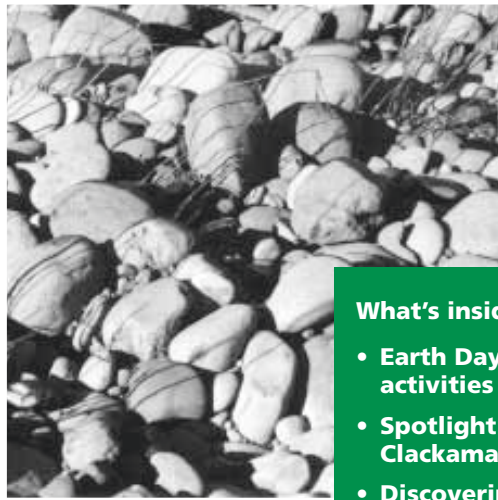


Metro GreenScene

NEWS & THINGS TO DO

Spring 2000



METRO
Regional Services
*Creating livable
communities*

What's inside?


- Earth Day activities
- Spotlight on the Clackamas River
- Discovering Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area
- Learning about bird songs
- Volunteer opportunities
- Activities for nature lovers of all ages

If you live, work and play in the metropolitan area, Metro regional services matter to you and your family. That's because Metro is working to help ensure that you have access to nature, clean air and water, and resources for future generations.

Metro provides a broad range of services for 1.3 million people who live in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties and the 24 cities in the Portland metropolitan area.

For more information, call (503) 797-1700 or visit www.metro-region.org

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If you have a disability and need accommodations, call (503) 797-1850, or call Metro's TDD line at (503) 797-1804. If you require a sign interpreter, call at least 48 hours in advance. Activities marked with this symbol are wheelchair accessible: 

Bus and MAX information: (503) 238-RIDE (238-7433).

Photographs by Terry Ciecko, Earth and Spirit Council, Amy Kirschbaum, Frank Opila and Lynn Wilson. **Illustrations** by Kathy Deal and Barbara Macomber.



Metro GreenScene is produced by Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department; director, Charles Ciecko. Metro GreenScene is funded in part by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

To be added to the mailing list (or to make any changes), call (503) 797-1850, option 3.

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earth day

Every year millions of people worldwide celebrate Earth Day on April 22. In this region, Earth Day has grown into something more like "Earth month" as more and more activities designed to help us learn and practice good stewardship of the environment fill our calendars for several weeks in April and May.

These activities make the spring a great time to consider your relationship to the natural world and the impact that your daily activities have on the earth. Let Metro GreenScene be your guide to getting involved. Feature articles keep you informed about the challenges of natural resource protection and how you can participate. Nature trips, classes and volunteer opportunities abound. Make every day an Earth Day!

Earth Day 2000 celebration

Saturday, April 22

A coalition of environmental and community organizations have come together to sponsor and coordinate a series of Earth Day events in Portland. Activities begin at 8 a.m. at the Rose Quarter with the Run to Stop Global Warming. At 11:30 a.m., people will begin to gather along the route of Hands Around Portland, an annual event to form a human circle around the city. The Procession of the Species starts at 1 p.m. and brings the party to Pioneer Courthouse Square for a gigantic multi-cultural celebration of music, food and environmental education that will stretch into the evening. For more information, call (503) 244-2602.



Join in the Procession of the Species, an artistic celebration of the natural world. This spirited parade of costumes, puppets and music will wind its way through downtown Portland on April 22 and spill into Pioneer Courthouse Square for the Earth Day 2000 celebration.

About bird songs

by Elisabeth Neely, Metro naturalist

The cheerful chorus of morning bird song is one of the welcome signs of spring. Perhaps you have paused to enjoy it, and if you are a bird watcher, you know that songs are a great way to identify birds. But what else can you learn from the birds? Is there any meaning behind these sounds?

Nested within the chorus of spring is a kind of knowledge almost lost to our busy modern world. Birds hold the key to a deeper connection with nature. They can teach us how to see more wildlife and enjoy close encounters with deer, fox, and other elusive animals. Certain songbirds (like wrens, robins and sparrows) act as feathered guardians of the forest, and by learning to interpret their songs and calls, we can gain passage to new and rich experiences in nature.

The basics of bird “language” are relatively simple, even if you are new to bird watching. Like humans, songbirds vocalize to communicate. They don’t make sounds randomly, but instead “talk” about what is going on in the forest. Two of the easiest types of bird sounds to recognize are songs and alarm calls.

“Why do birds sing?” I asked a group of children at Oxbow Regional Park last summer. “To attract mates and define their territories!” answered an older boy. A 4-year-old girl

added shyly, “Birds sing because they are happy, and they want to make us happy.” I think both answers are probably true in a way. In bird “talk,” musical songs indicate all is well in the forest: no predators are present, and the birds can feed, sing, argue over territories, and do other bird things. The sound of a relaxed robin singing is easy to understand because it makes us feel this way too – it’s a sound that lifts our own hearts when we hear it.

What happens when a predator sneaks into our idyllic scene? The nearby birds quickly give an alarm call, an urgent-sounding “chirp” or similar short sound that warns, “Danger is coming!” Other animals heed the signal: other birds stop singing and fly for cover, the deer lifts its head and freezes, the rabbit melts into the bushes. Suddenly, the forest is silent.

When humans walk through the woods in a hurry or while talking with a friend, we don’t see much wildlife. We may assume that there aren’t many animals living there, but more likely, they knew we were coming and hid minutes before our arrival because we (oops!) set off this forest alarm system. But if we learn the forest “etiquette” to avoid setting off alarms, we can become almost “invisible” and see many more wild animals without frightening them.

To practice, find a spot in a park or greenspace and sit quietly for an hour. Take note as the birds begin to relax and sing again. When I do this, I am always surprised at the

fascinating behavior animals will reveal when humans simply stay still long enough. Any new onset of bird alarms announces that another animal (or person) is moving near.

Recently a sixth-grade class from Portland was enjoying lunch during their field trip at Oxbow. Two birds on the wooded hill above us began to call, “chip-chip! chip-chip!” The kids recognized the winter wrens’ message. They stayed still and watched, and soon spotted a beautiful buck and two does sneaking through the trees right past our picnic spot. This was the first time many of them had ever seen a deer, and they were thrilled. Without the help of the birds they never would have seen them.

Birds speak volumes about the connections in nature. They communicate constantly about the interactions between birds, deer, foxes . . . and us. Whether we choose to interpret the sounds or simply enjoy them, the symphony of the birds goes on around us. The notes hang sweetly in the air like messages in bottles, washing up on our shores from a foreign land, waiting to be read.

*If you would like to learn more about birds, bird language and wildlife watching techniques, please join one of our spring classes (especially *Unlocking the Secrets of Bird Language* on page 14). These teachings have been passed down from Apache tracker *Stalking Wolf* through Tom Brown Jr. and Jon Young’s *Wilderness Awareness School*.*

Living with wildlife

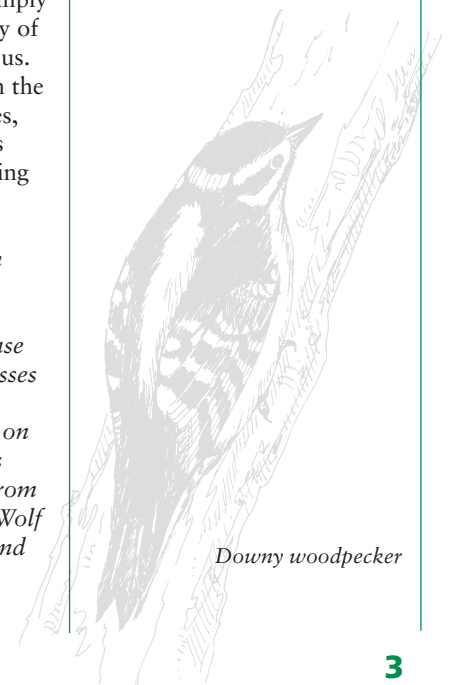
Hot off the presses, Metro’s new Living with Wildlife brochure provides strategies and advice for living peacefully with wildlife near your home.

Sample tips:

- To avoid attracting raccoons, keep pet food inside and make sure your garbage lid is secure.
- To drive a skunk from beneath the foundation of your house, try putting mothballs in a stocking under the house.
- To deter deer and rabbits, try using a sprinkler with a motion sensor to startle wildlife as they enter your garden.

For your free copy of Living with Wildlife, call Metro Recycling Information at (503) 234-3000.

The brochure is also posted on Metro’s web site at www.metro-region.org (click on “environmental management” under Metro departments, then on “natural gardening”).



Downy woodpecker

Spotlight on Clackamas River

*Flood waters provide
opportunity for fish and
wildlife*

In 1996, the flooding Clackamas River ravaged natural and artificial land bridges in and around the mining operations of Parker-Northwest Paving Co. Gravel pits filled with water. Channels were cut where none existed previously, and the raging floodwaters deposited huge river rock and silt at random. The result today is a stretch of the river rich with opportunity, particularly for fish and wildlife.

Where a mining operation thrived a few years ago, the landscape is now dotted with ponds, wetlands, quiet pools of water and large expanses of open flood plain. Eagles and osprey frequent the area to hunt while waterfowl use the ponds and wetlands for winter habitat.

The main river channel has changed its course dramatically through this area, but it's unclear whether the network of smaller channels will look the same tomorrow as it does today. In any case, these channels, which flow across gravel bars, provide excellent habitat for both spawning and rearing salmon and steelhead. In addition, some of the gravel pits are now off-channel pools, where fish can get much needed rest during the journey downstream.

In September 1999, Metro received a 130-acre donation of land in this area from Parker-Northwest Paving Co.; another 139 acres were purchased. Located upstream from Barton Bridge, this land, known locally as River Island, is close to additional Clackamas River acreage acquired previously by Metro. Metro now owns 337 acres of land along the river.

Metro's goal for the Clackamas River area is to create a greenway from Gladstone to Barton Park. Acquisition of land along this stretch of the river will provide flood storage, and protect fish and wildlife habitat. Water quality and scenic and recreational values will be protected as well.

Funds for Metro's acquisitions along the Clackamas River greenway are provided by the open spaces, parks and

streams bond measure, approved by voters region-wide in 1995. This \$135.6 million measure provides funds to acquire future regional park sites, natural areas, trail corridors and greenways for the protection of their natural qualities and associated recreational opportunities.

Note: The River Island property is not currently open for general public use. No trespassing, hunting or other access is permitted.

Tour and work party

**9 a.m. to noon
Saturday, April 1**

Join us for a guided tour of Metro's 239-acre open space known as River Island. Then enjoy working by this beautiful river while helping make it more wildlife friendly. We will remove old fence lines and invasive species to help restore this natural area. Call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733 or send e-mail to jonesl@metro.dst.or.us to register and for directions. A carpool from Metro Regional Center will be arranged.



During the 1996 floods, the Clackamas River shifted course, creating excellent, new habitat for fish and wildlife.

FOREST PARK

Open houses, tours and volunteer work party



To date, Metro has acquired 829 acres in and around Forest Park, located in Northwest Portland. To learn more about the new additions to Forest Park, attend an open house, take a tour or volunteer to help protect the land.



Open houses
5:30 to 7 p.m. and
7 to 8:30 p.m. (repeats)
Thursday, May 11

Join us at the Audubon Society's Heron Hall (5151 NW Cornell Rd.) for an open house and slide show about Metro's open space acquisitions in and around Forest Park. Due to limited parking, carpooling is encouraged. For more information, call Amy Kirschbaum at (503) 797-1713 or send e-mail to kirschbauma@metro.dst.or.us.

**Tour and volunteer
work party**
9 a.m. to noon
Saturday, May 13

Meet at Metro's 152-acre open space north of Newberry Road for a guided tour and work party to remove scotch broom. This property sits at the very north end of Forest Park and has amazing vistas. This is rugged and steep terrain, so come prepared to hike and work. A carpool from Metro Regional Center will be arranged. For details and to register, call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733 or send e-mail to jonesl@metro.dst.or.us.

Tour
9 to 10:30 a.m.
Saturday, May 20

Join us for a guided tour of Metro's 52-acre open space near Northwest Skyline Boulevard and Saltzman Road. For more information, call Amy Kirschbaum at (503) 797-1713 or send e-mail to kirschbauma@metro.dst.or.us.

Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department, the Friends of Forest Park, Portland Parks and Recreation and the Audubon Society of Portland are co-hosting these events.

Regional open spaces acquisition update

(as of Feb. 1, 2000)

More than 5,530 acres of open spaces have been acquired since passage of Metro's open spaces, parks and streams bond measure in May 1995.

Fourteen regional natural areas

Clear Creek Canyon
393 acres
Columbia River Shoreline
230 acres
Cooper Mountain
256 acres
East Buttes/Boring Lava
Domes
559 acres
Forest Park Expansion
829 acres
Gales Creek
408 acres

Jackson Bottom/Dairy/
McKay creeks
0 acres
Newell Creek Canyon
138 acres
Rock Creek
78 acres
Sandy River Gorge
1,018 acres
Tonquin Geologic Area
206 acres
Tryon Creek Linkages
43 acres
Tualatin River Access Points
289 acres

Willamette River Greenway
Canemah Bluff
62 acres
Multnomah Channel
326 acres
Willamette Cove
27 acres
Willamette Narrows
194 acres

Six regional greenways/ trails

Beaver Creek Canyon
Greenway
30 acres
Clackamas River Greenway
337 acres
Fanno Creek Greenway
28 acres

OMSI to Springwater
Corridor
44 acres
Peninsula Crossing Trail
1 acre
Burlington Northern
Rails-to-Trails
0 acres

Other sites (bond measure options, etc.)

Terwilliger Parkway/
Marquam Woods
19 acres
Whitaker Ponds (in Northeast
Portland)
14 acres

Total
5,530 acres

For more information, visit our website at www.metro-region.org (click on "parks and greenspaces," under Metro departments, then on "open spaces") or call the open spaces hotline at (503) 797-1919. You can also leave a comment on the hotline.

volunteering

Two great training opportunities

Volunteer naturalists needed for education programs

Why are the trees green? Where do beavers live? What do salmon eat? To answer these questions and more, become a volunteer naturalist. If you enjoy nature and like working with children, Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department can use your help in our environmental education programs. Thousands of school children visit our parks each year on school field trips and volunteer naturalists are needed to

provide programs for these groups. Field trips are on school days in the spring and fall and take place at Oxbow Regional Park, Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area and several other parks and greenspaces around the region.

Those interested will attend a series of six training classes in the spring and two in the fall. All class sessions meet on Tuesday mornings in the parks and are taught by Metro naturalists. Classes cover wetland ecology, ancient forests, salmon, common plants and animals, animal tracking, and teaching techniques. No specific experience is required, but any experience in biology,

natural history, or working with youth groups will be helpful.

Training classes for this spring will be from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, March 7, 14 and 28 and April 4, 11 and 18. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer naturalist, call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733 or send e-mail to jonesl@metro.dst.or.us.

Crew leader training

Interested in getting outside and leading groups in vital restoration work? Get geared up for summer with this volunteer training. Remove invasive plant species, plant trees and native plants, conduct erosion control, build/remove fencing and more. Receive training on group dynamics, tool use and

safety, and project management. Learn about the natural world around you while working to restore it. Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department is seeking ten volunteer crew leaders to lead weekday and weekend volunteer restoration workdays. Groups will be from all different backgrounds with a mutual interest of doing something for the health of the region's parks and greenspaces.

Volunteer crew leader training takes place from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 14. There will be a field training day from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 18. To register for this free training, call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733 or send e-mail to jonesl@metro.dst.or.us.

HELP WANTED – Volunteer Classified

These jobs are exciting opportunities to work with Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department staff and volunteers. Training is provided with all positions, although some preferred qualifications are listed. The commitment for these positions varies and each opportunity can be matched with your particular skills and interests. Call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733 or send e-mail to jonesl@metro.dst.or.us for more information.

Volunteer recruitment and outreach on the World Wide Web

Got a knack for surfing the web? Help Metro's parks and greenspaces volunteer program get the word out in cyberspace. You can work at home or at the Metro Regional Center.

Blue Lake information booth

Help staff the information booth at Blue Lake Regional Park. Help people learn about the park, Slurpee the recycling machine,

water activities, the wetlands walk and other activities. Needed mostly on the weekends April through October.

"Green thumbs" wanted

If you are a motivated gardener ready to be inspired by working to beautify Blue Lake Regional Park for the thousands of yearly visitors, we need your expertise. Work independently or with other gardeners.

Blue Lake greeter

Help Blue Lake Regional Park staff answer visitor's questions at the main office, do data entry and word processing, answer phones and file. A commitment of one day (or a half a day) per week is requested.

Bilingual activity assistant

Do you speak a second language? We can use your help in guiding walks and work projects or helping out at parks where many different languages are spoken. Help us involve and educate more of the region's residents.

Tool maintenance person

Wish you had a bigger garage? Lend your tool maintenance, organization and shop skills to our maintenance staff in the workshop at Blue Lake. One day a week commitment is desired. Get to know the people and projects that keep our parks and greenspaces looking good.

Volunteer program assistant

Work with the volunteer services manager to recruit and train volunteers. Help develop training materials and organize volunteer projects and partnerships. Assist with running orientations and volunteer meetings. If you have an interest in volunteer coordination, this is the volunteer position for you.

Volunteer survey

Do you like to talk on the phone? Help the volunteer program contact our extensive list of volunteers. We need to update information for accuracy, share a few pieces of information and ask a few questions to find out what they want to do.

This project can be done at Metro Regional Center or from the convenience of your own home. This valuable information will help serve Metro volunteers and our region's natural resources.

Community outreach assistant

Help get the word out about community programs and opportunities. Research community resources (churches, libraries and local clubs, schools and organizations) that might be interested in learning more about parks and greenspaces. Work with Metro staff to organize a tour or volunteer workday for community members who are interested.

Volunteer librarian

Are you an organizer? Do you LOVE the Dewey decimal system? Metro's open spaces division needs your help. Turn shelves of books, journals and references into an organized library of materials. Mark, record and track this system. Develop a "check-out" system and help improve access to this resource.



Volunteer VENTURES

Saturdays at Oxbow

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Every Saturday (except
April 22 and May 27)

Lend a hand at Oxbow Regional Park combating the spread of non-native plants. Bring shears or loppers if possible. For more information, call Joshua D'Ancona at (503) 797-1863. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

New Volunteer Orientation

noon to 1 p.m. or 6 to 7 p.m.
Tuesdays, March 7,
April 4 and May 2

On the first Tuesday of every month, attend new volunteer orientation either during the lunch hour or in the evening at Metro Regional Center, 600 NE Grand Ave., room 275. Receive information on volunteer job opportunities, complete your volunteer application and enjoy the company of other new volunteers. It's a lot of fun and a great way to start your volunteer experience off on the right foot. Call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733 to register. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces* ♿

Habitat Stewards Volunteer Training

Early March

Help members of your community learn to garden for wildlife and for people at community gardens throughout Portland. For more information, call Beth Stout at (503) 230-0421. *National Wildlife Federation*

Cooper Mountain Volunteer Work Day

9 a.m. to noon

Saturday, March 25

Enjoy the scenery and a chance to work with other volunteers on much needed habitat improvement projects like erosion control, invasive species removal and tree maintenance on this 300-acre greenspace near Beaverton. Call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733 to register. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Clackamas River Tour and Work Party

9 a.m. to noon

Saturday, April 1

Take a guided tour to check out Metro's open space acquisitions along the Clackamas River. After the tour, enjoy working by this beautiful river while helping to make it more wildlife friendly. We will remove old fence lines and invasive species. Call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733 to register. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Canemah Bluff Work Day

9 a.m. to noon

Saturday, April 8

Help pull invasive scotch broom sprouts at Canemah Bluff in Oregon City. Call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733 to register. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Cooper Mountain Volunteer Work Day

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Friday, April 14

Join students from Beaverton High School at this 300-acre greenspace in Washington County. Enjoy the vistas from the work site as we work to remove invasive species and care for newly planted trees. Call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733 to register. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Procession of the Species Volunteers

Saturday, April 22

Help Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department share information at the Procession of the Species at Pioneer Courthouse Square on Earth Day 2000. Share animal tracking and invasive plant species information with children and adults through fun activities. Two-hour shifts. Training is provided. Call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces* ♿

SOLV IT 2000

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, April 29

SOLV IT 2000 is the largest Earth Day project of its type in the nation and YOU can be a part of it! Join a project at one of three Metro sites, where all kinds of clean-up and restoration work will be accomplished:

Lone Fir Pioneer Cemetery (22nd and Southeast Morrison)
litter pick up, general maintenance

Beggars-Tick Wildlife Refuge (111th and Southeast Foster)
litter and large debris removal, invasive plant removal, native planting care at this wetland near Johnson Creek

River Island (Clackamas County)
litter/debris cleanup from old barn site, fence line removal and invasive species eradication along the beautiful Clackamas River

Choose a site and call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733 to register.

Canemah Bluff Work Day

9 a.m. to noon

Saturday, May 6

See April 8 description for details. Call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733 to register. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Alien Invaders! – Forest Park Work Day

9 a.m. to noon

Saturday, May 13

The scotch broom has landed on the north end of beautiful Forest Park. Get a glimpse of this open space acquired by Metro's acquisition program. This is rugged and steep terrain, so come prepared to hike and work. Call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733 to register. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Smith and Bybee Lakes Day

Saturday, May 20

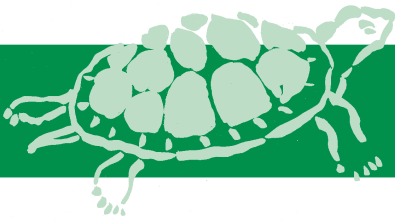
Join in the annual celebration of this wonderful urban wetland by volunteering your time at a "station" about turtles, water insects, birds or wetlands. Help young visitors fill out their "passport to nature" and earn a prize. Volunteer shifts are two hours and are available throughout the day. To sign up, call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces* ♿

Cooper Mountain Volunteer Work Day

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Friday, May 26

See April 14 description for details. Call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733 to register. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*



Smith and Bybee L



Traveling by canoe or kayak is a great way to explore Metro's Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area and the best way to see many of the animals that make the lakes their home.

At nearly 2,000 acres, Metro's Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area is the largest protected wetland within an American city. This beautiful natural area is one of the region's best-kept secrets, hiding in a part of Portland surrounded by port terminals, warehouses and other commercial developments. Most visitors to the lakes are surprised to find beaver, river otter, black-tailed deer, osprey, bald eagles and Western painted turtles living only minutes from downtown Portland.

Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area is open every day during daylight hours. Access to the wildlife area is by either the Interlakes Trail (paved and universally accessible) or by boat. The starting point for both is the parking area on Marine Drive. The trail is less than a mile long, round trip, and has two wildlife viewing platforms. There is a portable toilet at the trailhead. Non-motorized boats are allowed. Please leave pets and bicycles at home.

Join us at the lakes!

See the spring calendar (beginning on page 11) for more information about paddle trips, turtle walks, bird watching and children's activities at Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area.

The "Turtle Volunteers"

by Shelley Pierman, Metro Volunteer

Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area is home to one of the largest known populations of the Western painted turtle, a native freshwater turtle listed as "sensitive critical" by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Metro and the Northwest Ecological Research Institute have teamed up to help protect the turtles and their habitat by finding out more about them. By gathering extensive demographic and nesting data, a multi-year field study called the Turtle Project should take a strong step toward preventing the turtles from being listed as threatened or endangered.

During the past year, 90 dedicated "turtle volunteers" ventured out in all kinds of weather to contribute more than 2,000 hours to the project. Volunteers were responsible for spotting the turtles from trails on land or from boats on the water. They also "live trapped" turtles and assisted with measurement and marking. Volunteering was hard work with long hours and crazy weather, but that didn't stop several individual volunteers from donating more than 100 hours of their time. This immeasurable enthusiasm and the scope made possible by 90 sets of eyes carried the project successfully through its first year.

In 2000, the Turtle Project will focus on gathering more turtle population data and initiating nesting research. To volunteer, call Lupine Jones at (503) 797-1733.

Lakes Wildlife Area



New wildlife checklist for Smith and Bybee lakes available

A new wildlife checklist, brought to you by Metro and the Backyard Bird Shops, lists the mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish found regularly at the lakes. The checklist is available at Metro Regional Center, Backyard Bird Shops, the Audubon Society of Portland, and at all programs held at the lakes.

A wonderful weekend wetland workshop!

Educator's Training at Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area

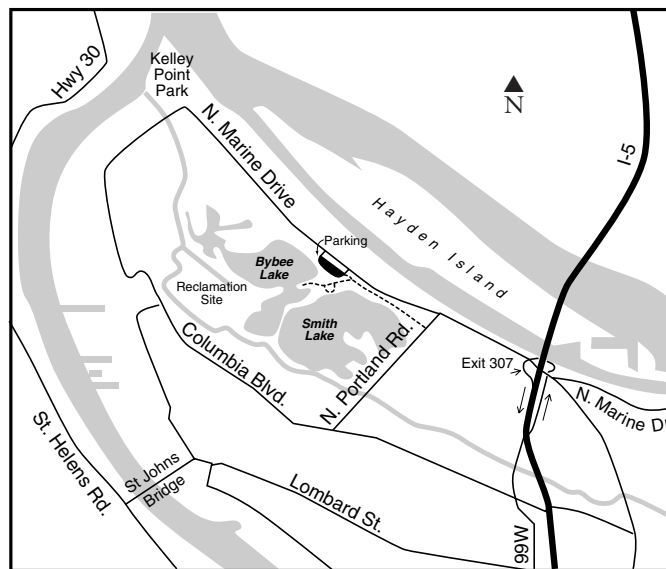
*8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 11*

Join Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces and the Environmental Education Association of Oregon (EEAO) at Smith and Bybee lakes for a morning of fun and learning. All types of educators are welcome – classroom teachers, environmental educators, youth group leaders, outdoor school naturalists, etc. Teachers and volunteers who have education and restoration projects at wetlands will share their experiences and the innovative activities they have developed to make learning about wetlands fun for all ages. Professional wetland ecologists will discuss the characteristics of wetlands, wetland ecology and wetland values. Enrollment is limited and there is a \$35 fee, which

includes EEAO membership, a subscription to Clearing magazine and inclusion on the EEAO listserve. For more information, call (503) 797-1850, option 5. ♿

School field trips

In addition to the guided walks and activities you will find throughout GreenScene, Metro naturalists also conduct educational field trip programs for schools and groups at Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. Springtime is a fabulous time for a field trip to the lakes. Western painted turtles are out basking on logs almost every day; osprey are nesting; migrating and nesting songbirds are in breeding plumage and singing like crazy; plants are blooming; and the “water bug” activity in the lakes is awesome. To arrange a field trip, call park naturalist James Davis at (503) 797-1901 or send e-mail to davisj@metro.dst.or.us. ♿



Getting to the lakes: Take I-5 to Marine Drive west exit (307). Go west 2.5 miles on Marine Drive to the parking area on the south side of the road.

SMITH AND BYBEE LAKES DAY

Saturday, May 20

It's time for another fun-filled Saturday of nature events at Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. All activities start at the parking area on North Marine Drive. All programs are free. Reservations are required for the canoe trips only.

Bird Watching Walk *8:30 to 10 a.m.*

Join Smith and Bybee lakes naturalist and well-known birder James Davis on a search for the many waterfowl, songbirds and birds of prey found at the lakes. Spring migrants and nesting species will be filling the trees and bushes and singing like crazy. Learn how to identify birds by their song as well as by how they look. Bring binoculars if you have them. ♿

Journey Into Wetlands

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (continuous)

Explore the lakes at your own pace. Metro naturalists and volunteers will have wildlife watching stations and activities set up to help you see something new. You can find Western painted turtles basking on logs, capture water bugs and examine them with a magnifying glass, locate fresh signs of beaver activity, or get a great look at common water birds like great blue herons. Youngsters can carry a “passport to nature” and collect stamps at each station. Show your completed passport to the “wetlands customs inspector” for a prize. Dress to get dirty and maybe a little wet. ♿

Canoe the Lakes

*10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and
2 to 6 p.m.*

Join the Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes for a canoe trip through the wildlife area. This is really the best way to see a lot of the animals that make the lakes their home. Bring your own canoe or kayak, personal floatation device and drinking water. Be sure to have adequate clothing for weather changes. No fee. To reserve space in the morning trip, call Polly at (503) 285-3508. To reserve space in the afternoon trip, call Frank at (503) 283-1145.

Volunteer for Smith and Bybee Lakes Day. See page 7 for details.

PROTECTING THE NATURE of Our Region



Learning from our children

Nearly 600 students at Deer Creek School in Tigard (pictured at left) planted native vegetation to nurture and support native pollinators and built a learning trail through the school's wooded wetlands with help from a Metro greenspaces education grant two years ago. Now some of those same students will learn how to teach adults and other students about the needs of the environment, a project made possible by a second grant from the greenspaces program. The grant will be used to develop lesson units for in-class and after-school activities that increase understanding about human impact on the environment and teach leadership and mentoring skills to youngsters. Students will produce and perform art, music and literature that will help educate others.

Metro moves ahead on fish and wildlife habitat protection

Metro is working with residents, local governments and natural resource agencies to come up with a plan to conserve, protect and restore streamside corridors for fish, wildlife and people. The federal government has listed salmon and other native species as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act. A set of recommended regional policies on the issue will be reviewed and commented upon later this spring at public meetings around the region. For more information or to get involved, call (503) 797-1888.

For more information about regional salmon recovery efforts and the Endangered Species Act, visit the Metro web site at www.metro-region.org

Grants help you help greenspaces

Would you like to make something happen in your neighborhood? Along your creekside? In your wetlands? In your parks? Metro, in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, offers three grant programs that can help you improve your environment.

- Environmental education grants for up to \$8,000 are offered to build comprehensive environmental education programs around urban natural areas that encourage field and hands-on learning experiences for people of all ages.
- Habitat enhancement and restoration grants for up to \$20,000 are offered to restore and enhance fish

and wildlife habitat, wetlands, streams, riparian corridors and upland sites on public lands.

- Salmonid education and enhancement grants for up to \$5,000 are offered to develop programs and projects that will benefit salmon, steelhead and watershed health.

Who can apply?

Cities, counties, local jurisdictions, school districts, private nonprofit organizations with 501(c)3 status throughout Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington and Clark counties. To receive an application packet or to get help planning your grant project, call Lynn Wilson at (503) 797-1781 or visit the Metro web site at www.metro-region.org

Mark your calendar

There will be grant writing workshops on April 5 and June 13.

spring calendar



NATURE Discoveries

Exploring Forest Park Old Growth Forest

9 a.m. to noon

Wednesday, March 8

Join Mike Houck of the Audubon Society of Portland and Jim Morgan of Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department to explore an old growth forest donation to Metro and discuss the ongoing acquisition of private inholdings to form a more ecologically oriented management area for Forest Park. \$5. Advance registration is required. Call Portland Parks and Recreation at (503) 823-5132 to reserve a space. *Wild in the City*

Spring Equinox Paddle Trip

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, March 19

Traveling by canoe or kayak is the best way to explore Metro's Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. Join the Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes for a paddle trip to celebrate the spring equinox. Meet at the Smith and Bybee lakes parking lot on North Marine Drive. Bring kayak or canoe. Life jackets are required. Free. Call Troy for reservations at (503) 249-0482. *Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes*

Debris Huts and Nettle Soup – Wilderness Living Skills

noon to 4 p.m.

Sunday, March 19

Test the waters of wilderness survival in an easy and safe way at Oxbow Regional Park. People of all ages and all levels of experience with wilderness skills will have fun at this hands-on, experiential class. The basic tenets of wilderness survival will be briefly explained, but most of the class will be action-oriented, so we can create a warm shelter and hot, tasty soup. Children younger than 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration and payment of \$3 per person is required in advance; call (503) 797-1850, option 4. There is also a \$3 per vehicle entrance fee to the park. You will be given instructions on what to bring and where to meet after you register. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Exploring the Tonquin Scablands Geological and Botanic Area

9 a.m. to noon

Saturday, March 25

Join Mike Houck of the Audubon Society of Portland and Jim Morgan of Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department to explore the open spaces bond measure acquisitions in this fascinating geologic wonderland. The area is a relic of the massive Bretz Floods that scoured the basalt formations between Tualatin and Sherwood. \$5. Advance registration is required. Call Portland Parks and Recreation at (503) 823-5132 to reserve a space. *Wild in the City*

Dirt Time

9 a.m. to noon

Sunday, March 26

"Dirt time" means spending time practicing the art of animal tracking. Join regional expert trackers and gain experience identifying and interpreting the subtle and complex clues left by wildlife. Meet at the floodplain parking lot at Oxbow Regional Park. Dirt Time is free with a \$3 per vehicle entry fee to the park. All ages and skill levels are welcome. No advance registration required. *The Tracking Club*

Boost your Wildlife Watching Abilities

1 to 3 p.m.

Sunday, March 26

Would you like to have more intimate and rewarding encounters with wildlife or get closer to animals for better photographs? Park naturalist Elisabeth Neely will share powerful and proven techniques that will allow you to blend into nature and enter a rich world of animal viewing. Discuss where and when to find wildlife, then learn skills that can let you past nature's "alarm system." Elisabeth will share stories of close encounters with hawks, deer, fox and otter at Metro's Oxbow Regional Park where the class takes place. Dress warmly and bring a snack if you want to stay after to look for animals! Meet at the floodplain parking area. Suitable for teens and adults. Advance registration required. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. Program fee of \$2 per person plus a park entry fee of \$3 per vehicle are payable at the class. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Great Outdoor Photos

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, April 1

Learn how to use a point-and-shoot camera to take memorable photos of landscapes, wildlife and flowers with professional nature photographer Cub Kahn. Practice what you learn by photographing around the wetlands. Advance registration and a \$35 fee is required. For more information, call Sarah Pinnock at (503) 681-6278. *Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve* ♿

Animal April Foolers

10 a.m. to noon

Saturday, April 1

Animals have developed many ways to fool their predators so they won't get eaten and most of these tricks work well on humans. Find out how animals use camouflage, tricky behaviors, yucky tastes, bad smells and mimicry. See if you can find the hidden animals in pictures and around the historical Bybee-Howell farm on Sauvie Island. Make your own super-camouflaged animal to see if you can fool the others. This class meets in the barn classroom at Metro's Howell Territorial Park. Appropriate for families with children 8 and older, teens and adults. An adult must accompany children younger than 14. Program is free but advanced registration is required. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces* ♿

Spring Fling at Oxbow

1:30 to 3 p.m.

Sunday, April 2

Find out what's going on at Metro's beautiful Oxbow Regional Park this spring. Meet a park naturalist to look for early spring wildflowers, walk along the "footbridge trail" in search of a hidden waterfall, listen to the music of the birds and find out if the


continued

osprey are remodeling their nest. A 1.5-mile loop walk suitable for ages 5 and older. Meet at the unmarked grassy picnic area 1 mile down the park road on the left. Advance registration required. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. Program is free with a \$3 per vehicle entrance fee payable at the gate. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Wildlife Workshop for Land Owners

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, April 8

This special workshop is designed to give owners of small rural properties a tool kit of proven techniques, planning tools and wildlife information that will help create or enhance wildlife habitat on your land. A unique opportunity to learn from a team of local experts from natural resource agencies and community organizations. Full-day workshop at Mt. Hood Community College includes lunch and an extensive information packet. \$30 per person. Call (503) 491-6979 to register by March 31. 

Dirt Time First Time

noon to 3 p.m.


Sunday, April 9

If you have never been to a "Dirt Time" practice session because you like to sleep in on Sunday, this class is for you. Metro naturalist Deb Scrivens and members of the Tracking Club will focus on introducing beginning trackers to the wonderful stories written in the sand on the floodplain of Oxbow Regional Park. All ages welcome. Like Dirt Time, this class is free with a \$3 entry fee to the park. No advance registration required. *The Tracking Club*

Groundwater 101

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.


Saturday, April 15

The South Shore of the Columbia River is home to Portland's supplemental drinking water supply wells. Find out how groundwater works, what role it plays in our drinking water system, and what needs to be done to protect the high quality of this important resource. Casual classroom-style setting with groundwater experts. Facilities tour and hands-on activities included. Free. Call (503) 281-1132 for more information. *Portland Bureau of Water Works*  *by arrangement*

Turtle Walk

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 15

Few people have seen the turtles that live around Portland because they are rare, shy and hard to find. Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area may have the largest population of colorful Western painted turtles in the Northwest. Come on a turtle walk with Metro naturalist James Davis and learn about the natural history of these turtles and why they are so rare. Suitable for age 5 and older; children must be accompanied by an adult. Meet in the parking area on North Marine Drive. Program is free but advance registration is required. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces* 

Smith and Bybee Lakes Paddle Trip

1 to 5 p.m.

Saturday, April 15

Traveling by canoe or kayak is the best way to explore Metro's Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. Join the Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes for a spring paddle trip to celebrate the burgeoning of life at the lakes. Meet at the

Smith and Bybee lakes parking lot on North Marine Drive. Bring kayak or canoe. Life jackets are required. Free. Call Emily for reservations at (503) 235-6272. *Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes*

Bicycling the Springwater Trail

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.


Saturday, April 22

Join urban naturalist Mike Houck for a bicycle and natural history tour from Westmoreland Park to Beggars-tick Wildlife Refuge. This trip will introduce you to the 18-mile Springwater Corridor Trail and several natural areas along the way. \$5. Advance registration is required. Call Portland Parks and Recreation at (503) 823-5132 to reserve a space. *Wild in the City*

Earth Day 2000 at Tualatin Hills Nature Park

12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 22

Celebrate Earth Day at the Tualatin Hills Nature Park with a special day of learning about "wildlife corridors for the next century." There will be a variety of indoor and outdoor activities for kids and adults including hands-on discovery stations, raffle prizes, native plant workshops, speakers, nature walks and storytelling. Call (503) 644-5595 for more information. *Tualatin Hills Nature Park* 

The Not-an-Easter-Egg-Hunt Family Bird Walk

noon to 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 23

Birds and their eggs are incredible creations, and this is the perfect time to appreciate these wonders of nature at Metro's Oxbow Regional Park. Discover how birds actually make eggs and why rabbits don't (don't worry, we won't tell any secrets about You-Know-Who). We'll have fun handling real birds' nests,

checking up on a local osprey family, and strolling through the forest to enjoy the songbirds' spring symphony. For families of all ages; includes an easy walk. Meet in the parking area across the road from Group Picnic Area A. Free with park entry fee, \$3 per car. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Ancient Forest Walk

2 to 4 p.m.

Sunday, April 23

Spend Easter afternoon in an 800-year-old cathedral forest at Oxbow Regional Park. Naturalist Deb Scrivens will guide this easy 1-mile hike. The pace will be slow and quiet to fully appreciate this magnificent forest. Bring binoculars if you have them. Meet in the parking area across from Group Picnic Area A. Best for adults and older children. The hike is free with a \$3 entry fee to the park but registration is required in advance. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Larkspurs and Lazulis

8:30 to 11:30 a.m.


Saturday, April 29

Cooper Mountain is a great greenspace to explore with Metro naturalist and animal tracker Deb Scrivens. Controlled burns have encouraged a proliferation of native wildflowers, including a rare larkspur. If we are very lucky we will spot an elusive lazuli bunting or perhaps a Western bluebird. Bring a snack and plenty of water for this stroll. Terrain is steep in some places. All ages welcome; an adult must accompany children. Free. Advance registration is required. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Turtle Walk

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 29

See April 15 for full description. Program is free but advance registration is required. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces* 

Willamette Narrows Kayak and Canoe Trip

8 to 11:30 a.m.

Sunday, April 30

Explore Metro's recently acquired open spaces bond measure sites upstream of the confluence of the Tualatin and Willamette rivers. The area is rich in bird life and is home to threatened and endangered plants like the white delphinium. \$5. Advance registration is required. Call Portland Parks and Recreation at (503) 823-5132 to reserve a space. *Wild in the City*

Dirt Time

9 a.m. to noon

Sunday, April 30

Meet at the floodplain parking lot at Oxbow Regional Park. See March 26 description for more information. *The Tracking Club*

Wildflower Identification at Oxbow Regional Park

1 to 4 p.m.

Sunday, April 30

Learn to identify trailside wildflowers at Oxbow Regional Park. This three-hour class begins at the naturalist's office and continues in the park. Best for adults and children 12 or older. Group size will be limited to 15. Advance registration and payment of \$5 per person is required. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. There is also a \$3 per vehicle entry fee payable at the gate. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Wildflower Identification at Howell Territorial Park

1 to 4 p.m.

Saturday, May 6

Learn to identify wildflowers at Howell Territorial Park on Sauvie Island. This three-hour class begins in the classroom in the barn and continues in the park. Best for adults and children 12 or older. Advance registration and payment of \$5 per person is required. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Animal Tracking Workshop

noon to 4 p.m.

Sunday, May 7

Oxbow Regional Park is rich in tracks at this time of year, when beaver, otter, fox, mink, mouse and deer often leave clear footprints in the sand. With practice, you can learn to read the ground like a book. Get started in this four-hour workshop with local tracker Terry Kem. The workshop includes: basics of track identification and interpretation, awareness and stealth skills needed to watch wildlife at close range, a chance to practice with an expert and make plaster casts of tracks to take home. Registration and a \$10 fee per person are required in advance. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. There is also a \$3 per vehicle entry fee payable at the gate. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Canemah Bluff Birds and Blooms

1 to 3 p.m.

Sunday, May 7

Wander the scenic overlook of Canemah Bluff with Metro naturalist and animal tracker Deb Scrivens. We'll identify a myriad of bird songs, wildflowers and native conifers including the stately Pacific yew. Walk will end at an

historic and picturesque cemetery. Wear shoes that can get wet or muddy. Easy walk, all ages. Free. Advance registration is required. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve your spot. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Mother's Day Birds and Blooms

1 to 3 p.m.

Sunday, May 14

Instead of bringing flowers to Mom, bring Mom to the flowers! Stroll along the forest trails at Oxbow Regional Park and learn about our common wildflowers with naturalist James Davis. And what better accompaniment than the songs of the birds. The 1-mile walk will be at a leisurely pace since we'll be looking at and listening to everything. Program is free

with a \$3 per vehicle entrance fee to the park but registration is required in advance. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to save your spot. Meet in the parking area across from Group Picnic Area A. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Dirt Time

9 a.m. to noon

Sunday, May 28

Meet at the floodplain parking lot at Oxbow Regional Park. See March 26 description for more information. *The Tracking Club*

Dirt Time First Time

noon to 3 p.m.

Sunday, May 28

Meet at the floodplain parking lot at Oxbow Regional Park. See April 9 description for more information. *The Tracking Club*



Natural gardening, composting and getting rid of "toxic trash"

Protect salmon, wildlife and your family. Learn about less-toxic alternatives for maintaining your yard and garden at one of Metro's natural gardening classes. Offered in the spring and fall at convenient locations around the region, classes are free. Call Metro Recycling Information for specific dates, times and locations.

To help you get rid of unwanted pesticides, paints, solvents and other "toxic trash," Metro is offering free community disposal events, also in the spring and fall. Call Metro Recycling Information for details.

Metro is accepting applications for host gardens for the second annual Gardens of Natural Delights tour.

**Metro Recycling Information
(503) 234-3000**





BIRD Watching

Unlocking the Secrets of Bird Language

9:30 a.m. to noon

Sunday, March 12

Birds are the noisiest animals in the world, not including people, and bird watchers know that bird songs are one of the best ways to identify birds. But what else can you learn from the birds as they communicate with each other and other wild animals? This hands-on class at Metro's Oxbow Regional Park will introduce you to the fascinating art of interpreting bird language using techniques learned from Jon Young and generations of expert trackers. Metro naturalists Elisabeth Neely and James Davis team up to teach about identifying key birds by their songs and learning about the meaning behind the sounds. This class is appropriate for adult and teen bird watchers and wildlife enthusiasts of all levels of experience. Dress to stay warm and dry outside all morning. Meet at the floodplain parking area. Registration and a program fee of \$5 per person are required in advance. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. There is also an additional \$3 per vehicle entry fee payable at the gate. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces*

Spring Bird Identification Class

7 to 9 p.m.

Tuesday, April 11

Spring brings thousands of migrating birds to Portland. Come get ready for some great spring birding with this guide to identification of our spring migrants and summer breeders. Metro naturalist James Davis will show slides and play recordings of bird songs and simplify what seems like a confusing variety of birds to many beginners. Class is held at Metro Regional Center, room 270. Registration and payment of \$8 per person are required in advance. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. For adults and interested teens. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces* ♿

Spring Bird Walk

8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, April 15

The many year-round resident birds at Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area are joined by more than 25 different kinds of songbirds in April and May. Meet Metro naturalist and expert birder James Davis in the Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area parking lot on North Marine Drive for the first of several Saturday morning bird watching walks. Special attention will be given to learning song identification. Bring binoculars if you have them. Parking lot and trail are universally accessible but the portable toilet is not. Suitable for adults and interested teens. Program is free; advance registration is required. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces* ♿

"Before Work" Bird Walk

7 to 9 a.m.

Wednesday, April 19

Celebrate Earth Week by starting your day with a bird watching trip to Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. Haven't been there? Worried about rush hour traffic? Don't worry, just meet Naturalist James Davis at Metro Regional Center and carpool to the lakes along the "secret route" that avoids the traffic. About 15 different kinds of songbirds not present most of the year can be seen at Smith and Bybee lakes in April. Bring binoculars if you have them. Program is free; advance registration is required. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces* ♿

Spring Bird Walk

8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, April 29

Meet in the Smith and Bybee lakes parking lot for the second in our series of spring bird walks. See April 15 Spring Bird Walk for full description. No fee; advance registration is required by calling (503) 797-1850, option 4. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces* ♿

Bird-watching and Nature Exploration in the Tualatin Basin

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, May 6

Join Jackson Bottom Wetlands education specialist and avid bird watcher Sarah Pinnock for this day of fun and adventure to celebrate Migratory Bird Day. We'll travel by van to some of the premier bird watching areas in the Tualatin Basin and learn about the connections and interactions in these wonderful ecosystems. Beginners are welcome. Advance registration and a \$40 fee is required. For more information, call Sarah

Pinnock at (503) 681-6278, or send e-mail to sarahp@ci.hillsboro.or.us. *Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve*

"Before Work" Bird Walk

7 to 9 a.m.

Wednesday, May 10

Start your day with a bird watching trip to Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. See April 19 for full description. Program is free; advance registration is required. Call (503) 797-1850, option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces* ♿

Spring Bird Walk

8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, May 13

Meet in the Smith and Bybee lakes parking lot for the third in our series of spring bird walks. See April 15 Spring Bird Walk for full description. No fee; advance registration required by calling (503) 797-1850, option 4. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces* ♿

Spring Bird Walk

8:30 to 10 a.m.

Saturday, May 20

The fourth in our series of spring bird walks will kick off Smith and Bybee Lakes Day (see page 9 for more information). See April 15 Spring Bird Walk for full description. No fee; advance registration is required by calling (503) 797-1850, option 4. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces* ♿

Red-winged blackbird

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see you there!

Metro regional parks

Blue Lake Regional Park

Blue Lake Regional Park is 20 minutes from downtown Portland. The 185-acre park is located between Marine Drive and Sandy Boulevard off Northeast 223rd Avenue. Take I-84 to 207th Avenue (Fairview Exit 14) and go north to Sandy Boulevard. Turn right (east) onto Sandy, and follow the signs to 223rd and Blue Lake Regional Park. Park entrance fee \$3/vehicle. ♿

Oxbow Regional Park

Eight miles east of Gresham, Oxbow Regional Park is a 1,200-acre natural area with campgrounds on the Sandy River. Take I-84 to Troutdale exit 17. Go past the truck stop to the light. Turn right on 257th, go 3.5 miles to Division Street. Turn left onto Division. Follow the signs 8 miles and turn left, down to the park. Park entrance fee \$3/vehicle. ♿

Howell Territorial Park

The 93-acre historic Howell Territorial Park is located on Sauvie Island. Take Highway 30 north past Linnton to the Sauvie Island Bridge. Cross the bridge, proceed north, approximately 1 mile and turn right onto Howell Park Road.

Metro natural areas

Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area

A 2,000-acre wildlife area just 10 minutes from downtown Portland. Take I-5 to Marine Drive West exit. Go west 2.5 miles on Marine Drive to the parking lot on the south side of Marine Drive. ♿

Beggars-tick Wildlife Refuge

Named after a species of native sunflower, this 21-acre wetland is located at Southeast 111th Avenue, just north of Foster Road. ♿

Metro marine facilities

Chinook Landing Marine Park

A major boating facility with a six-lane launch ramp, picnic and viewing areas, wetland and wildlife habitat, and trails. Adjacent to Blue Lake Regional Park on Marine Drive. Entrance fee \$4/vehicle. ♿

M. James Gleason Memorial Boat Ramp

A launch site to the Columbia River at Northeast 43rd Avenue and Marine Drive. Entrance fee \$3/vehicle. ♿

Sauvie Island Boat Ramp

A popular launch ramp to the Multnomah Channel on Sauvie Island with picnic tables, toilets and parking. At the junction of Burlington Ferry and Sauvie Island roads. ♿

Golf course

Glendoveer Golf Course and Fitness Trail

Two scenic and challenging 18-hole golf courses and a 2-mile fitness trail located at 140th and Northeast Glisan Street, Portland.

Annual parks passes on sale now

Purchase an annual park pass for unlimited entry and parking at Oxbow and Blue Lake regional parks, Chinook Landing Marine Park and the M. James Gleason Boat Ramp on Northeast Marine Drive. Valid through December

2000, the pass is good any day the parks are open (almost every day) and will save you money after just a dozen visits.

Metro premium pass (\$50) includes two nights camping at Oxbow and one vehicle admission to the 2000 Salmon Festival. Other annual pass categories are regular pass (\$35), senior pass (\$25) and low-income/disability pass (\$10 – documentation required). Purchase passes at the Blue Lake or Oxbow offices, Metro Regional Center or by calling (503) 797-1850. MasterCard and Visa are accepted.

Information numbers

General number:
(503) 797-1850

Parks reservations:
(503) 797-1850

Open spaces hotline:
(503) 797-1919

Blue Lake Regional Park:
(503) 665-4995

The Lake House:
(503) 667-3483

Oxbow Regional Park:
(503) 663-4708

Howell Territorial Park:
(503) 665-6918

James Bybee House:
(503) 222-1741

Smith and Bybee lakes:
(503) 797-1515

Marine facilities:
(503) 665-6918

Glendoveer Golf Course:
(503) 253-7507

Pioneer Cemeteries:
(503) 988-3622

Note: In order to protect wildlife habitat, and for their own safety, **pets are not permitted** at any Metro park or greenspace

spring break nature trips

Spring break is a great time for children to get some fresh air and explore our region's natural areas. Experienced Metro naturalists Elisabeth Neely and Deb Scrivens will lead these fun hands-on excursions. All trips start and finish at Metro Regional Center (in the Lloyd District). Program fee includes van transportation, park entry fees and materials. Group size is limited to 12 children per trip, so register your child (and perhaps a friend) early. Children bring their lunches on the all-day trips. Find a trip to match your child's age and interests, then call (503) 797-1850, option 8 for a registration packet and complete information.

The Case of the Web-footed Invaders

Monday, March 20

9:30 a.m. to noon

Grades 1-3, \$15

Visit Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area, a 2,000-acre

wetland in the heart of Portland and home to an unusually large number of beavers. Find out amazing facts about these giant rodents (did you know beavers have lips behind their teeth?) Look for animal tracks and signs, and keep your eye out for birds of prey and other common residents. Then use your detective skills to find out why there's been a beaver invasion here.

Columbia Gorge Waterfall Adventure

Tuesday, March 21

9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Grades 4-6, \$35

Find out about the massive floods that once carved out the spectacular Columbia River Gorge, creating magnificent waterfalls and sweeping over what is now Portland. Then head out to the gorge for a fun hike through the lush rainforest to hidden Wahclella Falls (2 miles round trip). Bring a

flashlight to check out the entrance to a cave. If time allows, we'll visit Herman the Sturgeon at Bonneville Dam and stop for cocoa on the way home.

Ancient Forest Adventure

Wednesday, March 22

9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Grades 3-5, \$30

Hike over mossy footbridges into the ancient old-growth forest of Oxbow Regional Park, where you'll meet towering 800-year-old trees and taste a licorice fern. Search for giant banana slugs, a tiny bird that sings the fastest song in the world, and other amazing animals that call this special place home. Guided by the naturalist, you'll find out the good side of stinging nettle (really!), and learn a Native American technique to create a souvenir necklace that you can take home.

Secrets of Animal Tracking and Wildlife Watching

Thursday, March 23

9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Grades 2-4, \$30

Would you like to look a deer in the eyes some day, or see a fox in the wild without scaring it away? Wouldn't it be amazing if you could know what the birds are "talking" about, or follow footprints across the land? You can! On this special trip to Oxbow Park, we will try out simple but powerful methods that, with a little practice, will allow you to blend into nature and enter the secret world of wildlife. We will also hike to the Sandy River floodplain, one of the best tracking areas in Oregon, to search for the stories left by beaver, deer, fox and otter. This trip is for children who love wildlife and want the tools to find out more.



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