

COLUMBIA GORGE MAGAZINE WRITERS GUIDELINES



Columbia Gorge Magazine is the Columbia Gorge region's premier magazine, with a per-issue distribution of more than 21,000 nationwide. The quarterly is complimentary at more than 250 sites regionally, and available at newsstands in states from Montana to Michigan to New York—visitors to the area tend to want to take a little piece of the Columbia Gorge home with them.

Columbia Gorge Magazine celebrates the lifestyle of its residents. We tend to be outside a lot here; we work hard but not to excess; we nurture creativity. We value good food, good times and good people. Most of us are involved in at least one sport, whether it's windsurfing, hiking, skiing or climbing. Many of us hunt, rodeo or fish. We all make an effort to enjoy the best of every season.

REGION OVERVIEW

The Columbia Gorge includes counties on both the Oregon and Washington sides of the Columbia River, from Troutdale/Camas to Biggs/Maryhill, in the nation's only National Scenic Area. The region has always seen a lot of action. First, it was a commercial hot spot for the members of various Chinook tribes, who acted as "middle men" between coastal and inland peoples. For the last hundred or so years, the area has predominantly served sheep and cattle ranchers to the east, and farmers and orchardists to the west. Many inhabitants have only recently discovered this dynamic area and decided to call it home, while others come during the summer to help with the harvest and then return to their native countries.

Beginning in the early 1980s, the area began its transformation into a sports and nature-lovers' mecca. Hood River is the unofficial capital of this land of outdoors enthusiasts, a small town with an increasingly urban sensibility. The landscape of the Columbia Gorge is as varied as the people in it, from near-rain forest to high desert, from Class V whitewater to 11,000-foot Cascade peaks. Through it all runs the mighty Columbia River—freight highway; recreational paradise; environmental concern.

QUERY PROCESS

Most, but not all, of our writers reside in the Columbia Gorge. If you would like to write for us, please submit the following: cover letter, resume/list of publications (optional); and one to three clips.

The cover letter should include a brief description of the article/s you'd like to write and why you're the best person to do it. When possible, the clips should reflect the tone and/or subject matter of your proposed article. You may send your query package electronically or by mail.

Email: query@columbiagorge.com (include links/PDFs)

Mail: **Columbia Gorge Magazine**, Attn: Editor

704 Oak Avenue, Hood River, OR 97031

Before you submit a query, please familiarize yourself with the magazine. Sample copies are available by mail for \$5. We try to balance quality with accessibility—we are decidedly not snobbish but still find it important to write concisely and compellingly. While we may fact-check your article, it is incumbent upon you to submit correct and up-to-date information. You may be asked to provide contact information for your sources.

The first story you write for us will be "on spec." That is, we will not guarantee to run or pay for your article until we've seen it. We do this to safely gauge the amount of attention your work requires during the editorial process. We pay on acceptance.

Please allow four weeks for a response. If you haven't heard from us, please call 541-308-0308 for an update.