What is ROP?

A vital question of any culture is how youth are prepared to take on the identity of a mature individual, & what significance that role will have.

The Rite of Passage program provides emerging adults with a positive life narrative to begin their journey into adulthood.

The 4-H Rite of Passage provides reflection and solo-time in the wilderness. We prepare initiates for as much as a 3-day fast alone without shelter or company in the natural world.

The vision fast process for participants involves 3 phases:
• severance from the world that they know and will leave behind,
• threshold or time alone, and
• Incorporation into their new life and life status as an adult.

The benefits of this work at the individual and cultural levels are many and include: self-knowledge (both strengths and weaknesses), leadership skills, self-esteem, self-confidence, sense of responsibility for self and community, fuller access to emotions, feelings and spirit, respect for self and others and a deep honoring of the natural world that supports us all.
About 4-H Rite of Passage

The 4-H RITE OF PASSAGE program was originally developed by The School of Lost Borders in California. For over 30 years they have provided vision fasts for youth and adults as well as training for future vision fast guides.

Our Guides

Our 4-H ROP Guides have each clocked over 250 training hours and lead multiple fasts.

Read more about our guides at:
http://tiny.cc/ropwsu

Program Offerings

4-H Rite of Passage

2020 Schedule

4-H Open Teen Rite of Passage:
Open to any teens, 16-18 years of age. (Preparation and mentoring available)
Location: Colockum Ridge, WA - July 16-23, 2020

Adult Leadership Training Program
To become a 4-H Rite of Passage Leader, one must complete 3 levels of training.

- Level I Adult 4-H Rite of Passage Training:
Participants will train to lead 4-H Rites of Passage as well as experience their own 4-H Rite of Passage.
Location: Colockum Ridge, WA - July 8-15, 2020

- Level II A: Base Camp Assistant:
(For those who have completed the Level I Training)
Base Camp Assistant trainings take place during Youth or Adult ROPs. See listed dates.

- Level II B: Mirroring for Intent & Empowerment:
Training in the art of mirroring for those who have completed the Level I Training.
Location: Issaquah, WA - for 2021, TBD

- Level III Co-Leader:
With an experienced 4-H Rite of Passage guide, take full responsibility for planning and leading a 4-H Rite of Passage trip for youth or adults. (Must have completed Levels I, II A, and II B)

Registration deadlines, 1 month prior to each trip.
Contact more information, contact:
Michael Wallace, 4-H Regional Specialist
(360) 778-5813

Dare to go alone into the wilderness to affirm your past and find your future.