

More on snags and logs:

Unfortunately, historic forest practices have limited the number of snags and downed logs available. Creating and protecting them in the forest is beneficial for a wide range of wildlife.



As the center of snags began decaying and softening, birds, such as woodpeckers, hollow out nest holes which are later used by chickadees, kestrels and screech owls.



Decomposing logs attract insects making it an excellent food source for other animals. Salamanders and frogs also use them for shelter.

Beyond Memorial Park:

Similar efforts to create wildlife habitat have been made throughout the city. One interesting example is the integration of basking logs as part of the city’s Boeckman Road Wetland Mitigation site. Once the logs were anchored to the site, the wildlife began using them for feeding, nesting, and perching.



Logs placed in the wetland area of Boeckman Road serve as basking logs for waterfowl, such as the Mallard and Cinnamon Teal ducks

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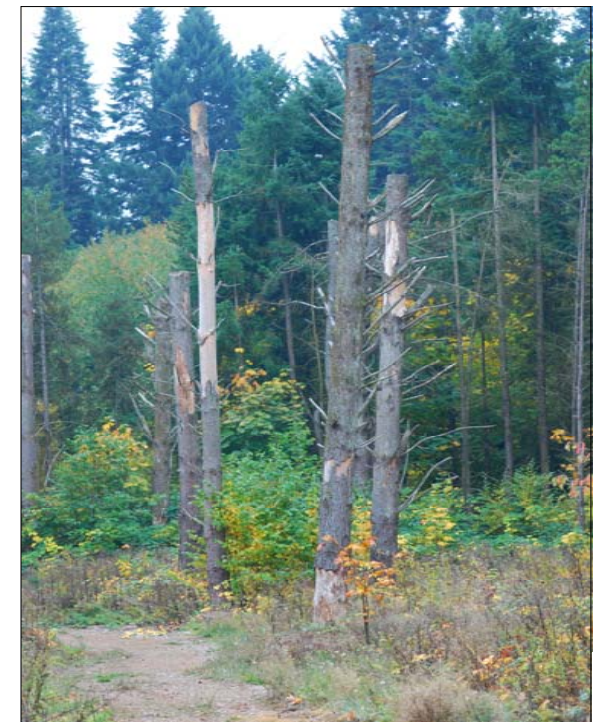
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This brochure was created by the City of Wilsonville, 2008

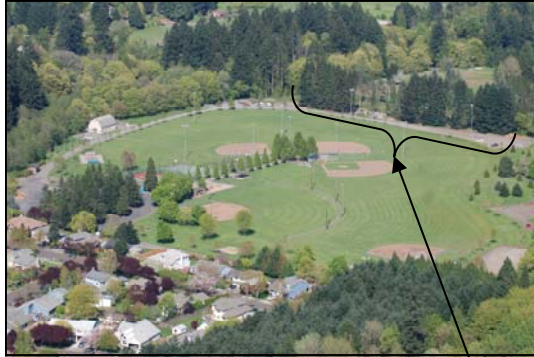
Snags and Downed Logs

Memorial Park – *The Knobcone Pine Site*



Learn about the history of the knobcone pine site and about the essential role that snags and downed logs play in the preservation of wildlife habitat.

Sustaining Urban Forestry~Creating Wildlife Habitat~Ensuring Public Safety



Knobcone pine site:

This grove of pine trees located east of the sports field and west of the dog park, was planted in the 1950's by Ernest Kolbe, a notable professional forester. Mr. Kolbe was a forester for 46 years and left his imprint on Memorial Park by planting a variety of native and non-native tree species. Most of his work focused on experimental forestry for the purpose of research and education. The non-native knobcone pine trees were one of his experimental projects. Over the past 50 years, as this grove of pine trees aged, they became a hazard. In 2006, the city removed a large number of pine trees due to the potential danger of them falling and presenting a risk to park users. However, they left some of the trees as snags and downed logs for



Knob cone pines removed or left as snags because of a threat to public safety

wildlife habitat.

The future of this site:

The city has partnered with Friends of Trees to restore this site to a predominantly native forested habitat for wildlife. The plan includes the periodic removal of invasive plant species and additional plantings of native varieties throughout the site. The city also has plans for trail improvements and public use enhancements such as a bench and interpretive signage.

Snags and logs:

Snags, defined as a standing dead or dying trees, and downed logs provide critical habitat for a variety of forest birds. After a tree dies, it's value to many wildlife species increases. Animals feed on the insects that reside in the decomposing wood. Logs and snags are used by many animals for shelter and perches. Hawks, osprey and owls use snags as perches for hunting while swallows,

use snags as perches for hunting while swallows, chickadees, and woodpeckers use cavities in snags for nesting. Chipmunks, mice and moles use downed logs for nesting.

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Having a variety of sizes of snags is important for attracting different wildlife. Most cavity nesting birds need snags at least 10 inches in diameter and 20 feet tall. The Pileated Woodpecker and Barred Owl need a tree at least 20 inches in diameter.



Logs left on the ground serve as habitat for small mammals, birds and insects.