



THANKS to those who walked the trail
to collect trash this month:

Sutherlin HS National Honor Society
&
Jim & Brendan Leahy



Board Update:

With the City's approval (Resolution 2016.05), and under the guidance of volunteer grant writer (and Sutherlin resident) Joan Herrmann, we are hard at work preparing the City's grant application for an Oregon Parks and Recreation Department planning grant. The Master Plan is needed in order to apply for future capital improvement grants and, with public input, will serve as a guide for all future development and management.

Once the application is submitted this month, the FOFPP will move onto raising the matching funds (approximately \$15,000) needed for the planning grant. There will be no funding from the City, nor are we asking for any type of future tax levy. Without the matching funds, the City will not accept the grant, should it be awarded, and we will not be able to begin the Master Plan. **Once the Master Plan is in place, the door opens to use the \$3 million the City spent on purchasing the Ford's Pond property as matching funds for future capital improvement grants.** This is a "Golden Opportunity" to make this money work for Sutherlin twice, but we can only apply this match until August 2020. The sooner we begin applying for annual capital improvement grants, the more of the \$3 million we can utilize. As citizens, we feel it would be a tragedy to throw away this chance to use this property (and the money already spent) to its full potential. Two years of this option have already passed, and the expiration deadline will come quickly if we don't move forward with the Master Plan now.

Other News:

We've seen plenty of fishing, but have yet to see any catches (other than that show-off osprey). Feel free to share your photos on our Facebook page.

With the Spring babies in the grass and along the shoreline, we remind you of the importance of keeping your dogs on leash. Also, it's tick season, so please check yourselves and your pets.

If you own a business and would like a stack of brochures, please contact Beth at 541-680-7906.

As a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, your donations are tax-deductible. Donations made by check may be made out to Friends of Ford's Pond and mailed to: PO Box 99, Sutherlin, OR, 97479. Donations may also be made on our website www.fordspond.org via PayPal (we pay the processing fee).