

Hidden Bottle Hunt 2023

Explanations for Zone 2 Clues



BottleDrop[®]
Oregon Redemption Center

CLUE 1

Welcome to the Zone 2 BottleDrop treasure hunt!

Start with the seat of Joseph's county
and get on track to find the bounty.

In this gem of a city you'll toe the line
run south of it and you'll do just fine.

Start in your lane to find the dough
get on your mark, get ready and go!

SOLVE 1

Eugene is the county seat of Lane County, which is named after Joseph Lane, the first governor of the Oregon Territory. "Get on track" and "gem of a city" reference Eugene's nicknames as Track Town and the Emerald City. "Toe the line" and "run south of it" are more references to Eugene's presence in the world of track and field and also tells you to stay south of Eugene for the remainder of the hunt. Start in your "lane" is a vague hint again pointing to Joseph Lane.

CLUE 2

Go south and west and only rest
when you find a place of pines.
In this county, you'll soon find bounty
and a park that really shines.
Now go explore what you adore,
a city, or more rural
but while you're there
you just might find
a hint in a very large mural.

Don't think you're done with this long distance run
and stop the game Prematurely.
You're almost there, please don't despair
as we dispense more clues though obscurely.

SOLVE 2

"Only rest" continues the running theme. The treasure is hidden in Coos County, and "Place of Pines" is said to be one of the meanings the Native Americans used for the word "Coos". "Very large mural" refers to the three large murals of Steve Prefontaine in downtown Coos Bay, and "Prematurely" is a reference to Steve Prefontaine's nickname "Pre". Steve Prefontaine was a track



star at the University of Oregon, and was born and raised in Coos County (Coos Bay). “You’re almost there” means you’re getting closer to the hide spot, but you’ve got to keep on going.

CLUE 3

From here we’re going to pick up the pace
to help you find the direction to face.
A Greek warrior with an injured heel
used a plant that can help with your zeal.
Is it true that money doesn’t grow on trees?
Myrtle would know about things like these.

If that doesn’t help you find direction
how about this for clue perfection?
Elijah is another wood
who’d change his parents if he could.

SOLVE 3

By now hunters should be focusing on Coos County, and hopefully Coos Bay. Pick up the pace continues the running theme and means we’re still on the move to find the hide spot in North Bend. Achilles, the mythical Greek warrior used the Yarrow plant to treat the wounds of his soldiers. Thomas Symons founded Yarrow in 1863 in Coos County. Louis J. Simpson bought Yarrow in 1902 and then brought Yarrow and his father Asa’s sawmill site Old Town together in 1903 and founded North Bend. During the depression in 1933, North Bend issued its own currency that was made out of Myrtlewood, known as “myrtlewood money”. Elijah Wood starred in a movie called “North”, which is a more obscure tip-off that the treasure is hidden in North Bend.

CLUE 4

The race will soon be at the end
you have no time to flounder.
You’ll know you’re there without a care
if you have found the founder.
In his park are many things to see and to do,
stop at the car from the French
and say Merci Beaucoup!
But do move on, go through the park
and stay between two courts.
Don’t stop long, you won’t find treasure
if you stop to play the sports.

SOLVE 4

“Found the founder” and “his park” refer to Simpson Park, named after L.J. Simpson, founder of North Bend. Just inside the entrance to Simpson Park is a WW1 box car. In appreciation for U.S. aid after WWII, the French people gave each state a decorated gift-filled car. Oregon’s rail car came to North Bend in 2006 and was restored by the American Legion’s “Forty & Eight” Society. Also near the entrance is a visitors center, and in the park there is a playground, basketball court, tennis court, and trails to hike. The treasure is hidden in the ferns by the stairs that go between the basketball and tennis courts.



FOUND!

CLUE 5

You're almost there, so stop and stair,
rest your legs that burn.

Look all around and be gentle with foliage & fern.

If counting steps you'll want to rest on one before eleven,
now reach down, pick it up, you'll be in treasure heaven!

With the treasure in your hand your face will be quite smiley,
now say Merci to BottleDrop & Eagle Scout Kiley!

SOLVE 5

"Stop and stair" references the stairs that go from the south end of the basketball court to the tennis courts above. "Be gentle with foliage & fern" is a tip-off to look in the ferns along that stairway but not to damage the park foliage. "One before eleven" means to stop on stair ten. "Reach down, pick it up" means to stop on stair ten and look in the ferns, as that is where the treasure is hidden. The last line gives thanks to Bottle Drop (Oregon Redemption Centers), who sponsored this treasure hunt, and Eagle Scout Kiley T. Bathrick & B.S.A. Troop 9 who built these stairs in 1988. There is a plaque at the base of the stairs recognizing their work.

