

# MOUNT ST. HELENS INSTITUTE

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## Mount St. Helens Reopens with “It’s a Blast!” Event on May 14th

**Vancouver, WA** – On Saturday, May 14th, the Johnston Ridge Observatory reopens for the season with the “It’s a Blast!” science education and fundraising event hosted by the Mount St. Helens Institute (MSHI). Enjoy breathtaking crater views, award-winning films and exhibits about the 1980 eruption at the Johnston Ridge Observatory. Visit the Science and Learning Center for kid’s activities, storytelling, crafts and guided hikes.

Admission is \$8 per person and benefits MSHI’s education and volunteer programs. The event is free for children 15 and younger and federal recreation pass holders. Both facilities will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

From Exit 49 off I-5, the Science and Learning Center is located 43 miles east along State Route 504 and the Johnston Ridge Observatory is located 54 miles east along State Road 504.

### “It’s a Blast!” Science and Learning Center schedule:

- 11:00am - "TRASHCANO!" exploding volcano demonstration
- 11:00am - Guided Hummocks Trail Hike (meet at Hummocks Trailhead)
- 11:30am - “Exploring the Crater Glacier Ice Caves”, Jared Smith
- 12:30am - "TRASHCANO!" exploding volcano demonstration
- 1:00pm - “Spiritual Connections and Traditional Stories from the Mountain”, Roy Wilson, Honorary Chief and a Spiritual Leader of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe
- 2:00pm - "TRASHCANO!" exploding volcano demonstration
- 2:30pm - Guided Hummocks Trail Hike (meet at Hummocks Trailhead)
- 3:00pm - “Exploring the Crater Glacier Ice Caves”, Jared Smith

### About Mount St. Helens Institute

The Mount St. Helens Institute is a 501(c) (3) private, nonprofit organization that advances understanding and stewardship of the earth through science, education and exploration of volcanic landscapes. MSHI operates under a special use permit from the U.S. Forest Service and is an equal opportunity education provider.

For more information about “It’s a Blast!”, contact Ray Yurkewycz, MSHI Executive Director, [ryurkewycz@mshinstitute.org](mailto:ryurkewycz@mshinstitute.org), 360-891-5069.

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