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Meet Joyce Lapp, Botanist Extraordinaire

First Recipient of the Jack Potter Glacier National Park Stewardship Award

November 22, 2012

Dear Friend:

Happy Thanksgiving!

Headwaters Montana is very pleased to announce the first recipient of its [Jack Potter Glacier National Park Stewardship Award](#). Joyce Lapp, a botanist who retired in May 2012 after more than 30 years working in Glacier is this year's recipient.

The award was established in 2011 to encourage Glacier Park employees and the public at large to protect Glacier's stunning natural resources. The award is named for Jack Potter who served for 41 years in Glacier, ending his career as Chief of Science and Natural Resources.

Lapp far exceeded her duties as Glacier botanist, a job that focused in large part on the restoration of native plants in conjunction with the reconstruction of the [Going-to-the-Sun Road](#).

Joyce is a true leader. She not only established the Park's native plant nursery that so many local people know about in the Flathead Valley particularly, through the extensive volunteer program. She brought in youth from across the region - including kids from the Blackfeet and Flathead reservations - to work together and learn how to restore the land.

Headwaters Montana had three very strong candidates for this award. In truth there is a backlog of people - both citizens and employees of the Park - who we could recognize for their outstanding efforts to protect Glacier.

This year's award citation notes that Joyce established the Park's native plant nursery, as well as the **Peace Park Garden** in Waterton-Lakes National Park. She made sure that protocols were put in place for inspecting soils imported into the Park to prevent the spread of weeds, and incorporated education as a standard part of the plant restoration program. She led in establishing native plant greenhouses in Columbia Falls and Browning for student training, as well as developed a school curriculum called STARS ([Students Taking Action for Restoration and Stewardship](#)).

Throughout her career, Joyce had far-ranging



A Lifetime Accomplishment

Joyce Lapp was named the first recipient of Headwaters Montana's **Jack Potter Glacier National Park Stewardship Award** for her enormous contribution to the restoration of native plants along the *Going-to-the-Sun Road*, and her involvement of local communities and school and Native American youth in the art and science of restoration. Joyce's accomplishments far exceeded her regular duties and exemplified the spirit of going 'beyond the call of duty' in protectin the natural resources of Glacier National Park. **Congratulations Joyce!**
(Photo: Chris Peterson, [Glacier Park Magazine](#))



Jack Potter

Jack Potter retired from the National Park Service in 2011 after 41 years of service, ending his career as Chief of Science and Natural Resources. The award, named in his honor, is intended to encourage Glacier Park employees, the public and organizations to go beyond the call of duty to protect the Park's natural resources.



influence on the science of restoration, from collection and propagation of plant materials to planting, monitoring, and doing outreach to other Park resource managers, other agencies, and park visitors on the science and the art of restoration.

The programs Joyce developed have been fully established and continue to run successfully, demonstrating that her legacy will continue to benefit Glacier Park.

We thank Joyce on her outstanding efforts to protect Glacier Park and congratulate her on her winning the first Jack Potter Glacier National Park Stewardship award.

If you know someone who is deserving of recognition, please nominate them by going to our web site and downloading the nomination form. Nominations close on September 30th of each year.

~ We Thought You'd Like to Know!

Restoring the Going to the Sun Road

Joyce directed the plant restoration program along the Park's signature highway, training employees, developing native plant greenhouses in Columbia Falls and Browning, and minimizing the spread of noxious weeds.. (Photo courtesy of Joyce Lapp)



Hands-On Education

Joyce developed an entire education curriculum for students called [STARS](#) (Students Taking Action for Restoration and Stewardship) for local students including Native American youth from the Blackfeet and Flathead reservations. (Photo courtesy of Joyce Lapp)

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Recognizing Others

*If you know of someone who deserves the **Jack Potter Glacier National Park Stewardship Award**, please click [here](#) and send in a nomination form.
Thank You!*

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