

# Metro District 2

## METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 2 NEWS



**METRO**

PEOPLE PLACES  
OPEN SPACES

### **Metro Council**

**District 2 includes the  
cities of Gladstone,**

**Johnson City, Lake**

**Oswego, Milwaukie,**

**Oregon City,**

**Rivergrove and West**

**Linn and a portion of**

**Southwest Portland.**

### **Metro considers business recycling requirements**

In June 2008, the Metro Council will consider adopting a new program to increase business recycling in the region. Many businesses already recycle, but an estimated 14 percent do not. As a result, more than 100,000 tons of business sector recyclables are sent to regional landfills annually. To reach the state-mandated waste reduction goal, businesses must recycle an additional 80,000 tons of paper and containers annually.

Over the past eight years, Metro and its local government partners have invested \$3.5 million to encourage business recycling by providing free technical assistance, which will continue. Increasing recycling rates provides numerous benefits including: less garbage in landfills, conserving energy and natural resources through re-use and reducing pollution.

The proposed Business Recycling Requirements program would direct local governments to mandate that local businesses recycle paper as well as plastic, aluminum and glass containers, essentially the same materials that can already be recycled at home. The requirements would be phased in, and businesses would have a grace period within which to comply.

Currently, the Metro Council and staff are briefing business associations, government agencies, policy advisory committees, and other organizations on the proposed program. For more information, call Marta McGuire at 503-797-1806 or send e-mail to [m McGuire@metro.dst.or.us](mailto:m McGuire@metro.dst.or.us).

### **Integrating Habitats Peoples' Choice Awards**

Cast your vote. Shape the future! Metro's Integrating Habitats design competition received more than 107 submissions for buildings that combine design excellence, ecological stewardship and economic enterprise. Now we want to know which ones you like best.

Metro is asking the public to vote for their preferred designs that best demonstrate how habitat can be restored and protected in mixed-use, retail and residential infill development scenarios.

The entries, which came from six countries, prove that every building in which we live, work, shop and play is an opportunity to create places for both people and nature, as well as to model environmentally smart development that keeps nature in all our communities and ensures the continued preservation and enhancement of our quality of life and the environment for this generation and those to come.

To vote, go to [www.metro-region.org/integratinghabitats](http://www.metro-region.org/integratinghabitats). Winning designs will be featured in the Integrating Habitats Design Guide. Voting closes April 8, 2008.

### **Metro offers free natural gardening seminars**

Did you ever think that your garden could impact regional water quality? Rain can wash even the smallest amount of chemicals out of the garden and into our regional streams,

*continued*

creeks and rivers. Pesticides may aid in growing the ripest and largest tomato on the block – but at a cost to the environment, regional health and your family's well-being.

You can do simple things in your garden to keep it beautiful, healthy and safe for your family, pets and the environment. Metro offers free natural gardening seminars to help residents garden chemical-free. These seminars are held each year from March through June, teaching individuals how to grow beautiful, abundant gardens without harmful chemicals.

Natural gardening seminars are free, but reservations are required as space is limited. Seminars include a range of natural gardening topics including: Four season flower gardens, Growing nature in your garden, Why waste the rain?, Grow a golf course-quality lawn and Gardens of eatin'. Additionally, group seminars are available year-round for garden clubs and other group organizations.

Natural gardening is just one component of improving and sustaining the livability of our region and ecosystem. For more information, visit [www.metro-region.org/garden](http://www.metro-region.org/garden) or call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000.



## Condors raised at Oregon Zoo to be released into the wild

In early 2007, four condors hatched at the Oregon Zoo were sent to the Peregrine Fund's World Center for Birds of Prey in Boise, Idaho. The center has been preparing the birds for release into the wild in Arizona later this month. Among these birds is Tatoosh, the second condor to be hatched in Oregon in more than a century. The others are Meriwether, Ursa and Wiley.

Last year was a record year for Oregon Zoo condors: an unprecedented seven eggs were laid, including two by condor pairs who had never before produced eggs. Unfortunately,

an abundance of eggs doesn't guarantee an abundance of chicks; three eggs were infertile and a fourth proved to be unviable partway through incubation.

The Oregon Zoo's condor recovery efforts take place at the Jonsson Center for Wildlife Conservation, located in rural Clackamas County on Metro-owned open space. The remoteness of the facility minimizes the exposure of young condors to people, increasing the chances for captive-hatched birds to survive and breed in the wild.

In 2001, the Oregon Zoo became the third zoo in the nation to join the California Condor Recovery Program, and was the recipient of the Wildlife Society's Conservation Award for "creating the nation's fourth California condor breeding facility" in April 2005.

For more information about the Oregon Zoo's California condors, visit [www.oregonzoo.org](http://www.oregonzoo.org).

## Show off your garden

Metro is soliciting gardens for its 10th 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 2008 tour. Beautiful gardens of all sizes, ages and styles are sought to showcase how natural gardening techniques can be successful regardless of the gardener's experience or garden type.

This year's free tour will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 13. Applications are due by 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 1. For more information, visit [www.metro-region.org/garden](http://www.metro-region.org/garden) or call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000.

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## 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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David Bragdon

Metro Councilors  
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Rex Burkholder, District 5  
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Auditor  
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