



## High School Student-Manufactured Signage for Oregon Forests

# DONATIONS REQUESTED

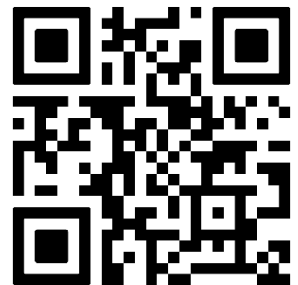
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### WHAT:

High School students at Crescent Valley High School in Corvallis, Oregon, are seeking \$18,000 in funds to purchase HPDE plastic material with which to make signage for ranger districts in Oregon.

### WHY ARE FUNDS NEEDED?

Last year, CVHS woodworking and pre-engineering students designed and manufactured 133 signs for four different ranger districts in three national forests in Oregon. The school intends to continue this collaborative project into the future. CVHS supplies white oak material for signs that are made. Many signs can simply have a clear coat or no finish when installed.



[Gallery of Signs Made](#)

However, some signage requires painting with the familiar dual colors of brown and “ivory”. Painting has numerous disadvantages: it conceals expensive white oak that can be used in other applications, it requires ongoing maintenance and upkeep that cannot always be provided, and therefore painted signs often have limited life expectancies.

A preferred alternative to painting is the use of HPDE plastic material called Colorcore. Marine grade and able to resist UV attack, this material lasts indefinitely. Colorcore comes layered, with 0.050” of one color on outside surfaces, and a second color on the inside. Signs are created by CNC routing through the outside layer to expose the inner layer. Unfortunately, the color combination needed requires a minimum order of 6000 lbs. of material (50 ¾”x 4’ x 8’ sheets), which no individual ranger district can afford or needs. The cost to order this much material, including shipping, is \$18,000.

### PROJECT BENEFITS:

**Forest end-users will benefit.** Your national forests will be provided with longer-lasting signage requiring little maintenance.

**Student learning is genuine and enriched.** All signs require students to learn CNC routing – a technology used extensively in most manufacturing settings. More importantly, this collaborative project is authentic – it is real, serving a real customer and meeting a real need. Forest Service sign guidelines must be strictly followed. Signs must be perfect before shipment. In effect, the stakes are raised for students. While increased student anxiety during the project was a concern initially, that anxiety did not materialize last year. The experience of making a needed sign turns out to be fulfilling to students, so much so that some students wished to extend the experience by going and finding their installed sign in places they might not otherwise have any reason to visit. In this, the students’ community expands -- they begin to see themselves making an impact on the larger world in the future because . . . they are doing it now in this project. In short, the project’s authenticity motivates students.

**Assure project continuation into the future.** Acquisition of this material will not only allow students to manufacture long-lasting dual-color signs for years to come, but it will also extend the supply of white oak that the school has for other signs in which bare wood is specified and suitable.

### HOW TO HELP:

Donations can be made using this QR code through the Corvallis Public Schools Foundation. When asked to direct your donation to a specific program, please select “Specific school, program, or fund” and specify “CVHS Pre-Engineering”.

Alternatively, checks made out to the *Corvallis Public Schools Foundation* can be mailed to the Corvallis Public Schools Foundation at 1555 SW 35<sup>th</sup> Street, Corvallis, Oregon 97333. Please place “for CVHS Pre-Engineering” on your check.



[Donation Link](#)

### QUESTIONS?

Please direct all questions to CVHS Pre-Engineering instructor Adam Kirsch – [adam.kirsch@corvallis.k12.or.us](mailto:adam.kirsch@corvallis.k12.or.us) , 541-757-4540.

# THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!

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