

“Identifying & Counting Mountain Butterflies of Oregon” with Rick Ahrens

Date: Wednesday, May 8th, 2024

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Willamalane Adult Activity Center, 215 W. C St, Springfield



Mariposa Copper, Photo by Rick Ahrens

Come learn about our chapter’s three long-running mountain butterfly counts from experienced butterfly counter Rick Ahrens. Rick will explain what to look for and how to tell similar species apart.

For the past 40 years, Rick Ahrens has served as a nature guide and nature guide trainer for the Mt. Pisgah Arboretum, Nearby Nature, WREN, and other local groups. He has been a butterfly counter for over two decades and an officer for 11 years with our local NABA Chapter. He gives frequent presentations on nature topics throughout our local area.

Learn why we do butterfly counts and how you can help us count. Rick will show and demonstrate equipment that helps you observe butterflies and then teach you how to identify the various species of butterflies that have been seen on our three mountain butterfly counts, on Iron Mountain and Frissell Ridge, around the Metolius River, and in the Ochoco Mountains.

Many beautiful butterfly species occur at higher elevations that are not found in the Willamette Valley. And when the butterflies are flying, the mountain wildflowers are also in bloom.