

Metro District 5

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 5 NEWS



METRO

PEOPLE PLACES
OPEN SPACES

Metro Council

District 5 includes

Northwest Portland,

North Portland,

Northeast Portland,

downtown Portland,

a portion of

Southwest Portland

and a portion of

Southeast Portland.

Recruiting members for North Portland Enhancement Committee

Metro is recruiting a representative from Overlook and Portsmouth neighborhoods to serve a two-year term on the North Portland Enhancement Committee. Please consider people you believe would be good prospects for this special opportunity and encourage them to apply now. The application deadline is 9 a.m. Monday, April 28, 2008.

As Metro Councilor representing the area targeted to receive these funds, I chair the grant selection committee. The committee is comprised of seven citizen members. Typically, nominees are community activists who live in the neighborhood and are knowledgeable about the needs of their specific neighborhood and the community in general.

Committee members help solicit and review grant applications, and select a proposed slate of projects to fund. The committee meets two to three times per grant cycle - usually in June at Metro Regional Center in Northeast Portland.

Current and past committee members have commented that their work, though limited in scope and time commitment, is challenging and very rewarding. Since the program was established, more than \$2 million has funded 400 local projects in North Portland neighborhoods.

Nominees must complete an "appointment interest form" that you can get from Karen Blauer (US mail to Metro 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland, OR 97232 or by email at blauerk@metro.dst.or.us). The application deadline is 9 a.m. Monday, April 23. A selection panel headed by Tom Griffin-Valade, District Director of North Portland Neighborhood

Services, will review applications and forward nominations for the Metro Council's confirmation.

For more information about committee work or Metro's community grants program, please call Karen Blauer, Metro community grants coordinator, at 503-797-1506 or visit Metro's web page (www.metro-region.org/grants).

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.



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

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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.



Free Natural Gardening seminars

Your garden can impact regional water quality. Rain can wash even the smallest amount of chemicals from your garden into regional streams, creeks, and rivers. Pesticides may help grow the largest tomato on the block – but at a cost.

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 grow beautiful, abundant gardens without harmful chemicals.

These annual seminars, held from March through June, are free but reservations are required given limited spaces. 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 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 or call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000.



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

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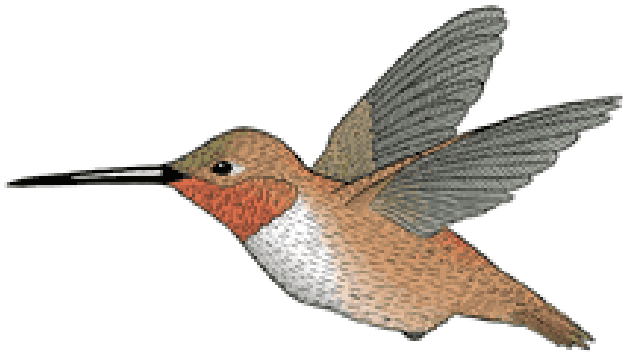
Metro considers business recycling requirements

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.



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.

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 or call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000.

Events of note in the district

For a complete list of events, check out our online calendar, <http://calendar.metro-region.org/>. For more information about a specific event, click on the hyperlink provided.

9 a.m. Saturday, March 8

Columbia Slough Restoration paddle

Visit the Ramsey Refugia restoration project and several mitigation projects in the lower slough, discuss habitat restoration and enhancement in the urban environment, and do some birding along the way. Bring your own kayak or canoe; personal floatation device required. Registration and cost: Free. Advance registration required; visit www.audubonportland.org or call 971-222-6116.

10 a.m. Sunday, March 9

Oaks Educational Center grand opening

Celebrate the grand opening of the Oaks Educational Center, also known as "The Scout Pit." Enjoy wildlife hikes, outdoor fitness and martial arts demonstrations, wilderness and nature awareness activities, fun sustainable food and more. Registration and cost: Free. For more information, visit www.trackersnw.com.

7 p.m. Thursday, March 13

Wild edible plants

Learn the finer points of identification, how to avoid toxic plants and sustainable gathering practices to jump-start your career as an urban forager. You'll even receive local recipes for delicious wild and gourmet meals. Registration and cost: Free. For more information, visit www.trackersnw.com.

9 a.m. Saturday, March 15

Willamette River islands paddle

Catch the first signs of spring on Willamette River islands near West Linn. Paddle around the back-channels of Cedar and Hogg islands. Bring your own boat or become a Willamette Riverkeeper member for \$35 and use their canoes and gear at no additional charge at this and other events. Registration and cost: Free. Advance registration required; call 503-223-6418 or send e-mail to amy@willamette-riverkeeper.org.

10 a.m. Saturday, March 15

Natural gardening seminar: Grow a golf course-quality lawn

Golf course superintendents will share the latest techniques and strategies for growing the best lawn in the least time at the lowest cost. Get tips on efficient approaches to irrigation, soil fertility, mowing, top-dressing and effective pest and weed management. Registration and cost: Free. Advance registration required; call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000.

10 a.m. Saturday, March 22

Natural gardening seminar: Growing nature in your yard

Ever wonder how to create your own little natural haven at home? Why not grow your own personal park - a place to relax and appreciate nature just steps from your door. Beautiful native plants, simple water features and effective natural gardening techniques will make your yard buzz with hummingbirds and native pollinators and provide habitat for songbirds, butterflies and frogs. Registration and cost: Free. Advance registration required; call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000.

1 p.m. Saturday, March 22

TrackersNW wild plants day: Teas, tinctures and salves

Learn about wild edible plants from local experts Shaun Deller and the staff of TrackersNW who will work with you on the finer points of identification, how to avoid toxic plants and sustainable gathering practices to jump-start your career as an urban forager and herbalist. Registration and cost: \$10. To register, visit www.trackersnw.com.

9 a.m. Sunday, March 23

Paddle around Ross Island

Join Mike Houck on a leisurely paddle around Ross, Hardtack, East and Toe islands and learn the natural history of this four island archipelago and the issues concerning public ownership and long term management of the islands. Bring your own equipment. Suitable for beginning paddlers. Registration and cost: Free. Advance registration is required; visit www.audubonportland.org or call 971-222-6116.

9 a.m. Saturday, March 29

Springwater Corridor ride

Enjoy a 21-mile bike ride to Gresham's Linneman Station and back via the Springwater Corridor Trail. Peddle through the lower Johnson Creek watershed, stop at several urban natural areas along the way and learn about future opportunities to protect and enhance the watershed. Bring and maintain your own bicycle; pumps and patch kits recommended, helmets required. Directions and other details will be mailed to registrants. Registration and cost: Free. Advance registration is required; visit www.audubonportland.org or call 971-222-6116.

6 p.m. Saturday, March 29

Author Richard Louv

Join Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature Deficit Disorder author Richard Louv as he speaks on the importance of bringing children into nature. Louv is a futurist and journalist focused on family, nature and community. Presentation will begin at 7 p.m., following book signing. Registration and cost: \$10 for adults; \$5 for students. Visit www.brownpapertickets.com to purchase tickets.



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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

Metro Council President
David Bragdon

Metro Councilors
Rod Park, District 1
Carlotta Collette, District 2
Carl Hosticka, District 3
Kathryn Harrington, District 4
Rex Burkholder, District 5
Robert Liberty, District 6

Auditor
Suzanne Flynn