



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lewis and Clark National
Historical Park

92343 Fort Clatsop Road
Astoria, Oregon 97103

503-861-2471 phone
503-861-4428 fax

Lewis and Clark National Historical Park News Release

Release date: Immediate
Contact(s): Sally Freeman
Phone number: 503-861-4424
Date: July 17, 2015
Release code: K18

Commenced Making Salt

Saturday, August 15, 2015

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Seaside, Oregon

A special living history program, *Commenced Making Salt*, focusing on the Lewis and Clark Expedition's salt-making activities will take place for five hours on Saturday, August 15. Visitors will meet National Park Rangers in period costume making salt from seawater and discussing details of the expedition. This event is from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the beach at the west end of Avenue U in south Seaside, Oregon. (From Highway 101 take Avenue U to the beach. From the Promenade in Seaside, walk south to where Avenue U meets the beach.)

One of the reasons the Corps of Discovery wintered near the Pacific Ocean was that it was running out of salt for preserving and flavoring meat. The expedition's captains were hoping for "*a convenient Situation to the Sea Coast where we Could make Salt*," according to William Clark's November 24, 1805 journal. In January 1806, after the Corps settled into its Fort Clatsop winter camp, a detachment travelled to the future site of Seaside, Oregon to set up a salt-making camp next to the ocean. This camp operated for seven weeks and produced about four bushels of salt for their winter and return trip to the United States. The actual location of the expedition's Salt Works can also be visited on Lewis and Clark Way between Beach Drive and the Prom three blocks north of the program.

Commenced Making Salt is a free interactive learning opportunity for the whole family. This event is produced by The Seaside Museum & Historical Society and Lewis and Clark National Historical Park. This year's event is sponsored by the Seaside Museum & Historical Society member donations, City of Seaside Public Works Department, Clatsop County Work Crew, and Oregon State Parks.

For more information, call Lewis and Clark NHP, Fort Clatsop at (503) 861-2471 or the Seaside Museum & Historical Society at (503) 738-7065.

###

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.