



**Pacific Northwest Region  
Gifford Pinchot National Forest**  
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# News Release

## Summer fun at Mount St. Helens Science and Learning Center

Release Date: April 19, 2016

This summer, the Mount St. Helens Science and Learning Center at Coldwater will focus on scheduled educational programs, retreats and monthly public events. After Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> the Science and Learning Center will not be open as a visitor information center until November.

The “Summer on the Mountain” schedule of events begins on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> with “It’s A Blast” and family-friendly science activities at the Science and Learning Center. Four days later on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, the 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1980 eruption will be commemorated by special presentations throughout the day at Johnston Ridge and the Science and Learning Center. The “Summer on the Mountain” series is co-sponsored by the Mount St. Helens Institute, Cowlitz Economic Development Council, and the US Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

For information about upcoming events visit: [www.mshslc.org/events](http://www.mshslc.org/events). Information about educational programs and facility rentals at the Science and Learning Center is available online at [www.mshinstitute.org](http://www.mshinstitute.org) or by emailing the Mount St. Helens Institute at [rent@mshinstitute.org](mailto:rent@mshinstitute.org).

**Johnston Ridge Observatory Opens for the Season on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>** with the It’s A Blast science education event. The observatory hosts interpretive displays that tell the biological, geological, and human story of Mount St. Helens. Visitors can also enjoy award-winning films, listen to ranger talks, observe the landscape, purchase souvenirs, set off on a hike, or get a light lunch from the food cart.

### SUMMER ON THE MOUNTAIN SCHEDULE:

May 14: It’s A Blast

Amazing stories, hands-on activities and the return of the amazing “trashcano”.

June 25: Music on the Mountain

Outdoor music celebration at the Johnston Ridge Observatory! Music will move indoors if it rains.

July 9: Sky and Star Party

See the sky in a whole new way with the Friends of Galileo Astronomy Club. Camping is by advanced reservation available by email at [rent@mshinstitute.org](mailto:rent@mshinstitute.org).

Aug. 6: Art Eruption

Make your own mini Mount St. Helens, go on a photo scavenger hunt, make a painting, and more!

Sept. 3- 4: Family Camp

Activities and adventure for the entire family on Labor Day weekend. Space is limited and advance registration is required at [mshinstitute.org](http://mshinstitute.org).



for the greatest good

## **NEWS RELEASE**

*(continued)*

Oct. 1: Carnival of Color

Celebrate the season's fall colors with a day of fun, art, carnival games, and prizes.

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