



City Living

PROPERTIES & LIFESTYLES

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Tree Houses: No Longer Child's Play



Not a bad way to go, all things considered: Temple of the Blue Moon Treehouse at Treehouse Point in Fall City. It's available for romantic getaways and other pursuits.

By Jennifer Betterley

Somewhere on Magnolia a man lives in a tree house. (Sorry, the location must remain undisclosed). And on Capitol Hill there's a kid's tree house but its location, too must remain a secret. That's part of its appeal.

Both tree houses, however, owe their existence to what goes on at Treehouse Point, also a place where tree houses are found.

Located in Fall City, the place is a hidden treasure.

Actually, as the full name explains — Treehouse Point Private Event Center and Overnight Retreat — there's a lot more going on than building tree houses.

It's one of those places that remind us of how magical the Pacific Northwest really is, and why we appreciate living here. Owners Pete and Judy Nelson have put their heart and soul into the five acres that make up Treehouse Point, and are celebrating its 10th anniversary this year.

Situated 30 minutes from Seattle in the Snoqualmie Valley, the property boasts salmon fishing along the Raging River, winding nature paths, a private inn, The Northwest Treehouse School, an outdoor music stage, and most importantly the tree houses themselves. So far, there are three tree houses in the making, one of which is complete. The other two will be finished within the year.

Pete's ultimate plan is to have six to eight tree houses available to overnight guests, equipped with beds, sitting areas, heat and electricity, and composting toilets. Not to mention the peace and quiet of the native forest surroundings, accompanied with the low hum from the nearby Raging River.

"It's a nice, private space," Pete said of tree houses. "As kids it was our first private space. It's a place to take refuge. The overriding factor is just to be next to the trees. There's a great energy there."

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IN FOCUS

Jennifer Winchell is HGTV's go-to expert.



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