

NEWS

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Machetes and pencils in hand, four students from The Evergreen State College have nearly finished laying the groundwork for a 20-acre environmental park in the heart of Tumwater.

Plotting and carefully carving out paths through the site's dense underbrush and conferring regularly with state and city officials on development of the Deschutes River Valley property, has kept the four students and their instructor, Oscar Soule, active throughout the summer.

"We've just about completed our summer work on the park," Karen Hansen, a Longview student who is the project's only female team member, said. "Working outside for three months has been great, but probably the most exciting thing has been the cooperation we've received from city and state officials."

"Everyone with whom we've dealt has been very receptive and cooperative," agreed Soule, who has worked closely with the students since the initial project was begun last winter.

Originally investigated in February by Tom Boley, an Evergreen student from Bellevue; Soule; and Tumwater officials, the project evolved after the Political Ecology team presented its findings in April and received approval on a resolution to survey and study potential use of the property and prepare a detailed report. In June, the original team of nine students completed a 34-page study, delivered it to the City Council and received a go-ahead for the summer project.

Work, which was funded by a \$1,000 grant from the city council, gave the students "a real opportunity to apply what they had been studying all year," Soule said. "It also gave the city a chance to gain multiple use of this valuable green area which

Dick Nichols, Director
Information Services

will provide citizens a needed haven of peace and solitude."

Setting their sights on four goals for the summer, the students first conducted a general survey of the site with the aid of the Tumwater City Engineer and his staff. This was followed by a thorough soil survey directed by the State Soil Conservation Service. Mapping and plotting of the entire 20 acres was then completed and construction of winding pathways through the densely-covered grounds was begun. Proposed trail costs of \$900 have been budgeted and funded by the city.

"The park will have definite environmental overtones," Miss Hansen said. "It will be like having an ecological preserve right in the middle of the city and we think visitors will appreciate its natural surroundings without requiring a lot of elaborate extras."

Investigation of alternative long-range funding sources is the next item to be accomplished by the five-member Evergreen team.

"We're hopeful it will all be approved before next summer," J. P. Jones, III, a Bremerton team member said. "We would really like to see the project completed and open to the public by the fall of 1973."

Others involved in the summer project are John McCombs, Bremerton, and Robert Thomson, Chehalis. They and their co-workers plan to continue their interest and support of the project until it is completed.

"The park has become a part of our lives and we have to see it become a reality," Miss Hansen explained.

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Centralia Chronicle

A Chehalis student at The Evergreen State College, Robert Thomson, right, is shown discussing path routes through a 20-acre site which will become the first Tumwater City Park. Working with a five-member Evergreen team, Thomson and Bremerton student J.P. Jones, III, left, have spent the summer surveying the property and carving out pathways through its dense underbrush.

Lacey Leader

Clearing logs and hacking through dense underbrush are just part of the work being done by two Evergreen State College students, Karen Hansen of Longview, left, and John McCombs, Bremerton, on the site of a proposed environmental park in the heart of Tumwater. Part of a five-member Evergreen team, the two have also been helping to survey the entire site and to secure long-range funding for what they hope will be the first city park in Tumwater's history.

Longview News

A Longview coed at The Evergreen State College, Karen Hansen is shown learning about park development the hard way. Miss Hansen, and her instructor Oscar Soule, are part of a five-member Evergreen team who have been helping the city of Tumwater develop a 20-acre environmental park in the heart of the Thurston County city.

Daily O.

Hacking pathways through the 20-acre site of the proposed Tumwater City Park are Oscar Soule, a faculty member of The Evergreen State College, and Karen Hansen, a second year student from Longview. The two are part of a five-member Evergreen team who have been working with the city of Tumwater to develop a 20-acre environmental park on the city's DesChutes River Valley property.

Bremerton Sun

A Bremerton student at The Evergreen State College, J. P. Jones III, left, is shown discussing path routes through a 20-acre site which will become the first Tumwater City Park. Working with a five-member Evergreen team Jones and Chehalis student Robert Thomson, right, have spent the summer surveying the property and carving out pathways through its dense underbrush.