

# Why I like living in the Country

by Stephen Bradshaw, age 13

You wake up in the morning to the chirping of birds. You go for a walk while the sun is rising, on your walk you see both Mt. St. Helens and Mt. Hood, this is life in the country.

The country opens up many opportunities that you would not get if you lived in the city. In the summer we pick blueberries for money at a blueberry farm less than one mile away.

If we did not live in the country I might not have ever driven a riding lawn mower, used a chain saw, or swam in a creek. Our land slopes steeply down to a creek. We have a lot of fun playing in the woods. We play games like freeze tag and hide-and-go-seek. The low brush makes these games a lot of fun. There are two things that I do not like in the woods. These are stinging nettles and blackberry bushes.

We have a lot of room to grow fruits, berries, and vegetables. We grow fresh blueberries, raspberries, blackberries, strawberries, apples, pears, plums, cherries, peaches in our yard. Plus corn, green beans, tomatoes, peppers, lettuce, cucumbers, carrots, radishes, and zucchini.

We have a lot of animals on our land at times. Some of these are coyotes, deer, racoons, opossums, and squirrels plus all the birds that live around our area. This spring we had baby robins hatched in a tree on our property.

We have room for chickens that lay eggs for us.

These are some of the things I like about living in the country.