

# GreenScene



Discover nature in  
neighborhoods

SPRING 2008



Birds and  
blooms

Tips for  
green  
living

Spring  
nature  
activities

Natural  
area stories



Metro | *People places. Open spaces.*

# Natural area highlights

## Metro doubles land protected at Clatsop Buttes – 100 acres and counting

### Butte above Johnson Creek becomes one of Portland's largest protected natural areas



Sword fern

C. Bruce Forster photo

**W**hat do you get when you mix citizen support for land protection, funding from a voter-approved bond measure and a handful of landowners willing to make a difference in their community? One of the greatest protected natural areas in Portland.

Last summer, the Metro Council celebrated the protection of 49 acres on the lower part of Clatsop Buttes with local citizens, Portland officials and Johnson Creek watershed activists. A second major acquisition by Metro in December 2007 doubled the size of the Clatsop Buttes natural area for the benefit of water quality, wildlife and people. A third small acquisition was completed in January 2008. Together the three properties, along with two adjacent city parks, add up to one of the ten largest natural areas within Portland's city limits.

The Clatsop Buttes natural area now includes nearly 115 acres of densely forested hillsides draining into Johnson Creek and its tributaries. Home to a mix of native plants including cedar, maple, Douglas fir, red alder, Oregon grape, huckleberry, elderberry and sword fern, the Clatsop Buttes natural area supports a variety of wildlife including deer, fox, coyote, flicker, pileated woodpecker and other local and migratory birds.

The City of Portland owns two neighborhood parks that bracket the newly protected land – Eastridge Park to the north and Bundy Park to the south – and will manage the natural area as well. The parks offer the potential for providing future hiking trails and wildlife watching opportunities.

Johnson Creek flows 26 miles from its headwaters near the Sandy River to its confluence with the Willamette River. Development along the creek and in the watershed has created flooding problems for local residents and water quality problems for native fish and wildlife. The Metro Council's goal is to pursue opportunities to acquire remaining upland habitat areas adjacent to the creek's main stem and along its major tributaries to protect water quality and connect existing public holdings.

**Metro's voter-approved 2006 Natural Areas Program funds land acquisition and capital improvements that protect water quality and fish and wildlife habitat, enhance trails and wildlife corridors, and provide greater connections to nature in urban areas throughout the Portland metropolitan area.**

**[www.metro-region.org/naturalareas](http://www.metro-region.org/naturalareas)**



#### Metro

People places • open spaces

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

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

#### Metro's web site

[www.metro-region.org](http://www.metro-region.org)

#### Your Metro representatives

*Metro Council President*

**David Bragdon**

*Metro Councilors*

**Rod Park**, District 1

**Carlotta Collette**, District 2

**Carl Hosticka**, District 3

**Kathryn Harrington**, District 4

**Rex Burkholder**, District 5

**Robert Liberty**, District 6

*Auditor*


**Suzanne Flynn**

#### On the cover

Northern flicker (photo by Jim Cruce) and camas blossom (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 (7433).

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

# New beginnings at Metro's Graham Oaks natural area

By Metro volunteer Elizabeth Milner

**R**arely do we humans have a chance to re-create natural habitat from the ground up. At the Graham Oaks natural area in Wilsonville, that is precisely what Metro is doing. Not long ago, the future Graham Oaks Nature Park was a mixture of farm, forest and agricultural field. While the site was valued as open space by neighbors and for the recreational opportunities it promised, it was not living up to its potential. This year, the natural area is being restored to its former glory as a diverse habitat of oak and conifer forests. Old-growth Douglas fir trees have been set free from choking ivy and blackberry; wetlands are being restored that will filter rainwater and welcome wildlife; and hundreds of thousands of trees and shrubs are being planted in the open fields.

The process of creating an oak woodland in one fell swoop is not easy. Metro's science team has worked hard to ensure that the new habitat will be healthy, viable and biologically accurate. All plant material, from native grass seed to oak seedlings, has been carefully selected to match the site's historic vegetation. Volunteers at Metro's native plant center have played an important role in this restoration project, putting in many hours collecting rare native seeds and plants from around the region that were likely found at the site hundreds of years ago.

The importance of using native seeds from the immediate area offers a fascinating lesson in biogeography – the scientific study of where things live, at what abundance and why. Because the Willamette Valley's landscape and climate can vary so dramatically from place to place, seeds collected from one end of the valley may not thrive at the other, even if they belong to the same species. Metro recognizes this, and is dedicated to maintaining native plant communities by planting local, native seeds and plants at all of its natural areas.

As the trees and shrubs at the Graham Oaks natural area mature, they will offer valuable habitat for wildlife and native birds, including the Western bluebird, Northern harrier, white-breasted nuthatch and acorn woodpecker. The natural area will be an asset to the community, which includes several schools, new residential developments and new public transit, and to all Willamette Valley residents. In the coming years, the spreading branches of majestic oaks will once again offer shade for wildlife and people on hot summer days and shelter from wind and rain in the long winter months.



Lloyd Spitalnik photo

*The white-breasted nuthatch is almost always found on oaks in the Willamette Valley. When the Oregon white oak trees at the Graham Oaks natural area mature, you can expect to see these distinctive birds returning to the area. If you live nearby, you may also notice them at your bird feeder.*



NarrativeLab, Inc. photo

*In December 2007, 135 acres of wheat and clover at Graham Oaks natural area were replanted with native grasses and wildflowers. This winter crews planted 150,000 trees and shrubs that were historically found throughout the Willamette Valley – including thousands of Oregon white oak trees. The project will restore historic landscapes and create rare wildlife habitat.*

# Sustainable living



**H**ome improvement projects just got a little greener with MetroPaint, the region's only Green Seal™ certified 100 percent recycled paint. You can protect the environment, save money and create a whole new look for your home – inside and out – with MetroPaint.

MetroPaint isn't new. Since 1992, Metro has collected and recycled over one million gallons of leftover latex paint. But MetroPaint is now certified by Green Seal, an independent organization that recognizes environmentally friendly products, and by the Master Painters Institute, the leading paint performance testing organization. Colors are blended in batches of up to 1,000 gallons, filtered and lab tested for safety and performance.

## DID YOU KNOW?

For every gallon of recycled paint that you use instead of new paint, you:

- save an estimated 100 kilowatt hours of energy
- help prevent pollution from the mining and extraction of raw materials
- conserve water used in the manufacture of paint
- reduce the need for landfill space.

MetroPaint costs only \$6-10 per 1-gallon can and \$24-44 per 5-gallon pail.

Available in 15 different colors, MetroPaint costs a fraction of the price of new paint – only \$6-10 per 1-gallon can and \$24-44 per 5-gallon pail. So whether you're painting indoors or out, big job or small, leaning toward "Barn Red" or "Summer Sky," MetroPaint is the product that is good for the environment, good for your home and good for your wallet.

### Where to buy

MetroPaint Store on Swan Island  
4825 N. Basin Ave., Portland  
Call 503-234-3000 for other MetroPaint retail outlets in Oregon and Washington.

### Where to recycle old paint

Bring your unwanted leftover paint to one of Metro's hazardous waste facilities:

Metro Central Station  
6161 NW 61st Ave., Portland

Metro South Station  
2001 Washington St., Oregon City

For more information, visit [www.metro-region.org/paint](http://www.metro-region.org/paint).



## How low can you go?

**R**ecycling is great. But preventing waste in the first place is even better. Metro Recycling Information hotline operator Betty Shelley and her husband Jon only put out one can of garbage a year. Here are Betty's tips for reducing waste and saving money:

### Buy in bulk

Reuse bags and containers instead of using them once and recycling them and getting new ones at the next visit to the store. It isn't just food that comes in bulk, you can also buy things like shampoo and dish soap in bulk at several stores. For items that you can't buy in bulk, choose packaging that is recyclable.

### Share durable goods such as tools, party ware, sporting gear, etc.

Why buy your own tent or chainsaw if you can borrow from a friend or even rent? It saves money and waste.

### Don't use disposables

Use permanent dishes, cloth napkins and rags for cleaning. If you're having a party, borrow from friends.

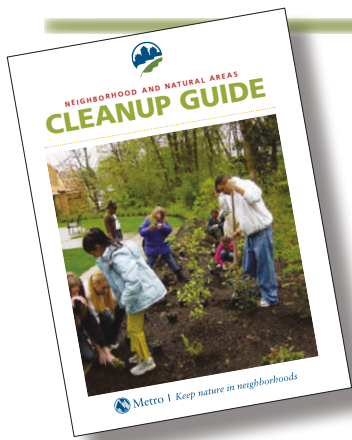
### Donate items for reuse

Set aside unusual items that might have value to an organization like SCRAP or The Rebuilding Center. A lot can be recycled here in our region, but even more can be reused.

### Other tips to avoid making waste

- Go to the library.
- Shop locally and seasonally.
- Use green recipes for cleaning products – save money making your own and use the same containers over and over again.
- Compost food waste – fruits and vegetables, egg shells, tea bags – and other household waste like dryer lint.

For more waste prevention ideas, visit [www.metro-region.org/sustainableliving](http://www.metro-region.org/sustainableliving).



## Neighborhood spring cleaning

Thinking about spring cleaning? Don't stop at your front door or property line – get together with your neighbors and plan a community cleanup event. The Community Cleanup Guide for Neighborhoods, Natural Areas and Civic Events provides information to assist cleanup coordinators with planning, waste prevention and recycling, recruiting and training volunteers, event publicity, safety and logistics, and finding resources.

Metro also offers vouchers to neighborhood associations, local governments, public agencies and nonprofit organizations to help fund cleanup, recycling and disposal of bulky waste, yard debris and recyclable material. Last year, 95 organizations participated in Metro's disposal voucher program as part of their cleanup events.

To download the cleanup guide or for more information about cleanup vouchers, visit [www.metro-region.org/cleanup](http://www.metro-region.org/cleanup).

## Metro's free natural gardening seminars

Grow a beautiful garden that's healthy for people, pets and the environment

What is "natural gardening?" Natural gardening is simply gardening with nature as your guide. The basic principles are simple: use compost to improve your soil, grow plants adapted to your climate and use non-toxic pest management techniques. Gardening naturally protects your family, pets and local waterways from harmful and polluting garden chemicals. It also helps keep nature in our neighborhoods by providing habitat for local birds, bees, butterflies and more.

### SEMINARS

Metro's natural gardening seminars are offered free of charge, but space is limited and registration is required. To register, call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000.

Each seminar topic will be repeated in Portland, East Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington counties, March through July. For specific dates, times and locations call Metro Recycling Information or visit [www.metro-region.org/garden](http://www.metro-region.org/garden).

### Four-season flower gardens

Come gather ideas for flowers you can grow at home for year-round cutting. Presenters

include author Linda Beutler, Geranium Lake Flowers' Kim Foren and Metro gardening specialist Paul Sanford. Learn presenters' top picks for gorgeous garden flowers, how to care for them organically, and how flowers can help you attract hummingbirds, butterflies and other native pollinators. Get tips to help you create fun floral displays right from your yard.

### Growing nature in your yard

Ever wonder how to create your own little natural haven at home? Why not grow your own personal park – a place to relax and appreciate nature just steps from your door? Beautiful native plants, simple water features and effective natural gardening techniques will make your yard buzz with

hummingbirds and native pollinators and provide habitat for songbirds, butterflies and frogs.

### Grow a golf course-quality lawn

Golf course superintendents will share the latest techniques and strategies for growing the best lawn in the least time at the lowest cost using sustainable practices. Get tips on efficient approaches to irrigation, soil fertility, mowing, top-dressing and effective pest and weed management.

### Gardens of eatin'

Join celebrity chefs and gardening leaders for a feast of the senses and a bundle of tips for growing and eating beautiful, delicious, edible plants. Join celebrity chefs from Nutshell, Nostrana, The Dundee Bistro and Nick's Italian Café to cook and taste a harvest of local organic foods you can grow at home. Highlights include growing for the grill, unusual herbs, local berries, flower drinks and more. Learn to bring local organic food one step closer – and fresher – by adding edibles to your yard.

### Why waste the rain?

Transform perfectly good rainwater from a stormwater pollution hazard into a boon for your beautiful landscape. Learn the basics of bioswales, downspout disconnections, rain barrels, rain gardens and permeable paving. Then see some of these systems in action. You can save on your water bill, help conserve one of our most valuable resources and reduce run-off into our local rivers and streams. All the while, you'll be helping your trees, shrubs and flowers thrive.



Get tips and tools at [www.metro-region.org/sustainableliving](http://www.metro-region.org/sustainableliving)

# Spring calendar

ENJOY NATURE IN NEIGHBORHOODS

## Natural gardening



Monkey flower C. Bruce Forster photo

### Naturescaping basic workshop at Tryon Creek

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, March 2

Learn how to protect our rivers while beautifying your yard. Naturescaping features native plants, natural landscapes and water-friendly gardening practices. Get ideas for your garden, a guide book and a native plant to get you started. Free. To register, call 503-797-1842 or send e-mail to [naturescaping@yahoo.com](mailto:naturescaping@yahoo.com). *Naturescaping for Clean Rivers* ♿

### Gardening with natives at Tualatin Hills Nature Park

10 a.m. to noon Saturdays, March 8 and May 3  
What plants attract more wildlife to your yard? What plants do butterflies prefer? Which native plants are best suited for a deeply shaded or sunny yard? Find answers to these questions and more

in this class all about native plants. \$11. To register, call 503-629-6350. *Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District*



### Sunday at two lecture series at Tryon Creek

1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 9  
Learn about naturescaping, landscaping that allows people and nature to coexist. By incorporating native plants into your yard, you can attract insects, birds and other creatures and help keep the region's rivers and streams healthy. Free. Advance registration required; call 503-636-9886 ext. 225. *Tryon Creek State Natural Area* ♿

### Rain garden workshop

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 5  
Learn how you can build a beautiful rain garden, a gorgeous addition to your landscaping that can help capture rainfall runoff and keep it out of overburdened sewers and streams. To register, send e-mail to [info@jcw.org](mailto:info@jcw.org). *Johnson Creek Watershed Council, East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, Leach Botanical Garden* ♿ by arrangement

### Naturescaping basic workshop in Sherwood

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 12  
Learn how to protect our rivers while beautifying your yard. Naturescaping features native plants, natural landscapes and water-friendly gardening practices. Get ideas for your garden, a guide book and a native plant to get you started. Free. To register, call 503-797-1842 or send e-mail to [naturescaping@yahoo.com](mailto:naturescaping@yahoo.com). *Naturescaping for Clean Rivers* ♿

### Wildflowers: from wild spaces to private places

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 12  
Celebrate Earth Day at Tualatin Hills Nature Park where you can learn to make a difference by growing native. Enjoy activities and displays highlighting the wonderful plants that are native to the area, go for a wildflower walk and learn the benefits of native gardening. Suitable for all ages. Free. For more information, call Tualatin Hills Nature Park Interpretive Center at 503-629-6350. *Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District* ♿

### Naturescaping basic workshop in Tigard

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 26  
Learn how to protect our rivers while beautifying your yard. Naturescaping features native plants, natural landscapes and water-friendly gardening practices. Get ideas

for your garden, a guide book and a native plant to get you started. Free. To register, call 503-797-1842 or send e-mail to [naturescaping@yahoo.com](mailto:naturescaping@yahoo.com). *Naturescaping for Clean Rivers* ♿

### Wild gourmet garden edibles

8 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 17  
Tired of pulling garden weeds? Get revenge by eating them. Visit an organic farm in Portland and make a delectable wild gourmet salad from the weeds that farmers would be pulling. Learn how to identify common, plentiful, nutritious and flavorful wild vegetables. Bring a salad bowl and a fork. \$25. Advance registration required; call 503-775-3828. *Wild Food Adventures* ♿ by arrangement

## Blue Lake Bunny Bonanza Egg Hunt

10 a.m. to noon  
Saturday, March 22

Bring the family to Blue Lake Regional Park for a fun-filled candy egg hunt.

Children age 10 and under will search for eggs starting at 10:30 a.m.

**Fun activities** – including free face painting and coloring activities under covered shelters

Free with your annual pass or park entry fee of \$4 per car or \$7 per bus. Registration is not required. For more information, visit [www.metro-region.org/parks](http://www.metro-region.org/parks) or call 503-665-4995. *Leave pets at home.*

## Bird watching

### Lunch with the birds at Jackson Bottom

noon to 1 p.m. Wednesdays  
Spend your lunch hour learning how to identify waterfowl and other birds. 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 not required. For more information, call Sarah Pinnock at 503-681-6278. *Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve* ♿

### Spring bird walk

9 to 11:30 a.m. Saturdays, March 15, April 5 and 19, May 3 and 17  
Spring brings more than 25 different songbirds to join the resident birds nesting at Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area. Lingering winter waterfowl and birds of prey add to the hot birding action at the wetlands in spring. Meet Metro naturalist and expert birder James Davis in the parking lot on North Marine Drive. Learn to identify birds by sight and songs. Bring binoculars or borrow a pair of ours. Suitable for adults and children 10 and older. Free. Advance registration required; call 503-797-1850 option 4. *Metro* ♿

### Bird watching basics for beginners

7 to 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 19  
Metro naturalist James Davis has been getting beginning bird watchers off to a good start for 25 years. Discuss the basics of bird identification, talk about the best field guides and binoculars and watch a slide show of the “top 20” birds of the Portland metropolitan area. This class is excellent preparation for the Saturday bird watching trips and other bird classes.

Suitable for adults and teens. Meet in room 370 at Metro Regional Center in Portland. Registration and payment of \$10 per person required in advance; call 503-797-1850 option 4. *Metro* ♿

### Spring birds identification class

7 to 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 9  
Spring brings thousands of migrating birds to our region; some stay to nest and others pass through. Get ready for great spring birding action with this crash course in identifying spring migrants and summer breeders. Metro naturalist James Davis will show slides, play recordings of bird songs and simplify what seems like a confusing variety of birds to many beginners. This class is excellent preparation for bird walks at Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area. Suitable for adults and teens. Meet in room 370 at Metro Regional Center in Portland. Registration and payment of \$10 per person required in advance; call 503-797-1850 option 4. *Metro* ♿

### Warblers of Oregon

7 to 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 16  
One of the most colorful and musical groups of birds to arrive in spring is the warblers. The different species in the Portland area can be quite confusing to beginning and experienced birders alike. Let Metro naturalist and expert birder James Davis make warbler identification easier for you. This class takes place near the peak of warbler migration so you can get out right away and practice your new skills. Suitable for adults and teens. Meet in room 370 at Metro Regional Center in Portland. Registration and payment of \$10 per person required in advance; call 503-797-1850 option 4. *Metro* ♿

### Songbirds of Mount Talbert

9:30 a.m. to noon Saturdays, April 26 and May 17  
Join James Davis, Metro naturalist and expert birder, to catch the spring migration at Mount Talbert, our area’s newest regional park. Forested hills like Mount Talbert are hot spots for migrating songbirds such as warblers, tanagers, orioles and others. Dress for muddy ground and rough trails and bring binoculars if you have them or borrow some of ours. Suitable for adult and teen beginning and experienced bird watchers. Free. Advance registration required; call North Clackamas Parks and Recreation at 503-794-8084. *Metro*

### Birding the Killin Wetlands

10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday, April 27  
The Killin Wetlands in Banks, known to local birders as Cedar Canyon Marsh, is a great place to see (or at least hear) three very hard to find marsh birds – American bittern, sora and Virginia rail. Many other common wetland birds are also seen here this time of year. Join naturalist James Davis at this special place that has been protected by Metro’s Natural Areas Program. Suitable for adults and children 10 and older. You will receive directions and other information after you register. Registration and payment of \$10 per adult required in advance; call 503-797-1850 option 4. *Metro*

### Brunch with the birds at Columbia Slough

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, May 9  
Enjoy brunch and a birding tour of Whitaker Ponds, the junkyard-turned-environmental education center. Meet slough neighbors and learn about activities and events in the Columbia Slough watershed. Binoculars recommended. For more

information, call 503-281-1132. *Columbia Slough Watershed Council*

### Lecture series:

#### Breeding birds

1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 10  
Local expert birder Doug Robberson will lead a two-part class at Tigard Public Library on breeding birds of the Tualatin River watershed. Learn to identify local birds and use binoculars, then go on a birding hike. Free. For more information, visit [www.tigard-or.gov/library](http://www.tigard-or.gov/library). *Tualatin Riverkeepers and Tigard Public Library* ♿

## Nature discoveries

### Ranger walks at Tualatin Hills Nature Park

11 a.m. to noon Sundays, March 2, April 6 and May 4 and Saturday, April 5  
Join a park ranger for a one-hour guided walk at Tualatin Hills Nature Park. Explore different sections of the park and learn about recent wildlife activity and other interesting nature facts. Free. To register, call 503-629-6350. *Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District* ♿ by arrangement

### TrackersClubPDX

10 a.m. to noon Saturdays, April 5 and May 3 and Sundays, March 2, April 6 and May 4  
Explore urban green spaces and find the trails, stories and secrets of all the wildlife in it on this animal tracking adventure. Learn about the natural world and hunter gatherer awareness in urban Portland. Suitable for adults 16 and older. \$10. To register, visit [www.trackersnw.com](http://www.trackersnw.com). *TrackersNW*

## Story and stroll at Tryon Creek

1 to 2 p.m. Fridays  
Join a park naturalist for nature story time and a stroll through the park. This program is geared toward families with children ages 3-6, but all are welcome. Free. For more information, call 503-636-9886 ext. 225. *Tryon Creek State Natural Area*  
♿ by arrangement

## Saturday guided nature hikes

10 to 11:30 a.m. Saturdays  
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. All ages welcome; parents must accompany kids. Free. Advance registration not required for groups smaller than 10 people. For more information, call 503-636-9886 ext. 225. *Tryon Creek State Natural Area*

## Oaks Educational Center grand opening

10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, March 9  
Celebrate the grand opening of the Oaks Educational Center, also known as "The Scout Pit." Enjoy wildlife hikes, outdoor fitness and martial arts demonstrations, wilderness and nature awareness activities, fun sustainable food and more. Free. For more information, visit [www.trackersnw.com](http://www.trackersnw.com). *TrackersNW*

## Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge walks

8 to 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 11  
9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 22  
8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Friday, April 4  
8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Friday, April 25  
Join naturalist Mike Houck for a stroll around the 160-acre Oaks Bottom Wildlife



*Just outside the new wildlife center is an overlook where visitors can view a broad expanse of the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge and spot waterfowl, raptors, songbirds, shorebirds and the occasional beaver. Tracks stamped in the concrete give clues about the wildlife in the refuge and are part of a series of exhibits at the center designed to focus and refine wildlife observation skills.*

## Wildlife center dedication at Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge

11:30 am to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 29

**"Nurture your sense of wonder"** is the theme for a day of educational activities for everyone, including an 11:30 a.m. ribbon cutting ceremony with comments from author Richard Louv, visits from local dignitaries, tours of the new wildlife center, guided nature walks and more. Free. 9255 SW Pacific Highway, north of Sherwood. Visit [www.friendsoftualatinrefuge.org](http://www.friendsoftualatinrefuge.org) for more information.

*Richard Louv is the author of Last Child in the Woods; he will address the themes of his book later in the evening at Tualatin High School.*

Refuge. The walk is a 2-mile loop on both paved and uneven dirt paths, with two moderate hills. Suitable for families. Free. Advance registration required; visit [www.audubonportland.org](http://www.audubonportland.org) or call 971-222-6116. *Audubon Society of Portland*

## A walk on the wetlands at Jackson Bottom

9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, March 15, April 19 and May 17  
Discover what nature has to offer on the preserve. The emphasis is on birds, but participants will have the opportunity to enjoy the natural world and all of its creatures. The terrain is mostly flat, and the pace will

be slow so as not to scare away the critters. Wear shoes or boots that can get wet and muddy; bring binoculars and a field guide, if possible. \$3 per person. Advance registration required; call Hillsboro Parks and Recreation at 503-681-5397. *Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve*

## Slough 101 workshop 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 15

Do you live, work or play near the Columbia Slough? Come to a hands-on workshop that will give you an understanding of watershed history, hydrology, fish and wildlife, and stewardship opportunities. Activities include stream bug sampling and a tour of the flood control levee and pump station. Free. Advance registration required; call 503-281-1132. *Columbia Slough Watershed Council*  
♿ by arrangement

## Fundamentals of tracking at Oxbow

9:30 to 11:30, Saturday, March 15  
Learn the basics of human and wildlife tracking with naturalist John Halsell. Oxbow Park is one of Oregon's best tracking locations and is home to deer, elk, fox and bear. This class meets outdoors; dress for the weather. Meet at the floodplain parking lot and walk to the tracking area. Registration and payment of \$10 per person is required in advance. There is also a \$4 per vehicle park entry fee, payable on arrival. Call 503-797-1850 option 4. *Metro*

## Springwater Corridor ride

9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, March 29  
Enjoy a 21-mile bike ride to Gresham's Linneman Station and back via the Springwater Corridor Trail. Pedal through the lower Johnson Creek watershed, stop at several urban natural areas along the way and learn about future




opportunities to protect and enhance the Johnson Creek watershed. Bring and maintain your own bicycle; pumps and patch kits recommended, helmets required. Directions and other details will be mailed to registrants. Free. Advance registration required; visit [www.audubonportland.org](http://www.audubonportland.org) or call 971-222-6116. *Audubon Society of Portland*

### **Ethnobotany at Oxbow** 12:30 to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 30

Ethnobotany is the study of how humans use plants. Learn the ethics and safety protocols involved in plant harvest and take a walk in the springtime woods of Oxbow Regional Park to get to know plants traditionally used for food, medicine, baskets, etc. You also will receive a resource list for further study and create cordage and tea from stinging nettles. Meet at the naturalist office. Registration and payment of \$10 per person required in advance; call 503-797-1850 option 4. There also is a \$4 per vehicle entry fee to the park. *Metro*

### **Sunday at two lecture series at Tryon Creek** 2 to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 30


Join executive director of the Friends of Tryon Creek Stephanie Wagner and learn all about trilliums. This fascinating woodland plant is anxiously awaited each spring by gardeners, naturalists and botanists for its showy flowers. How do these wildflowers grow, where did the 7-year legend come from, and why do we celebrate the Trillium Festival each April? Free. For more information, call 503-636-9886 ext. 225. *Tryon Creek State Natural Area* 

### **Hillsboro parks, naturally** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 5

Hillsboro boasts some wonderful natural areas, including several of the City parks. Travel to Rood Bridge Park,

Noble Woods, Dairy Creek Park and Orchard Park to discover birds and other natural wonders. \$10. Advance registration required; call 503-681-5397. *Hillsboro Parks and Recreation*

### **Painted turtle walks** 1 to 2:30 p.m. Saturdays, April 5 and May 3

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 503-797-1850 option 4. *Metro* 

### **Family nature connection day**

10 to 11 a.m. or 1 to 2 p.m.  
Saturday, April 12

Join in a day designed to reconnect children, their parents and all adults back to the natural world. Journey together to discover unique ways to learn from and stay connected with the outdoors. Suitable for teens and children 8 and older. \$10. To register, visit [www.trackersnw.com](http://www.trackersnw.com). *TrackersNW*

### **Wild foods of Forest Park** 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 12


Join wild food expert John Kallas and explore blooming wildflowers and wild greens in Forest Park. Learn plants like wild violet, Solomon's seal, fairy bells, nettles, wild ginger and other plants. Meet at the entrance to the Wildwood Trail off Germantown Road. \$22. Advanced registration required; call 503-775-3828. *Wild Food Adventures*

### **Clear Creek Canyon tour** 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 12

Discover one of the most beautiful properties protected by Metro's Natural Areas Program with naturalist James Davis. This forested tributary of the Clackamas River has excellent water quality and significant wild fish runs. Deer, coyote, beaver and river otter sign are common and there is a good variety of other wildlife and plants, including plenty of fungi. James will do his best to identify what mushrooms we find, but this will certainly be at the beginner's level. Bring your binoculars or borrow a pair of ours. There will be leisurely walking for 2 to 3 miles over uneven terrain on old dirt roads. Suitable for adults and children 10 and older. Registration and payment of \$10 per adult required in advance; call 503-797-1850 option 4. *Metro*

### **Celebrating Water: Connecting water, land and people**

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday,  
April 19

Bring your family and join in a celebration of water with informational water resource booths, speakers and lots of hands-on activities for kids. Learn more about what water resource agencies in Clackamas County are doing to protect our resources. The event takes place in the Gregory Forum at Clackamas Community College. Free. For more information, call Kim at 503-723-9692. *Clackamas County Water Education Team* 

### **Fanno Creek Greenway ride**

9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday,  
April 19

Join Jim Labbe and Joe Blowers to explore new and pending sections of the Fanno Creek Greenway including the newly opened bridge over the Tualatin River at Cook Park.

Discuss the challenges and opportunities to protecting and enhancing Fanno Creek. Bring and maintain your own bicycle; pumps and patch kits recommended, helmets required. Directions and other details will be mailed to registrants. Free. Advance registration required; visit [www.audubonportland.org](http://www.audubonportland.org) or call 971-222-6116. *Audubon Society of Portland*

### **Wild foods of Oxbow** 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 20

Learn about the wild foods of trees, shrubs and herbs at Oxbow Regional Park on the Sandy River. Find a diversity of edible wild plants including fiddlehead fern, elderberries, Solomon's seal, fairy bells, nettles, red huckleberries and salmonberry. \$22 per person. There is a \$4 per vehicle entrance fee to the park. Advanced registration required; call 503-775-3828. *Wild Food Adventures*

### **Wildflower hike at Tualatin Hills Nature Park** 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 26

Explore the most densely populated wildflower locations in the park while searching for both common and rare species. Learn to identify these beauties with analogies and field guides. \$10. To register, call 503-629-6350. *Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District*

### **Wildflower identification at Oxbow**

noon to 3 p.m. Sunday,  
April 27

Have you ever wondered about trailside wildflowers and wished you knew their names? This class is for you. We will learn how to use plant family information and field guides to aid in identification. Half of this class is indoors, and the other half is an outdoor exploration of a flower-rich trail. Suitable for adults and teens. Registration and a program fee of \$10 per

person are required in advance. There also is a \$4 per vehicle entry fee to the park, payable at the gate. To register, call 503-797-1715. *Metro*

### **Animal tracking workshop at Oxbow**

**10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, May 4**

Oxbow Regional Park is rich in tracks at this time of year when beaver, otter, fox, mink, mouse and deer often leave clear footprints in the sand. With practice, you can learn to read the ground like a book. Local tracker Terry Kem will introduce you to the basics of track identification and interpretation and the awareness and stealth skills needed to watch wildlife at close range. You will also learn to make plaster casts of animal tracks. Suitable for adults and families. Bring a snack and meet at the floodplain parking area. Registration and a \$10 fee are required in advance. There is a \$4 per vehicle entry fee, payable at the gate. To register, call 503-797-1850 option 4. *Metro*

### **Wetlands 101 workshop**

**8:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, May 17**

Get to know your local wetlands! This workshop will tour the dynamic Big Four Corners area located in the upper Columbia Slough, highlighting local wetland history, land use change, development and current management and restoration strategies. Discussion will include wetland functions and values, plants and wildlife, and recreational and stewardship opportunities. Free. For more information, call 503-281-1132. *Columbia Slough Watershed Council* ♿ by arrangement

### **Sandy River Spey Clave at Oxbow**

**8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, May 17 and 18**

Come to Oxbow Regional Park for a gathering of anglers interested in two-hand fly rod fishing. There will be manufacturers' booths set up with a huge selection of the latest tackle to try as well as

free casting lessons. On the water casting demonstrations by some of the world's foremost casting instructors go on all day, each day. Lunch will be served. Overnight camping is available in the park on a first-come, first-served basis for \$15 per night (up to six people per site). Program is free with a \$4 entrance fee to the park. For more information, call The Fly Fishing Shop at 503-622-4607. *Metro* and *The Fly Fishing Shop*

### **Crepuscular walk at Jackson Bottom**

**7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, May 31**

Things look different when the sun goes down! Twilight is the best part of the day for many wild creatures; enjoy an evening walk to discover what is leading the crepuscular life at the wetlands. \$4 per person. Advance registration required; call Hillsboro Parks and Recreation at 503-681-5397. *Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve*

### **Willamette River islands paddle**

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

Catch the first signs of spring on Willamette River islands near West Linn. Paddle around the back channels of Cedar and Hogg islands. 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. *Willamette Riverkeeper*

### **Smith and Bybee Wetlands paddles**

Bring your own kayak or canoe and personal flotation device. The new water control structure is helping to restore the natural 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 due to low water levels. Advance registration required. *Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes*

**noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 22**

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

**noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 27**

To register, call Troy Clark at 503-249-0482

**11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 10**

To register, call Jeff Locke at 503-771-1500

### **Tualatin River paddle tour and nature walk**

**10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 19**  
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. Enjoy a brief walk to explore the forested part of the property. Then explore

## **Connecting Green**

**Celebrating 20 years of parks, trails and natural areas**

**5 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 23**

**C**elebrate two decades of parks, trails and natural area planning in the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan region at a Connecting Green gathering at the Bridgeport Brew Pub in Northwest Portland. Twenty years ago a small group of advocates met at Metro with local and regional park planners and elected officials to kick off an effort to plan for the protection and restoration of natural areas and the creation of a bi-state interconnected system of parks, trails and natural areas. That meeting led to adoption of a regional greenspaces master plan in 1992 and passage of two bond measures in the Portland metropolitan area, allowing the purchase, restoration and protection of more than 12,000 acres of natural areas and streamside habitat. All are welcome. For more information, call Mike Houck at 503-319-7155 or send e-mail to [mikehouck@urbangreenspaces.org](mailto:mikehouck@urbangreenspaces.org). *Connecting Green Alliance, Bridgeport Brew Pub and Bakery*

## **Paddle trips**

### **Columbia Slough restoration paddle**

**9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 8**

Visit the Ramsey Refugia restoration project and several mitigation projects in the lower slough, discuss habitat restoration and enhancement in the urban environment, and do some birding along the way. Bring your own kayak or canoe; personal flotation device required. Directions and other details will be provided to registrants. Free. Advance registration required; visit [www.audubonportland.org](http://www.audubonportland.org) or call 971-222-6116. *Audubon Society of Portland*

## Smith and Bybee Wetlands canoe trips

1 to 4 p.m. Saturdays, May 24 and June 7

**F**or the second year Metro is offering boat trips at Smith and Bybee Wetlands for those who do not own a boat. Experience Smith and Bybee Wetlands from the water with Metro naturalist James Davis and see wildlife that is harder to see on land. Suitable for adults and families; children must be accompanied by an adult. Some experience being in a canoe or kayak is recommended. You have the choice of a canoe (which holds 2-3 people) or a limited number of single kayaks. If you come by yourself and do not choose a kayak, you'll be paired with another person in a canoe. Program fee includes boat, paddles and personal flotation devices provided by our outfitter. \$35 per person; \$15 for a third person in a canoe. Registration and payment required one week in advance of each trip; call 503-797-1850 option 4. If you own a boat and are interested in a guided paddle trip, check out the trips offered by the Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes (pg. 10). *Metro*

the habitats of this area paddling the river for about three hours. This section of the Tualatin River meanders through the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge. Beaver, nutria and river otter are common in this stretch of the river and you 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 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 and may rent a canoe for an additional \$30. Call 503-620-7507 to register. *Metro* and *Tualatin Riverkeepers*

### John James Audubon's birthday paddle 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 26

Join Mike Houck on a leisurely paddle around Ross, Hardtack, East and Toe islands and learn the natural history of this four island archipelago and the issues concerning public ownership and long term management of the islands. Bring your own equipment. Suitable for beginning paddlers. Free. Advance registration required; visit [www.audubonportland.org](http://www.audubonportland.org) or call 971-222-6116. *Audubon Society of Portland*

### Spring paddle 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 10

Local avian expert Doug Robberson will share his extensive knowledge of local birds as you explore the Tualatin River from Tualatin Community Park. \$5 for members; \$10 for nonmembers, who may rent a canoe for \$30. Advance registration required; call 503-620-7507. *Tualatin Riverkeepers*

## Volunteer ventures

### KEEP NATURE IN NEIGHBORHOODS

#### Sewallcrest Park work days

10 a.m. to noon Sundays, March 2, April 6 and May 4  
Come to Sewallcrest Park in Southeast Portland to help replace the use of pesticides in parks by weeding. Snacks, gloves and tools will be provided. Meet at Southeast 31st Avenue and Market Street. For more information, call Megan at 503-423-7549. *Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides*

#### Blackberry removal at Morrison Woods Park

9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, March 8 and April 12  
Help remove Himalayan blackberry from a portion of the riparian corridor of a tributary of Beaverton's South Johnson Creek that runs through Morrison Woods Park. Bring loppers, a shovel, work gloves and a water bottle, if possible. Refreshments will be provided. Meet at the park entrance on Southwest Muledeer Drive, south of Marcile Lane. To register, call Melissa at 503-629-6305 ext. 2953. *Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District*

#### Columbia Slough stewardship Saturdays

9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, March 8, April 12 and May 10  
Work to improve habitat within the Columbia Slough watershed. Help with a variety of activities, including invasive species removal, native tree planting and trail maintenance. For more information, call Jesse at 503-281-1132. *Columbia Slough Watershed Council*

#### Native Plant Center volunteer ventures

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 8  
Help pot bare-root native trees and shrubs for next winter's volunteer restoration projects. Volunteers will also be planting bulbs and seedlings into grow-out beds and helping maintain the beds. This is a great way to learn more about Metro's native species conservation program. Prior gardening experience is not required. Gloves, tools, water and a snack will be provided. Advance registration required; call 503-701-7554. *Metro*

#### Tree planting at Sweek Pond

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 8  
Help with a restoration project by planting trees at Sweek Pond in Gladstone. Trees and tools will be provided. Suitable for all ages. Advance registration required; visit [www.solv.org](http://www.solv.org) or call Brett at 503-844-9571 ext. 332. *SOLV*

#### Willamette River water quality monitoring training

6 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 12  
Learn about Willamette Riverkeeper's volunteer water quality monitoring program, techniques and opportunities in the Portland area. Geared towards retraining current volunteer but open to a few new volunteers interested in making a one year commitment to the program. Advance registration required; call Sarah at 503-223-6418. *Willamette Riverkeeper*

#### Camassia Natural Area work party

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 15  
This 27-acre preserve near West Linn features woodlands, wildflower meadows, rock gardens, ponds and willow and aspen swales. Home to

more than 300 plant species, including several rare species, Camassia is a special gem in a rapidly growing urban area. Volunteers will help restore oak habitat, remove debris, plant native species and maintain trails. Advance registration required; call Susan at 503-802-8100. *The Nature Conservancy*

### **Forest Park day of stewardship**

**8 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 15**

Meet new folks, learn new skills and give back to Forest Park by helping remove invasive species and planting of native trees and shrubs. For more information, visit [www.forestparkconservancy.org](http://www.forestparkconservancy.org). *Forest Park Conservancy*

### **George Himes Park work days**

**9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, March 15, April 19 and May 17**

Join the Hillsdale Neighborhood Association and the West Willamette Restoration Project for a morning of urban forest renewal. Meet at the corner of Southwest Nebraska Street and Terwilliger Boulevard. For more information, call Melanie at 503-699-9825. *Three Rivers Land Conservancy*

### **Mulching native plants at Cedar Mill Park**

**9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 22**

Help mulch native trees and shrubs in the natural areas of Cedar Mill Park. Bring a pitchfork, wheelbarrow, heavy-duty work gloves and a water bottle, if possible. 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*

### **Native Plant Center volunteer ventures**

**9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 22**

Help pot bare-root native trees and shrubs for next winter's volunteer restoration projects at Metro's Native Plant Center. Volunteers will also be planting bulbs and seedlings into grow-out beds and helping maintain the beds. This is a great way to learn more about Metro's native species conservation program. Prior gardening experience is not required. Gloves, tools, water and a snack will be provided. Advance registration required; call 503-701-7554. *Metro*

### **StreamTeam native tree potting**

**8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 22**

Join the StreamTeam for a day of tree potting fun while learning about native plant propagation. Individuals, families and community groups are invited. Tools, training and supplies are provided. For more information, call Lisa at 360-992-8585. *Clark Public Utilities*

### **Marquam Nature Park work parties**

**9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, March 29, April 26 and May 31**

Join Friends of Marquam Nature Park and the West Willamette Restoration Project for a morning of urban forest renewal. Meet at Council Crest Park. Volunteers must be able to work on uneven terrain. For more information, call Melanie at 503-699-9825. *Three Rivers Land Conservancy*

### **StreamTeam water quality monitoring**

**8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 5**

Join the StreamTeam in monitoring local waters and learn about the wonders of water quality. Tools, training and supplies will be provided; entering the



*Graham Oaks natural area*

*NarrativeLab, Inc. photo*

## **Restoration projects tailor-made for your group**

If your service club, faith group, school, workplace or scout troop is looking for a way to get outside and get dirty this spring, Metro has a restoration project just for you! Whatever your group's size, location or interest, Metro's volunteer program can develop a project in a beautiful natural area or park, tailored specifically to your needs. Spring is the perfect time to get involved. Call Bonnie at 503-797-1653 or send e-mail to [shoffnerb@metro.dst.or.us](mailto:shoffnerb@metro.dst.or.us) for more information.

stream is optional. For more information, call Lisa at 360-992-8585 or send e-mail to [StreamTeam@clarkpud.com](mailto:StreamTeam@clarkpud.com). *Clark Public Utilities*

### **Arbor Lodge Park work days**

**9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, April 5 and May 3**

Help replace the use of pesticides with people power by weeding at this North Portland park. Snacks, gloves and tools will be provided. Meet at North Bryant Street and Greeley Avenue. For more information, call Megan at 503-423-7549. *Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides*

### **Hallinan natural area holly haul away**

**10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 5**

Help clear out English holly by hauling away the already-cut holly and laurel debris

at Hallinan natural area. Equipment and snacks will be provided. Advance registration required; call Alla Johnson at 503-534-5742. *Lake Oswego Parks and Recreation*

### **Keller Woodlands work parties**

**9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, April 5 and May 3**

Join Three Rivers Land Conservancy and the West Willamette Restoration Project for a morning of urban forest renewal. The site is 0.6 miles north of the Chart House on Terwilliger Boulevard. Look for the Three Rivers banner. Volunteers must be able to work on uneven terrain. For more information, call Melanie at 503-699-9825. *Three Rivers Land Conservancy*

### **Native Plant Center volunteer ventures**

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday,  
April 5

Help plant out native plugs and seedlings, mulch plantings and sustain the beds of native species that will produce seeds for Metro's restoration projects at Graham Oaks, Mount Talbert and Cooper Mountain natural areas. Learn how you can get involved with these conservation projects from the ground up. Prior gardening experience is not required. Gloves, tools, water and a snack will be provided. Advance registration required; call 503-701-7554. *Metro*

### **Scotch broom pull at Matrix Hill Park**

9 a.m. to noon Saturdays,  
April 5 and May 3

Help remove scotch broom from the natural areas of Matrix Hill Park. Bring heavy-duty work gloves and a water bottle, if possible. Refreshments will be provided. Meet at the paved trailhead located at the end of Southwest 149th Avenue, just north off of Southwest Beard Road. To register, call Melissa at 503-629-6305 ext. 2953. *Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District*

### **Sandy River Gorge work party: Partridge tract**

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday,  
April 12

Just 20 miles east of Portland, this preserve hosts pristine habitats, including an old-growth forest, and provides a home to native salmon, elk, river otter and other wildlife. Help maintain trails, roads and culverts and remove invasives. For more information, call Susan at 503-802-8100. *The Nature Conservancy*

### **Forest Park trail work party**

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays,  
April 19 and May 17

Meet new folks, learn new skills and give back to Forest Park by helping with routine

trail maintenance, building turnpikes, and installing bridges and culverts. For more information, visit [www.forest-parkconservancy.org](http://www.forest-parkconservancy.org). *Forest Park Conservancy*


### **Native Plant Center volunteer ventures**

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday,  
April 19

Help plant out native plugs and seedlings, mulch plantings and sustain the beds of native species that will produce seeds for Metro's restoration projects at Graham Oaks, Mount Talbert and Cooper Mountain natural areas. Learn how you can get involved with these conservation projects from the ground up. Prior gardening experience is not required. Gloves, tools, water and a snack will be provided. Advance registration required; call 503-701-7554. *Metro*

### **SOLV IT**

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday,  
April 19

SOLV IT, one of the largest Earth Day events in the nation, focuses on cleaning up illegal dumpsites and neighborhoods, trail maintenance, watershed restoration and community center improvements. Thousands of volunteers converge at more than 100 project sites throughout the region, including Metro natural areas. Register online at [www.solv.org](http://www.solv.org) or by calling 503-844-9571. SOLV  by arrangement

### **StreamTeam Earth Day planting celebration**

8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday,  
April 19

Join the StreamTeam in celebrating Earth Day! Plant a native tree and learn how you can make every day Earth Day. Individuals, families and community groups are invited. Tools, training and supplies will be provided. For more information, call Lisa at 360-992-8585 or send e-mail to [StreamTeam@clarkpud.com](mailto:StreamTeam@clarkpud.com). *Clark Public Utilities*


### **Native Plant Center volunteer ventures**

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday,  
May 3

Help out at Metro's Native Plant Center by potting seedlings, sustaining the potted plants, planting annual native seeds and monitoring the grow-out beds for beneficial insects. Prior gardening experience is not required. Gloves, tools, water and a snack will be provided. Advance registration required; call 503-701-7554. *Metro*


### **Dodge Park ivy removal**

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday,  
May 17

Help protect salmon habitat, explore rural Dodge Park and learn about salmon restoration in the Sandy basin all in one Saturday morning! Lunch will be provided. For more information, call Megan at 503-241-0467. *Friends of the Forest*  by arrangement

### **Down by the Riverside**

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday,  
May 17

Down by the Riverside brings thousands of Oregonians together to restore and enhance riversides and improve the health of watersheds across the region. Volunteers help build trails, plant native trees and shrubs, remove invasive vegetation, clean up illegally dumped materials and work on many other valuable projects. Work-sites include Metro natural areas along Beaver Creek and the Clackamas River. Suitable for all ages. For more information, visit [www.solv.org](http://www.solv.org) or call Sara at 503-844-9571. SOLV  by arrangement

### **Native Plant Center volunteer ventures**

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday,  
May 17

Help out at Metro's Native Plant Center by potting seedlings, sustaining the potted plants, planting annual native seeds and monitoring the grow-out beds for beneficial

insects. Prior gardening experience is not required. Gloves, tools, water and a snack will be provided. Advance registration required; call 503-701-7554. *Metro*

### **Sandy River Gorge work party: Cornwell tract**

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday,  
May 17

Just 20 miles east of Portland, this preserve hosts pristine habitats, including an old-growth forest, and provides a home to native salmon, elk, river otter and other wildlife. Help maintain trails, roads and culverts and remove invasives. For more information, call Susan at 503-802-8100. *The Nature Conservancy*

### **WERK Day in Wilsonville**

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday,  
May 17

Join a citywide cleanup and restoration effort. Volunteers participate at a variety of sites including Metro's Graham Oaks natural area. Volunteers will be treated to breakfast, free t-shirts and prizes. Individuals, families, businesses and service groups are encouraged to participate. Advance registration required by May 12; call Patty Brescia at 503-570-1525. *City of Wilsonville*

### **Invasive plant removal at Vale Park**

9 a.m. to noon Saturday,  
May 31

Help remove scotch broom and Himalayan blackberry from the natural areas of Vale Park. Bring a shovel, set of loppers, heavy-duty work gloves and a water bottle, if possible. Refreshments will be provided. Meet at the park entrance on Southwest Rosa Road east of 196th Avenue. To register, call Melissa at 503-629-6305 ext. 2953. *Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District*

## Pioneer cemeteries

**Lone Fir historical tours**  
**10 a.m. to noon Saturdays, March 8, April 12 and May 10**  
 Enjoy the beauty and tranquility of Metro's Lone Fir Pioneer Cemetery. The tour highlights Portland's founders, early pioneers and nationally renowned figures as well as some beautiful and unusual monument art. Explore 30 acres of mature trees and a very special rose garden. Suitable for all ages. Enter at Southeast 21st Avenue and Morrison Street. Advance registration not required. Suggested donation, \$10. Call 503-775-6278 for details. *Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery* by arrangement

### Earth Day cleanup at Lone Fir

**10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 19**  
 Celebrate Earth Day and the beginning of spring in the cemetery as we clean up after winter's bluster. Help rake leaves and pick up branches. Bring your own work gloves and rakes, if possible, but extras will be provided. Suitable for all ages. Meet at Southeast 21st Avenue and Morrison Street. Advance registration not required. Call 503-775-6278 for details. *Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery*

### Stone cleaning workshop at Lone Fir Cemetery

**10 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 17**  
 Learn the proper methodology for cleaning and caring for headstones to ensure their safety and longevity. Headstones are vulnerable to many dangers; learn how not to be one! Suitable for all ages. Meet at Southeast 21st Avenue and Morrison Street. Advance registration not required. Call 503-775-6278 for details. *Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery* by arrangement

## Calendar at a glance

### WEEKLY

**Wednesdays**  
 Lunch with the birds, pg. 7  
**Fridays**  
 Story and stroll at Tryon Creek, pg. 8  
**Saturdays**  
 Saturday guided nature hikes, pg. 8

### MARCH

2 Naturescaping at Tryon Creek, pg. 6  
 2 Ranger walk at Tualatin Hills Nature Park, pg. 7  
 2 Sewallcrest Park work day, pg. 11  
 2 TrackersClubPDX, pg. 7  
 8 Morrison Woods Park work day, pg. 11  
 8 Columbia Slough paddle, pg. 10  
 8 Columbia Slough stewardship Saturday, pg. 11  
 8 Gardening with natives at Tualatin Hills Nature Park, pg. 6  
 8 Lone Fir Cemetery historical tour, pg. 14  
 8 Native Plant Center work day, pg. 11  
 8 Tree planting at Sweek Pond, pg. 11  
 9 Oaks Education Center grand opening, pg. 8  
 9 Lecture series at Tryon Creek, pg. 6  
 11 Oaks Bottom walk, pg. 8  
 12 Willamette River water quality monitoring training, pg. 11  
 15 Jackson Bottom wetlands walk, pg. 8  
 15 Camassia Natural Area work party, pg. 11  
 15 Forest Park day of stewardship, pg. 12  
 15 Fundamentals of tracking at Oxbow, pg. 8  
 15 George Himes Park work day, pg. 12  
 15 Slough 101 workshop, pg. 8  
 15 Spring bird walk, pg. 7  
 15 Willamette River islands paddle, pg. 10  
 19 Bird watching for beginners, pg. 7  
 22 Bunny Bonanza egg hunt, pg. 6  
 22 Mulching native plants at Cedar Mills Park, pg. 12  
 22 Native Plant Center work day, pg. 12  
 22 Oaks Bottom walk, pg. 8  
 22 Smith and Bybee Wetlands paddle, pg. 10  
 22 StreamTeam native tree potting, pg. 12  
 29 Marqu Nature Park work day, pg. 12  
 29 Springwater Corridor ride, pg. 8  
 29 Wildlife center dedication at Tualatin River National Refuge, pg. 8  
 30 Ethnobotany at Oxbow, pg. 9  
 30 Lecture series at Tryon Creek, pg. 9

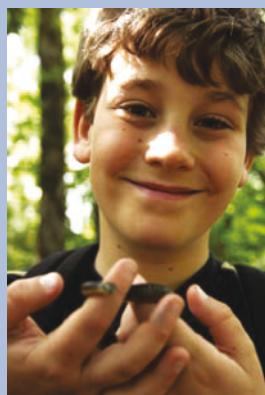
### APRIL

4 Oaks Bottom walk, pg. 8  
 5 Arbor Lodge Park work day, pg. 12  
 5 Hallinan natural area holly haul away, pg. 12  
 5 Hillsboro parks, naturally, pg. 9  
 5 Keller Woodlands work party, pg. 12  
 5 Native Plant Center work day, pg. 13  
 5 Painted turtle walk, pg. 9  
 5 Rain garden workshop, pg. 6  
 5 Ranger walk at Tualatin Hills Nature Park, pg. 7  
 5 Matrix Hill Park work day, pg. 13  
 5 Spring bird walk, pg. 7  
 5 Water quality monitoring, pg. 12  
 5 TrackersClubPDX, pg. 7  
 6 Ranger walk at Tualatin Hills Nature Park, pg. 7  
 6 Sewallcrest Park work day, pg. 11  
 6 TrackersClubPDX, pg. 7  
 9 Spring bird identification class, pg. 7  
 12 Morrison Woods Park work day, pg. 11  
 12 Clear Creek Canyon tour, pg. 9  
 12 Columbia Slough stewardship Saturday, pg. 11  
 12 Family nature connection day, pg. 9  
 12 Lone Fir Cemetery historical tour, pg. 14  
 12 Naturescaping basic workshop in Sherwood, pg. 6  
 12 Sandy River Gorge work party, pg. 13  
 12 Wild foods of Forest Park, pg. 9  
 12 Wildflowers: from wild spaces to private places, pg. 6  
 16 Warblers of Oregon, pg. 7  
 19 Jackson Bottom wetlands walk, pg. 8  
 19 Celebrating Water: Connecting water, land and people, pg. 9  
 19 Earth Day cleanup at Lone Fir, pg. 14  
 19 Fanno Creek Greenway ride, pg. 9  
 19 Forest Park trail work party, pg. 13  
 19 George Himes Park work day, pg. 12  
 19 Native Plant Center work day, pg. 13  
 19 SOLV IT, pg. 13  
 19 Spring bird walk, pg. 7  
 19 StreamTeam Earth Day planting, pg. 13  
 19 Tualatin River paddle and walk, pg. 10  
 20 Wild foods of Oxbow, pg. 9  
 23 Connecting Green, pg. 10  
 25 Oaks Bottom walk, pg. 8  
 25 Audubon's birthday paddle, pg. 11  
 26 Marqu Nature Park work day, pg. 12  
 26 Naturescaping workshop in Tigard, pg. 6  
 26 Songbirds of Mount Talbert, pg. 7  
 26 Wildflower hike at Tualatin Hills Nature Park, pg. 9

27 Birding at Killin Wetlands, pg. 7  
 27 Smith and Bybee Wetlands paddle, pg. 10  
 27 Wildflowers at Oxbow, pg. 9

### MAY

3 Arbor Lodge Park work day, pg. 12  
 3 Gardening with natives at Tualatin Hills Nature Park, pg. 6  
 3 Keller Woodlands work party, pg. 12  
 3 Native Plant Center work day, pg. 13  
 3 Painted turtle walk, pg. 9  
 3 Matrix Hill Park work day, pg. 13  
 3 Ranger walk at Tualatin Hills Nature Park, pg. 7  
 3 Spring bird walk, pg. 7  
 3 TrackersClubPDX, pg. 7  
 4 Animal tracking at Oxbow, pg. 10  
 4 Ranger walk at Tualatin Hills Nature Park, pg. 7  
 4 Sewallcrest Park work day, pg. 11  
 4 TrackersClubPDX, pg. 7  
 9 Brunch with the birds at Columbia Slough, pg. 7  
 10 Columbia Slough stewardship Saturday, pg. 11  
 10 Lecture series: Breeding birds, pg. 7  
 10 Lone Fir Cemetery historical tour, pg. 14  
 10 Smith and Bybee Wetlands paddle, pg. 10  
 10 Spring paddle, pg. 11  
 17 Jackson Bottom wetlands walk, pg. 8  
 17 Dodge Park ivy removal, pg. 13  
 17 Down by the Riverside, pg. 13  
 17 Forest Park trail work party, pg. 13  
 17 George Himes Park work day, pg. 12  
 17 Lone Fir Cemetery workshop, pg. 14  
 17 Native Plant Center work day, pg. 13  
 17 Sandy River Gorge work party, pg. 13  
 17 Sandy River Spey Clave, pg. 10  
 17 Songbirds of Mount Talbert, pg. 7  
 17 Spring bird walk, pg. 7  
 17 WERK Day in Wilsonville, pg. 13  
 17 Wetlands 101 workshop, pg. 10  
 17 Wild gourmet edibles, pg. 6  
 18 Sandy River Spey Clave, pg. 10  
 24 Smith and Bybee Wetlands canoe trip, pg. 11  
 31 Crepusclar walk at Jackson Bottom, pg. 10  
 31 Vale Park work day, pg. 13  
 31 Marqu Nature Park work day, pg. 12



### Plan ahead for summer nature camp

Parents and children, join TrackersNW for a summer of outdoor fun and adventure. TrackersNW is partnering with Metro to offer Nature Folklore Immersion Camps at several regional parks and natural areas. Children play outdoors and learn about sustainability, nature awareness and community. Registration is happening now. For more information, call or visit [www.trackersnw.com](http://www.trackersnw.com) or call 503-453-3038.

# See you there!

## Metro parks and facilities

### Blue Lake Regional Park

185-acre park with a natural lake, water spray ground, swimming, fishing, boat rentals, food concessions, archery, reservable picnic shelters, ball fields, The Lake House, Nicháqwli monument, trails, wetlands observation deck, community events and natural discovery garden

20500 NE Marine Drive in Fairview

*\$4 per car and \$7 per bus*

### Oxbow Regional Park

1,200-acre nature park with old-growth forest, wild and scenic Sandy River, wildlife watching, nature programs, field trips, fishing, swimming, boat launch, paddling, hiking, camping, reservable picnic areas, horseback riding, playgrounds and ball fields

3010 SE Oxbow Parkway east of Gresham

*\$4 per car and \$7 per bus*

### Howell Territorial Park

120-acre park with reservable picnic areas, pioneer orchard, natural area, nature programs, field trips and historic farmhouse

13605 NW Howell Park Road on Sauvie Island

### Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area

2,000-acre natural area with wetlands, wildlife watching, accessible trails, canoe launch, nature programs and field trips

5300 N Marine Drive in Portland

### Beggars-tick Wildlife Refuge

20-acre natural area with trails and wildlife watching

Southeast 111th Avenue and Foster Road in Portland along the Springwater Corridor Trail

### Pioneer cemeteries

14 historic pioneer cemeteries managed as active facilities

Located throughout Multnomah County



### Metro's natural techniques garden

Demonstration garden with seasonal floral displays, chemical free lawns, native plants, edible landscaping, children's garden, drop-in advice clinics and seminars

6700 SE 57th Ave. in Portland

### Chinook Landing Marine Park

67-acre marine park on the Columbia River with six launching lanes, picnic areas, observation deck, fishing, swimming, trails, accessible docks and a river patrol office

22300 NE 223rd Ave. in Fairview adjacent to Blue Lake Regional Park on Marine Drive

*\$5 per vehicle*

### Sauvie Island Boat Ramp

Boat launch on Multnomah Channel

Burlington Ferry and Sauvie Island roads on Sauvie Island

### M. James Gleason Memorial Boat Ramp

Boat launch on the Columbia River with launch lanes, boarding docks, fishing, wildlife watching, trails and a river patrol office

4325 NE Marine Drive in Portland

*\$5 per vehicle*

### Glendoveer Golf Course

Two 18-hole golf courses, 2-mile fitness trail, tennis courts, driving range and restaurant

14015 NE Glisan St. in Portland

## Information numbers

### General number

503-797-1850

### Picnic reservations

503-665-4995

### Registration for Metro nature activities

503-797-1715

### Blue Lake Regional Park

503-665-4995

### The Lake House

503-252-1718

### Oxbow Regional Park

503-663-4708

### Howell Territorial Park

503-665-4995

### Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area

503-797-1844

### Marine facilities

503-665-4995

### Glendoveer Golf Course

503-253-7507


### Pioneer cemeteries

503-797-1709

### Metro recycling and natural gardening information

503-234-3000

**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 503-797-1715.

# Integrating Habitats. A design competition.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS

**Cast your vote. Add your voice.  
Shape the future.**

People from around the world submitted entries to the Integrating Habitats design competition that prove every building in which we live, work, shop and play can create places for both people and nature.



**The jurists have voted.  
Now it's your turn!**

Vote for your favorite designs that look beyond buildings and holistically consider ways that an entire development site can protect and restore wildlife habitats and water quality.

Help usher in a new era of regional development that keeps nature in all our communities and ensures the

continued preservation and enhancement of our quality of life and the environment for this generation and those to come.

Cast your vote for designs that balance development and growth with conservation and livability. Designs with the most votes will win a People's Choice Award and be featured in the Integrating Habitats Design Guide.

Cast your vote at  
[www.metro-region.org/integratinghabitats](http://www.metro-region.org/integratinghabitats)



**Metro**

600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232-2736

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Presorted Standard  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Portland, OR  
Permit No. 1246



Nature in  
Neighborhoods