

New Student Trip Description Beyond Portlandia (Portland, OR)

Welcome to the Beyond Portlandia New Student Trip Service Adventures! These programs will be challenging, educational, and fun. This sheet does not cover all aspects of the trip, but it will give you a few quick details.

When is the trip?

Beyond Portlandia takes place from Thursday, August 21, 2014 through Tuesday evening, August 26th, 2014. Once you get back to campus on the evening of the 26th, you'll be able to check in to your new room on campus. If you're planning meeting friends or family after the trip, let them know you'll be free by about 9 :00PM Tuesday evening.

Where will I stay during the trip?

As we have for the past several years, we will be staying at a church in Southeast Portland. Both Environmental Action and Economic Justice participants share this space. The church provides an "indoor camping" experience. Yep, that means sleeping on pads or mattresses on the floor! There will be kitchen facilities on site, where we will prepare our meals together. We will make our way to a community center for showers several times during our stay.

What will I do during the trip?

Economic Justice participants will focus service and learning efforts on various anti-poverty initiatives in the Portland area. Each day we will engage in one, and sometimes two, service opportunities. Potential service projects include: building homes with Habitat for Humanity; packing meals with the Oregon Food Bank; and tending to community gardens that provide fresh vegetables to low income families. This trip will be a great opportunity to explore Portland, challenge our ways of thinking, have a great time, and make new friends.

Environmental Action participants will focus service and learning efforts on Portland's environmental sustainability movement. We plan to trace the food production process from growth, to consumption, to composting. We will participate in activities and service projects with local Oregon farmers, community gardens, nonprofits, and the LC community. Issues surrounding the promotion of environmental stewardship, equity, and food access will be examined. We will exchange work for knowledge as we learn from some amazing people who are a part of the sustainable food process and help them with various projects in return. Prepare to learn about sustainable food issues, to work in the dirt, and to eat some tasty local food.

Potential Hazards:

Common injuries which could occur on these trips include: blisters on hands or feet, cuts on feet as a result of walking barefoot, accidental cuts from kitchen knives, burns on hands from handling pots on a stove without hot pads or gloves, and sunburn from not applying enough sunscreen while working outdoors or on a day hike. These are all preventable with a little caution and common sense. Tools that you may use at a worksite need to be respected. Shovels, hammers, screwdrivers, and other items should be used carefully. Proper tool use will be explained before each job. Climbing any ladder should be done properly. Beware of electrical wires. Wear eye protection when using tools. Work gloves will be provided. Footwear should be sturdy enough to protect participant's feet from injury.

The temperatures in Portland typically range from the low 60s to the high 80s (Fahrenheit) at this time of year. August is usually the driest month, but it has been known to rain, so bring appropriate clothing. Try to bring some clothes that you don't mind getting dirty.

How will I make sense out of the experiences I have during the trip?

Each trip will be lead by two current students. They will serve as your guides for the week while showing you their city and answering your questions about life at Lewis & Clark. We will spend time together as a group reflecting on and discussing our service activities as well as having fun and making new friends. In the past, students have returned from this trip excited, energized, and more familiar with their new home!