

April 25, 2009

Three Swan Rangers hiked Echo - Broken Leg Trail #544 to Wolf Creek Saturday, a pleasantly cool day. There are only a few short stretches of snow on the trail prior to Wolf Creek and wildflowers are making their appearance along the way!

Wildlife was abundant along the trail also, mostly in the form of ticks crawling up pant legs! There were a fair number of windfall trees across the trail on the way in, but someone sawed them out by the time of our return - a pleasant and welcome surprise!

Yes, it is truly springtime out there and the critters are out of hibernation. So don't forget your bear spray and remember to strip out of your tick-ridden hiking clothes when you get home!

EARLIER MEETING TIMES BEGIN NEXT SATURDAY, MAY 2!

The Swan Rangers meet every Saturday at the Echo Lake Cafe for **breakfast at 7:30, leaving at 8:30** for a partial day outing in the northern Swan Mountains and foothills. These earlier summer hours will continue until November 1, then switch back to an hour later.

They carpool from the Swan River School parking lot next to the Cafe.

Everyone is welcome!

Hope to see you soon,



Keith

Keith Hammer photos on following pages:



Not much snow along Birch Creek, at the start of the Echo - Broken Leg Trail.



True harbingers of spring along the trail, the trillium . . .



. . . glacier lily . . .



. . . and those tiny yellow violets!



Until one gets to Wolf Creek, where the flowers are still just thinking about it!