

The WSU Arboretum Woodland

An Outdoor Ecological Laboratory



Red-tailed hawks feed small mammals, such as mice and squirrels, birds, and reptiles.

Soaring Above

Red-tailed hawks are an important species in ecosystems of Pullman and the Palouse region. They prefer to build their nests very high up in trees, sometimes as high as 50 feet. The raptor platform that you see in the Arboretum Woodland was created as an artificial nesting site to attract red-tailed hawks.



Young red-tailed hawks don't actually have red tails! They are born with light-colored tails and their feathers gradually change color over several molts.



WSU is home the oldest red-tailed hawk on record. As of 2011, Charlie is 30.9 years old.



The Future of the Woodland

The Arboretum Woodland is small and needs both expansion and development to improve as wildlife habitat. Various restoration projects are being implemented in the Woodland to increase biodiversity and provide new educational opportunities.

What is it?

The WSU Arboretum Woodland provides a natural space for learning and gathering outdoors. It also provides important habitats for key wildlife and plant species.



Yellow-pine chipmunks, transplanted from the Magpie Forest, add to the wildlife biodiversity in the Arboretum.