

Tillamook Forest Center celebrates 5th Anniversary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 1, 2011
11-17

Distribution: Major Media

Contact: Jim Quiring, (503) 815-6817

April 1st marks a special day at the Tillamook Forest Center as the Oregon Department of Forestry celebrates the Center's 5th anniversary. To mark this milestone, cake and refreshments will be shared with all visitors coming to the Center today and through the weekend.

To date, over 236,000 visitors have visited the Tillamook Forest Center, including nearly 24,000 students who have come to the Center for school programs and over 17,000 visitors who have participated in the Center's special interpretive programs. Visitor surveys at the Center indicate that visitors enjoy their experiences while learning about the forest and its history.

The Tillamook Forest Center opened in 2006, offering visitors the opportunity to explore the Tillamook State Forest and to learn about its history and its many values in our lives. The Center showcases the legacy of the historic Tillamook Burn and the public spirit behind a monumental reforestation effort. The Tillamook State Forest is managed by the Oregon Department of Forestry to produce timber revenue for counties, recreational opportunities, and wildlife habitat.

Through innovative programs and hands-on exhibits, visitors can gain a greater understanding about what a forest is and how it works, and how people have shaped, and in turn been shaped by the Tillamook Forest. Outside, there are trails, a suspension bridge across the Wilson River and a 40-foot tall functional fire lookout tower that offers a unique view of the area and the surrounding forest canopy.

The Tillamook Forest Center's 5th Anniversary comes during the Oregon Department of Forestry's 100th year, which the agency is celebrating throughout 2011 with a variety of displays, exhibits, and activities that focus on the agency's Centennial and history. This includes a special Centennial exhibit that is on display at the Tillamook Forest Center.

Admission to the Tillamook Forest Center is free, as are many of the Center's programs and events.

The Tillamook Forest Center is located near Milepost 22 on Highway 6 between Forest Grove and Tillamook. It is currently open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday.

More information about the Center is available by going to its website:
www.tillamookforestcenter.org or by calling the Center, toll-free, at: (866) 930-4646

###