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STUDENT HOUSING & LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE

Springtime Hikes IN EUGENE

A DAY AT Wooden Shoe TULIP FARM



Wooden Shoe Garden

Revamping Your Apartments & Balconies

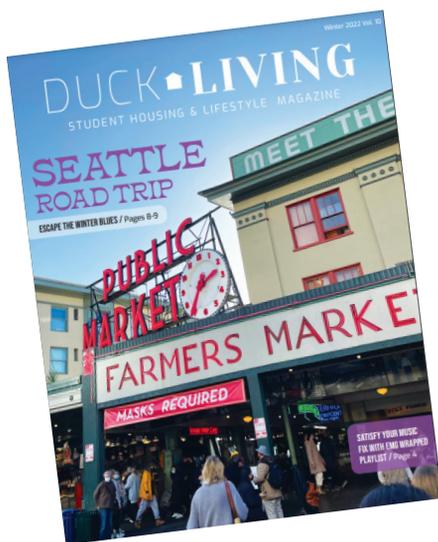


LETTER FROM THE EDITOR,

Spring has officially sprung! The sun is beginning to shine, students are flocking outside in droves and we are all soaking up the vitamin D with a little extra joy. Check out this issue for more warm weather to-do's like sprucing up your outdoor spaces, helpful tips on spring cleaning or taking a day trip to a gorgeous tulip farm. Stay safe, stay happy and enjoy!

Skyla Patton

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OUTDOOR CRAFTS AND ACTIVITIES

WRITTEN BY LIZZY LEE

After what feels like an eternity of clouds and rain, sometimes all we need is a bit of vitamin D. As the weather warms up, it opens up brand new activities to do outside. With such nice outdoor spots in Eugene like the Willamette river or Washburne park, it's hard to stay inside in the spring. These are a few suggestions for when you and your friends want to hang out on a nice day but you don't have anything to do.

FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS

Friendship bracelets are so fun to make alone or with a group of friends. They are customizable and easy to create. Each person could make one and trade with each other at the end or you could pick the colors for someone else. Just head over to the nearest craft store and buy some embroidery thread or beads and string. Head over to the park, lay down a blanket and put some music on while y'all make some bracelets. Perfect recipe for a chill afternoon.



TIE DYE

Now this one is also great to do with friends because you're left with an end product that you can wear afterwards. Again, you're going to find everything you need for tie dyeing at a craft store. While most of us are probably used to tie dyeing t-shirts from summer camp, there are many other ways to make this activity different. For example, my friend and I tie dyed a king size flat sheet so we could use it for picnics. You could also tie dye socks or a bucket hat.



PAINTING

Hear me out first. Painting can be a pain in the neck because of the mess, but there's something about the sun that makes it worth it. Whether it's at a park or in your backyard, there's so much inspiration outside to paint. Blast some music and paint whatever. At the end, you'll have an awesome piece of art to display at home or a gift to give someone.



FRISBEE

This activity is less chill and more athletic but nothing beats tossing a frisbee around with a few friends. Either at the rec field or at a park, frisbees never get old. You can even spice things up by playing some ultimate frisbee. It doesn't even have to be a frisbee. If you're feeling active, throw around a football or kick around a soccer ball. You can even go back to your elementary school days and play tag.



PICNICS

Raise your hand if you just want to sunbathe when the weather's nice. I can't think of anything more aesthetic than dressing up, packing some food and having a picnic with close friends. I have some good memories cutting up fruit and making sandwiches with my roommates and having lunch by the river. Get creative with it! Make a charcuterie board with mocktails, or have a chill picnic with snacks like chips and juice pouches.





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30 DAY THROWAWAY CHALLENGE

WRITTEN BY SKYLA PATTON

As the weather warms up and the frost begins to thaw from the cracks of Eugene, the spring cleaning bug prepares to bite house and apartment-goers alike. Somehow I end up accumulating this crazy amount of stuff that serves not a lot of purpose outside of filling space, and find myself fighting the urge to throw everything out onto the sidewalk.

Let's instead start with baby steps. Enter: The 30 Day Throwaway Challenge. This is a fun way to save on space, declutter and help organize your home in small, manageable bites.

Here's the basic rules of the challenge. On day 1, you'll get rid of one item of your choice. On day 2, you'll get rid of two items; day 3, three items will be purged, and so on.

You'll repeat this process until you reach day 30, and if done successfully, will efficiently purge over 400 items of your choice.

An item gone is an item gone; size has no factor in this game! Try starting small with little things, like miscellaneous items from the infamous junk drawers or disposing of duplicate items that you don't need two of. As you get the hang of the process, it'll become easier to part with larger items, and you'll be able to explore varying nooks and crannies of your home in order to find items to purge. It's like reverse treasure hunting!

While it feels awesome to clean out, none of us enjoy throwing everything in the trash to take up space in a landfill instead. Here's a quick troubleshooting guide to help you decide what exactly to *do* with the items you decide to part with:

RECYCLE IT! THROW IT AWAY! DONATE IT! REPURPOSE IT!

This is arguably the easiest way to say goodbye to your items without experiencing the guilt of tossing them in the garbage. Check local recycling and trash guidelines on what can be put in a recycling bin (ex: loose cardboard, certain types of plastics, glass jars), what can be taken to recycling centers (ex: electronics, larger items such as furniture or mattresses).

Sometimes, the trash is the only place to go. If it's an item that isn't appropriate to donate or recycle, take a deep breath, say goodbye and throw that bad boy in the garbage. When you take the trash out at the end of the 30 days, you'll return to a fresher, clutter-free home, guaranteed.

One person's trash is truly another's treasure! Items such as clothing, food and drink or even knickknacks are great things to offer to local charities, shelters and secondhand stores that are always looking for outside donations. Look around neighborhoods in Eugene and Springfield for self-serve donation boxes, large wooden storage bins that are available to the general public and often stocked with snacks, hygiene items and more for folks who need it.

While this is technically straying from the parameters of the 30-day challenge, if you really can't bear to part with a particularly useless item; repurpose it! Find a new way to bring back life to something you don't use as-is so it serves a purpose instead of taking up space.



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A Day at Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm

Written by **Hevenn Vanhelsdingen** • Photographed by **Makenna Lloyd**



Since 1974, Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm has been growing acres of colorful tulips and each year visitors are invited to come share in the beauty of their bloom. Only an hour and a half from Eugene, this destination makes the perfect day trip. Try this itinerary to get the most out of your visit!

Stop for Coffee:

If all that driving has you a little thirsty, stop in Salem and visit French Press Coffee and Crepes. This cafe offers your average cup of joe, or fancy signature lattes like their Let It Bee latte, made with butter pecan and honey vanilla. While you're there, don't forget to try one of their specialty crepes!

Wooden Shoe Farm:

Once you arrive at the farm you'll be greeted with 40 acres and 100 varieties of tulips to explore and take photos with. The farm itself has many attractions to tour, including an adorable gift shop and a storefront for Red Barn Hemp, which offers concentrated CBD products grown right here in Oregon.

Schreiner's Gardens:

Tulips not your favorite kind of flower? Visit a different blooming field instead! Schreiner's Gardens is just a few miles outside of Salem and boasts beautiful varieties of irises, lupins and poppies throughout the month of May. Tickets are available online for farm tours and more.

Grab a glass of wine:

Enjoy the blooming tulips with a glass of Wooden Shoes handcrafted wine.

Wooden Shoe Vineyards invites guests to visit their tasting room where they offer a variety of wines to sample. Tickets are required for entry so remember to plan in advance!

Enjoy a picnic in the gardens:

If you feel like stepping away from the crowd for a while, check out Wooden Shoe Gardens. Usually reserved for weddings and events in the summer, guests can use this space to picnic during earlier months of the year. Grab your favorite picnic snacks and lounge with your friends and family in this 4-acre garden. If bringing your own supplies seems like too much of a hassle, grab a bite from one of the many food and drink options available onsite.

Have a photo shoot:

What's more aesthetically pleasing than acres of tulips to capture the perfect picture? The flowers themselves make a good subject, or you can get together with friends and capture the beautiful moment. And for those that just want to spice up their Instagram feed, make sure to grab a solo shot with the different varieties of tulips.

Take home tulips:

Wooden shoe tulip market gives visitors the opportunity to take some of the farm's beauty home with them! Visitors can purchase cut flowers, potted bulbs, or even pre-order bulbs for the next season. And if you just want some fun merchandise to remember the experience, the tulip market has you covered with all sorts of exciting gear.

A group of hikers is seen from behind, walking along a rocky trail through a dense forest. The trees are tall and thin, with sunlight filtering through the canopy. The ground is covered in green ferns and moss. The hikers are wearing backpacks and casual hiking attire.

SPRINGTIME HIKES IN EUGENE

WRITTEN BY KELSIE HEFFERNAN AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY BEN JENSEN

Spring is a beautiful time of year in Eugene; the sun makes its appearance again, flowers start to bloom, and bright green hues dominate the landscape. Hiking is a great way to appreciate the gorgeous scenery, and there are plenty of great hikes for every difficulty level close to campus. Hikes are also a great group activity for friends and are an awesome way to destress and take a technology break, especially in great weather!

Mt. Pisgah

The south-east mountain is an approximately 20 minute drive from campus and is a 4.3 mile round trip from the parking lot to the summit and back, and can take anywhere from 1.5-2 hours to complete. Following trail 6 is moderately difficult and may require lots of breaks for beginners because it is almost all uphill to the summit, but the views are so worth it! At the top, you'll get a beautiful birds eye view of Eugene, and throughout the whole hike the scenery is stunning with views of vast green grazing fields, wildflowers and creeks.



Mt. Pisgah

Fox Hollow

The Ridgeline Trail System involves many interconnected trails looping around Eugene and spanning about 12 miles total. Although still in the city, these trails feel secluded and serene. Accessible on bike or bus 73 from campus, it's optimal for getting out for a quick hike at any time of day. The Fox Hollow trailhead includes an easy 1.7 mile hike through the trees.

Spencer Butte (Easy)

Arguably the most talked about hike in Eugene, Spencer Butte is still worth including on this list as a reminder for anyone who has not yet made the 1.7 mile trek! About a 12 minute drive from campus, the first half of this easy to moderate hike is entirely uphill and takes you to a breathtaking view over Eugene, totaling only about an hour.

Mount Baldy

This is the perfect trail for beginners and is a 2.8 mile round trip easy hike, taking about 1.5 hours. Part of the Ridgeline trails, this hike takes you through the woods and connects to nature. It's about a 15 minute drive from campus located in South Eugene.

Spencer Butte (Hard)

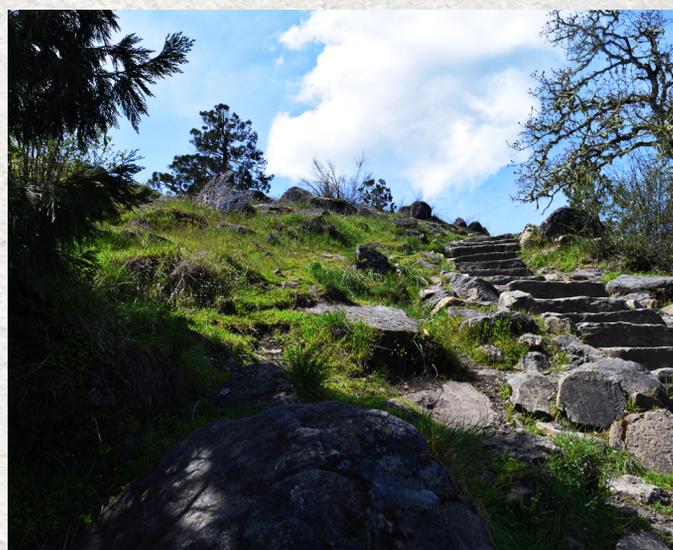
If you've already hiked Spencer Butte many times, have a free Saturday and are looking for a challenge, this 6.3 mile hike may be the one for you. It begins in Frank Kinney Park and takes you to the top of the butte and back, taking on average about 3 hours and 10 minutes. Frank Kinney park is a 12 minute drive from campus and can be found near the Amazon trail system.

Fall Creek Trailhead

This 12.2 mile hike is for the experienced hiker that takes you through the forest, past waterfalls, and to swimming holes. It is an approximately 40 minute drive from campus so this should be planned as a day trip. There is a small incline.

Dorris Ranch

If you're looking for a flatter hike without as much incline, there are many trails throughout Dorris Ranch that will work. Located in Springfield, Dorris Ranch is about a 10 minute drive or 20 minute bike from campus. Dorris Ranch is a national historic site that also has a sprawling trail system, one of which spans 4 miles along the Willamette River and to Clearwater Park. The ranch features scenic views, shaded trails, and eleven orchards. There is also an easy 1.9 mile loop that averages only 40 minutes to complete and is great for beginners or for children.



Spencer Butte

Wheelchair accessible:

Alton Baker Park/Pre's Trail

Starting in the parking lot of Alton Baker Park, there is a paved path running parallel to Pre's trail that takes you past Autzen Stadium and along the river.

Owen Rose Garden

Only a 10 minute drive from campus, this path is completely paved and is beautiful in Springtime, complete with flowered walkways and maintained gardens, the photo opportunities are endless. After you finish with the garden, the paved trail continues through Eugene along the river.



Owen Rose Garden

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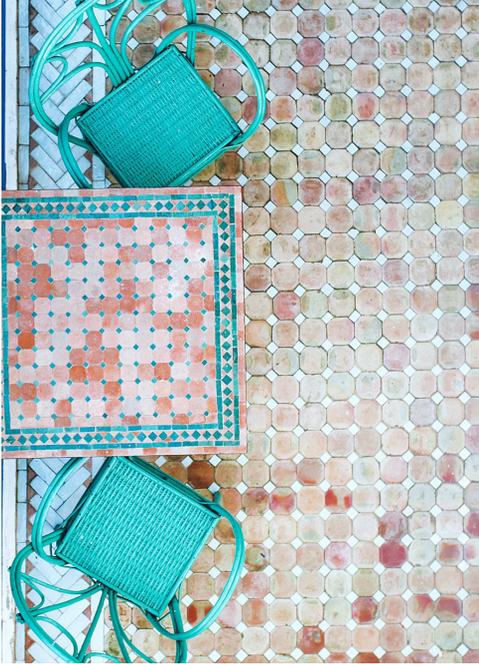
Apartments Balconies &

Written By: **Zachary Jones Neuray**

I spend a considerable portion of my time sitting on the small 2 x 3 foot entrance that we call the "patio" at my house. It is adorned by fairy lights and intimately nestled between two blooming cherry blossom trees. My own little oasis is a work in progress though.

It's slightly slanted downwards, yes, and we've also had a raccoon and possum approach us by a couple inches in the past two weeks. There's even a large spider that has decided to settle itself in the crack of the concrete floor (much to the chagrin of our arachnophobic roommate). Despite the occasional surprise visitors, the porch has become an integral part of my nightly routine, and a great space to recount days and tell stories with my roommates and friends.

For most students, apartment living doesn't come with a large backyard, pool, or outdoor space. However, just because most of us live in rather compact and cozy living spaces doesn't mean that we can't create our own small spaces of comfort. If you happen to have a small patio or balcony, you're in luck! There are dozens of ways to revamp a neglected outdoor space into a personal nook, destined for kickbacks and the rapidly approaching spring weather of Eugene.



Furniture:

It's important to identify your space's biggest needs. Whether it be more seating, shade, privacy, or space for a barbecue, understanding the limits of your area is a great way to look for furniture. To truly optimize your outdoor environment, finding functional furniture for your patio is a must. Adding a space to sit can be the perfect transformation for your day to day tasks; whether it be participating in remote classes or enjoying a nice lunch in the fresh air, a table can greatly expand your ability to spend time outdoors while at your home. A small table and some foldable chairs are my go to. An outdoor ottoman is also a great seat and storage board games or blankets. Depending on the enclosure and public access to your space, I recommend a small table and two chairs that are preferably metal, so if it rains you don't have to deal with the soggiess of rotting wooden furniture. A small carpet also helps if you want to rest your feet on a comfier surface than cold cement and add a pop of color.



Art:

As with any space, adding artwork to your patio or balcony is a great way to add life to the area. One of the most affordable ways to do this in Eugene specifically is going to thrift stores and buying prints. It's a great way to revitalize a space into your personal aesthetic and taste.

Gardening:

Filling up your space with some lush potted plants, flower boxes, and herbs is the first step to cultivating the garden you never had. Even if you're an amateur horticulturist, setting up a small natural area to grow produce or herbs can be a great pastime and green snack! In my front yard, I have oregano and rosemary plants, which make adding herbs to my meals incredibly easy and fun.

Lightening Things Up:

First, one of the easiest and most beautiful ways to improve a small space is to illuminate it with fairy lights. If you have an area that is surrounded with trees, a fence, a roof, or anything taller, it is an incredibly quick installation to warm up the area with some simple string lights. I recommend getting lights that are weatherproof, because you never know when a torrential downpour is going to hit Eugene. Also, make sure you are mindful of how you hang the lights – avoid all fire hazards and identify your outlets (you may need to get an extension cord as well). I recommend going to Fred Meyer or Target for lights and extension cords, they both have a great variety of home and outdoor decor.



Cover for Sun:

As it gets sunnier in Eugene, you may want to consider a nice sun umbrella or cover to protect yourself from an unexpected sunburn. I recommend a colorful tapestry or tarp to illuminate your space with tinted sun rays.

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