

Carl Hosticka

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 3 NEWS | June 2009

Carl Hosticka represents District 3, which includes portions of Washington and Clackamas counties and the cities of Beaverton, Durham, King City, Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin and Wilsonville.



Cooper Mountain Nature Park Opens to visitors June 27th!

Overlooking the Tualatin River Valley, the new Cooper Mountain Nature Park sits on the edge of Beaverton. The 230-acre park offers visitors 3 1/2 miles of gravel trails (with varying levels of difficulty) traversing the park's rare habitats and natural features. Cooper Mountain Nature Park is operated through a partnership between Metro and the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District.

Explore Cooper Mountain's diverse and rare habitats

Thick and thin soils atop cracked basalt form patchwork patterns at Cooper Mountain: wet and dry, forest and prairie, fir and oak. Rare and endangered species such as Western gray squirrels, pale larkspurs, Western bluebirds, and red-legged frogs find homes on this site and, if you know where and when to look, can be seen by visitors.

Summer programs help visitors discover the wonders of Cooper Mountain

Summer camps, bird walks, wildlife photography workshops, twilight explorations, stargazing and much more will all be part of the inaugural summer season at Cooper Mountain Nature Park. To register for events or programs call: 503-629-6350 or visit <http://www.thprd.org/parks/coopermountain.cfm>.

Cooper Mountain's stewardship a joint venture

The Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District will provide day to day management of Cooper Mountain Nature Park which including park ranger operations, security service, educational programming, park maintenance and natural resource management. Voter-approved funds allowed Metro to purchase land at Cooper Mountain beginning in 1997. More land acquisition followed until 230 acres were protected. Park development is supported by voter funding and a grant from Oregon State Parks. Volunteers have participated in nearly every aspect of Cooper Mountain's transformation -- removing invasive species, restoring native grasses and wildflowers, planting more than 110,000 trees and shrubs, enhancing the oak woodlands and improving the small quarry pond. Metro's science team will continue to lead the restoration activities at Cooper Mountain.

Green from the ground up

The park and Nature House at Cooper Mountain have been built using many sustainable and energy-saving features:

- benches, boardwalks and bridges made from recycled plastic lumber
- Forest Stewardship Council certified framing lumber for the building
- photovoltaic system generating approximately 15 percent of power needs
- MetroPaint, a recycled interior/exterior latex paint, used both inside and out
- on-site storm water retention uses bioswales planted with native species to filter run-off from the parking lot and Nature House.



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Discover the benefits of gardening naturally

Metro's showcase natural garden at Cooper Mountain features amazingly colorful, surprisingly low-maintenance and wildlife-friendly plants. Visitors can gather ideas for making their home garden beautiful without harmful chemicals and reducing water use by including drought-tolerant plants. To find out more about gardening naturally visit www.oregonmetro.gov/garden.

Park rules and access

The park is free and open every day from dawn to dusk starting June 27. Parking, restrooms, the Nature House, garden and play area are wheelchair accessible. From the trailhead, a 1/2-mile gravel loop trail is designed for accessibility.

Driving directions

From Hwy. 217 take the Scholls Ferry Road exit, heading west on Scholls Ferry, past Murray Boulevard. At SW 175th Ave., turn right and go north, uphill, about 1.8 miles to SW Kemmer Road. Turn left on Kemmer Road. The park, and parking, will be on the left. From Farmington Road (Highway 10), turn south on SW 185th, continue on SW Gassner Road, left on SW 190th, left on SW Kemmer Road.

Oregon Zoo Concerts a-go!

What do baby Samudra, summer weather and the B-52s have in common? They're all part of the Oregon Zoo's 31st annual summer concert series presented by NW Natural.

This year's zoo concert series promises to be an exhilarating experience with 18 shows from June through August. It is the longest-running outdoor concert series in the Pacific Northwest and one of the most anticipated events of the summer.

New this year is a showcase of local bands to take place Wednesday, July 8. Concert fans are asked to weigh in on which local bands they'd like to see perform that night. Voting for the showcase takes place through May 31 on the zoo's Web site.

The zoo concert series is presented by NW Natural with support from KINK.fm and KOIN Local 6. Tickets may be purchased at www.ticketmaster.com and at the zoo.

Funds raised during the concert series support several conservation projects, including the protection of threatened and endangered Northwest species.

General admission is \$9.75 (12-64), seniors \$8.25 (65+), children \$6.75 (3-11), and infants 2 and under are free; 25 cents of the admission price helps fund regional conservation projects through the zoo's Future for Wildlife program. A parking fee of \$2 per car is also required. Additional information is available at www.oregonzoo.org or by calling 503-226-1561.

Oregon Zoo summer concerts lineup

June 17	Femi Kuti & the Positive Force	\$10.50
June 19	B-52s	\$27
June 24	Sly & Robbie and the Taxi Gang	\$10.50
July 1	234th Army Band	FREE with zoo admission
July 8	Local band showcase	\$10.50
July 11	Tears for Fears with Wainwright	\$22
July 15	Vieux Farka Touré	\$10.50
July 17	Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Los Lobos	\$22
July 2	Riders in the Sky	\$10.50
July 24	Indigo Girls	\$19
July 29	Orchestra Baobab	\$10.50
July 31	Jewel	\$22.50
Aug. 5	The Wailers	\$10.50
Aug. 12	Jonatha Brooke	\$10.50
Aug. 14	Joan Baez	\$22
Aug. 19	Ricardo Lemvo & Makina Loca	\$10.50
Aug. 21	Susan Tedeschi with JJ Grey & Mofro	\$22
Aug. 28	Amos Lee	\$19

Home composting 101

Thursday, June 18th, 6 to 8 p.m.

Are those summer weeds and endless kitchen scraps piling up, just begging to be turned into nutrient-rich "black gold" for the garden? Learn the difference between food and yard waste and receive plans for building compost systems and learn where to purchase pre-made bins locally. Meet at the Oregon Tilth demonstration garden at Luscher Farm. Registration and payment of \$28 per person or \$25 for Lake Oswego residents and Oregon Tilth members required in advance; call 503-675-2549.

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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.

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