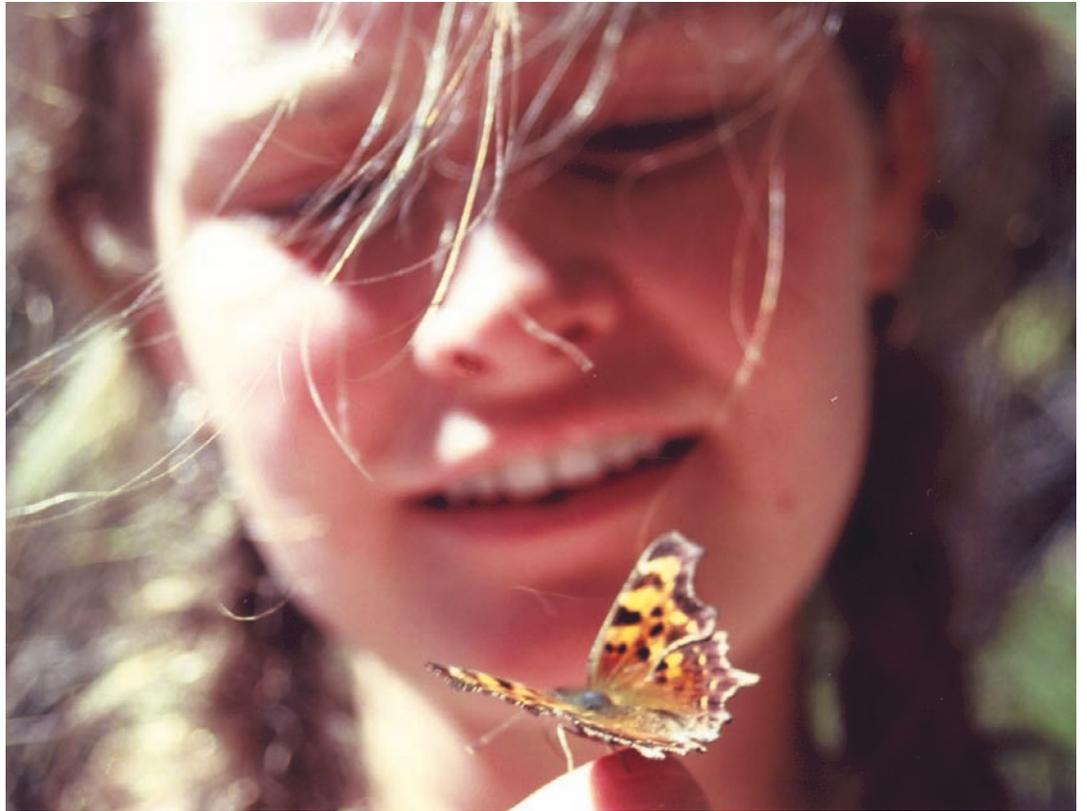


Promises *made,*



promises *kept*

*The open spaces, parks and
streams bond measure puts
nature at your doorstep*



METRO
PEOPLE PLACES
OPEN SPACES



Metro has acquired 391 acres at five locations to improve access to the Tualatin River.

Just minutes from your door, gems of green, breathtaking views, rushing rivers and quiet meandering streams await. Meadows, forests, stream banks and butte-tops will provide opportunities for people to connect with nature. Rare and unusual plants, fish and animals find food, shelter and refuge. Protected in perpetuity, these natural areas and open spaces offer a legacy for future generations.

Voters of the Portland metropolitan region enthusiastically said “yes” in 1995 to the Metro Council’s \$135.6 million open spaces, parks and streams bond measure. The program buys land from willing sellers to help protect forest, wetland, river and stream habitats and provide recreational opportunities for people now – and in the future.

“The open spaces measure was so effective because of Metro’s unique ability to look beyond city and county lines and focus on the natural landscape. Looking at the big picture of the region is where Metro can be most effective.”

Charlotte Lehan,
Wilsonville mayor

What did we get for our money?

Nearly 8,000 acres of open space, including 68 miles of stream and river frontage, have now been protected. Open space acquisition focused on 14 different natural areas and six trail and greenway projects. From a 600-acre wetland on Gales Creek near Forest Grove to a string of buttes between Gresham and Damascus, these natural areas, trails and greenways create opportunities for access to nature all around the region.

The bond measure also gave \$25 million directly to local park providers for investment in local county and city park improvements and, in some cases, even more land acquisition.

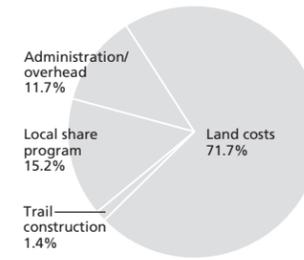
Nearly all 102 local park projects funded by the bond measure are now complete. Funds provide fish and wildlife with new places to live and people with better access to nature close to home in virtually every city, county and park district in the region. These funds added new trails, foot-bridges, boardwalks, picnic shelters, fishing docks and boat launches to local communities.

Exceeding expectations – Metro makes your dollars work harder

At Metro, we’ve worked hard to stretch your open space investment. As of June 2003, more than \$6 million has been leveraged from state

and local partners to buy land. Six private landowners donated their property to the open spaces program and five more provided partial donations – for a total of nearly 200 acres. In some cases, landowners donated conservation easements or agreed to a “bargain” sale of their property.

When the bond measure was put to voters in 1995, it was estimated that 6,000 acres would be protected and 13.35 percent of the bond proceeds would be spent on overhead and administrative costs. In fact, administrative costs averaged only 11.7 percent – and we’ve protected 8,000 acres.



Total bond measure expenditures



More than 500 acres have been protected at Clear Creek Canyon, a tributary of the Clackamas River. A major reforestation effort included planting 181,000 trees.



Photos this page, clockwise from top right:

Acquisition of the 230-acre “Wilsonville Tract” protected some 800-year-old Douglas fir trees.

Western painted turtle.

More than 850 acres of Forest Park acquisitions expand the park and include the 73-acre “hole in Forest Park.”

Bond funds paid for construction of part of the Peninsula Crossing Trail. This 3-mile trail in North Portland connects the Willamette and Columbia rivers.

Open spaces provide opportunities for learning about nature.



“Metro’s open spaces measure is one of the most successful land acquisition programs for a major metropolitan area in the country.”

Geoff Roach, Oregon Field Office director for The Trust for Public Land

Cover photos

Metro and the Xerces Society host an annual butterfly count.

Red-winged blackbird nest.

Forty-three acres were protected in and around Tryon Creek.

Metro’s acquisition of this section of Johnson Creek allowed for the removal of a dam and the return of fish to the stream.

These 373 acres near Banks include the Killin Wetlands with nearly three miles of creek frontage.

Photographs by Jane Dunkin, C. Bruce Forster, Bob Woods and Metro staff

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Acquisitions in the Rock Creek area are being managed by local park providers. These partnerships often allow the public immediate access to open space purchases.

It’s your nature, it’s your turn

Metro regularly offers opportunities for individuals and groups to visit these newly acquired open spaces. Take a tour with a staff naturalist or get involved with volunteer restoration projects. Otherwise, most of the open spaces are closed to general public use until funding is secured for master planning and future park development.

The best way to find out about upcoming tours and volunteer activities is the Metro GreenScene, available online at www.metro-region.org/greenscene. Sign up to receive the monthly GreenScene e-calendar or get on the GreenScene mailing list by calling (503) 797-1850 option 3.



Rough-skinned newt

About Metro

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 24 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.

Your Metro representatives

Metro Council President – David Bragdon

Metro Councilors –

Rod Park, deputy council president, District 1

Brian Newman, District 2

Carl Hosticka, District 3

Susan McLain, District 4

Rex Burkholder, District 5

Rod Monroe, District 6

Auditor – Alexis Dow, CPA

Metro’s web site

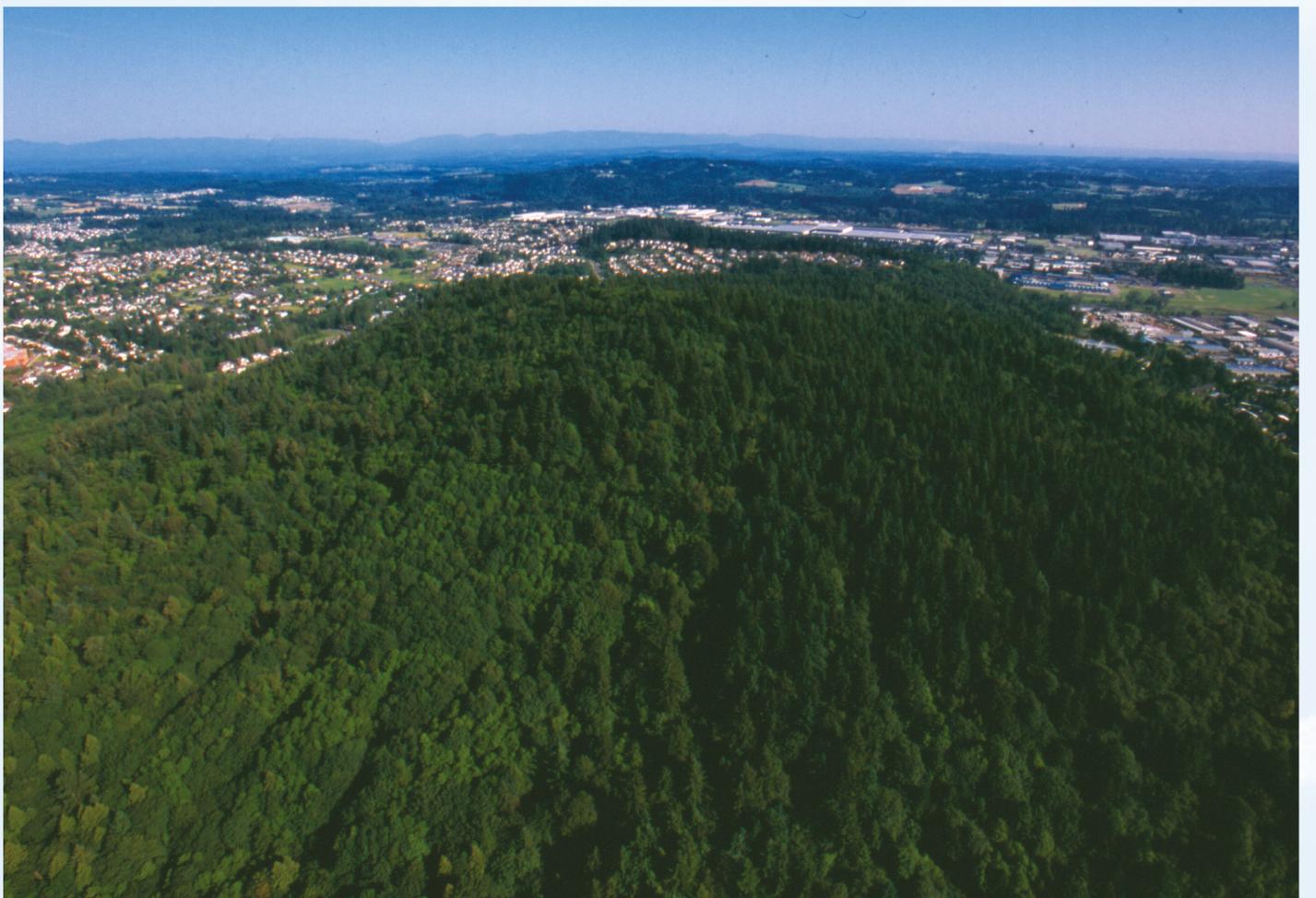
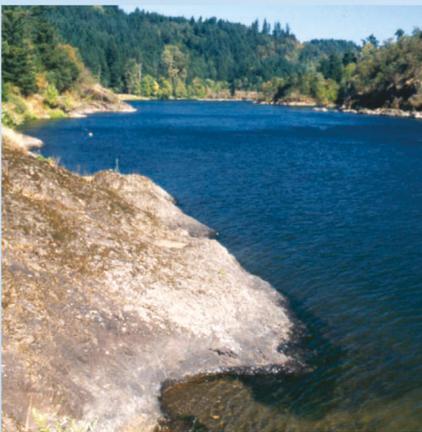
www.metro-region.org



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Nature



Above:
Tens of thousands of people who travel daily on I-205 can see Mt. Talbert. The entire butte top of Mt. Talbert is now in public ownership.

Left, from top:
Cooper Mountain boasts commanding views of the Tualatin Valley and Chealem Mountains just minutes from downtown Beaverton.

Willamette Narrows is a natural oasis near West Linn and feels miles removed from the city.

Autumn leaves blanket a forest footpath.

Young volunteer collects native plant seeds.

*at your
doorstep*



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To find out more about Metro's open spaces program, or to volunteer, call (503) 797-1728 or visit www.metro-region.org/parks.