

Metro District 6

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 6 NEWS



METRO

PEOPLE PLACES
OPEN SPACES

**Metro Council
District 6 includes
portions of
Northeast, Southeast
and Southwest
Portland.**

Metro and partners begin work on urban and rural reserves

Metro and Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties are leading a regional effort to designate urban and rural reserves to accommodate future growth and protect valuable farmland, forest land and natural areas that define the character of this region. Urban and rural reserves will provide greater predictability for the region as to where future growth may take place inside and outside the current urban growth boundary (UGB) over the next 40 to 50 years, while protecting important farmland and natural areas from urbanization for that same period of time. The process for designating these reserves offers the region greater flexibility in determining which areas are more suitable for accommodating growth than others.

To assist with the study and development of urban and rural reserves, a Reserves Steering Committee has been formed, comprised of officials from local cities, counties and Metro, as well as representatives of various business sectors, the agricultural community, the environmental conservation community, and social and economic equity organizations. The Steering Committee will advise the Metro Council and the commissions of Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties on the eventual designation of reserves. Designation of urban and rural reserves will be made through agreements between Metro and the counties in 2009.

Reserves Steering Committee meetings are held once each month and are open to the public. In addition, Metro and the counties are embarking on a coordinated public outreach effort to seek public input throughout the process of studying and designating reserve areas.

More information on urban and rural reserves, including the schedule and materials for Reserves Steering Committee meetings, can be found online at www.metro-region.org/reserves or by calling 503-797-1508.

Metro's Community Cleanup Guide now available online

Oregonians are known for their commitment to the environment. We care about pristine natural areas and healthy urban areas that welcome people and wildlife. Metro's Community Cleanup Guide was created for people who put their environmental and community values into action by helping clean up their communities. Funded by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and supported by dozens of community members and government staff, Metro has created a resource that will help involved citizens build better communities and keep nature in neighborhoods.

The Community Cleanup Guide focuses on two types of events: neighborhood cleanups and natural area or civic event cleanups. The cleanup guide compiles the best resources, tips and planning tools available to assist organizers in planning events with a strong emphasis on community involvement, waste prevention, reuse and recycling.

The guide is designed to help new coordinators and veteran volunteers improve recycling and waste prevention at cleanup events; improve effectiveness of community volunteers

continued

through training and recognition; inspire community; and ensure best use of Metro disposal vouchers and local government grants.

To download all or part of the guide visit www.metro-region.org/recycling. To request a copy, call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000.

Metro and SOLV IT team up to clean up

Since 1990, SOLV IT volunteers have removed more than 13 million pounds of waste and litter from illegal dumpsites, neighborhoods and natural areas. Every year Metro staff and volunteers pitch in to help make SOLV IT one of the largest Earth Day events in the nation.

On Saturday, April 19, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., thousands of volunteers will converge on approximately 100 sites throughout the region, including Metro natural areas. Metro activities include trail maintenance at Cooper Mountain Nature Park in Beaverton, ivy removal at Newell Creek in Oregon City and plantings at Metro's Native Plant Center in Tualatin.

To become a SOLV IT volunteer, register online at www.solv.org or call 503-844-9571.

Metro's RID Patrol keeps our region clean

Every year, Metro's illegal dumping enforcement team cleans up more than 1,500 illegal dumps on public property in the region. While the job hasn't changed, the team now has a new name – Report Illegal Dumping (RID) Patrol – and a new look.

Illegal dumping of household garbage, old tires, hazardous waste and other refuse threatens human health, wildlife and the environment. Metro's RID Patrol partners with local government agencies, law enforcement and community members to ensure that illegal dumps on public land are quickly investigated and cleaned up.

Metro's RID Patrol can provide tools to prevent illegal dumping and help keep your neighborhood clean and green, from investigation and citation to signs and community involvement materials. To report

a dumpsite or request technical assistance, call 503-234-3000 or visit the Metro website at www.metro-region.org.

For more information, call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000 or send e-mail to mri@metro.dst.or.us.

District 6 events of note

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Saturday, April 5: Wild spring edible and medicinal plants.

Join the ethnobotanists for a journey from the forest to the classroom, covering identification, sustainable harvest, preserving and preparation. Learn which plants are tasty and which will heal. Registration and cost: \$45. To register, visit www.trackersnw.com.

6 – 8:00 p.m., Monday April 21: Lake Oswego to Portland corridor scoping Meeting, Lakewood Center for the Arts 368 S. State St., Lake Oswego.

As a preview of the environmental analysis process that will begin in 2009, this meeting will provide information on the proposed transit project, the timeline for the environmental study and invite public participation in the process. Additional details will be posted as available. For more information, call Metro transportation planning at 503-797-1756 or send e-mail to trans@metro-region.org.

9:00 a.m., Saturdays: Restoration work party. Sites include: Terwilliger, George Himes Park and Marquam Nature Park. Join West Willamette Restoration Project for a morning of urban forest renewal. For more information, meeting locations and directions call Melanie at 503-699-9825.

For more information on these and other events, visit www.metro-region.org/calendar.

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.

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