

GreenScene

Discover nature in
neighborhoods

SUMMER 2006



New water
spray ground
at Blue Lake!

Around the
campfire at
Oxbow

Nature paddle
trips

Volunteer
ventures



METRO



Dear GreenScene reader:



David Bragdon

Summer at last! It's time for fair-weather Oregonians – and the rest of you – to venture outdoors and explore the surrounding

natural areas that make our region so special. This season's issue of GreenScene offers ample opportunities to enjoy the sunshine while hiking, biking, walking or wandering our local parks and trails.

This is also a prime time of year to enjoy our regional parks. Residents from all over our region value the amenities offered at Blue Lake and Oxbow and there's plenty of incentive for you to check them out this summer.

If you've never been to Blue Lake Regional Park, just 20 minutes from downtown Portland, you're missing out on a 64-acre natural lake fed by underground springs. In addition to our new water spray ground that opens this summer, friends and families can enjoy a 400-foot swim beach, public fishing docks, game courts, boat and canoe rentals and picnic shelters. For nature-lovers, Blue Lake features a wildlife viewing platform and perimeter trail around the wetlands area. For those of you who'd like to save a little gas money, TriMet has decided to continue the summer shuttle service to Blue Lake this year: on weekends and holidays from May 27 through September 4, the shuttle will travel between Gresham Transit Center and the Park via 223rd Avenue.

If you prefer the excitement of a river over the serenity of a lake, Oxbow Regional Park is your better bet. With 1,200 acres available for recreation in the Sandy River Gorge, Oxbow visitors can swim, raft, kayak or fish the river – or hike

fifteen miles of trails. Oxbow's summer campfire programs are always a hit; look in this issue of GreenScene for more information.

There are lots of opportunities to connect with nature this summer. I encourage you to embark on one of our natural gardening tours or discover the other programs that are part of our Nature in Neighborhoods initiative. Above all, don't miss a chance to soak in some of that wonderful sunshine!

David Bragdon
Metro Council President

Metro

People places • open spaces

The need to protect clean air and clean water does not stop at city limits or county lines. Neither does the need for jobs, a thriving economy and good transportation choices for people and businesses in our region. Voters have asked Metro to help with the challenges that cross those lines and affect the 25 cities and three counties in the Portland metropolitan area.

A regional approach simply makes sense when it comes to protecting natural areas, caring for parks, planning for the best use of land, managing garbage disposal and increasing recycling. Metro oversees world-class facilities such as the Oregon Zoo, which contributes to conservation and education, and the Oregon Convention Center, which benefits the region's economy.

Metro's web site

www.metro-region.org

Your Metro representatives

Metro Council President

David Bragdon

Metro Councilors

Rod Park, District 1

Brian Newman, District 2

Carl Hosticka, deputy council president, District 3

Susan McLain, District 4

Rex Burkholder, District 5

Robert Liberty, District 6

Auditor

Alexis Dow, CPA

On the cover

Spray ground enthusiast, photo by Vortex Aquatic Structures International; wild rose at Metro's Gotter Prairie, photo by C. Bruce Forster.

Illustrations by

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.

Water spray ground opens at Blue Lake Regional Park



Vortex photo

Designed for interactive fun and cooperative play, Blue Lake Regional Park's new water spray ground opens in July 2006 for the delight of park visitors. The water spray ground is fun, interactive and accessible. Designed for children ages 1-10, it gives kids the opportunity to use their imagination while stimulating and enriching their physical and mental development.

The colorful, action-packed features spray, gush, dump and pour water from a variety of whimsical devices including oversized nozzles, buckets and even a large frog you can leap through. To maximize the play value, individual spray features are grouped together creating a larger game geared specifically toward a wide range of skill and development levels.

"These types of water playgrounds have caught on all over the country as relatively low-cost, safe alternatives to pools and aquatic centers," said Metro Councilor Rod Park. "This project is perfect for the diverse public we serve at Blue Lake."

The Blue Lake Regional Park water spray ground is approximately 3,500 square feet and includes a fully automatic system of spray and streaming water features with a recirculating water system. Water will be provided from the park's wells and local aquifer and recycled through an on-site water treatment facility to ensure the water is safe for play.

The spray ground is located adjacent to the existing swim beach area at the park. Restrooms and parking are conveniently located and make the activity easily accessible for all ages and abilities. A non-slip surface, no standing water and thoughtful design increase safety for spray ground users and reduce maintenance. The water spray ground will offer an engaging water play option to non-swimmers, children under age five who are not allowed in the lake, and people with limited mobility.

"The addition of the water spray ground offers a fantastic new activity for residents in the area who do not swim," said Park. "In the Portland metro area, particularly in East Multnomah County, there are very few opportunities for water-related outdoor recreation. Other than Blue Lake, there is no other nearby lake, few public swimming pools, and the two major rivers are pretty dangerous for swimming. Old and new visitors to Blue Lake Park are going to love this addition."

The water spray ground is free to park visitors. Entrance to the park is free with your annual pass or \$4 per car and \$7 per bus. For directions to Blue Lake and park information, see page 15 or visit www.metro-region.org/bluelake.

GRAND OPENING SPLASH!

Help us break in the new water spray ground at a special grand opening event
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday, July 8.

Fourth of July fireworks and music

Celebrate Independence Day with fireworks, music and fun. Pack a picnic, load up your loved ones and join us at Blue Lake Regional Park for a good time for the whole family. Activities are located at the west end of the park.

Food court
1 to 10 p.m.

Music
A variety of musical entertainment for the whole family
6 to 10 p.m.

Fireworks above the park
10 to 11 p.m.

Admission is \$6 per vehicle, \$12 for vans (12-passenger or larger), buses and RVs all day. No pets, alcohol or personal fireworks.

Presented by
Yoshida Group

Sponsored by
The Gresham Outlook
Metro
Mt. Hood Community College

Special thanks
Fairview Police Department
Gresham Chamber of Commerce
Gresham Fire Department

Around the campfire at Oxbow Regional Park



C. Bruce Forster photo

Bring the family to Oxbow Regional Park for campfire stories and other old-fashioned entertainment on weekend evenings this summer. On Friday nights we feature live music in the park, and on Saturday nights we bring you inspiring nature presentations and captivating storytellers.

Campfire programs are held in the outdoor forest amphitheater across from the campground. They are a great way to spend the evening when you're camping at Oxbow, but you don't have to camp to enjoy them. Wrap up a lazy afternoon along the river or a picnic dinner by joining us. Although the park closes at sunset, those who attend the campfire program and want to leave afterward will be let out at the gate by the rangers. Park in the designated area near the boat ramp. Programs are free with the \$4 per vehicle entry fee to the park. No registration required. For more information, call Metro at (503) 797-1850.

Jen and Wendy's eclectic tunes

8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, June 30

The whole family will enjoy Jen and Wendy's theatrical performance style and vocal harmonies, with trailside songs featuring bears, bugs and the great outdoors.

Birds of prey of the Pacific Northwest

8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, July 1

Live birds of prey visit the campfire circle from the Audubon Society of Portland's Wildlife Care Center. Find out cool raptor facts and see these beautiful birds up close.

The folk music of Juliet Wyers

8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, July 7

Acclaimed folk/pop singer and songwriter Juliet Wyers' vibrant music and lovely voice are simply a pleasure to the ears.

The amazing nightlife of bats

8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, July 8

What's faster than a speeding mosquito, more powerful than bug repellent and able to navigate the night? Bats! Naturalist Kim Wilson shares great bat images and facts while we watch and listen for real live bats.

No Time 2 Lose

8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, July 14

New this year! Come soak in this band that plays blues, bluegrass, and a little bit of John Prine thrown in for good measure.

Discovering wild plants for food and first aid

8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, July 15

Discover how plants around our area have been used by people for thousands of years with naturalists Natalie Norman and Miriam Burk. Get to know several common plants to use for a snack, natural insect repellent and more! All ages love this hands-on program.

Fiddlin' in the park with Greg Clarke

8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, July 21

Musician Greg Clarke brings us old-time tunes around the campfire. Enjoy the sounds of banjo, fiddle and mandolin among the trees. It's a contagious performance sure to get your toes tapping.

Slithering tales: snakes and their kin

8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, July 22

Discover the fascinating world of snakes, lizards and turtles. Metro naturalist James Davis reveals the truth behind the many myths about reptiles. Some live reptiles will join this super scaly program.

Old-time bluegrass tunes

8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, July 28

Bluegrass musicians Greg Stone and Lon Jones will play guitar and mandolin and sing old-time tunes around the campfire. Kick up your feet or just sit back and enjoy the music. With songs for all ages, this is a nice introduction to old-time music for kids.

Salmon stories, bear tales and the legend of the swallowing monster

8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, July 29

Join master storyteller Will Hornyak for an entrancing evening of Northwest myths, legends and tall tales. Will's talented story-weaving never fails to please the crowd.

Tall tales and blue grass

8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 4

Mitch Lockett is a spinner of yarns and an old-time musician with an affinity for birds. Whether it's Ozark tall tales or banjo songs, Mitch brings us a humorous performance.

Animal tracks and traces

8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 5
Identifying footprints and other clues is a skill that opens up the world of animals like bobcat, bear and river otter. Join expert naturalist and tracker Steve Engel to enjoy inspiring stories, examine real track casts, and discover the fun that animal tracking offers for all ages.

Old-time music with Dave and Will Elliott

8 to 9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 11
This local father and son duo returns to Oxbow with great bluegrass tunes. Enjoy old-style duets and sing along with some favorites.

Yvonne's gumbo of stories

8 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12
Settle back and enjoy the rich voices and accents of Yvonne's native home in southeast Louisiana, "Cajun Country." She'll tell wild folktales and animal stories from the bayous of Louisiana and around the world.

Campfire songs and sing-along

8 to 9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 18
Guitarist Brad Price, formerly of the Oregon Trail Band, strums and sings favorites of his family and yours. Bring back old memories and create some new ones with "Puff the Magic Dragon" and other great classics.

The amazing nightlife of bats

8 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19
See July 8 description.

Jen and Wendy's eclectic tunes

8 to 9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 25
See June 30 description.

Shadow puppets: Jack and the Varmints

8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 26
Note later start time.
Behind Oregon Shadow Theatre's magical illuminated screen, colorful shadow puppets come to life accompanied by live music. In this Appalachian tale, our boy-hero Jack must capture a unicorn and perform other amazing feats.

The music of Juliet Wyers

8 to 9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 1
See July 7 description.

Storytelling to the beat of the drum

8 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 2
Gordon Munro returns with his special blend of the ancient arts of drumming and storytelling. You'll enjoy folk stories from different cultures around the world.

Nature Walks for groups offered

Summer camps, childcare centers, youth groups and church groups all enjoy naturalist-guided walks and activities at Oxbow Regional Park. Explore nature along the shores of the beautiful Sandy River, discover signs of wildlife, or walk in the shade of the ancient forest. For more information, visit www.metro-region.org/parks or call Sandy Jamison at (503) 797-1834.

Oxbow Adventures

10:30 a.m. to noon
Tuesdays

The edge of an ancient forest at Oxbow Regional Park is the setting for this series of nature programs for children ages 5-10 led by Metro naturalist Elisabeth Neely. Meet at the Alder Shelter (group picnic area A); plan to arrive at the park entrance at about 10:15 a.m. to get to the area on time. Wheelchair accessible by arrangement, except River Roundup.

 by arrangement

Advance registration is required. There is a program fee of \$2 per participating child, payable at the time of the program for families (adults and infant siblings do not pay). For childcare centers and other organized groups, payment is required in advance. There is a park entry fee of \$4 per car or \$7 per bus. To register, call (503) 797-1715.

Osprey adventure

June 27
What does an osprey eat? How big is its nest? Find out all about these big birds of prey, then take a walk to see a real osprey nest – and with luck, the "fish-hawks" themselves. Then try out your wings on our osprey obstacle course.

Sneaky scavenger hunt

July 11
We'll break into small teams and our naturalist leaders will guide us through the deep shady forest on a fun scavenger hunt for cool nature stuff and a bag of treasure. But beware – the others might be sneaking up on us!

River roundup

July 18
Discover firsthand the many creatures that live in and near the Sandy River on this popular trip. We'll have a great time catching and releasing water bugs, crayfish and more. Nets and magnifying glasses are provided for a close-up view.

Wild animal detectives

July 25
Follow a special map to look for footprints, chewed trees and other clues left by animals like deer, beavers and woodpeckers. Naturalists will be stationed along the way to assist you on this wild journey. Can you find the clues? Can you figure out who left them?

Camping at Oxbow

What are you waiting for? Grab your sleeping bags, throw a tent in your trunk and head out to Oxbow Regional Park for a night under the stars. Oxbow's 67 campsites each include a picnic table, fire pit/cooking grill and lantern pole. Camping fee is \$15 per night and all sites are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Two restroom/shower buildings offer hot and cold running water, coin-operated showers, heated air hand dryers, radiant floor heating and flush toilets. The restroom facilities and two campsites are accessible by wheelchair. Twelve pull-through sites are available for RVs. For more information, visit the Metro web site at www.metro-region.org/oxbow.



C. Bruce Forster photo

Refuge opens along the Tualatin River

The Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge near Sherwood officially opens its doors to nature lovers this summer with the completion of 4 miles of new trails, wetland and river overlooks, environmental education study sites, interpretive signs and a wildlife photography blind.

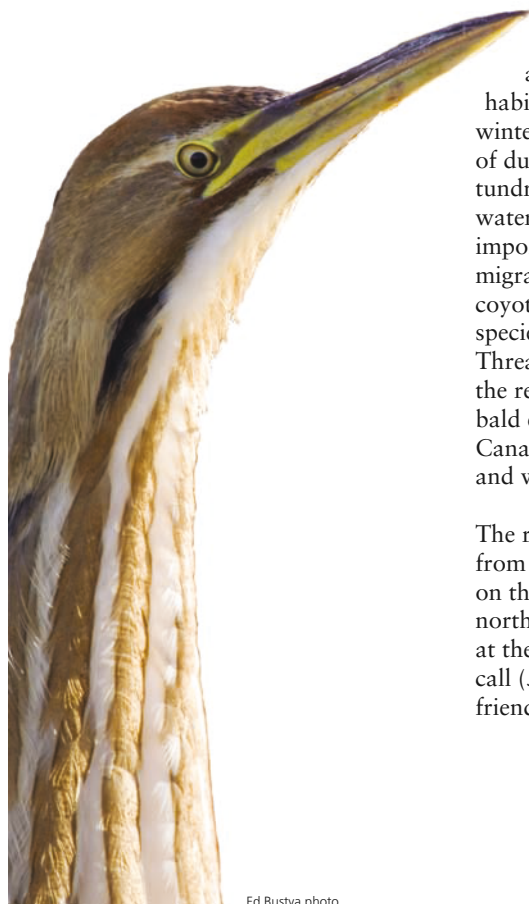
One of the nation's few urban refuges, the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge got its start in the hearts of its neighbors in Sherwood who began promoting the idea in 1990. In 1992, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service acquired its first piece of land and began to build a coalition of support that includes the surrounding cities, state and federal agencies, Metro, Oregon's congressional delegation, the business community, volunteers and community groups. Today more than 1,350 acres within the 3,060 acre acquisition boundary are managed as part of the refuge, including a 50-acre Metro natural area acquired with funds from the 1995 open spaces bond measure.

"This provides a wonderful opportunity for citizens across the region to have access to nature," said Metro Deputy Council President Carl Hosticka. "We need natural areas in our lives, for livable, healthy communities. Metro is proud to be a partner with the Tualatin National Wildlife Refuge."

A series of grants from Metro have supported restoration efforts at the refuge and funded the development of an environmental education program. The volunteer naturalists who will lead field trips at the refuge received a special 12-week Nature University training from Metro naturalists Deb Scrivens and James Davis last winter and spring.

The refuge protects some of the best remaining examples of rare and important Willamette Valley habitat types. When flooded in fall and winter, the refuge supports thousands of ducks, arctic nesting Canada geese, tundra swans and a variety of other water birds. The refuge is also an important breeding area for neotropical migratory birds and supports deer, coyotes, beavers, river otters and several species of amphibians and reptiles. Threatened and sensitive species using the refuge include peregrine falcons, bald eagles, Western pond turtles, dusky Canada geese, Northern red-legged frogs and winter steelhead.

The refuge is now open to the public from dusk to dawn; parking is located on the west side of Highway 99W just north of Sherwood. To get involved at the refuge or for more information, call (503) 590-5811 or visit www.friendsoftualatinrefuge.org.




Ed Bustya photo

Grand opening celebration

1:30 to 4 p.m.

**Saturday, June 3
and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday, June 4**

Check out the new visitor facilities and celebrate the opening of the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge. Expert naturalists and birders will lead free tours of the Steinborn Unit every 30 minutes on Saturday and every 60 minutes on Sunday. You are also welcome to explore the trails on your own. On Saturday, free parking will be available at Home Depot in Sherwood and a free shuttle bus will run continuously to and from the event. On Sunday, parking will be available at the refuge. You can also take advantage of a new TriMet bus service (#12) with a southbound stop right at the entrance to the refuge. Call (503) 972-7714 or visit www.friendsoftualatinrefuge.org for more information.  by arrangement

Friends of Trees at the refuge

**9 a.m. to noon
Saturday,
June 24**

Help mulch, water and weed newly planted

native trees and shrubs at the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge. Tools and guidance will be provided. There is no need to register unless you are bringing a group of 10 or more. For meeting location and directions, visit www.friendsoftrees.org and click on "upcoming events" or call (503) 284-8846 ext. 12. *Friends of Trees*



Summer calendar

ENJOY NATURE IN NEIGHBORHOODS

Nature discoveries

Painted turtle walks

1 to 2:30 p.m. Saturdays, June 3 and July 1 and 15
Oregon's turtles are rare, shy and hard to find, but Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area is home to one of the largest populations of Western painted turtles in the Northwest. See these beautiful reptiles with the help of Metro naturalist James Davis, who will have small telescopes for a close look. Learn about the natural history of painted turtles and why they are so rare. Suitable for adults and children 5 and older. Meet in the parking area on North Marine Drive. Free. Advance registration required; call (503) 797-1715. *Metro*



Junior ranger program

1 to 2 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday
Children age 6-12 are invited to join a park ranger at Tryon Creek State Natural Area and learn how to help protect natural resources, plants and animals. Participating in nature games, nature crafts and park explorations will help junior rangers earn their badge. Parents are encouraged to participate with their children, but they can also take a walk in the park during program time. Advance registration and permission slip required; call (503) 636-9886 ext. 25. *Tryon Creek State Natural Area*

Guided hikes at Tryon Creek

10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. every Saturday
Join a park naturalist for a guided nature hike to explore the forest and stream ecosystems and natural history at Tryon Creek State Natural Area. Topics vary from week to week. All ages are welcome, but children must be accompanied by adults. Free. Advance registration is not required unless you're bringing 10 or more people. For weekly topics and other information, call (503) 636-9886 ext. 25. *Tryon Creek State Natural Area*

Magness Memorial Tree Farm walks

2 to 3:30 p.m. every Sunday
Come to the Magness Memorial Tree Farm near Wilsonville for a guided tour on an easy 1-mile trail. Learn about the history and purpose of the tree farm and the importance of sustainable forestry. Meet at the parking lot on Ladd Hill Road. Free. Advance registration is not required. For more information, call (503) 228-1367 or visit www.worldforestry.org. *World Forestry Center*



First Monday at Jackson Bottom

8 to 11:30 a.m. Monday, June 5
Get your week off to a great start by spending time in a special place, learning about wetlands and all the amazing plants and animals that live in these unique ecosystems. Join naturalist Sarah Pinnock and explore Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve from the ground up. Take a look at wetland soils, water quality, plants, birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles

and more. \$5. To register, call (503) 681-6278. *Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve*

Cycle the well field

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 10
Enjoy a bicycle ride through the groundwater protection area. Located in the Columbia Slough watershed, this well field is capable of producing close to 100 million gallons of water per day. The moderately-paced ride is 16 miles over relatively flat terrain. Groundwater specialist Randy Albright will stop the group at several places along the way to reveal the mysteries of groundwater and explain how you can help protect this important groundwater source. Bring a helmet, water and lunch. Meet at the Parkrose Transit Center parking lot at Northeast Sandy Boulevard and 95th Avenue. Suitable for adults and children age 12 and older. Free. Advance registration required; call Jill Wall at (503) 281-1132. *Columbia Slough Watershed Council and Portland Bureau of Water Works*

Twilight Tuesdays

7 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays, June 13 and 27, July 11 and 25
Time change for August walks:
6 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Aug. 8 and 22

These relaxing walks at Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area take advantage of long summer days and give you a chance to unwind after work. Dusk is one of the best times to see wildlife, especially during the summer. It is about the only time you can see most mammals such as beaver, muskrat, otter, raccoon, deer and bats. Birds also are more active than during the hot days. Metro naturalist James

Davis teaches the basic techniques of wildlife watching and identification. Bring your binoculars or borrow a pair of ours. All ages are welcome, but participants must be able to be quiet, sneaky and patient. Payment of \$5 per adult is required in advance; children are free. Call (503) 797-1715. *Metro*



Watershed tour of Rock and Bronson creeks

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 17
Explore Rock and Bronson creeks from top to bottom. Starting in the headwaters overlooking Beaverton and Hillsboro, you'll travel down to the valley, visiting sites along the way. Speakers will discuss natural history and stream health. A \$5 donation is suggested, but no one will be turned away. Advance registration required; call (503) 629-6305 ext. 2953. *Rock Creek Watershed Partners*



Wilderness Rendezvous

Friday through Sunday, June 23-25 or Aug. 25-27
Young people age 14-18 are invited to spend the weekend in the forest and learn what it's like to share skills with other people their age in a natural setting. Learn how to make matchless fires, build primitive shelters, gather edible plants, orient yourself in the woods, track animals and much more. Bring your own food, or ask about participating in meal sharing. Registration and payment of \$75 are required in advance. For program details and to register, visit www.trackersnw.com or call (503) 453-3038. *TrackersNW*

Ancient forest ecology

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 24
Stephen Hatfield will take you on a guided hike through a protected grove of ancient forest found just beyond the northern boundary of Forest

Park. Along the way, we will discuss the natural history of the area and learn more about the old growth ecosystem. Wear good walking shoes and bring a water bottle. Appropriate for adults and kids age 10 and older. Advance registration is required; call (503) 223-5449 or send e-mail to stephen@friendsofforestpark.org. *Friends of Forest Park*

Explorando el Columbia Slough

1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 24
Join the Columbia Slough Watershed Council for a Spanish language environmental education festival. Canoe trips, music, bird watching, environmental games and displays, bilingual storytelling, face painting and refreshments will be provided. Activities are offered in both Spanish and English. Come to Whitaker Ponds Natural Area at 7040 NE 47th Ave. in Portland. Free. For more information, call (503) 281-1132. *Columbia Slough Watershed Council* ♿

Bull Run watershed tours

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturdays, July 8 and Aug. 12
Don't miss this rare opportunity to see Portland's tap water at its source. Learn about the protected resources that provide Portland with uniquely high quality drinking water. \$15. Advance registration required; call (503) 823-7407. *Portland Bureau of Water Works* ♿ by arrangement

Forest Park quest hikes for kids

10 a.m. to noon Wednesday, July 12 and Sunday, July 23
Join Gladys Ruiz on an educational treasure hunt that will introduce you to the natural and cultural history of Forest Park. Bring water, snacks, and a notebook and a pencil. Suitable for children age 7 and older. Advance reg-

istration is required; call (503) 223-5449 or send e-mail to stephen@friendsofforestpark.org. *Friends of Forest Park*

Family bat outing

7 to 9 p.m. Friday, July 14
Join naturalist Elaine Murphy to explore the fascinating world of bats. Meet at the Beaverton Backyard Bird Shop for a 45-minute class, then go to a local site to see live bats in action. Listen to bat echolocation calls using a bat detector. Children must be accompanied by an adult. To register, call (503) 626-0949. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Fanno Creek Greenway Trail walks

9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, July 15 and Aug. 19
Tour the Beaverton/Tigard section of the Fanno Creek Greenway Trail, a 15-mile multi-use trail planned from the Willamette River in Portland to the Tualatin River in Tualatin. Begin at the Denney Road trailhead west of Highway 217 in Beaverton and take a 5-mile round trip that includes Fanno, Greenway, Woodard and Vista parks. Hear about plans for

Happy anniversary to the 40-Mile Loop Land Trust

For 25 years, folks at the 40-Mile Loop Land Trust have worked to complete the vision for region-wide system of trails connecting people to nature. Celebrate by exploring some of the hundreds of miles of trails throughout the region this summer. For more information, visit www.40mileloop.org.

completion of the trail. Free. To register, call Bob Bothman at (503) 244-7206. *Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District Trails Committee* ♿

Watershed tour of Willow and Cedar Mill creeks

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 15
Explore Willow and Cedar Mill creeks from top to bottom. Starting in the headwaters overlooking Beaverton and Cedar Mill, you'll travel down to the valley, visiting sites along the way. Speakers will discuss natural history and stream health. A \$5 donation is suggested, but no one will be turned away. Advance registration required; call (503) 629-6305 ext. 2953. *Rock Creek Watershed Partners* ♿ by arrangement

Night hike at Tryon Creek

8 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, July 22
Come to Tryon Creek State Natural Area for a night hike led by a park ranger to learn about the fascinating adaptations of nocturnal animals. Look at how our senses work during the day and at night. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Free. Advance registration required; call (503) 636-9886 ext. 25. *Tryon Creek State Natural Area*

Wapato Island wild food expedition

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 5
Join wild food expert John Kallas and explore edible wild plants of Sauvie Island. Investigate wild foods from marshes, fields and woods, including wapato or Indian potato, wild cherry and more. \$22. Advance registration required; call (503) 775-3828. *Wild Food Adventures*

Marshmallow, meringue and s'mores from wild plants

1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 6
Join wild food expert John Kallas and learn how to find, gather and process wild plants. Prepare luxurious meringues, marshmallows and s'mores. Anyone with a sweet tooth will love this wild food adventure. Meet at 4125 N. Colonial Ave. in Portland. \$25. Advance registration required; call (503) 775-3828. *Wild Food Adventures* ♿ by arrangement

Traditional skills: tanning hides

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays, Aug. 6 and 13
One way to better understand nature is to obtain food and useful items directly from the land in a sustainable way. Local experts June Rzendzian of Artemis Adventures and David Jacobson of Trackers Northwest team up with Metro naturalist Deb Scrivens for this two-day hands-on workshop. You will learn and use the traditional method of brain tanning to work with skins and hides from small mammals, elk and deer. Some of the softest and most beautiful buckskins are created using this method. Regulations and safety protocol will be part of the class. Tools will be provided. Meet at Howell Territorial Park on Sauvie Island. Suitable for ages 12 and up. For more information about the class, call Deb at (503) 797-1852. Class is limited to 10 people. Registration and \$120 program fee are required in advance. Call (503) 797-1715 to register. *Metro, TrackersNW and Artemis Adventures*

Watershed tour of Beaverton and Johnson South creeks

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19
Explore Beaverton and Johnson South creeks from

top to bottom. Starting in the headwaters overlooking Beaverton, you'll travel down to the valley, visiting sites along the way. Speakers will discuss natural history and stream health. A \$5 donation is suggested, but no one will be turned away. Advance registration required; call (503) 629-6305 ext. 2953. *Rock Creek Watershed Partners* by arrangement

Ancient forest mystery 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 26

Join Ric Balfour on a guided hike through a protected grove of old growth found just beyond the northern boundary of Forest Park. Along the way, we will look for clues revealing the age of the grove and the human history intimately bound to this patch of old growth. Wear good walking or hiking shoes and bring a water bottle. Suitable for adults and kids age 10 and older. Advance registration is required; call (503) 223-5449 or send e-mail to stephen@friendsofforestpark.org. *Friends of Forest Park*



Xerces Society photo

Bug Fest 12:30 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 26

Come to Tualatin Hills Nature Park for the 6th annual Bug Fest. This year's featured critters are ants – one of the earth's most abundant life forms. Celebrate the many spineless creatures both

big and small that keep the environment healthy and in balance. All those tiny critters, like beetles, butterflies, bees, slugs and spiders, help recycle fallen trees, pollinate flowers, and are food for other animals. Games, displays, crafts, live bugs and guided activities await the whole family. You can even bring a bug to be identified by an expert. Admission to the festival is \$1.50 per person. For more information, call (503) 629-6350. *Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District* and *Metro*

Bird watching

Great blue heron hike 8:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday, June 3

Take a leisurely walk with a naturalist to the east side of Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve to see the great blue herons in their nests high in the Douglas fir trees. Wear comfortable walking shoes. \$5 per person. Advance registration is required; call (503) 681-6278. *Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve*

Summer bird watching at Smith and Bybee Wetlands

9 to 11:30 a.m. Saturdays, June 3 and July 1 and 15
Join James Davis and other Metro naturalists for some great birding as the nesting season winds down at Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area. See young birds that have left the nest and family activities such as feeding and flocking. Learn to identify the most common birds by their songs as well as their appearance. Suitable for adults and children 10 and older. Bring your binoculars or borrow a pair of ours. Meet in the parking area on North

Marine Drive. Free. Advance registration required; call (503) 797-1715. *Metro*

Lunch with the birds noon to 1 p.m. Wednesdays, June 7, 14, 21 and 28

Meet a Jackson Bottom naturalist and spend your lunch hour learning how to identify waterfowl and other birds at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve. Spotting scopes, binoculars and field guides will be provided. Meet at the north viewing shelter next to the Clean Water Services treatment plant on Highway 219 south of Hillsboro. Free. Registration is not required. For more information, call (503) 681-6278. *Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve*

Heron watching at Heron Lakes Golf Course 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, June 9

Urban naturalist Mike Houck and grounds manager Jesse Goodling will lead a stroll to the nesting colony of great blue herons at the Heron Lakes Golf Course. Herons have nested in the cottonwood forest at Heron Lakes for more than 20 years. The forest is full of nesting songbirds and great horned owls as well. Free. Advance registration required; visit www.audubonportland.org to register. *Audubon Society of Portland*

Clackamas owl pellet class

5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 21
Owls are predators that usually swallow their prey whole. What they can't digest (feathers, fur, teeth, bones) they cough up in the form of a pellet. See a slide show introducing Oregon owls, then pull apart a sterilized owl pellet and use a chart to sort the bones and discover what the owl ate. Suitable for all ages. Meet at the Backyard Bird Shop at Clackamas Promenade on Sunnyside

Road. \$9. Advance registration required; call (503) 496-0908. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Ridgefield bird walk 8 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 24

Learn about wild bird identification and bird behavior on a guided nature walk at Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge. Suitable for older children and adults with beginning to advanced birding skills. To carpool, meet at the Vancouver Backyard Bird Shop. Free. Advance registration required; call (360) 253-5771. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Discovery Trail bird walk 8 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, July 22

Look for double-crested cormorants and great blue herons, hawks, ospreys and a host of songbirds, as you walk the Discovery Trail in Vancouver with a naturalist. Suitable for adults and children with beginning to intermediate birding skills. Meet at the Vancouver Backyard Bird Shop. Advance registration is required; call (360) 253-5771. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Kelley Point Park bird walk

8 to 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 20
Enjoy the flora and fauna of Kelley Point Park and learn about wild bird identification and bird behavior on a nature walk with Backyard Bird Shop. Suitable for adults and older children. To carpool, meet at the Vancouver Backyard Bird Shop. Advance registration required; call (360) 253-5771. *Backyard Bird Shop*

Paddle trips

Great Blue Heron Week paddle trip

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 3

Join the Tualatin Riverkeepers on a Great Blue Heron Week paddle from Rood Bridge Park in Hillsboro to Eagle Landing in Scholls. \$5 for members; \$10 for non-members. Canoes can be rented for \$20 and are free for members. To register, call (503) 620-7507. *Tualatin Riverkeepers*

Kayak the Columbia Slough

10 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. Sunday, June 4

Join Mike Houck and Donna Matrazzo on a kayak trip from the St. Johns Landfill up the Columbia Slough to view the 80-nest great blue heron colony at Smith and Bybee Wetlands. Get fantastic views of herons in their nests from a safe distance and watch the bedlam that erupts each time an adult returns to its nest to feed the young. Bring your own kayak or canoe; personal flotation device required. Directions and other details will be mailed to registrants. Free. Advance registration required; register online at www.audubonportland.org. *Audubon Society of Portland*

Willamette River islands paddle

6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, June 8

Join Willamette Riverkeeper for a round-trip paddle around Hogg and Cedar islands from the Cedar Oak Boat Ramp in West Linn. Bring your own boat or become a Willamette Riverkeeper member for \$35 and use their canoes and gear at no additional charge at this and other events. Free. Advance registration required; call (503) 223-6418 or send



e-mail to amy@willamette-riverkeeper.org. *Willamette Riverkeeper*

Tualatin River paddle tour and nature walk

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 10

Join Metro naturalist James Davis and the Tualatin Riverkeepers for a leisurely paddle upstream and back from one of Metro's future river access points west of Tigard. Before the paddle trip we'll take a brief walk to explore the forested part of the property. Then explore the habitats of this area paddling the river for about three hours. Beaver, nutria and river otter are common in this stretch of the river and we will see plenty of evidence of their activities. Birds will be singing from the banks. Bring drinking water, snacks, insect and sun protection, and waterproof binoculars if you have them. Advance registration and payment are required. The registration fee is \$5 for members of the Tualatin Riverkeepers and includes free canoe use. Non-members pay \$10 to register for the trip with their own boat and can rent a canoe for an additional \$20. To register, call (503) 620-7507. *Metro and Tualatin Riverkeepers*

Ross Island and Holgate Channel paddle

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, June 11

Participate in a colorful flotilla of canoes and kayaks on a paddle around what will soon be one of Portland's premier wildlife refuges. See great blue herons, osprey and bald eagles on their nests. The young herons are large and raucous this time of year. You will also see and hear numerous summer birds such as Swainson's thrushes, black-headed grosbeaks and spotted sandpipers as you ply the shallow waters between Hardtack and East islands. Plan to offload your craft between 9:20 and 10 a.m. The flotilla of canoes, kayaks, and other human-powered craft will launch promptly at 10 a.m. from the boat ramp. Free. Advance registration is not required. Boat rentals can be arranged through Alder Creek Kayak and Canoe at (503) 285-0464 or Portland Kayak Company at (503) 459-4050. For more information, visit www.audubonportland.org. *Audubon Society of Portland*

Big Four Corners paddle

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 17
Paddle the Columbia Slough through Big Four Corners, the city of Portland's fourth largest natural area. Explore the unique bottomland habitats and remnant oak woodlands along the upper Columbia Slough. Learn about the recent success in bringing this special natural area into public ownership. Bring your own kayak or canoe; personal flotation device required. Directions and other details will be provided to registrants. Boat rentals can be arranged through Alder Creek Kayak and Canoe at (503) 285-0464 or Portland Kayak Company at (503) 459-4050. Register for the free paddle online at www.audubonportland.org. *Audubon Society of Portland*

Smith and Bybee Wetlands paddle trips

Traveling by canoe or kayak is the best way to explore Smith and Bybee Lakes Wetlands Natural Area in North Portland. Meet at the parking lot on North Marine Drive. Bring your own kayak or canoe and personal flotation device. The new water control structure is helping to restore the wildlife area to a seasonal wetland. The changes are great for wildlife but they make paddle conditions difficult to predict. The trip leader will contact participants if it is necessary to cancel the trip. Advance registration required. *Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes*

6 to 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 21

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

4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, July 8

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

noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12

To register, call Dale Svart at (503) 285-3084.

Tualatin River Discovery Day

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday,
June 24

Join the Tualatin Riverkeepers for the 17th annual Tualatin River Discovery Day. Explore the wonders and tranquility of the Tualatin River as you paddle from Jurgens Park in Tualatin, meandering through beautiful rural surroundings into a more urban environment. At the end of the paddle, relax at a community fair and meet some of the people and organizations working to protect the Tualatin River watershed. Free. Advance registration required; call (503) 620-7507. *Tualatin Riverkeepers*

Tualatin River paddle trip

9 a.m. to noon Sunday, July 9
Join the Tualatin Riverkeepers on a paddle from Cook Park in Tigard. \$5 for members; \$10 for non-members. Canoes can be rented for \$20 and are free for members. To register, call (503) 620-7507. *Tualatin Riverkeepers*

Columbia Slough Regatta

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday,
July 30

Join the Columbia Slough Watershed Council for the 12th annual Columbia Slough Regatta. This annual celebration of the slough has become the largest one-day paddle in Oregon. Last year the regatta attracted more than 240 boats and 500 paddlers. This year's course takes paddlers along Big Four Corners Natural Area, home to deer, coyote, river otter and a variety of birds and amphibians. Participants may reserve a complementary canoe or kayak, paddles and personal flotation device or bring their own boat and equipment. Personal flotation devices are required. Meet at the Portland Water Bureau canoe launch at 16550 NE Airport

Way. A \$5 donation per boat is requested. Advance registration required; call (503) 281-1132. *Columbia Slough Watershed Council*

Willamette River boat race and picnic

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday,
July 30

Celebrate Willamette Riverkeeper's 10th anniversary at this combined boat race and picnic fundraising event at Oaks Park in Portland. Participate in the race and/or attend the picnic and watch from the shore. Donation requested. For information about entering the race, call (503) 223-6418 or visit www.willamette-riverkeeper.org. *Willamette Riverkeeper* ♿

Tualatin River paddle trip

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday,
Aug. 5

Join the Tualatin Riverkeepers on a paddle from Field's Bridge in West Linn. \$5 for members; \$10 for non-members. Canoes can be rented for \$20 and are free for members. To register, call (503) 620-7507. *Tualatin Riverkeepers*

Willamette Narrows evening paddle

6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 11

Destination: Rock Island, where the river narrows, the houses drift away and river scenery abounds. Meet at Willamette Park in West Linn for this 4-mile paddle around the island complex and back. Bring your own boat or become a Willamette Riverkeeper member for \$35 and use their canoes and gear at no additional charge at this and other events. Free. Advance registration required; call (503) 223-6418 or send e-mail to amy@willamette-riverkeeper.org. *Willamette Riverkeeper*

Midsummer night's paddle trip

6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19

Join the Tualatin Riverkeepers on a paddle from Tualatin Community Park in Tualatin. \$5 for members; \$10 for non-members. Canoes can be rented for \$20 and are free for members. To register, call (503) 620-7507. *Tualatin Riverkeepers*

Pioneer cemeteries

Lone Fir Pioneer Cemetery tours

10 a.m. to noon Saturdays,
June 10, July 8 and Aug. 12

Embark on a unique history lesson while enjoying the beauty and tranquility of Metro's Lone Fir Pioneer Cemetery in Southeast Portland. The tour highlights Portland's founders, early pioneers and nationally-recognized figures, as well as interesting headstones and monuments. Explore 30 acres of mature trees and a very special rose garden. Suitable for all ages. Meet at the main entrance at Southeast 21st Avenue and Morrison Street. Advance registration is not required. A suggested donation of \$10 goes to headstone restoration and educational programs. For more information, call (503) 775-6278. *Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery*

♿ by arrangement

Monument repair workshop

10 a.m. to noon Saturday,
June 17

Learn simple techniques for monument repair at Lone Fir Pioneer Cemetery. Selected stones will be raised and reset. Learn about materials to use or avoid in restoration and repair, as well as safety techniques and other

procedures. The Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery plan to form a monument repair team to fully engage in restoring and preserving headstones at this historic site. Gloves and tools will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Meet at the main entrance at Southeast 21st Avenue and Morrison Street. Advance registration required. For more information, call (503) 775-6278. *Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery* ♿ by arrangement

Stone cleaning and rubbing workshop

10 a.m. to noon Saturdays,
July 15 and Aug. 19

Join Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery for some real hands-on experience cleaning selected monuments in the cool morning air. Discover the proper methodology for cleaning and caring for headstones to ensure their safety and longevity. Learn about the world of headstone symbology and monument art, as well as materials and techniques for making rubbings. Suitable for all ages. Meet at the main entrance at Southeast 21st Avenue and Morrison Street. Advance registration required. For more information, call (503) 775-6278. *Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery* ♿ by arrangement

Midsummer night at Lone Fir

5 to 8 p.m. Saturday, July 29

Watch Portland history come to life as you relax on a blanket, enjoying live music and performances that tell the stories of some of the more interesting individuals buried at Lone Fir Pioneer Cemetery. Bring a picnic to share with friends and family; dessert and beverages provided. Suitable for all ages. Advance registration is not required. Suggested donation is \$5 per person or \$10 per family or group. For more information, call (503) 775-6278. *Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery*

♿



Stewards (from top left) Andy Kerr, Bob Fuquay, Melissa Morris, Dave Green, Bonnie Ford, Vannessa McClelland, Leo Mellon and Jeff Locke are leading volunteer efforts at Metro natural areas and parks all around the region.

Steward positions available at parks and natural areas

Metro's new volunteer steward program is connecting great people with great places. If you are an energetic person with a passion for parks and natural areas, consider becoming a steward at Smith and Bybee Wetlands, Oxbow or Blue Lake regional parks, Glendoveer fitness trail and woods, Metro's native plant materials center, a pioneer cemetery or a natural area along the Clackamas River. Training for the next round of stewards is scheduled for Nov. 4, 2006; applications are due Sept. 15.

Stewards visit their assigned site on a regular basis, working the land individually, and also lead volunteer groups as needed. Activities include removing invasive species and debris and planting native plants. Stewards volunteer at least two times per month for an average total of 10 hours.

Last spring, eight volunteers went through the first steward training, including Leo Mellon who adopted Metro's Clear Creek Canyon natural area. For Leo, the steward program offers a unique way to help protect the region's valuable natural resources. "There is so much satisfaction in really getting to know this one beautiful place," says Leo. "When you take the time to develop a relationship to a place, you can really make a difference there."

If you are interested in exploring a steward position, call Beth Gergick at (503) 797-1733 or send e-mail to parkvol@metro.dst.or.us. You will receive application materials, a full position description and a list of available sites. Successful candidates will be self-motivated, cooperative people who enjoy strenuous labor, look forward to getting their hands dirty in all kinds of weather and take pleasure in leading others. Since most sites are not accessible by public transportation, access to personal transportation is required.

Volunteer ventures

KEEP NATURE IN NEIGHBORHOODS

Arbor Lodge Park work parties

8 a.m. to noon Saturdays, June 3, July 1 and Aug. 5
Come to Arbor Lodge Park in North Portland to join in a new effort to replace the use of pesticides in parks by weeding. Snacks, gloves and tools will be provided. Meet at North Bryant Street and Greeley Avenue. For more information, call Curtis at (503) 255-2399. *Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides* ♿

Forest Park ivy removal

9 a.m. to noon every Saturday
Join forces with the No Ivy League and help battle what they call the "green plague" at Forest Park. Bring water, work gloves and a conquering attitude. Meet at the Lower Macleay Field House at the end of Northwest Upshur just past 29th. Advance registration is not required unless you are bringing five or more people. For more information, call (503) 823-3681. *Forest Park Ivy Removal Project*

Forest Park trail maintenance

9 a.m. to noon every Saturday
Join the Friends of Forest Park for trail maintenance and repair work parties on the beloved trails of Forest Park. Meet at the Lower Macleay Field House at the end of Northwest Upshur just past 29th. Bring water and work gloves and be prepared for a short hike to a work site. Advance registration is not required. For more information, call (503) 223-5449. *Friends of Forest Park*

Friends of Trees at Brookside

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 3
Help mulch, water and weed newly planted native trees and shrubs at this Southeast Portland natural area. Tools and guidance will be provided. There is no need to register unless you are bringing a group of 10 or more. For meeting location and directions, visit www.friendsoftrees.org and click on "upcoming events" or call (503) 284-8846 ext. 12. *Friends of Trees* ♿ by arrangement

Invasive plant removal at Cedar Mill Park

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 3
Help remove English ivy, Himalayan blackberry and English holly from the natural areas of Cedar Mill Park. Bring loppers, a shovel and work gloves, if possible. Refreshments will be provided. Meet at the tennis courts located at the lower parking lot of Cedar Mill Elementary School at Northwest 103rd Avenue and Cornell Road. To register, call Melissa at (503) 629-6305 ext. 2953. *Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District*

Lair Hill Park work parties

8 a.m. to noon Saturdays, June 3, July 1 and Aug. 5
Come to Lair Hill Park in Southwest Portland to join in a new effort to replace the use of pesticides in parks by weeding. Snacks, gloves and tools will be provided. Meet at Southwest 2nd Avenue and Woods Street. For more information, call Hilary at (503) 232-9072. *Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides* ♿

Plant center work days

9 a.m. to noon or noon to 3 p.m. Saturdays, June 3, July 15 and Aug. 12

Choose from a morning or afternoon session or spend the whole day at Metro's native plant materials center near Tualatin. Potential activities include transplanting seedlings, planting willows, weeding, planting seeds, building emergent beds and data base entry. Activities will depend on the spring weather and how wet or dry the ground is. Experience is preferred, but not necessary. All ages welcome. Come prepared to get dirty and dress for the weather. Gloves, tools, snacks and water will be provided. Bring a lunch if you are staying all day. Advance registration is required; call (503) 797-1715. *Metro*

West Willamette ivy removal

9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, June 3, July 1 and Aug. 5
Join Three Rivers Land Conservancy on the first Saturday of the month in an ongoing ivy removal project to help take back the forest. English ivy is threatening to overtake our ecosystems by replacing native plants, toppling trees and destroying wildlife habitat. Gloves, tools and snacks will be provided. Volunteers must be able to work on uneven terrain. For more information, call Megan at (503) 699-9825. *Three Rivers Land Conservancy*

Elk Rock Island work day

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 10

Help clean up and remove invasive non-native plants at Elk Rock Island at a Portland park you may have never seen before. You actually have to walk across the Willamette River to get there! Bring gloves and drinking water. Meet at Spring Park in Milwaukie at the corner of Southeast 19th Avenue and

Sparrow Street. To register, call (503) 823-6131. *Portland Parks City Nature, Willamette Riverkeeper and Friends of Elk Rock Island*

Friends of Trees at Friendship Park

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 10

Help mulch, water and weed newly planted native trees and shrubs at this urban natural area in Vancouver. Tools and guidance will be provided. There is no need to register unless you are bringing a group of 10 or more. For meeting location and directions, visit www.friendsoftrees.org and click on "upcoming events" or call (503) 284-8846 ext. 12. *Friends of Trees*

Friends of Trees neighborhood coordinator training

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 10

Neighborhood residents learn how to organize tree plantings in their neighborhoods during next year's planting season. Free. Advance registration required; call Brad at (503) 282-8846 ext. 12. *Friends of Trees*

Moonshadow Park work day

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 10

Help remove English ivy and Himalayan blackberry from the natural areas of Moonshadow Park. Bring loppers, a shovel and work gloves, if possible. Refreshments will be provided. Meet at the park entrance at the end of Southwest Alden Court just off Southwest Alden Street. To register, call Melissa at (503) 629-6305 ext. 2953. *Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District*

Ivy removal at Tryon Creek

9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, June 10 and 24, July 8 and 22 and Aug. 12 and 26

Help enhance Tryon Creek State Natural Area by removing invasive species that compete with native plants and harm the park's trees. Bring gloves and sturdy shoes. Meet at the nature center. Advance registration is not required. For more information, call (503) 636-4398. *Friends of Tryon Creek State Natural Area*


Powell Butte trail maintenance

9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, June 10, July 8 and Aug. 12

Help repair the trails at Powell Butte Nature Park from winter storm damage. Bring water and gloves. Meet at the parking lot at the top of the hill on Southeast 162nd Avenue south of Powell Boulevard. To register, call (503) 823-6131. *Portland Parks City Nature and PUMP*

Friends of Trees at Spring Mountain


9 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 17

Help mulch, water and weed newly planted native trees and shrubs at this Clackamas natural area. Tools and guidance will be provided. There is no need to register unless you are bringing a group of 10 or more. For meeting location and directions, visit www.friendsoftrees.org and click on "upcoming events" or call (503) 284-8846 ext. 12. *Friends of Trees*  by arrangement

Noble Woods ivy removal

9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, June 24 and Aug. 5

Launch an assault on ivy at Noble Woods in Hillsboro. Assist the return of native plants in this beautiful park while getting to know others

in the community. Enjoy a nature walk during a break. Meet in the parking lot at 231st Avenue and Baseline Road. Advance registration required; call (503) 629-6305 ext. 2953. *Rock Creek Watershed Partners*  by arrangement


Cedar Mill wetland work party

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 29

Spend your Saturday morning connecting with others in the community, enjoying wildlife, and enhancing important habitat. Help remove invasive species and plant natives at Cedar Mill Wetland. The wetland has diverse topography and vegetation types. It includes year-round ponds, forested upland, scrub-shrub areas, and wet meadow communities. A wide variety of wildlife use the wetland habitat, such as beaver and deer and many species of birds, reptiles and amphibians. Meet in the parking lot at West Stark Street and Northwest Barnes Road in Cedar Mill. Advance registration required; call (503) 629-6305 ext. 2953. *Rock Creek Watershed Partners and The Wetlands Conservancy*

Salmon Watch program training

8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 19

Help teach youth about salmon and watersheds with Salmon Watch, an award-winning education program that centers on streamside field trips to view spawning Chinook salmon. Learn about water quality, aquatic insects, riparian zones and working with kids. Training will be held at Eagle Fern Park. To register, call (503) 222-9091 ext. 20. *Oregon Trout*  by arrangement

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SEPTEMBER

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See you there!

Metro regional parks, greenspaces and facilities

Blue Lake Regional Park

provides a water spray ground for all ages, swimming in the lake, fishing, archery, volleyball, softball, horseshoes, food concessions 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.

Accessible features: parking, restrooms, archery, fishing dock, picnic areas, water spray ground, playgrounds, park paths, office, food concession, wetlands observation deck and trail loop.

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: \$4 per car and \$7 per bus.

BLUE LAKE SHUTTLE

TriMet shuttle service is available to Blue Lake this summer from the Gresham Town Center weekends and holidays, every 20 minutes between 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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.

Accessible features: parking, office, restrooms, shower buildings, three campsites, picnic shelters and campground amphitheater.

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: \$4 per car and \$7 per bus.

Howell Territorial Park on Sauvie Island is a scenic blend of natural and cultural history. Picnickers and birdwatchers enjoy this idyllic site, which also includes nine acres of wetland and surrounding pastoral land. There are two rustic areas that can be reserved for small picnics or weddings.

Accessible features: restrooms and picnic areas.

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 Wetlands Natural Area is the largest protected wetland within an American city. Home to beavers, river otters, 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.

Accessible features: parking, Interlakes Trail, wildlife viewing platforms and restrooms.

Location: On Marine Drive between the Expo Center and Kelley Point Park. Take I-5 to exit 307. Go west on North Marine Drive for 2.2 miles. Turn left at the large brown and white natural area sign and drive to the parking area.

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.

Accessible features: parking and paths (compacted gravel).

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.

Accessible features: parking, restrooms, picnic area and observation deck.

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

Entrance fee: \$5 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.

Accessible features: parking and restrooms.

Location: Northeast 43rd Avenue and Marine Drive.

Entrance fee: \$5 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.

Accessible features: parking, restrooms and picnic area.

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 also are tennis courts, a driving range and a restaurant.

Location: 140th and Northeast Glisan Street.

Information numbers

General number
(503) 797-1850

Picnic reservations
(503) 665-4995

Registration for Metro activities
(503) 797-1715

Blue Lake Regional Park
(503) 665-4995

The Lake House
(503) 665-4995

Oxbow Regional Park
(503) 663-4708

Howell Territorial Park
(503) 665-4995

James Bybee House
(503) 222-1741


Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area
(503) 797-1844

Marine facilities
(503) 665-6918

Glendoveer Golf Course
(503) 253-7507

Pioneer cemeteries
(503) 797-1709

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

 The “accessible features” listed above are facilities and activities that are accessible to wheelchair users. For information about other kinds of access or accommodations, call (503) 797-1728.

Blue Lake Shuttle

May 27 to Sept. 4
Weekends and holidays
Every 20 minutes · 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



To and from Gresham Central TC (MAX Blue Line)
with stops along Division Street and 223rd Avenue



See where it takes you.

See page 3
for fun summer
activities for all ages
at Metro's Blue
Lake Regional
Park.



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