

Metro GreenScene

NEWS & THINGS TO DO

Winter 2001-2002



METRO
PEOPLE PLACES
OPEN SPACES

What's inside?

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About Metro

It's better to plan for growth than ignore it. Metro serves 1.3 million people who live in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties and the 24 cities in the Portland metropolitan area. Metro provides transportation and land-use planning services and oversees regional garbage disposal and recycling and waste reduction programs. Metro manages regional parks and greenspaces and the Oregon Zoo, and oversees the trade, spectator and arts centers managed by the Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission.

Metro is governed by an executive officer, elected regionwide, and a seven-member council elected by districts. An auditor, also elected regionwide, reviews Metro's operations.

Executive Officer – Mike Burton; Auditor – Alexis Dow, CPA; Council: Presiding Officer – David Bragdon, District 7; Deputy Presiding Officer – Susan McLain, District 4; Rod Park, District 1; Bill Atherton, District 2; Carl Hosticka, District 3; Rex Burkholder, District 5; Rod Monroe, District 6.

Metro GreenScene is produced by Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department; Charles Ciecko, director.

On the cover

(clockwise from top left): paddlers at a Metro open space along the Willamette River, ducks and geese in flight, a deceptively cute nutria, a dewey morning at Clear Creek Canyon.

Photographs by Ron Beamer, James Davis, Ron Klein, Linnea Nelson, Emily Roth and Lia Walwaole

Illustrations by Carey Cramer, Kathy Deal, Barbara Macomber and Antonia Manda

Metro's web site:

www.metro-region.org

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Where do we grow from here?

LET'S TALK Regional conference March 15-16, 2002

Can we prevent sprawl? Can we keep our region green? How do we deal with traffic congestion? And can we afford what we want? Join policy makers, citizens, planners, business and community leaders for an in-depth discussion of these questions.

Examine the choices, tradeoffs and costs of policy options related to managing growth in the Portland metropolitan region. The conference will continue discussions started at Metro's coffee talks about the important decisions facing the Metro Council in 2002. Those decisions include urban growth boundary expansion, fish and wildlife habitat protection, and transportation and parks financing.

Speakers, workshop sessions and a live Northwest NewsChannel 8 "town hall" broadcast will be held at the Oregon Convention Center. Community workshops will be held at locations to be determined in the metropolitan area.

Let's talk.

Let's talk sponsored by



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NW Natural

Visit kgw.com and www.metro-region.org/letstalk for updates as they occur.

Nature note

From Argentina to Portland – a rodent's story



It can be difficult to distinguish a nutria from a beaver or muskrat when all you see is a head in the water. The lighter fur at the base of the ears helps give this one away.

by Metro naturalist
James Davis

It was a dark and stormy night in the Louisiana marsh when the nutria got their big break. For more than two years, the large rodents had been living and multiplying in an “escape-proof” pen on Avery Island, home of tabasco king E. A. McIlhenny, the man who had brought them to the United States from their native rivers of Argentina. When a hurricane hit the Gulf Coast in 1940, the rising waters flooded the pen and about 150 nutria paddled off to freedom in America and found nutria paradise – great habitat and very few predators. In just two months, some were found 65 miles away. Multiplying at a rodent's rate, they quickly populated a large area of Louisiana marsh.

Then the bizarre nutria scam of the 1950s greatly extended their range and secured their permanent status as an introduced animal alien. Unscrupulous nutria breeders fooled hundreds of Americans

into buying breeding stock for producing nutria fur. There never was any real market for the fur, and when people realized they had been had, many set the animals free. Hence, nutria became well-established in a dozen states and reached a huge population. At first, the worst impact was thought to be the considerable damage they caused to rice and sugar cane crops in the south. Now it is clear that they also destroy marsh habitat and have a negative impact on native muskrats. Louisiana has spent millions of dollars over the last few years trying to develop an effective way to control nutria, including trying to make eating nutria meat popular. Louisiana marsh pig, anyone? How about gaucho burgers?

As interesting as the nutria's history is, the first thing people usually ask when they see one is “How can you tell it's not a beaver or a muskrat?” No one book really covers this, so I have come up with my own system from the bits and pieces of information

I've gathered and from years of observing all three species at Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. Yep, right in the middle of North Portland I've seen all three swimming around at the same time. Has anyone else?

If you see a beaver's tail, that takes care of that – it's totally unique. If you see a nutria or muskrat out of the water, its tail can help identify it as well. If the animal has what looks like a big, thick rat's tail, it's a nutria. The muskrat tail is similar, but it is not as big, has more hair and is flat vertically (not horizontally like a beaver's). Although hard to judge, overall size is another good clue. If the critter you see is smaller than a cat, it's a muskrat; if it's clearly bigger than a cat, it's a nutria.

When a muskrat swims, it thrashes its tail back and forth behind it and it looks like its head is being chased by a swimming snake. You don't see nutria tails very much when they swim, but if you do, part of it will just

arch out of the water a bit and won't be moving much. I've never seen a beaver's tail when it was swimming, have you?

Most often all you see is a dark head moving through the water. What then? The nutria's head is the easiest to identify because it has several light areas while beaver and muskrat heads are a solid dark brown. Nutria have big, white whiskers, which are pretty obvious, and they often have lots of gray hair around their mouth, making them look like a hoary marmot or a man with a graying goatee. Perhaps the easiest field mark to see is a patch of lighter fur, usually tan to orange, at the base of the nutria's ears. Look at the shape of the head – a beaver's head will be big, chunky, squared-off and flat; a muskrat's head looks a lot more pointed and “ratty.”

Beaver and muskrat mean business when they swim – they just swim in a straight line toward where they are going. Nutria seem to wander around a lot and are the only one of this rodent trio that I have seen eating while floating. In the summer at Smith and Bybee lakes, you can actually see nutria chowing down duckweed by swimming at the water's surface and stuffing plants into their open mouth with their paws.

See for yourself

Join Metro naturalist James Davis for one of his classes or winter wildlife watching trips at Metro's Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area (pgs. 10-13).

Muskrat

VOLUNTEERING – *it's your nature*



Tauna Wamsley, an AmeriCorps volunteer from the Northwest Service Academy, spent the past year getting to know Newell Creek Canyon.

With funds provided by the \$135.6 million open spaces, parks and streams bond measure approved by voters in 1995, Metro has purchased 159 acres in Newell Creek Canyon. This area is filled with many springs, seeps, beaver ponds and wetland areas, as well as a diversity of native plants and animals that are now benefiting from Metro's protection. As part of Metro's commitment to Newell Creek Canyon, Tauna Wamsley, an AmeriCorps volunteer, was assigned as the site's community stewardship coordinator. Her position with Metro ends in December, but her involvement will be felt in Newell Creek for a

long time to come. Thank you, Tauna, for your year of community service with Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department and all that you achieved.

A Hidden Jewel

*by Tauna Wamsley,
AmeriCorps volunteer and
community stewardship
coordinator*

It wasn't until I took my first trip beyond its urbanized rim, beyond the disturbed areas covered with invasive exotic plants such as scotch broom and Himalayan blackberry that I discovered what was hidden in Newell Creek Canyon. A place that seems wild, somewhat removed from its urban surroundings was revealed to me. Among subdivisions and

commercial businesses, Newell Creek remains a place of sanctuary for species such as the endangered coho salmon, the Pacific yew, red-legged frogs and many other native plants and animals. Due to Metro's open space acquisition program, a significant part of this sanctuary has been protected and preserved.

The soil in Newell Creek Canyon has played a significant role in keeping this area wild. It is soft and erodes easily, making development difficult if not impossible. These same soils have allowed Newell Creek to carve a deep canyon, creating steep slopes that have also prevented many people from accessing its rich interior. Because of this, not many people have been able to experience the canyon's most remarkable features such as groves of Western red cedars and Douglas firs, beaver dams and free flowing creeks that provide habitat to native anadromous fish.

When I joined Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department a year ago as an AmeriCorps volunteer through Northwest Service Academy, I was asked to focus my efforts on Newell Creek Canyon. More to the point, I was responsible for educating the community about this unique setting and facilitating their personal involvement in protecting and restoring its resources. One of the primary tools I used to accomplish this task was coordinating community stewardship projects throughout the canyon.

During six scheduled workdays scheduled this past year, we removed a 3/4-ton truck from the creek, took tires out of a 10,000-year-old pond and cleared hundreds of square feet of non-native invasive species such as scotch

broom and Himalayan blackberry. I have also led nature walks into the interior of Newell Creek Canyon, sharing my knowledge about its history, wildlife habitat and possibilities for the future.

An instrumental force in the future restoration of Newell Creek is the John Inskip Environmental Learning Center at Clackamas Community College. Located at the headwaters of Newell Creek, the center has made a commitment to improving the health of its watershed. As part of this stewardship program, "eco clubs" are being developed at Oregon City High School and Ogden and Gardiner middle schools. These clubs will focus on educating students about the watershed in which they live while providing an opportunity to contribute to its restoration through stewardship projects. The center also is leading a watershed assessment project with three Oregon universities to develop a conservation and restoration strategy for the Newell Creek watershed.

Many of the thousands of people who drive past Newell Creek Canyon on Highway 213 every day don't realize what lies in the space between the highway and the urbanized rim across the canyon – home to countless native plants and animals and a place for people to connect with our nature. As my service year comes to an end, I feel privileged that I was able to experience and have a small impact on this hidden jewel.

Western red cedar



Volunteer VENTURES

New Volunteer Orientation

*noon to 1 p.m. or 6 to 7 p.m.
Wednesdays, Dec. 5, Jan. 9
and Feb. 6*

Start your Metro volunteer experience on the right foot and join us for new volunteer orientation either during the lunch hour or in the evening at Metro Regional Center, 600 NE Grand Ave. (Afternoon orientations are in room 270; evening orientations are in room 370A.) Learn about Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department, hear about the benefits of volunteering, receive information about volunteer job opportunities in the field and office, complete your application and enjoy the company of other new volunteers. To register, call (503) 797-1850 option 7. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department* ♿

Willowbrook Pond Cleanup

*9 a.m. to noon
Saturday, Dec. 15*

Join friends and neighbors in helping to remove invasive species and trash from Willowbrook Pond in Gresham. Butler Creek flows in and out of Willowbrook Pond on its way to Johnson Creek. The wetland plants in the pond help improve water quality in Butler Creek, but they need your help to fend off invasive blackberries. Advance registration required. For more information, call David at (503) 239-3932. *City of Gresham and Johnson Creek Watershed Council*

Get Dirty at Oxbow Regional Park

*10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 5, and Sunday,
Feb. 3*

Join a partnership effort to help rid Oxbow Regional Park of the invasive plant species that threaten the native habitat along the Sandy River. Learn about what makes these plants, such as scotch broom, English ivy and Japanese knotweed so harmful to Oxbow's animal and plant diversity. Then get your hands dirty and help Metro and Hands on Portland volunteers with habitat restoration. For details, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Gresham Woods Planting Day

*9 a.m. to noon
Saturdays, Jan. 12 and Feb. 2*

Enjoy a day of planting at Gresham Woods, a 20-acre reforestation site in the heart of the metropolitan area. This riparian area provides critical habitat for native fish and wildlife. Refreshments will be provided. Meet at West Powell Loop in Gresham. For more information, call (503) 239-3932. *Friends of Trees, Johnson Creek Watershed Council and The Watershed Revegetation Program*

North Portland wetlands work days

*9 a.m. to noon
Saturdays, Jan. 19 and
Feb. 16*

Help restore Metro's 2,000-acre wetland, Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area, by installing protective barriers and weeding around native plantings, removing invasive plants and picking up trash. Celebrate the end of the workday with a tour of the Interlakes Trail and check out the wildlife. For more information, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

River Island on the Clackamas

*9 a.m. to noon
Saturday, Jan. 19*

Become part of the reason you are grateful to live in the Portland area. Work at a Metro greenspace along the Clackamas River as you listen to the water flow by. Listen to bird calls from above as you rip invasive species out by their roots. For more information, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Howell Territorial Park on Sauvie Island

*9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 26*

Take a walk through the historic Bybee orchard and help out along the way. Every winter, the orchard is pruned and help is needed to haul the cut branches out from underneath the trees. Gardening help around the historic Howell house is also needed. Come learn a little about this special place full of history and nature. For more information, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Wilsonville Tract

*1 to 4 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 27*

Do any of your new year's resolutions have something to do with making the world a better place? Follow through by joining Metro and its partners as we rid this beautiful open space property of killer ivy. Remove fences to gain access to trees that are dying due to this infestation. For more information, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department, city of Wilsonville, Friends of Goal 5 and CREST Center*

Planting Party at Ambleside in Gresham

*9 a.m. to noon
Saturday, Feb. 2*

Help restore the banks of Johnson Creek where a dam once stood. Plant native plants to help with soil erosion and control of invasive species. Tackle an English ivy infestation that threatens to tear down the many large Hogan cedar trees on this site. This activity is part of the Johnson Creek watershed wide event. For more information, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro, SOLV and Johnson Creek Watershed Council*

Alien Invaders at Beggars-tick Wildlife Refuge

*9 a.m. to noon
Saturday, Feb. 2*

Join staff and volunteers from Metro and Johnson Creek Watershed Council to help rid this seasonal wetland of invasive species like scotch broom and Himalayan blackberry. This activity is part of the Johnson Creek watershed wide event. For more information, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Hands Around Our Lakes Planting Event

*9 a.m. to noon
Saturday, Feb. 23*

Join Fairview Lake residents and friends for a lakeside restoration planting at parks and private homes. This event is a wonderful way to educate children about ways to help the environment and encourage community service. Free refreshments for volunteers. Meet at Interlachen Gazebo Park, 2135 NE Interlachen Lane. For more information, call Misty Schlegel at (503) 669-5389. *Columbia Slough Watershed Council*

Cooper Mountain

9 a.m. to noon

Saturday, Feb. 23

Come enjoy the incredible views from Cooper Mountain as you work to keep scotch broom from taking over this diverse area. If uncontrolled, scotch broom, with its prolific seed bank, forms dense brush fields more than six feet tall. These fields shade out and kill native plants that provide food and habitat for animals and birds. Help make sure this doesn't happen. For more information, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Canemah Bluff

1 to 4 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 24

Oregon City is known for its beautiful bluffs. Protected by funds from Metro's open spaces bond measure approved by voters in 1995, Canemah Bluff is a mix of history and nature. Help remove invasive species, such as scotch broom and reed canary grass so that native plants can prosper. For more information, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*



Thanks to Metro's volunteer crew leaders, work days like this one with Beaverton High School students at Cooper Mountain are both productive and fun.

Volunteer Crew Leader Training

Interested in getting outside and leading groups in vital restoration work? Get geared up for spring with this volunteer leadership training. Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department is seeking 10 volunteer crew leaders to lead weekday and weekend volunteer restoration workdays. Groups will be from all different backgrounds with a common interest in doing something for the health of the region's parks and greenspaces. Learn to remove invasive plant species, plant trees and native plants, conduct erosion control, build/remove fencing and more. You'll also receive training on group dynamics, tool use and safety and project management.

To complete the training, you must attend each of the following workshops:

Crew Leader Orientation
6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5
Metro Regional Center

Session 1: Invasive Plant ID

Session 2: Restoration and Land Management Techniques

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9
Oxbow Regional Park, Sandy River

Session 3: Group Dynamics and Project Management

Session 4: Wildlife Awareness

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10
Cooper Mountain greenspace, Beaverton

A parks and greenspaces tour and supplemental training in first aid and CPR, animal tracking, bird identification, ethnobotany and other topics will also be offered. To register for this free training, call (503) 797-1850 option 7.

Lone Fir Cemetery – Education Leader

Do you love sharing history with school age kids? Learn the stories of the "residents" of Metro's Lone Fir Pioneer Cemetery in Southeast Portland. Help develop activities and materials to engage local school groups on weekday field trips. Help lead youth on educational tours, activities and maintenance projects at Metro's pioneer cemeteries. For more information, call Lupine Hudson at (503) 797-1733.

Enroll in Nature University

See the back cover for information about becoming a volunteer naturalist

Winter notions

Have a waste-wise holiday season

Gifts, parties, holiday decorations and wrapping . . . all this holiday cheer results in 15 percent more trash than normal right after the holidays. How can we keep that additional 400 tons of trash out of a landfill? Reduce, reuse and recycle!

- Shop for gifts made from recycled-content material and that have little or no packaging.
- Wrap gifts in reusable containers or fabric.
- If you use wrapping paper, avoid paper that is not recyclable, such as foil, plastic-coated paper and tissue.
- Consider giving the gift of an experience, such as concert tickets or a special trip.
- Homemade gifts are more personal, can be less expensive and don't have wasteful packaging. Consider giving a basket of home-baked goodies or a wreath of dried flowers.
- Give the gift of knowledge. Offer your talents at gardening or photography. Sign someone up for lessons in music or language.
- Save boxes, gift bags, bows and ribbons to use again.
- Save holiday cards and make gift tags out of them next year.
- Decorate with strings of cranberries and popcorn and hang them outside for the birds after you're done with them.

When the holidays are over, recycle any paper wrapping or boxes you aren't saving for next year. Call Metro Recycling Information at (503) 234-3000 to find out what's recyclable and where to recycle trees and wreaths.



Metro's Buy Recycled Holiday Gift Fair

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7

Wondering what to get for the person who has everything? How about something that used to be something else? Come to Metro's third annual buy recycled gift fair and discover hundreds of unique gifts made from recycled materials. Locally and nationally known artists will offer garden art, sculpture, lamps, jewelry, pottery, clothing, ornaments, toys, glassware and more. Visit the Metro holiday activity room from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and make your own cards, envelopes and ornaments. Also learn about other resourceful gift ideas that will reduce waste and delight your friends and family. All ages are welcome. Metro Regional Center is located at 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland. For more information, call Metro Recycling Information at (503) 234-3000.

Year-round camping at Oxbow Regional Park

Grab your sleeping bags, throw a tent in your trunk and head out to the expanded and improved campgrounds at Metro's Oxbow Regional Park, open year-round. Improvements include 22 new campsites (for a total of 67) each with a picnic table, fire pit/cooking grill and lantern pole. Two new restroom/shower buildings boast hot and cold running water, coin-operated showers, heated-air hand dryers, radiant floor heating and Oxbow's first flush toilets. New restroom facilities and two new campsites are accessible by wheelchair. New plantings of native vegetation and installation of several cedar

fences help define site boundaries and establish privacy screenings between sites.

Oxbow's campsites are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Maximum occupancy is six people and two cars per site. Firewood is available for purchase at \$4 per bundle. Camping fee is \$13 per night. There is also a \$3 per vehicle entrance fee to the park. Park gates are locked each evening at official sunset and vehicle traffic in the park is restricted at this time.

There's plenty to do at Oxbow while you're camping. Take advantage of winter angling opportunities. Pick up a map of the park at the entrance booth and explore 15 miles of trails. Plan your camping trip around a nature trip or volunteer activity at the park.

Western hemlock

Open spaces

Spotlight on Clear Creek Canyon

The rejuvenation of Clear Creek Canyon began with the purchase of a 342-acre ranch early in Metro's open spaces acquisition program. Five years later, it is a 492-acre natural area teeming with fish and wildlife activity that illustrates the potential of Metro's ongoing restoration efforts across the region. Metro has planted 72,000 trees and shrubs on the property and has taken a number of other steps to return this land to its roots – creating a place for wildlife and people.

The Clear Creek Canyon natural area is two miles south of Carver on Clear Creek, a free-flowing tributary of the Clackamas River. "One day at sunrise," recounts Jim Morgan, Metro natural resources and property management supervisor, "I saw a beautiful coyote chasing a deer for what appeared to be fun. I was stunned when he chased it toward me and the deer jumped over the road right before me, above my head height."

Clear Creek is a high-quality, fish-bearing creek that flows northward along nearly three miles of the western bank of Metro's land, meandering through wide oxbows and pools and rippling through a canyon channel. The stream supports 11 different varieties of fish, including rainbow trout and endangered fall chinook and coho salmon, steelhead and threatened

coastal cutthroat trout. Unimpeded by dams, the creek provides excellent fish spawning beds. Trees shade the stream, keeping it cool. Large woody debris provides habitat. Grass packed smooth in channels along the bank marks where beaver slide into the water, leaving behind the telltale gnawed willow trees. River otters frolic in the clear flowing waters.

More than 100 species of wildlife are found at Clear Creek, including coyotes, cougar, blacktail deer, elk and 76 species of birds. Falcons, hawks, osprey, owls, pheasant, willow flycatchers and warbling vireos are a few of those birds. The 448 contiguous acres of the main site with its mature riparian forests, wooded canyon walls, terraced uplands, open meadows, ponds, springs and wetlands provide diverse wildlife habitat.

Now wildlife has even more cover since Metro's natural resources team has been working to convert abandoned agricultural fields to forest lands. Using surveys from 1861 as a reference for a planting strategy, Metro has planted 110 acres of uplands with 60,000 trees. Conifers such as western red cedar, grand fir, Douglas fir and ponderosa pine were interplanted with small patches of alder and big leaf maple to reintroduce a natural mosaic pattern. Trees planted in 1997 are now 6 to 8 feet tall and well enough established that they are "free to grow,"

meaning they will out-compete other plants and grow on their own.

An additional area of riparian forest was established along the creek with Oregon ash, Western red cedar, red osier dogwood, red elderberry and cascara. One particular challenge to overcome in establishing the new forest has been mice that chew the bark, girdling the tree seedlings and killing them. Now Metro uses "mouse mesh," tubing placed around trees to protect them from ground animals.

Invasive weed control is also part of managing and restoring the property. The

Metro team cut Himalayan blackberry and replanted the area with trees to eventually shade out the non-native species. Several years ago Metro reduced the scotch broom seed source with a prescribed burn on an 18-acre area with scattered large trees. Since the burn, Metro mechanically maintains it as an open woodland shrub community and most of the scotch broom has been removed.

A 5-acre wetland on the property serves as a seed source for native grasses and sedges. The seeds are hand harvested for use on site and at other Metro open space properties. Also, some seed is



Metro ranger Adam Stellmacher (left) helps naturalist James Davis prepare for a nature walk at Clear Creek. Adam divides his time among Metro's 7,196 acres of open space property, working on land management and habitat restoration efforts.

given to a grower for propagation to develop more seed sources.

With five years of consistent natural resources management, Metro has dramatically changed the ranch that it acquired in 1996 to the functioning natural area that it is today. Just a 10-minute drive away from Clackamas Town Center, Clear Creek Canyon has great potential as a future natural area park. In the meantime, keep an eye out for guided trips to Clear Creek Canyon in Metro GreenScene and the GreenScene e-Zine on the Metro web site at www.metro-region.org.

As of Nov. 15, 2001, Metro has acquired 7,196 acres of open space.



Morning dew shimmers on the 72,000 trees and shrubs Metro planted at Clear Creek Canyon. Now six to eight feet tall, the new forest is part of the property's return to its natural heritage.

Green Ribbon Committee update

*A note from David Bragdon,
Metro Council presiding officer*

On behalf of the entire Metro Council, I would like to recognize and thank the members of the Green Ribbon Committee and particularly Walt Hitchcock, former mayor of Sherwood, who served as chair. From July to November, this group of 17 individuals committed a tremendous amount of their personal time to carefully review 30 open space projects, narrow them down and recommend how to fund their transformation into new natural area parks and trails for the region. They personally visited a great number of the sites, attended Metro Council listening posts around the region to discuss their draft recommendations with the public, and spent many hours analyzing and discussing technical and financial information about each site.

By the time you read this, the committee will have completed work on its final recommendations to the Metro Council. It is my hope that based on this excellent work by the committee, the council will be able to make decisions in the future about how

to proceed in creating these new parks and trails. For the latest information about this effort, visit Metro's web site at www.metro-region.org or call the Metro Council office at (503) 797-1942.

Green Ribbon Committee Members

- Walt Hitchcock, committee chair
- Commissioner Doug Neeley, city of Oregon City
- Meyer Siegel, Metro Committee for Citizen Involvement
- Councilor Doug Daoust, city of Troutdale
- Ralph Gilbert, East County Recycling
- Robert Kincaid, city of Lake Oswego
- Jerry Herrman, Earth Crusaders
- Mayor Charlotte Lehan, city of Wilsonville
- Nathalie Darcy, Fanno Creek Trail
- Terry Moore, Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District
- Sue Marshall, Tualatin Riverkeepers
- David Judd, Portland Parks and Recreation
- Mike Houck, Audubon Society of Portland
- Mayor Eugene Grant, city of Happy Valley
- Barbara Walker, 40-Mile Loop Land Trust
- Councilor Mary King, city of Milwaukie
- Rudy Kadlub, Costa Pacific Homes

Winter calendar



NATURE Discoveries

Fernhill Wetlands

9 a.m. to noon

Saturday, Dec. 1

Join urban naturalist Mike Houck for a two-mile walking tour around Dabblers' Marsh, Eagle's Perch Pond and Fernhill Lake. Fernhill Wetlands, near the confluence of Gales Creek and the Tualatin River in Forest Grove, has grown to more than 600 acres in size. \$8. Advance registration required. Call Portland Parks and Recreation at (503) 823-5132 to reserve a space. *Wild in the City*

Wild in the City: Tualatin Hills Nature Park

9 a.m. to noon

Tuesday, Dec. 4

Join urban naturalist Mike Houck on a nature hike through the nearly 220-acre nature park, including the newly acquired "in-holding" that was purchased by Metro's open spaces acquisition program. Walk through the park to explore wetlands, riparian areas and Douglas fir forest. \$8. Advance registration required. Call Portland Parks and Recreation at (503) 823-5132 to reserve a space. *Wild in the City*

Bats and Stars

7 to 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 5

Bat biologist Joshua Peterson will introduce you to the natural history of some of Oregon's most misunderstood and most fascinating bat

species. Jim Todd, constellation interpreter and OMSI educator, will continue the night sky theme by sharing his knowledge of how people have interpreted the stars throughout the ages. Meet at the Southwest Community Center at Southwest Vermont and 45th. Free. No registration required. For more information, call (503) 823-2862. *Portland Bureau of Environmental Services and Portland State University* ♿

Mammals of Smith and Bybee Lakes

6:30 to 7:15 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 5

Mink, river otter and coyote in the middle of North Portland? You bet. Although Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area is known for an amazing diversity of birds, the list of mammals that also make the lakes their home often surprises people. Metro naturalist James Davis will present a who's who of the lake's furry critters using slides and some specimens of skins, skulls and scat. This program is the first part of the regular meeting of the Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes at the city of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services Water Pollution Lab, 6543 N Burlington Ave. (at the foot of the St. Johns Bridge). Free. No registration required. *Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes* ♿

Holiday Wreath Making at Blue Lake

noon to 3 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 8

Learn the art of holiday wreath making from Metro's master gardeners. Each participant will take home a beautiful and unique craft. Greens, rings and wire supplied. Bring decorations, glue guns, clippers and gloves. Cost is \$5 per wreath. Meet

at the operation and maintenance warehouse at Blue Lake Regional Park. Advance registration required. For more information and to register, call (503) 665-6918. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department* ♿

Wild in the City: North Clackamas Park

9 a.m. to noon

Wednesday, Dec. 12

Join urban naturalist Mike Houck for a stroll through one of the few undeveloped sites in Northern Clackamas County. The still-to-be named natural area is an 85-acre wetland forest, wet meadow and upland forest situated in the Mt. Scott Creek floodplain just upstream from the confluence of Mt. Scott and Kellogg creeks. \$8. Advance registration required. Call Portland Parks and Recreation at (503) 823-5132 to reserve a space. *Wild in the City*

Exploring the Springwater Corridor

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 15

Join urban naturalist Mike Houck, Friends of Zenger Farm and other local naturalists for a tour of three of the Johnson Creek watershed's most significant greenspaces along the Springwater Corridor Trail, Metro's Beggars-tick Wildlife Refuge, Zenger Farm and Powell Butte. \$8. Advance registration required. Call Portland Parks and Recreation at (503) 823-5132 to reserve a space. *Wild in the City*

Wild in the City: Sherwood

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 18

Join urban naturalist Mike Houck on a tour of the new national wildlife refuge and the city of Sherwood streams that may one day form a greenway network between the city and the potentially 3,000-acre refuge. \$8. Advance registration 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

Sundays, Dec. 30, Jan. 27 and Feb. 24

"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 registration required. *The Tracking Club*

State of the Tryon and Fanno Creek Watersheds

7 to 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 2

City of Portland watershed manager Amin Wahab will discuss the status of the projects and plans in the Tryon and Fanno creek watersheds. Bring your questions. Meet at the Southwest Community Center. Free. No registration required. For more information, call (503) 823-2862. *Portland Bureau of Environmental Services and Portland State University*

Winter Break Camp

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Wednesday through Friday, Jan. 2-4

Looking for a fun day of nature activities during winter break? Each day we'll spend time exploring the park, building critter crafts and discovering some of the amazing creatures that live in the park. Program is for children age 7-11. Fee per day is \$30 in district and \$52.50 out of district. Registration card required. For more information, call (503) 644-5595. *Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District*

Soup on the Slough

*11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Thursday and Friday,
Jan. 24-25*

You are invited for lunch, slough stories and a tour of Whitaker Ponds, the junkyard-turned-environmental-education center located on the Columbia Slough. This casual event is open to everyone interested in learning more about the Columbia Slough watershed. Advance registration required. For more information, call Joe Annett at (503) 823-4513. *Columbia Slough Watershed Council and Portland Bureau of Environmental Services*

Peninsula Crossing Trail Winter Wildlife Walk

*12:30 to 2:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 26*

Metro's Peninsula Crossing Trail connects the Willamette and Columbia rivers with a hike and bike trail through St. Johns. Join James Davis to hike some of the recently completed sections looking for birds and other wildlife. Since we will be near the rivers, the Columbia Slough and Smith and Bybee lakes, there's a good chance of seeing wintering waterfowl and birds of prey. The trail is universally accessible but there are no restrooms. Free. Advance registration required. Directions to the meeting place and a "what to bring" list will be mailed to you after you register. Call (503) 797-1850 option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Endangered Species Act

*7 to 8:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 6*
Marc Liverman of the National Marine Fisheries Service will discuss what it means when a species is listed and how it affects your everyday life. Meet at the Southwest Community Center at Southwest Vermont and 45th. Free. No registration

required. For more information, call (503) 823-2862. *Portland Bureau of Environmental Services and Portland State University*

How Animals Work

*7 to 9:30 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 7*

How do turtles breathe while they are at the bottom of ponds all winter? Why don't ducks get hypothermia swimming around in freezing cold water with their bare feet? Why are there no warm-blooded animals in the world with gills? You could also call this class "blood and guts 101" but we won't actually be dissecting anything. We will be looking at the incredible adaptations different animals have to meet the same basic needs – food, water, oxygen and shelter. Metro naturalist James Davis has taught this class at Marylhurst for 10 years. Understanding how animals work greatly increases our awareness and appreciation for their amazing abilities and unique ways of life. Meet in room 370 at Metro Regional Center. Registration and a fee of \$8 are required in advance. Call (503) 797-1850 option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Mammals of Metro Parks

*7 to 9:30 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 21*

Did you know you can see mink and river otter at both Oxbow and Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area? How about flying squirrels? And what kind of squirrels are those running around Blue Lake? And how in the world can you tell muskrat, nutria and beaver apart when all you see is the top of a brown head moving through the water? James Davis will take you on a basic survey of the mammals that live in Metro's regional parks and green-

spaces with an emphasis on how to see them and identify them in the wild. You'll be surprised at who some of our "wilder" residents are. Meet in room 370 at Metro Regional Center. Registration and a fee of \$8 are required in advance. Call (503) 797-1850 option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Wilsonville Tract and CREST Center

*10 to 11:30 a.m.
Saturday, Feb. 23*

Join naturalist Bob Carlson of the Center for Research on Environmental Sciences and Technology (CREST) Center and Chris Neamtzu of the city of Wilsonville for a hike on the forests and wetland areas of the Wilsonville Tract, a recent Metro open space acquisition. See the new CREST Center, adjacent to the tract. The forest trail is not difficult but is not well developed; the walk involves climbing over a couple of logs and small creeks. Free. Advance registration required. For more information, call at (503) 570-1522. *city of Wilsonville*

Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge

*9 a.m. to noon
Saturday, Feb. 23*

Join urban naturalist Mike Houck on a 2-mile stroll through 160-acre Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge, one of the region's premier wildlife viewing areas. More than 120 species of birds have been sighted at Oaks Bottom

and the rustic loop trail passes by open water, forested wetland, upland and riparian habitats. \$8. Advance registration required. Call Portland Parks and Recreation at (503) 823-5132 to reserve a space. *Wild in the City*

Fanno Creek Greenway Winter Wildlife Walk

*1 to 2 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 23*

This greenway trail follows Fanno Creek through parts of Portland, Beaverton, Tigard and Tualatin. Join Metro naturalist James Davis to explore the winter wildlife along the creek, hiking on some of the newly completed sections. Winter is the best time for waterfowl and birds of prey in Portland, so we are sure to see some of these birds as well as the local winter songbirds. The trail is universally accessible but there are no restrooms. Free. Advance registration required. Directions to the meeting place and a "what to bring" list will be mailed to you after you register. Call (503) 797-1850 option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Powell Butte Nature Park

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 24

Join urban naturalist Mike Houck and Portland Parks and Recreation natural area manager Mart Hughes on a



Annual park pass

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. Regular pass is \$35; senior pass is \$25; low-income/disability pass is \$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.

nature walk around this 600-acre extinct volcano. Check out birds and plants and learn about future management of the butte's grasslands and forest habitat. \$8. Advance registration required. Call Portland Parks and Recreation at (503) 823-5132 to reserve a space. *Wild in the City*

Taxidermy Workshop

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*Sunday, Feb. 24, and
Wednesday, Feb. 27*

This workshop will be of interest to anyone who wants to learn more about animal anatomy. Participants will create study specimens, which will be used in the Metro environmental education program to teach people about wildlife. Guided by instructors, each person will work on skinning and stuffing a small wild mammal or bird accidentally killed by an automobile. (The study specimens, also called museum mounts, are not posed in lifelike positions.) Metro operates this program under state and federal wildlife salvage permits. You may sign up for either one or both sessions. Class will meet at Oxbow Regional Park in the naturalist's office. Bring a sack lunch. A fee of \$15 per person includes instruction and tools. There is also an additional \$3 per vehicle entry fee payable at the gate. Advance registration and payment are required. Call (503) 797-1850 option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*



A wood duck rests on the shore of a Sauvie Island pond.



BIRD Watching

Lunch With the Birds

Every Wednesday from noon until 1 p.m.

Spotting scopes, binoculars, field guides and naturalists will be provided to help you identify all the migrating waterfowl, birds of prey and other cool birds that show up at Jackson Bottom Wetlands. Meet at the north viewing shelter, next to the Clean Water Services sewage treatment plant on Highway 219 just south of Hillsboro. Free. For more information, call (503) 681-6278. *Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve*

Oxbow Park Backyard Bird Walk

8 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, Dec. 8

Learn more about backyard birds and other interesting birds on a bird-oriented nature walk. An experienced birder will give you tips on

how to identify and enjoy a variety of birds and wildlife. To carpool, meet at the Gresham Backyard Bird Shop, 560 NW Eastman Parkway. Program is free; registration is required. For more information or to register, call (503) 661-4944. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Sauvie Island Backyard Bird Walk

8 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, Dec. 15

Learn more about backyard birds and other interesting birds on a bird-oriented nature walk. An experienced birder will give you tips on how to identify and enjoy a variety of birds and wildlife. Meet at the parking lot at the island end of the Sauvie Island Bridge. Program is free; registration is required. For more information or to register, call the Vancouver Backyard Bird Shop at (360) 253-5771. *Backyard Bird Shop and Audubon Society of Portland*

Smith and Bybee Lakes Backyard Bird Walk

8 to 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 16

Learn more about backyard birds and other interesting birds on a bird-oriented nature walk. An experienced birder will give you tips on how to identify and enjoy a variety of birds and wildlife.

To carpool, meet at the Portland Backyard Bird Shop, 3574 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Program is free; registration is required. For more information or to register, call (503) 230-9557. *Backyard Bird Shop* ♿

Waterfowl Identification Class

7 to 9:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 17

Thousands of ducks, geese and swans can be seen flying over our region's wetlands in the winter. Come to this class with Metro naturalist James Davis to find out who's who in the waterfowl world and get ready for some great winter bird watching. Meet in room 370 at Metro Regional Center. Registration and a fee of \$8 per person are required in advance. Call (503) 797-1850 option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

8 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, Jan. 19

Learn more about backyard birds and other interesting birds on a bird-oriented nature walk. An experienced birder will give you tips on how to identify and enjoy a variety of birds and wildlife. Program is free; registration is required. For more information or to register, call the Vancouver Backyard Bird Shop at (360) 253-5771. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Winter Birds at Smith and Bybee Lakes

9 to 11 a.m.

Saturdays, Jan. 26, Feb. 9 and 23

It's a waterfowl wonderland in the Portland area with thousands of ducks, geese and swans spending the winter here. On a good day, you can see a dozen different species of waterfowl and other water birds such as grebes, gulls, coots, cormorants and herons. This is also the best time of year to see bald eagles and several other birds of prey. Meet naturalist James Davis at the wildlife area parking lot on Marine Drive. Binoculars will be available to borrow. Suitable for adults and teens. Free. Advance registration required. Call (503) 797-1850 option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department* ♿

Birds of Prey Class

7 to 9:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 31

Hawks, eagles, falcons and owls have always fascinated people. Metro naturalist James Davis will discuss how to tell these major groups of raptors apart and the key points for identifying the most common species. We'll also discuss the amazing adaptations of these birds for catching and killing their prey. Meet in room 370 at Metro Regional Center.

Registration and a fee of \$8 are required in advance. Call (503) 797-1850 option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department* ♿

Breakfast with Birds of Prey

9:30 a.m. to noon

Sundays, Feb. 3 and Feb. 10

Each year, magnificent bald eagles, hawks and falcons spend the winter on Sauvie Island. Enjoy a morning of hawk and eagle viewing with hot drinks, pastries and spotting scopes provided. Metro naturalists Elisabeth Neely and James Davis will lead the trip and provide tips on raptor identification and behavior. Suitable for any skill level; beginning birders and families are welcome. Meet at the barn behind the historic Bybee House at Metro's Howell Territorial Park and we'll carpool from there. A Sauvie Island parking permit is required (available at Sauvie Island General Store). Registration and a program fee of \$8 per person are required in advance. Call (503) 797-1850 option 4 to reserve a space. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Biological Controls of Purple Loosestrife

6:30 to 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 6

Attend a special presentation about purple loosestrife by Shon Schooler from OSU at the February meeting of the Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes. Learn how agencies are releasing specific beetle species that feed on the non-native plant that invades wetlands. Meet at the BES Water Pollution Control Lab, 6548 N Burlington Ave. For more information, call Frank Opila at (503) 283-1145. *Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes* ♿

Smith and Bybee Lakes Paddle Trips

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 22

Celebrate the winter solstice

To register, call Frank Opila (503) 283-1145.

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 20

To register, call Troy Clark (503) 249-0482.

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 17

To register, call Troy Clark (503) 249-0482.

Explore Metro's Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area in North Portland. Meet at the parking lot on North Marine Drive. Trip is free. Bring your own kayak or canoe and personal flotation device. The trip may be cancelled or changed to a different location due to seasonal fluctuations in the water level; there may be some walking. *Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes*



Oaks Bottom Nature Walk

8 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, Feb. 16

Learn more about your backyard birds, and see other interesting birds, on a bird-oriented nature walk co-sponsored by Audubon Society of Portland and Backyard Bird Shop. An Audubon volunteer will give tips on how to identify and enjoy a variety of birds and

wildlife. Program is free; registration is required. For more information or to register, call the Lake Oswego Backyard Bird Shop at (503) 635-2044. *Backyard Bird Shop and Audubon Society of Portland*



BICYCLE Trips

Second Annual New Year's Day Park & Ride & Park

9 a.m. to noon

Tuesday, Jan. 1

Tour the parks in the central portion of the Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District and discover links between neighborhoods, shopping centers and businesses in Beaverton. At the end of the ride, gather in the fireplace room at the Tualatin Hills Nature Park Interpretive Center for hot chocolate, cider and cookies. The 10-12-mile ride is on comparatively flat terrain; all ages and abilities are welcome. Meet at the Tualatin Hills Nature Park parking lot. Helmets required. For more information, call (503) 643-5396.

Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District Trails Advisory Committee

Sweet "Hart" Ride

9 a.m. to noon

Saturday, Feb. 9

The southwest quadrant of the Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District includes three parks with "hart" in them – Hart Meadows, Hartwood Hylands and Lowami Hart Woods. This ride includes a walk at one of these serene gems. Valentine's Day treats will be available. The ride is 10-12 miles with rolling hills and some sustained climbs; all ages and abilities are welcome. Meet at the Tualatin Hills Nature Park parking lot. Helmets required. For more information, call (503) 643-5396.

Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District Trails Advisory Committee

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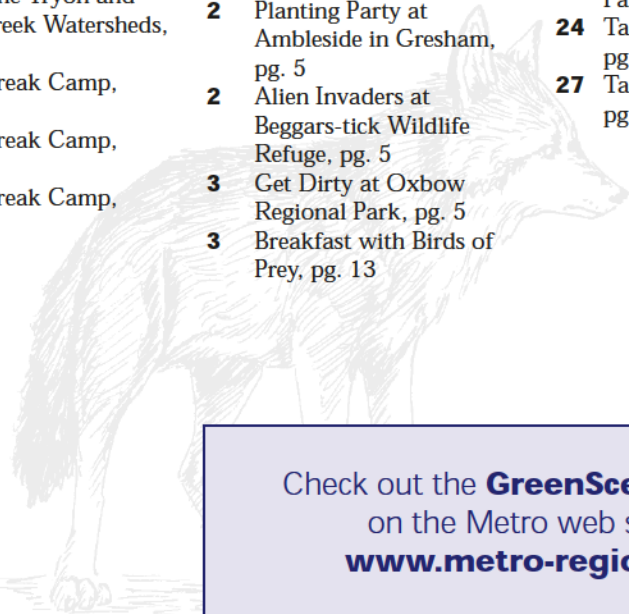
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Coyote

Check out the **GreenScene e-Zine** on the Metro web site at www.metro-region.org

See you there!

Metro regional parks, greenspaces and facilities

Blue Lake Regional Park provides archery, volleyball, softball, horseshoes, disabled-accessible playgrounds, food concessions, bike and boat rentals, swimming, fishing and large picnic shelters perfect for family reunions and company picnics. Bikers, runners and walkers enjoy the trails along the lake and throughout the park. The Lake House is an elegant site for weddings and other special events.

Location: Between Marine Drive and Sandy Boulevard off Northeast 223rd Avenue. From I-84, take the Fairview exit (14) and go north on 207th Avenue to Sandy Boulevard. Turn right onto Sandy and travel east to 223rd and turn left. Proceed north to Blue Lake Road and the park.

Entrance fee: \$3 per car and \$6 per bus.

Oxbow Regional Park, a 1,200-acre natural area park located within the wild and scenic Sandy River Gorge, offers the opportunity to walk through an old-growth forest or watch fall chinook salmon swim upstream to spawn. The river draws swimmers, rafters, kayakers and anglers. Hiking trails, wooded campsites, reservable picnic areas, horse trails, playgrounds and play fields are also available.

Location: Eight miles east of Gresham. From I-84, take the Troutdale exit (17). Go past the truck stop to the light. Turn right on 257th, go 3 miles to Division Street. Turn left onto Division. Follow the signs 6.5 miles and turn left. Follow the road to the park.

Entrance fee: \$3 per car and \$6 per bus.

Howell Territorial Park on Sauvie Island is a scenic blend of natural and cultural history. The Oregon Historical Society provides interpretive tours of a pioneer house and agricultural museum on summer weekends. Picnickers and birdwatchers enjoy this idyllic site, which also includes nine acres of wetland and surrounding pastoral land.

Location: 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.

Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area is the largest protected wetland within an American city. Home to beaver, river otter, black-tailed deer, osprey, bald eagles and Western painted turtles, this 2,000-acre wildlife area offers a paved trail with two wildlife viewing platforms. Non-motorized boats are welcome.

Location: On Marine Drive between the Expo Center and Kelley Point Park. 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.

Beggars-tick Wildlife Refuge, a 20-acre greenspace located along the Springwater Corridor Trail, was named after a species of native sunflower. The refuge is home to a variety of native plant species and wildlife, and provides open water for migratory waterfowl in the winter.

Location: Southeast 111th Avenue, just north of Foster Road. Also accessible from the Springwater Corridor Trail.

Pioneer cemeteries in Multnomah County offer a unique look into the history of the region and are managed as operating facilities. Dating back as early as 1851, 14 pioneer cemeteries offer scenic tranquility and a glimpse into the past.

Chinook Landing Marine Park, a 67-acre marine park with six launching lanes on the Columbia River, is the largest public boating facility in Oregon. The park offers picnic and viewing areas, wetland and wildlife habitat, disabled-accessible docks, restrooms and a seasonal river patrol station.

Location: Adjacent to Blue Lake Regional Park on Marine Drive.

Entrance fee: \$4 per vehicle.

M. James Gleason Memorial Boat Ramp is a convenient public boat launch on the Columbia River, minutes from downtown Portland. Amenities include launch lanes, boarding docks, restrooms, river maps and a river patrol office.

Location: Northeast 43rd Avenue and Marine Drive.

Entrance fee: \$3 per vehicle.


Sauvie Island Boat Ramp enables boaters to enjoy the quiet waters and wildlife of Multnomah Channel. Picnic tables, parking and restrooms are available.

Location: At the junction of Burlington Ferry and Sauvie Island roads.

Glendoveer Golf Course provides challenging play for every level with two 18-hole golf courses. A 2-mile fitness trail along the perimeter of the course draws joggers and walkers to the natural setting. There are also tennis and racquetball courts, a driving range and a restaurant.

Location: 140th and Northeast Glisan Street.

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

 Except for Howell Territorial Park and Glendoveer Golf Course, the parks and facilities above each provide some wheelchair access. For more specific accessibility information, call (503) 797-1728.

Getting there

Tri-Met bus service to Metro parks and greenspaces is limited. For information about combining a bus trip with a walk or a bicycle ride to one of Metro's facilities, call (503) 797-1728.

Information numbers

General number
(503) 797-1850

Picnic reservations
(503) 797-1850 option 2

Registration for Metro activities
(503) 797-1850 option 4

Open spaces
(503) 797-1555

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 Wildlife Area
(503) 797-1515

Marine facilities
(503) 665-6918

Glendoveer Golf Course
(503) 253-7507

Pioneer cemeteries
(503) 988-3622



Nature University

Train to become a Volunteer Naturalist

Why do beavers cut down trees? What do salmon eat? Where do osprey nest?

Learn to answer these questions and more by becoming a volunteer naturalist. If you enjoy nature and like working with children, Metro 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 or Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area, with opportunities at several other parks and greenspaces around the region.

Discover the Naturalist in you

Participants will attend a series of training classes in the winter and spring and one in the fall. A menu of elective training classes will also be

available to you throughout the year to increase your expertise in certain areas of interest.

All class sessions meet in the parks and are taught by Metro naturalists. Classes

cover wetland ecology, ancient forests, salmon, common plants and animals, animal tracking, restoration activities and teaching techniques. Volunteers are trained to do activities that comprise a field trip program. No specific experience is required, but any experience in biology, natural history or working with youth groups will be helpful.

Trainees for spring must attend all of the following classes, on Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Jan. 15 – Volunteer naturalist training orientation

Jan. 22 – Wildlife awareness

Jan. 29 – Animal tracking

Feb. 5 – Ecology of Oxbow Regional Park

Feb. 12 – Ecology of Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area

Feb. 19 – How to lead a school field trip at Oxbow Regional Park

Feb. 26 – How to lead a school field trip at Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area

March 5 – Teaching techniques

March 12 – Natural communities

March 19 – Volunteer naturalist mystery class

Volunteer naturalist elective classes will run throughout the year and include bird and plant identification, taxidermy, habitat restoration, water bugs, ethnobotany and more. For more information or to request an application, call (503) 797-1850 option 7 or send e-mail to parkvol@metro.dst.or.us.



METRO

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Portland, OR 97232-2736



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

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