

# Mount St. Helens Elk and Vegetation Conservation Experimental Fence Repair Project



**Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday, June 24, 2007 – 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**What?:** The project is a volunteer event to repair an elk enclosure northeast of the Coldwater Ridge Visitor Center. The “enclosure” is a 1.25 acre fenced area where elk and deer are being experimentally “excluded” so ecologists can measure plant recovery in the absence of browsing and compare it to adjacent unfenced areas. Work involves packing 12 foot 4x4’s and fence wire to the enclosure and replacing weak posts and fence wire.

**When?:** Saturday, June 23, 2007 – 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, June 24, 2007 – 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Volunteers are needed on either one or both days. For volunteers interested in working on both days there will be an optional camp out and, weather permitting, a night trip led by Monument Scientist Peter Frenzen to Johnston Ridge to attempt to observe lava dome rockfall and dome glow. Volunteers will also have an opportunity to join Frenzen for a Sunday afternoon tour of the Johnston Ridge Observatory and view of the growing lava dome.

**Who?:** Volunteers are needed to come out and join in the fun! Please bring a sack lunch, water bottle(s), work gloves and wear sturdy boots. Fence pliers and other fence building tools are also helpful. Please come dressed for “rain or shine” weather.

**Where?:** Coldwater Ridge Visitor Center, MP 43 on State Route 504 east of Castle Rock. Meet in the parking lot in front of the Visitor Center.

**How?:** The **Mount St. Helens Institute** is partnering with the **Gifford Pinchot National Forest** to organize this event. MSHI is currently seeking donated materials for the project.

**Why?:** Because we care about the health of our volcano and want to support long-term research in one of nature’s most dynamic and interesting natural laboratories!

**What’s Next?:** The **Mount St. Helens Institute** will be hosting volunteer weed pulls, trail projects and other volunteer opportunities at Mount St. Helens this summer and fall. Find out how you can get involved!

**Please RSVP so we know who’s planning to attend:** Contact Jessica Kimmick, Visitor Programs Manager, (360) 449-7883 or [Jessica@mshinstitute.org](mailto:Jessica@mshinstitute.org) and let us know the name and date of the volunteer work party and the names and contact information for those who plan to attend.

