

Metro GreenScene

NEWS & THINGS TO DO

Winter 2002-2003



METRO
PEOPLE PLACES
OPEN SPACES

What's inside?

- Special focus on Killin Wetlands
- Leadership training opportunities
- Volunteer awards
- Soras and bitterns and rails, oh my!
- Activities for nature lovers of all ages

Metro

People places • open spaces

Metro serves 1.3 million people who live in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties and the 24 cities in the Portland metropolitan area. The regional government 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 owns the Oregon Zoo. It also oversees operation of the Oregon Convention Center, the Portland Center for the Performing Arts and the Portland Metropolitan Exposition (Expo) Center, all managed by the Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission. For more information about Metro or to schedule a speaker for a community group, call (503) 797-1502 (executive office) or (503) 797-1540 (council).

Metro Metro's web site: www.metro-region.org

Your Metro representatives

Executive Officer – Mike Burton

Auditor – Alexis Dow, CPA

Metro Council Presiding Officer – Carl Hosticka, District 3; Deputy Presiding Officer – Susan McLain, District 4; Rod Park, District 1; Bill Atherton, District 2; Rex Burkholder, District 5; Rod Monroe, District 6; David Bragdon, District 7.

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

On the cover (clockwise from top left): egrets at Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area, icy refuge for winter birds, school field trip at Oxbow, student installing a nesting box for local wildlife.

Photographs by Martin Campos, Jane Dunkin, Ron Klein, Linnea Nelson, Project YESS, Elaine Stewart and Lia Waiwaiole.

Illustrations by Myrian Cavali, Kathy Deal, Barbara Macomber and Antonia Manda.

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).

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

Wintertime tips

Waste-wise holiday hints

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.



Lending a hand

YESS crew takes a whack at invasive species



The 2002 YESS crew made a huge dent in the invasive species problems at Metro regional parks and greenspaces last summer.

For several years, Metro's parks and greenspaces have benefited from a partnership with Project YESS (Youth Employability Support Services), an education and work-training program for youth ages 16-21 based at Mt. Hood Community College. Students in the program are preparing for GED testing, learning job search skills, establishing career goals and transitioning to college classes. A core piece of the program is a paid work experience – last summer, nine YESS students chose to spend that time doing valuable maintenance and restoration work at Oxbow Regional Park and other Metro greenspaces on the Sandy and Clackamas rivers.

During the 90-degree days of July and August, the YESS crew attacked Canada thistle at the Elk Meadow in Oxbow Regional Park, then went after tree-sized scotch broom at undeveloped "East Oxbow." On the Clackamas River, crew

members grappled with invasive teasel and an extensive scotch broom "forest" on the gravel bar at Metro's River Island property. They sawed and lopped off enough of the broom to expose Japanese knotweed stands for an AmeriCorps team to treat and remove.

When they weren't busy battling invasive weeds, the YESS crew was getting the next generation of native plants off to a healthy start. Working with Metro staff at the Oxbow campground, they planted Oregon grape, Western hemlock, blue elderberry and Douglas fir. To protect the plants, they spread bark chips and built 100 feet of rustic fencing to keep campers on the trails.

Between the lines of this success story is longtime Metro volunteer Andy Kerr, who has supervised YESS crews for the past two summers and worked

as a Metro crew leader for many years before that. Trained as both a Metro volunteer naturalist and crew leader, Andy is a talented environmental educator and a skilled restoration project leader. This combination of gifts is evident in Andy's ability to create work experiences that are rich with educational opportunities and learning experiences that yield valuable restoration results.

Along with a hard-earned sense of satisfaction, the YESS crew came away from the summer with a lot of new skills and knowledge. They are experts in invasive species removal, they learned the names and characteristics of dozens of plants and animals, and they were introduced to the basics of animal tracking. Toward the end of the summer, more than one crew member found that his or her relationship to nature had changed. One student remarked, "I like being outside more than I used to. I used to always want to stay inside. Now I can take a walk in the woods and just enjoy being out there." Several crew members even found out that being outside and helping the environment were on the list of things they wanted in their future careers.

Many thanks to each of the YESS crew members and to Andy. Wherever your paths take you, our parks and greenspaces are very lucky to have been along your way.



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.

Open spaces

Killin Wetlands is home to mysterious wildlife

Stand quietly at the edge of a wetland approximately one mile west of Banks on a nice spring day and you'll begin to wonder what planet you're on. Strange sounds will emerge from the grassy vegetation, laced with waterways and scattered willows. "Oong-ka choonk, oong-ka choonk, oong-ka choonk." "Wak, wak, wak, wak, wak." "Witchity, witchity, witchity."

Strange sounds indeed, but they come from earth creatures better known as American bittern, Virginia rail and common yellowthroat. These and many other wildlife species make the Killin Wetlands a very special natural area. During the winter, Killin Wetlands also is important to wintering waterfowl. The Nature Conservancy considers this property among the most biologically significant in the region.

The 373-acre former dairy farm features a rare wetland habitat type teaming with equally interesting wildlife. One of the few and perhaps the largest remaining example of Geyer's willow swamp in the Willamette Valley occurs at this site. It is dominated by a rare species of willow known as Geyer's willow, common in the Cascades but rare in the valley. An estimated 10,000 acres of this type of willow swamp occurred historically, but was mostly cleared for agricultural purposes by the early 1900s.

About 217 acres of the property are considered wetland. The remaining land

Sunrise breaks through the mist at the Killin Wetlands.



(132 acres) is tillable upland with patches of woodland (24 acres). The streams on the property flow into the west fork of Dairy Creek. Dairy Creek flows into the Tualatin River at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve in Hillsboro. The wetlands provide flood water storage and contribute to the protection of water quality by filtering runoff from adjacent land uses.

Metro purchased the property last spring with funds from the open spaces, parks and streams bond measure, approved by voters in 1995. The area is west of Banks in Washington County and lies directly north of Highway 6, the Wilson River Highway. The land will be managed to benefit wildlife and will not be open to the general public. However, people wishing to visit this special greenspace can do so by joining a guided tour or volunteer work party. Check Metro GreenScene for opportunities to visit Killin Wetlands and other Metro open space acquisitions.

How did the property get its name? Pursuant to an agreement with the previous landowner, Metro has agreed to name the wetlands the "Killin Wetlands," which honors the landowner's distinguished pioneer ancestor, Benton Killin. The Oregon Geographic Names

Board approved naming this geographic feature, and national approval is pending.

This place at the foot of the Oregon coast range will now be protected and enhanced for visitors to enjoy the sounds of nature. "Ribbet, ribbet, ribbet." "Kuk, kuk."

Open spaces acquisition update

Metro's open spaces, parks and streams bond measure was approved by voters in May 1995. The bond measure's primary goal is to purchase natural areas and greenways to be held for future use as parks, trails and fish and wildlife habitat.

Metro is acquiring property in 14 regional natural areas and six regional trail and greenway projects. In addition, a "local share" portion of the bond monies is funding more than 100 local park projects, located in almost every city, county and park district in the region.

As of Nov. 22, 2002, Metro has protected nearly 7,800 acres of land including 62 miles of stream and river frontage.

Nature note

Skinny as a what?



Killin Wetlands near Banks is one of the best places in the region to see sora, Virginia rail and American bittern.

*By Metro naturalist
James Davis*

Everyone knows the expression "skinny as a rail" but most people think "rail" refers to a handrail or maybe the rail on railroad tracks. People are quite surprised when they learn that the rail in question is actually a small, flat, secretive marsh bird. The saying "skinny as a rail" goes way back, certainly before trains, to when people regularly hunted rails in Europe and North America and were familiar with their odd flatness.

Rails are laterally flattened, sort of like a pancake walking around on its edge. Their skinniness helps them go undetected by predators as they weave through thick marsh vegetation. (Picture yourself sneaking sideways through rows of tall corn and you will have the right idea.) It's no wonder people hardly ever see them.

Most rails are scarce, nocturnal birds with limited ranges, but two rails can easily compete with some owls for the "most abundant bird you never see" award.

The sora and the Virginia rail are found in all of the lower 48 states and are common in many freshwater marshes. These two are the only rails regularly encountered in the Northwest and they nest in many wetlands in the Metro region, including Killin Wetlands, Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area, Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge and many places on Sauvie Island. But even experienced bird watchers who know where and when to look for these stealthy birds may only know they are present by hearing their distinctive and unusual sounds.

Virginia rails and soras make several sounds but it is their

territorial calls during the spring that give them away. These birds are notoriously aggressive and noisy when defending their nesting territories. Sometimes their whinnies and grunts fill the marsh. Whinnies and grunts? It is hard to describe rail calls in words, but the sora's is usually called a "descending whinny" and the Virginia rail's is described as "a series of grunts." To me, soras sound like a louder, clearer version of the descending whistles that some red-winged blackbirds make. Red-wings are usually abundant where soras nest, making it easy to confuse the two. Virginia rails sound like some kind of vacuum cleaner being turned on and off rapidly.

So, what does a day in the life of these fist-sized marsh birds look like? Basically, they walk around on the mud hidden by all the reeds, rushes and cattails – eating

everything they can find that is edible. Both birds eat lots of snails, insects and crustaceans. A look at the two birds' beaks, however, hints at a difference in diet. The longer, thinner beak of the Virginia rail is a better probe and worm-picker-upper and these rails are mainly carnivores. The sora's shorter, thicker beak, a bit reminiscent of a sparrow's, is better for the large number of seeds these birds eat. Both birds are summer breeders in our area and build their nests on the ground in the thickest marsh vegetation.

Metro's acquisition of the Killin Wetlands will protect important habitat for these birds as well as one of the region's best places to observe them. During nesting season, these wetlands as viewed from Cedar Canyon Road are the most reliable place most local birders know to hear and see sora, Virginia rail and another elusive marsh bird – American bittern.



Taking the LEAD

Volunteer naturalist training

Nature University

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 also will be available 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, which take place from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays:

Jan. 21	Volunteer naturalist training orientation
Jan. 28	Nature awareness
Feb. 4	Tracking
Feb. 11	Common wildlife and natural communities
Feb. 25	Teaching techniques
March 4	Smith and Bybee lakes ecology
March 11	Oxbow ecology
March 18	Leading an Oxbow field trip
April 1	Leading a Smith and Bybee lakes field trip
April 8	Volunteer naturalist mystery class and graduation
Fall (TBA)	Salmon field trip training

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.



Crew leaders Vanessa McClelland (left) and Nancy Hall and volunteer Dan Meier wrap trees at Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area with chicken wire to help protect them from beavers.

Volunteer Crew Leader Training

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 22-23

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 work days. Groups will be from all different backgrounds with a common interest in doing something for the health of the region's parks and greenspaces. Crew leaders who attend this training will receive information on the following:

- orientation
- invasive plant identification and removal techniques
- wildlife awareness
- group dynamics
- project management
- Metro's land management practices.

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.

Volunteer AWARD WINNERS



Volunteer naturalist Therese Fisher leads a group of youngsters on an "Oxbow Adventure" program. Therese won the Red Fox award for her outstanding service to the environmental education program, but she has also volunteered as a turtle monitor, campfire program host, nature crafts assistant and database designer.

Volunteers receive special honors

Volunteers are involved in almost every aspect of Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department. Annually, more than 1,200 volunteers contribute a total of approximately 16,000 hours in the office and at parks and greenspaces throughout the region. Each of these donated hours lends vital support to Metro's mission of establishing a cooperative, regional system of parks, natural areas, trails and greenways for fish, wildlife and people.

At an appreciation dinner in November, volunteers were thanked for their generous service and the positive impact they make on our region's quality of life. A handful of volunteers were honored with special awards for their extraordinary efforts. Though they were selected from every corner of the volunteer program and do many different kinds of work, these remarkable volunteers

all have a few things in common – enthusiasm, commitment, and lots and lots of volunteer hours.

The award recipients have collectively contributed 3,600 hours to Metro (valued at almost \$60,000). The work of these outstanding volunteers reflects the diversity and the depth of the volunteer program. Among them, they have conducted education programs for hundreds of people in our parks and greenspaces, designed databases, entered and edited thousands of records, removed more than 35 dump trucks of invasive species, developed a regional trail assessment, trained other volunteer leaders, counted hundreds of bird species, measured water depth, led dozens of tours, advised department leadership and helped shape policies and procedures, removed trash from parks and cemeteries,

and reviewed and maintained the volunteer records that make all this reporting possible.

Congratulations to the award recipients and a big thank you to all of our volunteers for giving so much to regional parks and greenspaces. We appreciate the time, energy and enthusiasm you contribute.

Douglas Fir Award
for outstanding
restoration leadership
Jeff Locke

Red Fox Award
for outstanding educators
Georgette Beeson and
Therese Fisher

Osprey Award
for outstanding new
volunteers
Laura Whittemore and
Duane Meissner

Chinook Award
for outstanding
volunteer groups
Friends of Lone Fir
Cemetery, the Regional
Parks and Greenspaces
Advisory Committee and a
Portland State University
student planning team

**Parks and Visitor
Services Division
Award**
Troy Clark, Bob
Hungerford, George Smith
and Christina Walsh

**Administration Division
Award**
JoAnn Sanders

**Natural Resources
Division Award**
Northwest Service
Academy's "Madrone Team"

**Open Spaces Division
Award**
Syed Alam

**Planning and Education
Division Award**
Laila Hungerford and
Andrew Zachary

Two Metro staff members
received the
Director's Award
for excellence in staff
support of volunteers –
pioneer cemetery manager
Susie Boushá and Oxbow
naturalist Elisabeth Neely

Winter calendar



Volunteer VENTURES

Clark County Tree Plantings

8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Saturdays, Dec. 7, Jan. 25, Feb. 8 and 22

Join the Stream Team for a tree planting along Salmon Creek. Wear work clothes and sturdy shoes and bring a mug for coffee. You can help bring salmon back to Salmon Creek. Tools and treats will be provided. For more information or to sign up, call (360) 992-8510. *Clark Public Utilities*

First Saturday Plantings

9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, Dec. 7, Feb. 1 and March 1
Join SOLV's Team Up for Watershed Health Program for a tree planting work party. Help your neighbors restore our urban streams by planting native trees and shrubs. There are numerous sites in the region. To register, call (503) 844-9571. *SOLV*

North Portland Wetlands Work Day

9 a.m. to noon Sunday, Dec. 8
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 work day 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*

New Volunteer Orientation at Metro

noon to 1 p.m. or 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays, Dec. 11, Jan. 8 and Feb. 12
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. Learn about Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department, hear about the benefits of volunteering, receive information on volunteer job opportunities in the field and office, complete your volunteer application and enjoy the company of other new volunteers. To register, call (503) 797-1850 option 7. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Wilsonville Work Party

1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14
Volunteer in this 73-acre forest and enjoy several streams shaded by big-leaf maple, Douglas fir, red alder, and Western red cedar. Help remove English ivy from the trees and the ground. We will also be taking down fencing to allow for easier travel for wildlife and to open up areas for invasive species removal. To register and receive directions, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Beggars-tick Wildlife Refuge Work Day

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 14
Join in to help rid this seasonal wetland of invasive species like scotch broom and Himalayan blackberry. Get a chance to see the birds that rely on this area in the winter. For more information, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Camassia Natural Area Work Party

9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14
Join The Nature Conservancy staff, members and volunteers to help restore the beautiful 27-acre Camassia Preserve near West Linn. Volunteers will assist with the removal of invasive English ivy. For more information, call (503) 230-1221. *The Nature Conservancy*

Community Ivy Pull at Tryon Creek

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 14, Jan. 11 and Feb. 8
Volunteers gather at Tryon Creek State Park on the second Saturday of every month to help rid the park of invasive English ivy. Bring gloves and wear sturdy shoes. For more information, call (503) 636-4398. *Friends of Tryon Creek State Park*

Harris Bridge Work Party

1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15
This is the first time this greenspace has been opened for the public to visit and enjoy. Volunteer to work along the Tualatin River as you remove fencing that impedes wildlife travel and makes site management difficult. Bring your friends and family out to this Washington County site located near the intersection of Southwest River and Farmington roads. For more information, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Third Thursday Work Party at Tryon Creek

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays, Dec. 19, Jan. 16 and Feb. 20
On the third Thursday of each month, Friends of Tryon Creek State Park welcomes new and seasoned volunteers to help with projects such as preparing exhibit space and bulk mailings. For more information, call (503) 636-4398. *Friends of Tryon Creek State Park*

Community Trail Maintenance Day at Tryon Creek

9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, Dec. 28, Jan. 25 and Feb. 22
Volunteers gather at Tryon Creek State Park on the fourth Saturday of every month to help maintain and improve the park's trails. For more information, call (503) 636-4398. *Friends of Tryon Creek State Park*

Friends of Trees Winter Plantings

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Every Saturday and some Sundays, beginning Jan. 4
Join Friends of Trees in planting, mulching and accessorizing native trees and shrubs at natural areas throughout the region. No planting experience is necessary. Tools are provided and trained crew leaders will teach you what to do. To volunteer, call (503) 282-8846 ext. 12. For a full schedule of planting events and directions to sites, call (503) 284-8733. *Friends of Trees*

Native Planting at Powell Butte Nature Park

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 4
Help restore Powell Butte Nature Park by participating in a native tree and shrub planting. All ages are welcome. Bring water and gloves. For more information, call (503) 823-6131. *city of Portland and Friends of Trees*

Get Dirty at Oxbow Regional Park

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays, Jan. 5 or Feb. 2
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 so harmful to 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*

Hogan Cedars Work Party
9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 18

Come out and tackle an English ivy infestation that threatens to tear down many large Hogan cedar trees at this Metro property in Gresham. Enjoy the sound of Johnson Creek flowing by as you work hard to improve streamside habitat. For more information, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Canemah Bluff Work Day
9 a.m. to noon Sunday, Jan. 19.

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 scotch broom so that native plants can prosper. Also help remove debris uncovered by weed-eating goats last fall. For more information, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Clark County Wildlife Stewards

9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturdays, Jan. 25 - Mar. 8
The Wildlife Stewards Program is now enrolling trainees for a seven-week "learn and serve" program. Trainees are asked to volunteer at least 45 hours in exchange for 45 hours of instruction. The program focuses on basic habitat functions and issues in Clark County affecting these habitats. Advance registration required. For more information, call (360) 992-8585. *Clark Public Utilities*

Native Planting at Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge
9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 1

Help restore Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge by participating in a native tree and shrub planting. All ages are welcome. Bring water and gloves.

For more information, call (503) 823-6131. *city of Portland and Friends of Trees*

Caring for a Pioneer Orchard

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 8

Wander through the historic orchard while helping to clean up after the winter pruning. Spend some time at this historic park during prime winter bird viewing. For details, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department* ♿

Gresham Woods Tree Planting

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15

Join volunteers from all over the region to plant hundreds of trees between Johnson Creek and the Springwater Corridor Trail at this 20-acre reforestation site. Thousands of trees have already been planted. Help transform this area from a blackberry desert to a thriving urban forest. For more information, call (503) 239-3932. *Johnson Creek Watershed Council and Friends of Trees*

Hands Around Our Lakes Planting Event

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15

Participate in this annual native planting event at Fairview and Blue lakes. Help homeowners transform their lakeshore yards into prime habitat. Suitable for all ages. For more information, call Adrienne Aiona at (503) 674-6251 or Misty Schlegel at (503) 669-5389. *Columbia Slough Watershed Council* ♿ *by arrangement*

Alien Invaders at Beggars-tick Wildlife Refuge

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 8

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. For more information, call (503) 797-1850 option 8. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*



Tryon Creek Winter Hikes
10 to 11:30 a.m. Saturdays, Dec. 7, Jan. 4 and Feb. 1

Take an educational ramble through Tryon Creek State Park with a nature guide, exploring the forest in the winter. For more information, call (503) 636-4398. *Friends of Tryon Creek State Park*

Wild in the City: Fernhill Wetlands

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 7

Join urban naturalist Mike Houck and Friends of Fernhill Wetlands for a 2-mile walking tour around Dabbler's Marsh, Eagle's Perch Pond and Fernhill Lake. Fernhill Wetlands, which is near the confluence of Gales Creek and the Tualatin River, has grown to more than 600 acres in size since Clean Water Services began adding land to the original 60-acre site in 1999. \$8. Advance registration required. Call Portland Parks and Recreation at (503) 823-5132 to reserve a space. *Audubon Society of Portland*

Holiday Wreath Making at Blue Lake

noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14

Learn the art of holiday wreath making from Metro's master gardeners. 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* ♿

Winter Solstice Party at Tryon Creek State Park
2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15

Come celebrate the shortest day of the year at this event for all ages at Tryon Creek State Park. Make yule logs and pinecone birdfeeders in the Nature Center. Enjoy hot-spiced cider and snacks. Guided nature hikes through the park will also be offered. For more information, call (503) 636-5318. *Friends of Tryon Creek State Park* ♿

Wild in the City: Vanport Wetlands and Smith and Bybee Lakes

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 21

See the progress the Port of Portland is making to restore the former "radio towers" wetlands. Renamed Vanport Wetlands in commemoration of the Vanport Flood of 1948, this 80-acre wetland site is being restored by the Port of Portland to compensate for wetland losses associated with various wetland fill activities near the airport. If time allows we will also visit Metro's nearby Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. \$8. Advance registration required. Call Portland Parks and Recreation at (503) 823-5132 to reserve a space. *Audubon Society of Portland*

Biodiversity at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 4

What is biodiversity? Why is it important? Learn about some of the different ways they monitor for biodiversity at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve. Spend time in the classroom, then head into the field for water quality testing, examining soils, vegetation surveys and wildlife monitoring. \$12. Advance registration required. For more information, call (503) 681-6278. *Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve*

Beggars-tick Wildlife Refuge Winter Wildlife Walk

10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 11

People who see Beggars-tick Refuge for the first time in the summer often wonder why it is a wildlife refuge. There are animals present in the summer but they are fewer and much harder to see than in the winter. With normal winter rains, large parts of the refuge become flooded and are a convenient wintering ground for many ducks, including wood duck, green-winged teal, northern shoveler, mallard and hooded merganser. Other water birds, such as great blue and green-backed herons, coot, killdeer and gulls can also be seen. With luck, you might catch a glimpse of a nutria or raccoon. Join Metro naturalist James Davis for this winter exploration to see what makes "The Tick" tick. Free. To register, call (503) 797-1850 option 4. *Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve*

Invasive Species Primer

10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 18

Invasive species – the term conjures up images of an invading army marching relentlessly onward. In the case of Himalayan blackberry, bullfrogs or European starlings, that image is not far from the truth. If you have ever wondered where these species and other invaders came from and what can be done to control them, come to Memorial Park for an invasive species walk. Invasive species will be identified and discussed. To register, call (503) 682-3727. *city of Wilsonville*

Springwater on the Willamette Trail Walk

12:30 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 19

At long last, the "OMSI to Sellwood Bridge" section of the Springwater Corridor Trail is completed and open to the public. The trail shares the right of way with the Oregon Pacific Railroad and is universally accessible. Winter is an exciting time to go bird watching along this new section of trail since this is when large numbers of ducks, gulls, herons and other water birds are hanging out at Oaks Bottoms Wildlife Refuge. There are also more bald eagles and other birds of prey in the area at this time of year. Join Metro naturalist and expert birder James Davis for Metro's first wildlife watching walk on the new trail segment. Free. Advance registration required. To register, call (503) 797-1850 option 4. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*

Rock Into Geology

10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 25

Learn about crystals, minerals and rocks. Make rocks, dissect a rock and explode a volcano. The great outdoors is presented through art, stories, science and walks in Tryon Creek State Park. For ages 4-6; adult participation required. \$13. To register, call (503) 675-2549. *Lake Oswego Parks and Recreation*

Science Fair Starters

3 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26

Thinking about doing a science fair project? This class will get you started with some experiment techniques and ideas. Bring your questions. For ages 7-12. \$9 in-district, \$15.75 out-of-district. To register, call (503) 644-5595. *Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District*

Winter Fun Day

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 27

Find out how animals survive the winter and make some crystals to learn about snow during this day off from school program. We'll spend time hiking in the forest and doing indoor experiments too. \$34 in-district, \$59.50 out-of-district. To register, call (503) 644-5595. *Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District*

Wildlife Observation and Field Skills

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 1

Where are the wild things? Learn where and how to look for wild animals and the clues they leave behind. Find out about the basics of wildlife watching and how to prepare for a day in the field. Then you'll get the opportunity to solve several natural history mysteries to test your powers of observation and deduction. \$12. Advance registration required. For more information, call (503) 681-6278. *Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve*

Mammals of Metro Parks

7 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6

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 greenspaces 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*

Nature for Home Schoolers

1 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11

Spend time in the forest immersed in observation recording and sketching the natural world. This class for children age 6-13 is part of an ongoing series designed to give students an introduction to our region's natural history. Basic reading skills required. To register, call (503) 644-5595. *Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District* by arrangement

Hosting Orchard Mason Bees

10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 15

These gentle bees are a great addition to your yard. Learn about these Northwest native bees and how you can provide a home in your yard for them. \$2 for Lake Oswego residents; \$3 all others. To register, call (503) 675-2549. *Lake Oswego Parks and Recreation*

Dirt Time: Animal Tracking at Oxbow

9 a.m. to noon Sundays, Dec. 29, Jan. 26 and Feb. 23

"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*

Smith and Bybee Lakes Paddle Trips

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 21

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

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 26

To register, call Emily Roth
at (503) 235-6272.

noon to 4 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 16

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

Traveling by canoe or kayak is the best way to explore Metro's Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area in North Portland. Enjoy a peaceful winter paddle at the nation's largest urban wetland. Meet at the parking lot on North Marine Drive. Trips are free. Advance registration required. Bring your own kayak or canoe and personal flotation device. *Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes*



Taxidermy Workshop
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday,
Feb. 23

This workshop is for 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. 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 also is 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*

How Animals Work
7 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday,
Feb. 20

How can a turtle breathe while it is at the bottom of a pond 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 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* ♿

Involving and Dissolving
10 a.m. to noon Saturday,
Feb. 22

What happens when sugar is stirred into water? Is it lost forever? Investigate the special properties of water through a variety of hands-on experiments. The great outdoors is presented through art, stories, science

and walks in Tryon Creek State Park. For ages 4-6; adult participation required. \$13. To register, call (503) 675-2549. *Lake Oswego Parks and Recreation* ♿

Wetland Science 101
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday,
Feb. 22

Join wetland scientist John van Staveren for an informative talk about wetlands. Methods for identifying, delineating and assessing wetlands will be demonstrated and discussed. Local wetlands in Wilsonville will be the focus of this free class. To register, call (503) 682-3727. *city of Wilsonville*



Metro's Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area is a popular spot for winter bird watching. On a good day, you can see a dozen different species of waterfowl and other water birds such as grebes, gulls, cormorants, coots and herons. It's also a great time of year to see bald eagles and other birds of prey.

Fernhill Wetland Backyard Bird Walk
8 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 21

Older children and adults can improve their bird identification skills and learn about bird behavior by participating in this free bird-oriented nature walk sponsored by Audubon Society of Portland and Backyard Bird Shop. For more information or to register, call (503) 635-2044. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Jackson Bottom Wetlands Backyard Bird Walk

8 to 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 22

Learn about wild bird identification and bird behavior by participating in this free nature walk. For more information or to register, call (503) 626-0949. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Vancouver Lake Backyard Bird Walk

8 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 11

Older children and adults can learn about wild bird identification and bird behavior by participating in a free nature walk sponsored by Backyard Bird Shop. For more information or to register, call (360) 253-5771. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Tualatin River Watershed Raptors

6:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15, and 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 18

Join instructor Doug Robberson and learn about the birds of the Tualatin River watershed. The evening class is held at the Sherwood Senior Center and the Saturday field trip will be at Fernhill Wetlands. \$20 for Tualatin Riverkeepers; \$30 for non-members. For more information or to register, call (503) 590-5813. *Tualatin Riverkeepers*

Greenway Trail Backyard Bird Walk

8 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14

Older children and adults will learn about wild bird identification and bird behavior by participating in this free nature walk. For more information or to register, call (360) 253-5771. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Wild in the City: Sauvie Island Birds of Prey

8 a.m. to noon Sunday, Dec. 15

Join urban naturalist Mike Houck on a driving and walking tour of the 12,000-acre Sauvie Island Wildlife Refuge. You'll be on the lookout for sandhill cranes, northern harriers, rough-legged hawks, bald eagles, tundra swans, snow geese and other wintering waterfowl and raptors. Sauvie Island parking permit required (available at the general store near the bridge). \$8. Advance registration required. Call Portland Parks and Recreation at (503) 823-5132 to reserve a space. *Audubon Society of Portland*

Smith and Bybee Lakes Backyard Bird Walk

8 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 7

Beginning and intermediate birders can learn about wild bird identification and bird behavior by participating in this free nature walk. For more information or to register, call (503) 230-9557. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Winter Bird Watching in the Tualatin Basin

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7

Winter is a wonderful time for bird watching at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve in Hillsboro, and Fernhill Wetlands in Forest Grove. Meet at Jackson Bottom and spend the some time exploring the preserve. Then travel to Fernhill Wetlands in a 15-passenger van to look for more great viewing. The van will return you to Jackson Bottom by 1 p.m. Space is limited. \$15. Advance registration required. For more information, call (503) 681-6278. *Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve*



BIRD
Watching

Lunch with the Birds at Jackson Bottom

noon to 1 p.m. every Wednesday

Meet a Jackson Bottom naturalist and spend your lunch hour learning to identify all the migrating waterfowl and other cool birds at Jackson Bottom Wetlands. Spotting scopes, binoculars and field guides will be provided. Meet at the north viewing shelter next to the Clean Water Services sewage treatment plant on Highway 219 south of Hillsboro. Free. For more information, call (503) 681-6278. *Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve* ♿

Waterfowl Identification Class

7 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16

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 Backyard Bird Walk

8 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 18

See wintering waterfowl and other winter birds while improving your identification skills and acquiring some facts about bird behavior. This free bird-oriented nature walk is sponsored by Audubon Society of Portland and Backyard Bird Shop. For more information or to register, call (503) 635-2044. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Winter Birds at Smith and Bybee Lakes

10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 18

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* ♿

Oxbow Park Backyard Bird Walk

8 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 25

Beginning and intermediate birders will learn about wild bird identification and bird behavior by participating in this free nature walk. For more information or to register, call (503) 661-4944. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Birds of Prey Class

7 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30

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 Saturdays, Feb. 1 and 8

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*

Sauvie Island Owl Prowl

6 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16
Learn all about these magnificent hunters of the night at this class/hike, intended for older children and adults. Meet at the Vancouver Backyard Bird Shop for a 45-minute class, then carpool to Sauvie Island for the owl prowl. For more information or to register, call (360) 253-5771. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Tualatin Hills Owl Prowl

6 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23
Learn all about these magnificent hunters of the night at this class/hike, intended for older children and adults. Meet at the Backyard Bird Shop on Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway for a 45-minute class, then carpool to Tualatin Hills Nature Park for the owl prowl. For more information or to register, call (503) 626-0949. *Backyard Bird Shop*

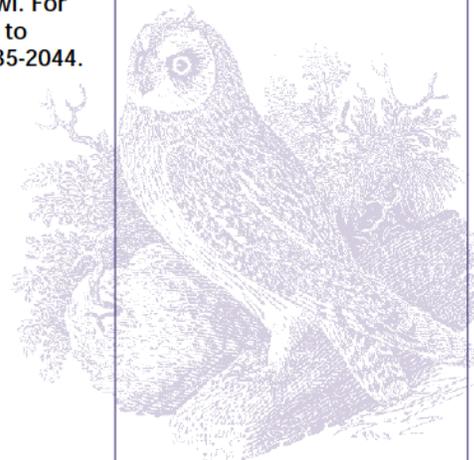
Tryon Creek Owl Prowl

6 to 8 p.m. Sunday, March 2
Learn all about these magnificent hunters of the night at this class/hike, intended for older children and adults. Meet at the Lake Oswego Backyard Bird Shop for a 45-minute class, then carpool to Tryon Creek State Park for the owl prowl. For more information or to register, call (503) 635-2044. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Understanding the Language of Birds

9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 8

What can you learn from birds as they communicate with each other and other wild animals? Join naturalists James Davis and Elisabeth Neely at Oxbow Regional Park for this introduction to the fascinating art of interpreting the meaning of bird songs and calls, using methods learned from well-known tracker Jon Young. This popular class combines modern birding tools and techniques with ancient awareness skills known to native people worldwide. Class will be indoor/outdoor; bring a notepad, sack lunch and something to sit on in the woods. Meeting location dependent on weather; ask at the gate. Registration and program fee of \$5 per person is required in advance. There is also a \$3 per vehicle entry fee to the park, payable at the gate. To reserve a space, call (503) 797-1850 option 4. *Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department*



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Reserve early for spring school field trips to Metro parks

Springtime is fabulous for school field trips to Oxbow Regional Park and Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. Metro naturalists have created engaging environmental education programs at both parks that maximize opportunities for students to see wildlife. We begin taking reservations for these programs in January and they fill up quickly. If you are an educator or parent interested in having your students participate in Metro's school programs this spring, call (503) 797-1834 for an informational brochure. This information is also available on the Metro web site at www.metro-region.org. Once you are ready to register, call (503) 797-1901 for programs at Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area and (503) 797-1899 for programs at Oxbow Regional Park.

See you there!

Metro regional parks, greenspaces and facilities

Blue Lake Regional Park provides archery, volleyball, softball, horseshoes, playgrounds, food concessions, 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 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.

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) 797-1886

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

Getting there

TriMet 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.



Volunteer – *it's your nature*

Whether you want to restore wildlife habitat, lead a nature tour or help with the care of regional parks, Metro has volunteer opportunities for you

As a Metro volunteer, you are directly involved in improving and protecting the nature of our region. We need you!

- Choose a long-term or short-term commitment that fits your schedule
- Work indoors or out in the field with Metro staff and other volunteers
- Learn new skills and put your talents to work
- Make a difference in your community

Naturalist – walk and talk on the wild side

From wildlife tracking and observation skills to wetlands and ancient forest ecology, Metro's volunteer naturalists are leaders in the field. You'll spend weekdays at Oxbow Regional Park and Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area taking school groups on tours. See page 6 for details about Nature University, our training program for volunteer naturalists.

Crew leader – get to the root of the problem

Help lead work parties at project sites. You'll teach volunteers to use tools safely, identify and remove invasive species of plants, build or remove fences, plant trees and native plants. We'll provide project management training, along with the basics of group dynamics, tool use and safety. See page 6 for information about our next crew leader training, which begins in February.

Park volunteer – adopt a flowerbed, meet and greet

Assist with weeding, edging and general park maintenance or adopt your own flowerbed. Become a volunteer greeter at Blue Lake Regional Park or Oxbow Regional Park and help answer visitor questions at the main office. Provide information to people at other Metro parks or community events.

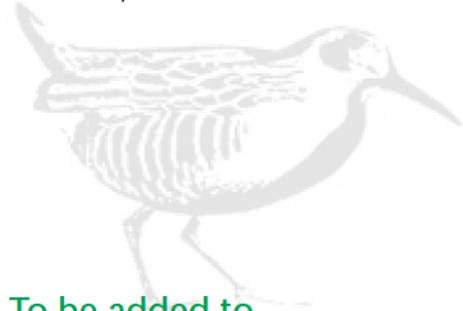
Getting started – new volunteer orientations noon to 1 p.m. or 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays, Dec. 11, Jan. 8 and Feb. 12

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. Learn about Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department, hear about the benefits of volunteering, receive information on volunteer job opportunities in the field and office, complete your volunteer application and enjoy the company of other new volunteers. To register, call (503) 797-1850 option 7.



METRO

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736



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