

Metro District 5 April 2008 newsletter

This list is continually being updated, so you may be receiving this newsletter for the first time. If you have any questions about the content of this newsletter or wish to be taken off this list, please contact Kathryn Sofich at [sofichk@metro.dst.or.us](mailto:sofichk@metro.dst.or.us).

[Requires that your e-mail be set to HTML view.]

Metro District 5 includes Northwest Portland, North Portland, Northeast Portland, downtown Portland, a portion of Southwest Portland and a portion of Southeast Portland.

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### **1. 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, consisting 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](http://www.metro-region.org/reserves) or by calling 503-797-1508.

## **2. Metro to unveil winners of Earth Day billboard designs at April 5 celebration**

On Saturday, April 5 Metro will announce the winners of this year's Earth Day billboard design competition. Students from Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties were invited to design a billboard that encourages people to conserve and protect resources through waste prevention, recycling, composting or using fewer toxic products. Approximately 200 entries were selected as finalists. That artwork is displayed in the lobby at Metro's Regional Center.

Grade-level category (K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12) winners have been selected to have their artwork and name, and the name of their teacher and school displayed on billboards throughout the metro region for Earth Day. Winning and honorable mention artists will be announced for the first time and presented with their framed original artwork at an art show and unveiling ceremony on April 5.

For more information about the elementary school participants, call Freda Sherburne at 503-797-1522 or send e-mail to [sherburne@metro.dst.or.us](mailto:sherburne@metro.dst.or.us). For more information about the middle and high school participants, call Amy Wilson at 503-797-1521 or send e-mail to [wilsona@metro.dst.or.us](mailto:wilsona@metro.dst.or.us).

## **3. Regional Travel Options Training Course**

Here is information about an exciting new training opportunity. Presented by [Portland Community College](#) and [Westside Transportation Alliance \(WTA\)](#) and funded for this first year by the [Federal Transit Administration](#) and Metro, the Regional Travel Options Training Course is taking place from April 8 to June 10. This training will cover a broad range of topics aimed at raising the profile and effectiveness of work place transportation coordinators who are working to create a sustainable transportation programs at the work site.

If you are working to reduce auto trips at the workplace, eager to add sustainable transportation to their "green" career, or an urban planning students than this training is for you. The Regional Travel Options Training Courses will build your position as transportation coordinator into a career while creating a cadre of professionals who are essential in assisting their companies become more sustainable. In-depth and practical courses will be offered by career professionals through Portland Community College, Customized and Workplace Training.

The goals of the training are:

- Become an influencer among managers and colleagues.
- Learn how to design, implement and maintain an effective auto trip-reduction program at the workplace.
- Take-away at least one idea to implement immediately.

- Understand how transportation options affect the economy, social equity, and the environment especially climate change.

Participants can take one, two or all seven classes. The classes will take place mid-morning at the WTA offices at the Beaverton Round. Go to WTA website, <http://www.wta-tma.org>, for class descriptions, schedule, and reservation form.

#### **4. Metro Council on the road!**

Every year, the Metro Council chooses locations around the region for offsite meetings, to enable people to more easily attend. Three offsite meetings are planned for April and May in Washington and Clackamas counties, and you are invited to attend. Please check the Metro website, [www.metro-region.org/council](http://www.metro-region.org/council), for calendar updates, agendas and meeting packets:

**2 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 16**  
**Greatest Place Metro Council Work Session**  
Tigard Auditorium  
Public Works Building  
[8777 SW Burnham St., Tigard](http://www.metro-region.org/council)

**2 p.m. Thursday, April 17**  
**Metro Council Meeting**  
Wilsonville Council Chamber  
[29799 SW Town Center Loop East](http://www.metro-region.org/council)  
Wilsonville

**2 p.m. Thursday, April 24**  
**Metro Council Meeting**  
Native American Youth Association  
[5135 NE Columbia Blvd., Portland](http://www.metro-region.org/council)

**2 p.m. Thursday, May 15**  
**Metro Council Meeting**  
Forest Grove Community Auditorium  
[1915 Main Street, Forest Grove](http://www.metro-region.org/council)

#### **5. 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. Metro – with funding from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and support from dozens of community members and government staff – 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 both new coordinators and veteran volunteers improve recycling and waste prevention at cleanup events.
- Improve effectiveness of community volunteers through training and acknowledgement.
- Ensure the safety of the many volunteers needed to make projects successful.
- Leverage business and government dollars.
- Ensure best use of Metro disposal vouchers and local government grants.
- Inspire community by highlighting regional model cleanup activities.

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

## **6. 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. Other 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](http://www.solv.org) or call 503-844-9571.

## **7. 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 cleaned up and investigated.

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](http://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](mailto:mri@metro.dst.or.us).

## **8. Events of note in the district:**

### **9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturday, April 5**

#### **Introduction to wild foods: Spring harvest**

Learn about wild food essentials and resources, sample plants and get expert advice to be a successful forager. Meets on Mount Tabor. Registration and cost: \$16. Advance registration required; call 503-775-3828.

### **7 p.m. Wednesday, April 9**

#### **Connecting children to nature**

Join REI and TrackersNW as they begin a conversation about how to reconnect children to nature, taking a look at the obstacles and how traditional environmental and outdoor education holds some pieces to the puzzle. Registration and cost is free. For more information and event time, visit [www.trackersnw.com](http://www.trackersnw.com)

### **9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 19**

#### **Forest Park trail work party**

Meet new folks, learn new skills and give back to Forest Park by helping with routine trail maintenance, building turnpikes, and installing bridges and culverts. For more information, visit [www.forestparkconservancy.org](http://www.forestparkconservancy.org).

### **10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturday, April 19**

#### **Earth Day cleanup at Lone Fir**

Celebrate Earth Day and the beginning of spring in the cemetery as we clean up after winter's bluster. Help rake leaves and pick up branches. Bring your own work gloves and rakes, if possible, but extras will be provided. Suitable for all ages. Meet at Southeast 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Morrison Street. Advance registration is not required. For more information, call 503-775-6278.

### **8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 26**

#### **John James Audubon's birthday paddle**

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. Cost is free, and advance registration is required. Visit [www.audubonportland.org](http://www.audubonportland.org) or call 971-222-6116.

### **7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday, April 29**

#### **What good are bugs?: The case for invertebrate conservation**

Speaker: Scott Black, Xerces Society entomologist

Black makes a compelling case for appreciating bugs: people can thank insect pollinators for one third of every mouthful of food they eat and without the lowliest flies in a stream for young fish to eat, grilled salmon would never make the menu. In fact, the direct benefit of insects to Americans is around \$57 billion a year. Registration and cost: \$8 for members of sponsor organizations, students or seniors; \$10 for all others. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.oregonzoo.org](http://www.oregonzoo.org).

For a complete list of events, check out our online calendar, <http://calendar.metro-region.org/>

## **9. Council District 5 contact information**

Address 600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232  
Phone 503-797-1546  
Fax 503-797-1793  
E-Mail [burkholderr@metro.dst.or.us](mailto:burkholderr@metro.dst.or.us)  
Polciy Coordinator Kathryn Sofich  
Phone 503-797-1941  
E-Mail [sofichk@metro.dst.or.us](mailto:sofichk@metro.dst.or.us)  
Web [www.metro-region.org](http://www.metro-region.org)

### **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

For more information, call the Metro Council at (503) 797-1540, fax (503) 797-1793 or send e-mail to [metro council@metro-region.org](mailto:metro council@metro-region.org). The hearing impaired can call TDD (503) 797-1804.