resources. I was drawn to WOW because of its unique model of teaching outdoor skills and its perspective on developing the diverse community needed to effectively sustain healthy wildlife and habitat in Washington state. In the years to come, you will see us strengthen our core, broaden our reach, and facilitate stewardship of our state's natural resources. Thank you for your support of WOW and for your commitment to Washington's outdoors.

– Jen Syrowitz, Executive Director

Who We Are

WHAT, HOW, AND WHY



WOW'S MISSION

To teach traditional and recreational outdoor skills to women and girls, and by doing so, prepare and encourage them to become stewards of our natural resources.

SKILLS WE TEACH

After the Catch, Archery, Backpacking, Beekeeping, Big Game Hunting, Birding, Dutch Oven Cooking, Fire Building, First Aid for Dogs, Fix it in the Field, Fly Fishing, Fly Tying, Freshwater Fishing, Garden for Wildlife, Get Roped In, Kayaking, Knot Tying, Map & Compass, Medicinal Plants, Nature Journaling, Outdoor Photography, Shellfish Gathering, Shotgun, Snowshoeing, Soap Making, Survival, Waterfowling, Wild Edibles, Wilderness First Aid, Wildlife Awareness & Tracking

We founded WOW because historically most daughters were not included in outdoor activities like the boys were. WOW was created so women could confidently engage in successful outdoor experiences. We offer encouragement and the opportunities that connect women and girls with traditional skills and the awareness needed to create positive experiences in our natural world.

– Ronni McGlenn, WOW Founder (1998)

Numbers and Sponsors

2018 ACHIEVEMENTS AND SUPPORTERS

205

Students
*We have taught over
3,200 women since 1998*

63

Cities/Towns
Represented

36

Volunteer Instructors

32

Scholarships Awarded

727

New Followers
on Facebook

2500+

Supporters

SPONSORS AND PINNACLE DONORS



2018 Workshops

HANDS-ON INTRODUCTION TO
PRACTICAL OUTDOOR SKILLS



SNOWSHOEING

Beginner snowshoeing adventure that includes lessons in technique, winter survival, and avalanche awareness Snoqualmie Pass.

PRE-WOW

Women and girls practice archery, camp cooking, canoeing, fire building, and kelp-powered jump-roping on the beach at Camp Sealth on Vashon Island.



FALL WEEKEND WORKSHOP

113 women on site at Camp Waskowitz, North Bend, learning traditional and recreational outdoor skills from our expert instructors.



WATERFOWLING

An introduction into the world of duck hunting at French Creek Hunt Club, near Monroe.

Participant Perspectives

FROM OUR 2018 STUDENTS

“My most empowering moment was learning how to cast on the river during the fly fishing course. Fly fishing has always seemed so challenging to me and being able to learn and successfully cast on a river was a great accomplishment. Faith's lesson helped me feel confident in attempting this sport and helped me to find a new sport that I fell in love with. I can't wait to buy my own rod and keep learning this skill.”



“...the most valuable part of the fall weekend [workshop] for me was the opportunity to meet women from all over our state, from all walks of life, and with a myriad of interests. I come from a pretty liberal part of King County, and I've never seen so many women dressed in hunter camo in my life! I felt my perspectives and understandings being stretched and broadened throughout the weekend. I can see the value of multiple recreational uses on our public lands... [and] I know that hunting is a huge part of many women's culture and family tradition... This weekend was thought-provoking and life-changing for me, and I am very grateful!”



Our Volunteers

WOW INSTRUCTORS AND TEAM

EXPERT INSTRUCTORS

WOW's instructors do what they teach and are passionate about the outdoor experience. They are the pillars of the WOW program.



CREATIVE TEAM

The WOW Team and Interns volunteer their time, energy, enthusiasm, and hard work every year to ensure each workshop runs smoothly.



Washington Wildlife Federation

Washington Outdoor Women is an outdoor skills education program of the Washington Wildlife Federation whose mission is to preserve, enhance and perpetuate Washington's fish, wildlife and habitat through key outdoor education and conservation programs. In 2018, WOW Founder/Director Ronni McGlenn retired. The Federation hired WOW alum, Jen Syrowitz, as its Executive Director and WOW Program Director.

FUTURE PLANS

Looking ahead, the Washington Wildlife Federation has an eye on the next generation with a focus on introducing the entire family to the outdoors. We are concerned that modern family experiences do not expose most children to the natural world. It is essential to reverse this trend. Look for this programming in 2020.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John McGlenn
Steve Phillips
Ronni McGlenn
Mark Heckert
Tiffany Brooks



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