

Councilor Burkholder is continually updating his contact list, 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 kathryn.sofich@oregonmetro.gov. [Requires that your e-mail be set to HTML view.]



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Rex Burkholder represents District 5, which 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. A message from Rex Burkholder

The place: West Linn High School.

The event: Roots and Shoots Sustainability Showcase, May 20th, 2009

Your faithful reporter was there, along with hundreds of students from the West Linn-Wilsonville School district and their families. Organized by students and teachers, the Sustainability Showcase had workshops on composting, calculating your carbon footprint, art making with SCRAP, native plants and renewable energy. Then there was the Jazz Vocal band and the “Trashion Show,” with dresses, hats, shoes and other clothes made out of everything from gum wrappers to garbage bags to newspapers. Teams from elementary, middle and high schools had taken the challenge and then the runway with an amazing collection of imagination. And there was a message in the fun. It was great to wander around the gym checking out the displays and then to see the energy and commitment from energetic young people. Check out the pictures below!





Please check out my [Metro webpage](#) in the coming week for more pictures!

-Rex Burkholder

2. Cooper Mountain Nature Park Opening 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.

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. Three additional miles of compacted gravel trails include steep grades in some sections. All trails are six feet in width.

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.

3. 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, voting through May 31	\$10.50
July 11 Tears for Fears with Wainwright	\$22
July 15 Vieux Farka Touré	\$10.50
July 17 Ladysmith Black Mambazo and Los Lobos	\$22
July 22 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

4. Weigh in on updated public involvement policies for transportation planning

Metro is updating its transportation-related public involvement policies to reflect new requirements in the most current federal transportation authorization act, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act—A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). The Metro Committee for Citizen Involvement (MCCI) has reviewed these policies in preparation for broader public review.

Metro policies and the standards in SAFETEA-LU require a 45-day comment period for review of public involvement policies whenever the policies undergo major revisions. The comment period starts at noon on Thursday, May 21 and ends at 5 p.m. on Monday, July 6.

You may access a copy of the revised policies through a link on the public involvement web page www.oregonmetro.gov/participate or you may request an electronic or paper copy by contacting Pat Emmerson at 503-797-1551.

Send your comments by e-mail to trans@oregonmetro.gov with “Public Involvement Policies” in the subject line. You may also hand-deliver or mail your comments to Public Involvement Policies, Metro Planning and Development, 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232.

5. Events of Note in the District

Lunch with the birds at Jackson Bottom

Wednesday, June 17

Noon to 1 p.m.

Spend the lunch hour learning to identify the waterfowl and other birds that show up at the preserve. Spotting scopes, binoculars, field guides and naturalists are provided. Meet at the north viewing shelter, next to the Clean Water Services treatment plant on Highway 219 south of Hillsboro. Free. Registration not required. For more information, call Sarah Pinnock at 503-681-6278.

Native Plant Center volunteer Saturdays

Saturday, June 20

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

It's summertime at the Native Plant Center and time to harvest and clean native herbaceous seeds. Volunteers work with the seedlings, pitch in to help weed the native seed beds and stake flower stalks. This is a great opportunity to learn about Metro's native plant conservation program and find out which species attract bees and butterflies. Discover how to adopt a seed bed and help grow the seed to seed program. Prior gardening experience or native plant awareness is not required. Come prepared to get dirty and dress for the weather. This is a family friendly event with gloves, tools, water and snack provided. To register, call 503-797-1653 or

send e-mail to npcvol@oregonmetro.gov. Wheelchair accessible by arrangement. *Hosted by Metro*

Sunday Parkways: North Portland

Sunday, June 21

Noon to 4 p.m.

Sunday Parkways offer a chance for people to get out and enjoy walking, biking, rolling, running or skating on traffic-free streets! The 7- to 8-mile routes along city streets connect local parks that host music, food and fun activities like yoga, juggling, stilt walking or hula hooping. Experience Portland from a new perspective, meet your neighbors and enjoy all kinds of entertainment along the way. Intersections are staffed by volunteers allowing residents to get to and from their driveways, with larger streets supervised by police and certified flaggers. For more information, visit www.portlandonline.com/transportation. If you are interested in volunteering, call 503-823-5358. *Hosted by City of Portland Bureau of Transportation, Kaiser Permanente and Metro*

Kenton to Slough walking tour

Sunday, June 28

9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Join Metro Councilor Rex Burkholder and walking guru and author Laura Foster for a history-filled 4.6-mile walk. Trek down the North Denver Avenue viaduct along the North Columbia Slough and see the wildlife that thrives in Portland's backyard. Birdwatchers can look for eagles, herons, cormorants and more. Meet at 8319 N. Denver Ave. at the Kenton/North Denver Avenue MAX station at 8:45 a.m. Free. Registration not required. For more information, call 503-813-7574. *Sponsored by Metro and Kaiser Permanente*

For a full list of events, please check the [Metro Calendar](#)

6. Councilor Rex Burkholder's Contact Information

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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

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