

Council News

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 1 NEWS



METRO

PEOPLE PLACES
OPEN SPACES

District 1 includes
Fairview, Gresham,
Happy Valley,
Maywood Park,
Troutdale, Wood
Village, Damascus
and portions of
East Portland.

Drive Less. Save More.

Think you have little control when it comes to getting stuck in traffic? Think there's really nothing you can do? Think again! "Trip chaining," or combining several errands into one trip, and other travel options are easy ways to cut down on your time on the road. And they can save you money, too.

- Start by developing a list of errands for the week.
- Plan the best route. Try using online services or global positioning system technologies.
- Decide on the best day and time to get multiple errands done.
- Avoid rush-hour traffic.

Each time you drive, it's money out of your pocket. Operating costs quickly add up – gas, parking, car maintenance and more. That's on top of spending all that time in your car when you'd rather be doing something else.

For other convenient actions you can take to save time and money, and information about bicycling, carpooling, public transit and walking, visit www.DriveLessSaveMore.com or call (503) 813-7566.

One simple way to drive less and save more is to work trip chaining into your schedule. Trip chaining takes a little planning, but it's easy to do. There are lots of ways to use trip chaining:

Metro, ODOT, TriMet, Washington County, and many other public and private partners developed the "Drive Less. Save More" campaign.

New Look survey: citizens share views on region's future

As part of the Metro Council's New Look at regional choices for managing growth, it commissioned an extensive public opinion survey as a means of getting accurate public input from a broad cross section of residents in the metro region. The survey measured residents' values and beliefs on a variety of issues including population growth, property rights, planning, protecting natural resources, transportation and land use.

tool for protecting the area's quality of life. More than 70 percent said that their top priorities for planning are protecting rivers and streams, protecting air quality and preserving farm land and forests.

In large part, residents' attitudes about population growth, transportation and neighborhood density have remained remarkably consistent since similar research was done 10 years ago. The survey results show that a majority of area residents are supportive of local and regional planning for growth. This is important, as projections show that the region could see the population reach three million by 2030.

To see the entire questionnaire with results, as well as a presentation version with county-by-county comparisons and other analysis, please visit www.metro-region.org/newlook.

Garden Naturally!

What we do in our own backyards and gardens affects the quality of local streams, rivers and wildlife habitat. As part of its Nature in Neighborhoods program, Metro offers free natural gardening sessions on how to grow healthy, flourishing gardens without chemicals. By using methods that work with nature, people can help protect clean water and ensure healthy natural areas for wildlife and people.

A strong majority of respondents – 83 percent – believe that planning is an essential

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Garden Naturally!

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Workshops begin Saturday, March 4, and continue throughout the spring. Topics include:

- making and using compost and compost tea
- composting methods
- appreciating tiny creatures in the garden
- plants to think twice about before planting

Metro also offers a series of natural gardening seminars for garden clubs and other groups. Organizations can schedule one presentation or the entire series. The free hour-long presentations can be held at regular meeting locations or at private residences. A minimum of 20 participants is required. Topics include:

- organic lawn care
- compost - create the best with our tips
- hosting mason bees

Metro volunteer wildlife monitors provide valuable information

A volunteer wildlife monitoring program established in 2004 has helped the Regional Parks and Greenspaces staff to learn more about the animals that use Metro lands. The program focuses on birds and amphibians, species that are sensitive to environmental changes and thus good indicators of ecosystem health. Volunteer monitors provide data that helps Metro's science and stewardship team gauge the progress of its

Events of note in district 1

Hazardous waste collection events

9 a.m. Saturday, March 4

Troutdale Transfer Station

9 a.m. Friday, March 31

Mt. Hood Community College

Dispose of your household's toxic trash and learn about safer alternatives at Metro's hazardous waste facilities or this free community collection event.

9:30 a.m. Saturday, March 18

Introduction to the language of birds

Join naturalists James Davis and Elisabeth Neely at Oxbow Regional Park for this introduction to the fascinating art of interpreting the meaning of bird songs and calls. Class will be indoor/outdoor; bring a notepad, sack lunch and something to sit on in the woods. Suitable for adults and teens. Meeting location dependent on weather; ask at the gate. Registration and program fee of \$10 per person are required in advance. There also is a \$4 per vehicle entry fee to the park, payable at the gate. To register, call (503) 797-1715.

- attracting beneficial insects
- chemical-free gardening techniques
- small-space organic fruit and vegetable gardening

Metro is also soliciting gardens for its annual Gardens of Natural Delights Tour. Residents who maintain their own gardens using organic and other natural methods can apply to be one of the showcased gardens on Metro's July 16, 2006 tour. Applications are due by 5 p.m. March 10.

For more information, see Metro's web site, www.metro-region.org, or call Metro Recycling Information at (503) 234-3000.

restoration efforts and track the effects of public use on wildlife.

Bird monitors adopt one of nine locations for seasonal and year-round monitoring of waterfowl and other bird species. Amphibian monitors survey six Metro areas for egg masses in February and March.

Volunteering provides opportunities for community members to become connected to their local natural areas. Metro's ongoing need for data collected by volunteers helps guide site restoration and development, and has also proven very useful for securing restoration grant funding.

Potential volunteers should contact Dave Roon, program coordinator, at (503) 797-1688 or roond@metro.dst.or.us.

About Metro

Clean air and clean water do not stop at city limits or county lines. Neither does the need for jobs, a thriving economy and good transportation choices for people and businesses in our region. Voters have asked Metro to help with the challenges that cross those lines and affect the 25 cities and three counties in the Portland metropolitan area.

A regional approach simply makes sense when it comes to protecting open space, caring for parks, planning for the best use of land, managing garbage disposal and increasing recycling. Metro oversees world-class facilities such as the Oregon Zoo, which contributes to conservation and education, and the Oregon Convention Center, which benefits the region's economy.

Your Metro representatives

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