

Exploring the willamette

kayak, canoe and bicycle

By far the best way to get to know the Willamette is on the water. A kayak or canoe allows you to slip into the numerous quiet backwaters and approach wildlife closely without disturbing them. A bicycle, too, provides a slower paced option that allows sights, sounds, and smells to enhance your river exploration. There are numerous off-street cycle paths and routes along quiet streets for most of the 60-mile route shown on this map.

Wild on the Willamette was designed specifically to complement Metro's *Bike There!* regional bicycle trail map. The bicycle routes were selected from the safest and quietest routes found in *Bike There!*



trails

While the Willamette River Greenway may be mandated by the state planning program, there is surprisingly little publicly owned land along the river's banks. Trails, too, are discontinuous. Metro's regional trail plan shows a continuous Greenway trail on both sides of the lower Willamette, but implementation of a comprehensive, fully connected Greenway path is many years away.

trails

Still, there are many miles of paved and unpaved walking and cycling paths that provide abundant opportunities to explore the river, its tributary streams and adjacent uplands. Of particular interest is the 40-Mile Loop, a recreational trail system that circumnavigates Portland and east Multnomah County. Inspired by, and named for, the 40-mile system of boulevards and parkways featured in Portland's 1903 Olmsted Park Master Plan, the 40-Mile Loop's modern day aim is to link parks and natural areas along its 160-mile circuit.

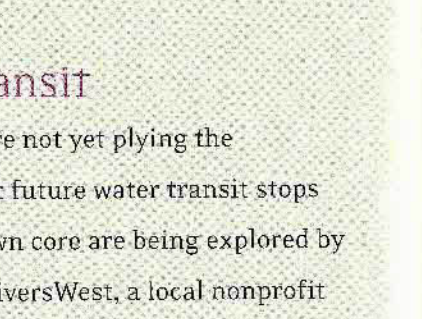
provides hikers and bicyclists who are exploring the lower Willamette, between Kelley Point Park and the Sellwood Bridge, with important connections to the region's rapidly expanding recreational trail system.

water transit

Water buses are not yet plying the Willamette but future water transit stops in the downtown core are being explored by the City and RiversWest, a local nonprofit boating organization. Low impact river bus service will soon be offered on a trial basis to RiverPlace Marina, the Eastbank Esplanade floating docks, and the Ankeny Dock near Saturday Market. In the future service may be extended upstream to South Waterfront and other locations.

willamette shore trolley

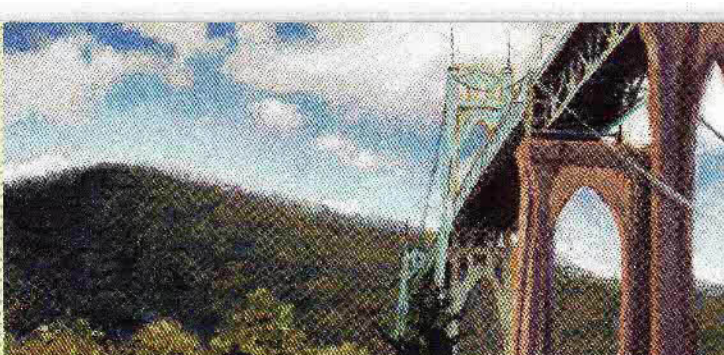
The historic Willamette Shore Trolley, with stations on Harbor Way and Moody in Portland and at "A" and State in Lake Oswego, provides a pleasant 14 mile round-trip excursion along the west bank of the Willamette. The trolley also stops several places between downtown Portland and Powers Marine Park, south of the Sellwood Bridge.



When it opened on April 22, 1913, the Broadway Bridge was the largest double-lift bascule drawbridge in the world.

The 488-acre Terminal 6 marine complex, dedicated in 1974, is built a deep-draft container and automobile terminal. It has seven container cranes.

The world's only double-deck vertical lift bridge is called the Steel Bridge because, unlike most bridges, it's built of steel, not wrought iron.



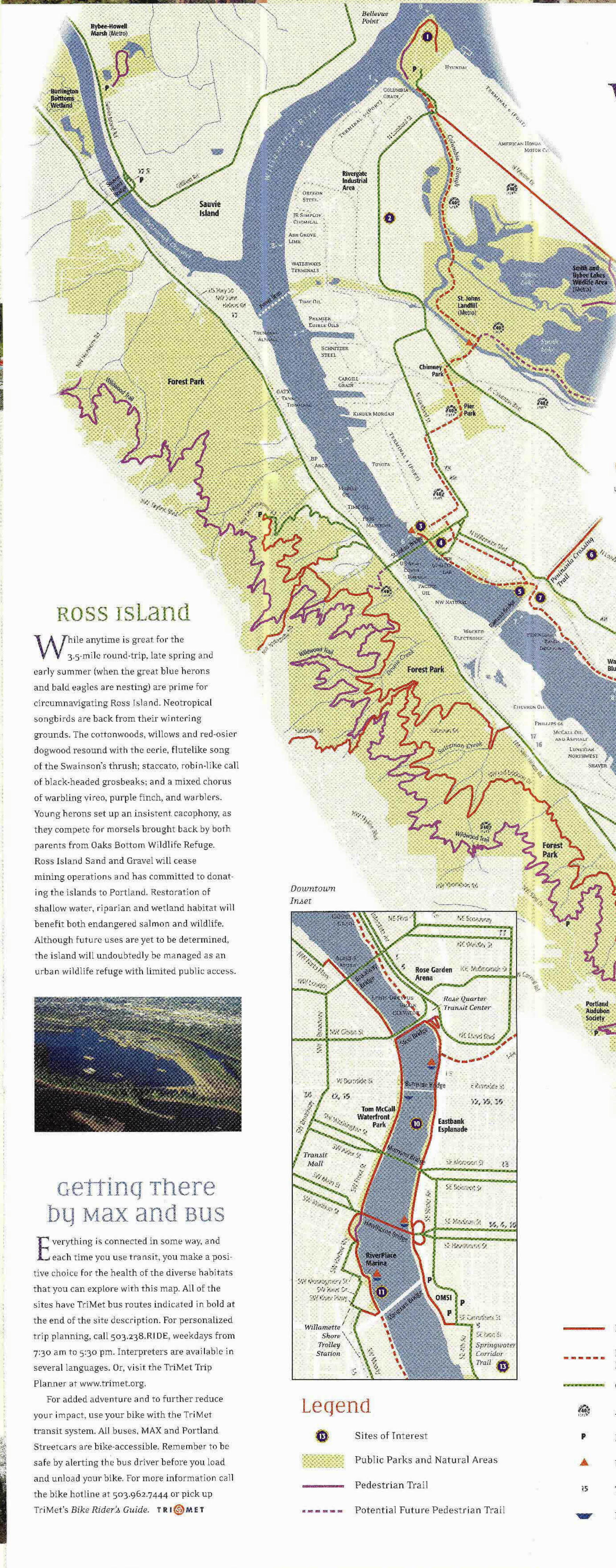
St. Johns Bridge, the Willamette Valley's only suspension bridge, was dedicated on June 13, 1931 as a featured event of the Portland Rose Festival. Cathedral Park is named for the bridge's gothic towers.



Peregrine falcons nested first in 1994 on the Fremont Bridge and in 1996 they started nesting on the St. Johns Bridge and two other metro area bridges.



The 902-foot long center span of the Fremont Bridge was jacked 175 feet into place in 1973 over a 50-hour period. It is the world's longest tied-arch orthotropic deck bridge without piers in the main channel.



wild on the willamette

Exploring the Lower Willamette River

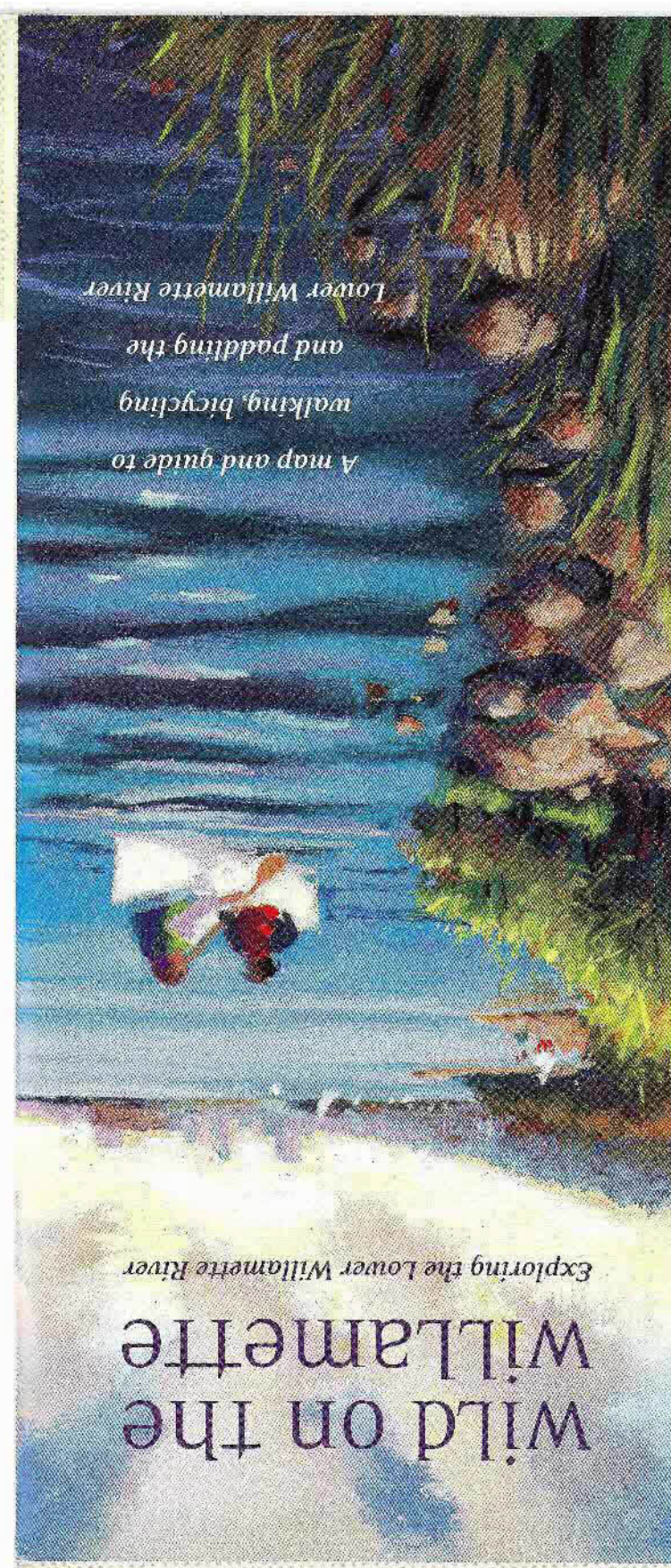
Much has changed in the 200 years since William Clark explored the lower Willamette. *Wild on the Willamette* invites you to make your own modern day Corps of Discovery. The Eastbank Esplanade, efforts to eliminate combined sewer overflows, the new Springwater Trail between OMSI and Sellwood Riverfront Park, restoration plans for Ross Island and its imminent transfer to the public, the Port's riverbank restoration program, and expanded greenway plans for the redevelopment of South Waterfront all point to a River Renaissance on the Willamette. While myriad environmental challenges remain, including contaminated sediments, Portland harbor superfund designation, degraded habitat, and pollutant-laden water, efforts to address these and other issues are underway. Explore the river. Get to know it. Then, get involved.

The Willamette varies dramatically along the 35-mile upstream journey from the gritty working harbor, with its petroleum tank farms and marine terminals, to serene

backwaters upstream at the Willamette Narrows. Sometimes the quietude belies the fact you are in the heart of a metropolitan area. At other times the din from highways and industry leaves little doubt where you are. Yet, no matter where you are on the river, it fascinates - whether you are paddling alongside a towering Pacific-bound cargo ship near Swan Island or crossing the river on the picturesque Conby Ferry. Even in hard-scrabble industrial areas nature is nearby. To a peregrine falcon the cliff-like superstructure of the Fremont and St. Johns bridges provide nesting habitat. Great blue herons, curlews, and bald eagles perch on aging pilings in the Portland harbor. In the slack waters of Holgate Channel, you're likely to see a river otter mauling on fish.

Landward, camas-filled meadows and oak-savannah prairies dominate the rural residential lands and rolling backcountry roads between West Linn and Peach Cove. Whether you're in a boat, on a bicycle, or in a bus or car there is a lot of wild yet to explore on the lower Willamette River.

- 96-acre Kelley Point Park's extensive shoreline offers spectacular river views. An informal canoe launch provides easy access to the Columbia Slough, Willamette and Columbia rivers. New Englander Hall J. Kelley attempted to establish a city here before Portland won out as a port over Oregon City and
- One hundred years before it was an industrial area, Rivergate Industrial Park was owned by Frederick W. Leadbetter and his wife Caroline Pittock Leadbetter, daughter of *The Oregonian's* publisher. Their 2,000 acres of undiked river bottom, then a private duck hunting club, were willed to Willamette University in 1948 and sold to the Port of Portland in 1965 for just over \$2 million. Today's 2,800-acre industrial area employs about 5,500 people. 4, 466, 75
- In 1847 James Johns settled at today's Cathedral Park, operating ferries to Linton. The 18-acre site was acquired by the City in 1968. Howard Galbraith, St. Johns' "honorary mayor," helped raise \$7.5 million to build the park. 4f, 175, 466, 75
- Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services' Water Quality Lab opened in February, 1997 to analyze water and sediments and to monitor effluent from industries, Portland's wastewater treatment process, and stormwater quality. Native vegetation "swales" treat parking lot and roof runoff before it is discharged to the river. 4f, 175, 466, 75
- Henry Corbett used Willamette Cove as a private duck-hunting club at the turn of the 19th century. After a period of industrial use it became derelict land, eventually being purchased by Metro as public greenspace. The 27-acre site has no formal access but is easily reached by boat or informal trails. A Willamette Greenway trail will eventually connect downtown with Cathedral Park. Access will also be provided via N Edgewater, from Willamette Boulevard, which will also connect with the Peninsula Crossing Trail. 40M
- The 3.5 mile long Peninsula Crossing Trail runs across the North Portland peninsula, linking the Willamette and Columbia Rivers. It runs from NE Carey and Princeton to the City's wastewater treatment plant on N Columbia Boulevard, where a bridge crosses the Columbia Slough and a bicycle pedestrian path continues north along N Portland Road to Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area and Marine Drive. 40M
- The 43-acre McCormick and Baxter site, home to a croesiting company from 1944 to 1991, is highly contaminated with pollutants. Over 2,000 gallons of creosote have been recovered since Oregon Department of Environmental Quality developed a clean up plan. Neighborhoods are advocating that the site be turned into a park to complement the adjacent Willamette Cove natural area. 40M
- In 1920, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers initiated a series of projects that shifted the river to the west of Swan Island. In 1921, the Port of Portland bought 253 acres that, from 1926 to 1940 served as Portland's first commercial airport. It later was transformed for World War II shipbuilding and, more recently, as a ship repair facility. The rest of Swan Island is a major industrial park, home to Freightliner, UPS, FedEx, and the US Coast Guard Marine Safety Office headquarters. The best public access is via McCarthy Park's paved Willamette Greenway trail, which features a pair of interpretive sites developed by the Port detailing Portland's role as a commercial shipping center. There are also several river access points to a long, rocky beach and informal boat ramp. A formal boat ramp and another Port interpretive site are at the south end of the Swan Island lagoon. 85, 72
- Mock's Crest Park is a City-owned, one-acre park purchased in 1999 with Portland's share of Metro's 1995 \$136 million regional Greenspaces bond. Tucked away at the end of N Skidmore Terrace, it has benches, a small orchard and great views of Swan Island and the harbor. Greeley, 1G
- The 1.5 mile Eastbank Esplanade includes a 1,200-foot floating walkway - the longest in the US - and interpretive signs that provide historical, architectural and ecological information, and whimsical art work. Floating docks at either end afford a convenient east side access for kayakers, canoes and other watercraft. It is part of a scenic three-mile downtown loop for walkers and joggers. Upstream, just past OMSI is the Springwater Trail, which runs three miles to Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge and Sellwood Riverfront
- Park. Riverbank restoration projects used native vegetation to improve fish and wildlife habitat. MAX Light Rail, Rose Quarter Transit Center 1, 4, 5, 8, 10, 13, 20, 70, 74, 77, 55, 55
- 4.5-acre South Waterfront Park has 1,000 feet of river frontage. Formerly a lumber mill and the City's steam plant, the park provides the best downtown river access and is a good place to pull out with your canoe or take a stroll on the sandy beach at low water.
- Ross Island and its sister islands have been coveted by the public since John Charles Olmsted recommended their purchase in his 1903 Portland Park Master Plan. Great blue heron and bald eagles nest on the islands and other wildlife, including river otter and beaver, use the islands as well. Holgate Channel would be an ideal motor-free sanctuary for kayakers, canoeists and scullers.
- The three-mile Springwater Trail between OMSI and SE Umatilla Street is the newest addition to Portland's Willamette Greenway trail system. It provides excellent views of herons nesting on nearby East Island and the wetlands at Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge. This trail will soon connect with the Springwater Corridor Trail along Johnson Creek. SE 50th Avenue - 19, SE 17th - 20
- The less than one-acre Heron Pointe Wetland, situated on the Willamette Greenway trail next to Heron Pointe Condominiums, supports a surprising array of native birds and mammals, including beaver. An interpretive sign provides information about wetland restoration efforts by the condominium owners and the City's Bureau of Environmental Services and Parks. 35, 40f, 43
- The large boat ramp, dock, restrooms, picnic area and Willamette Greenway trail make Willamette Park one of the river's important jumping off points. Purple martins nest in large white gourd just downstream of the dock and the adjacent mudflats attract shorebirds, gulls, and other wildlife. The 40-Mile Loop trail leaves the river here, heading west to the Terwilliger and Marquam trails. 35, 40f, 43
- After many years of neighborhood-led efforts, Willamette Butterfly Park, formerly a Himalayan blackberry patch, was recreated as a rock garden that in summer displays orange columbine, blue penstemon, yellow potentilla, red fireweed, and white saxifrage. It affords beautiful views of Ross Island from a secluded bench at the river's edge. 35, 40f, 43
- Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge became Portland's first official urban wildlife refuge in 1988. Formerly coveted for soccer fields, a motocross course, a home for the Children's Museum and a train yard, the 160-acre wetland is home to beaver, river otter, muskrat and other wildlife, including over 120 species of birds. A rough, dirt path is a pedestrian-only access around the bottoms. This trail, when combined with the paved bicycle pedestrian Springwater Trail, along the Willamette, provides a flat, two-mile loop. 199f, 40f, 72
- In the mid-1980s Sellwood Riverfront Park was still a nine-acre Himalayan blackberry and sawdust patch, even though the City bought it in 1969. Now it provides river access, a grassy picnic area, a dock and wetland. There is a large wheelchair-accessible dock and sandy beach as well. 40f, 72



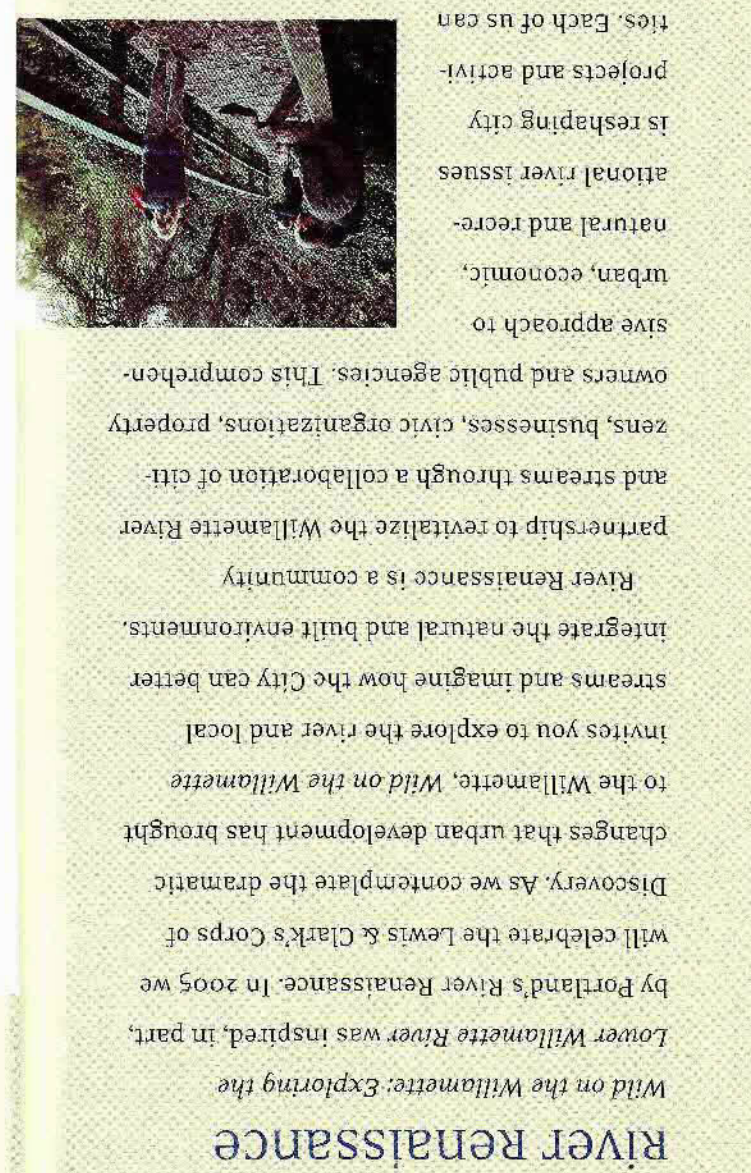
About the Brochure

Wild on the Willamette: Exploring the Lower Willamette River is the tenth in a series of urban stream brochures. It was patterned after Metro's *Bike There!* regional bicycle map. The waterproof, tear-resistant paper will allow you to explore the river on bicycle, on foot, or by paddling your canoe or kayak - rain or shine. Funding was provided by Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's Section 319 program, the Port of Portland, City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services, City of Portland Endangered Species Act program, TriMet, Metro, and Lake Oswego Rotary. Additional support came from Portland Audubon Society and the Urban Greenspaces Institute.

On the cover: The Willamette River near Willamette Park, looking downstream

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Icons: Michael Durham; Ross Island, Bill Hall

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River Renaissance

Wild on the Willamette: Exploring the Lower Willamette River was inspired, in part, by Portland's River Renaissance. In 2005 we will celebrate the Lewis & Clark Corps of Discovery. As we contemplate the dramatic changes that urban development has brought to the Willamette, *Wild on the Willamette* invites you to explore the river and local streams and imagine how the City can better integrate the natural and built environments. River Renaissance is community partnership to revitalize the Willamette River and streams through a collaboration of citizens, businesses, civic organizations, property owners and public agencies. This comprehensive approach to river restoration includes urban economic, natural and recreational river issues and riparian city. It is inspiring city. Make a contribution at home, work and school. Use *Wild on the Willamette* to help reconnect with and reclaim the river in your city.



Recent studies confirm that all life stages of salmon and trout use the Portland harbor throughout the year.



The Sellwood Bridge, Portland's first fixed-span bridge, opened in 1925. It was named for Reverend James Sellwood, who settled the area that would be annexed to Portland in 1893.



Virtually trapped out of the Northwest by fur traders, the beaver, Oregon's official mammal, has made a strong comeback, now inhabiting even small Willamette tributaries.



Double-crested cormorant, the only inland cormorant in Oregon, lacks the oil gland that most birds have, necessitating a drying out period after each dive to catch fish.

cottonwood

Black cottonwood dominates the river's riparian landscape. Willows, Oregon ash, Douglas fir, big leaf maple, red alder, red-osier or creek dogwood, Douglas' spirea, are also common where relatively natural riverbanks exist. On drier, south-facing slopes or basalt outcrops, Oregon white or Garry oak, snowberry, serviceberry, and showy wildflowers dominate. The most common wetland plant is the weedy reed canarygrass, although efforts to replant native species in wetlands and riparian areas are underway throughout the lower Willamette.



Double-crested cormorants sit on pilings, literally hanging their wings out to dry after returning from their underwater fishing expeditions. Another species commonly seen on the Willamette is the stately great blue heron, which builds bulky stick nests in communal nesting colonies at Molalla River State Park, Goat, Ross and East Islands. Nests are built in mid-February, eggs are laid in April and both adults are busy tending young well into the summer.

cormorants

Once the leaves are on the black cottonwoods, the nests are nearly invisible, although by May or early June young herons testing their wings and squawking incessantly for food, reveal their nest's location. Sit quietly in your canoe or kayak and you will see adults returning to their nests



engorged with fish, most likely the ubiquitous non-native carp. Other commonly seen species include belted kingfisher, spotted sandpiper, bald eagles, osprey, common mergansers, red-tailed hawks, several species of gulls, turkey vultures, and the occasional Caspian tern.

The Willamette supports 29 exotic species of fish. Of the river's 31 native fish, one-fifth are on federal or state threatened or endangered lists. During fall or spring "hog lines" (rows of boats tied up to one another or anchored throughout the lower Willamette) are after Chinook salmon. Other runs include steelhead trout, which head upstream February through May, and coho salmon, which arrive in September and run through March.

coho

Portland has a vibrant, working harbor that generates over \$900 million in marine-related wages and \$112 million in tax revenues. Each year over 1,100 ocean-going vessels visit Portland, which handles about 20% of the nation's wheat exports, as well as more car imports and exports and bulk minerals than any other western port. Surprisingly, the Port of Portland owns only 14 of the more than 50 ship berth facilities between the Steel Bridge and the Columbia River's Terminal 6. The Port actually manages five terminals, ranging in age from the 89 year-old Terminal 1, to the Terminals 5 and 6, which were opened in 1976 and 1974 respectively.

cargo

The majority of marine activity in the Portland harbor is by private companies that line the Willamette from Sauvie Island to the Steel Bridge. This working harbor is no less exciting to explore than the river's remote, natural reaches. Floating past huge ocean-going barges and container ships, you feel dwarfed in a kayak or canoe, both of which allow you access to the working harbor's nooks and crannies.

corps of discovery

Rediscovering the Lower Willamette

Kelley Point, at the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia rivers, tells the Willamette's story and the beginnings of the written history of Oregon. Here, the Willamette is a fully formed river, draining more than 11,000 square miles with a perimeter of nearly 500 miles along the Cascades, Calapooya Mountains and the eastern flank of the Coast Range.

Oregon history began at the mouth of the Willamette with two boat voyages, one a ship's boat manned by uniformed British sailors, the other a dugout canoe paddled by buckskins-clad US Army explorers. The first came by oars, the second one by paddles. Both are given credit for the discovery of a river that each named.

The boat came from the sea; the dugout canoe downriver from an Indian camp at the mouth of the Sandy River. Both were part of expeditions that changed the world view of geography. The boat sailed at the command of a monarch; the canoe by order of a president. The men in the boat had participated in the immense three-year task of charting the Northwest Coast. The men in the dugout were returning home at the conclusion of a three-year trek across the North American continent.

Captain William Clark, co-commander of the 1803 to 1806 Lewis and Clark expedition, commanded six men in the dugout canoe that entered the river April 3, 1806. On the expedition's downstream voyage on the Columbia River, two small islands hid the Willamette from view. On the return trip they again went past the river, camping upstream at the mouth of the Sandy River. However, Lewis had noted the Columbia's low southern shoreline, suggesting a wide valley, in which a large river had to exist.

Wrote Lewis: I was "convinced that there must be some other considerable river which flowed into the Columbia on its south side below us which we have not seen." Indians confirmed Lewis' hunch and drew a map of the river with a piece of coal on a grass map. The next day Clark and six men found the river's mouth and paddled a few miles upstream. Clark recorded that they traveled up the river "a short distance" to where the river bent to the "east of southeast," roughly 14 miles, in the vicinity of Swan Island. He named the river Multnomah, honoring the tribal name of the Indian guide that led him to the river.

Wal-lant was an Indian name that might have meant "spilled waters" in reference to the falls at Oregon City. It also has been spelled Wallamette and Wallamet. But in his 1841 survey of the Oregon Territory, US Naval Commander Charles Wilkes fixed the spelling when he placed the river on his chart as the Willamette.

Lewis believed that the Willamette "must water that vast track of country between the Western range of mountains and those on the sea coast and as far S. as the waters of California -- about Lat. 37." He vastly overestimated the river's length, which he estimated to include the San Francisco Bay, but his prediction for the future was more accurate, when he wrote that the valley could "maintain an agricultural population of 40,000 to 50,000." Only 24 years after Clark's appraisal of the Willamette Valley, Hall J. Kelley laid out a plat for Oregon's first town at the river's confluence with the Columbia, in the park now bearing his name.

Originally water-powered, the elevator was converted to electric power in 1924, reducing the 90 foot trip from three minutes to 30 seconds. The elevator operates seven days a week and provides great views of the Willamette River Falls. There are historic murals inside the glassed-in observation tower. The John McLoughlin House is a short walk from the upper level and a nearby bicycle shop provides a handy location for repairs. 33M

30 Willamette Falls Locks provides passage around the treacherous 42-foot high Oregon City waterfalls.

31 Canemah Bluff, Metro's 129-acre greenspace, is noted for a diversity of habitats including steep cliffs, rock outcroppings, Oregon white oak and madrone forest, well-established native plant communities, diverse topography, seeps and numerous wetlands. A 39-acre parcel adjacent to the historic Canemah cemetery, it has dramatic views, rock formations, wetlands and native woodlands. Canemah is said to be an Indian name meaning canoe place. The eight-acre cemetery, which dates to the early 1830s, is only open to relatives of pioneers for burial.

32 Bernert Landing Boat Ramp, just east of West Linn's Willamette Park, is a fully-developed facility with restrooms and two docks. There is a nice wetland path across the street from the boat ramp next to the baseball field. Parking for cars is extremely limited at the boat ramp, but additional parking is available at adjacent Willamette Park. 154

33 Located on the west bank of the Willamette River, just upstream from Bernert Landing, 12-acre Little Rock Island and 67-acre Rock Island provide a spectacular paddling experience. Thin-soiled basalt outcroppings support one of Oregon's rarest plants, the white rock larkspur. Little Rock Island is owned by The Nature Conservancy. Stay on its shorelines.

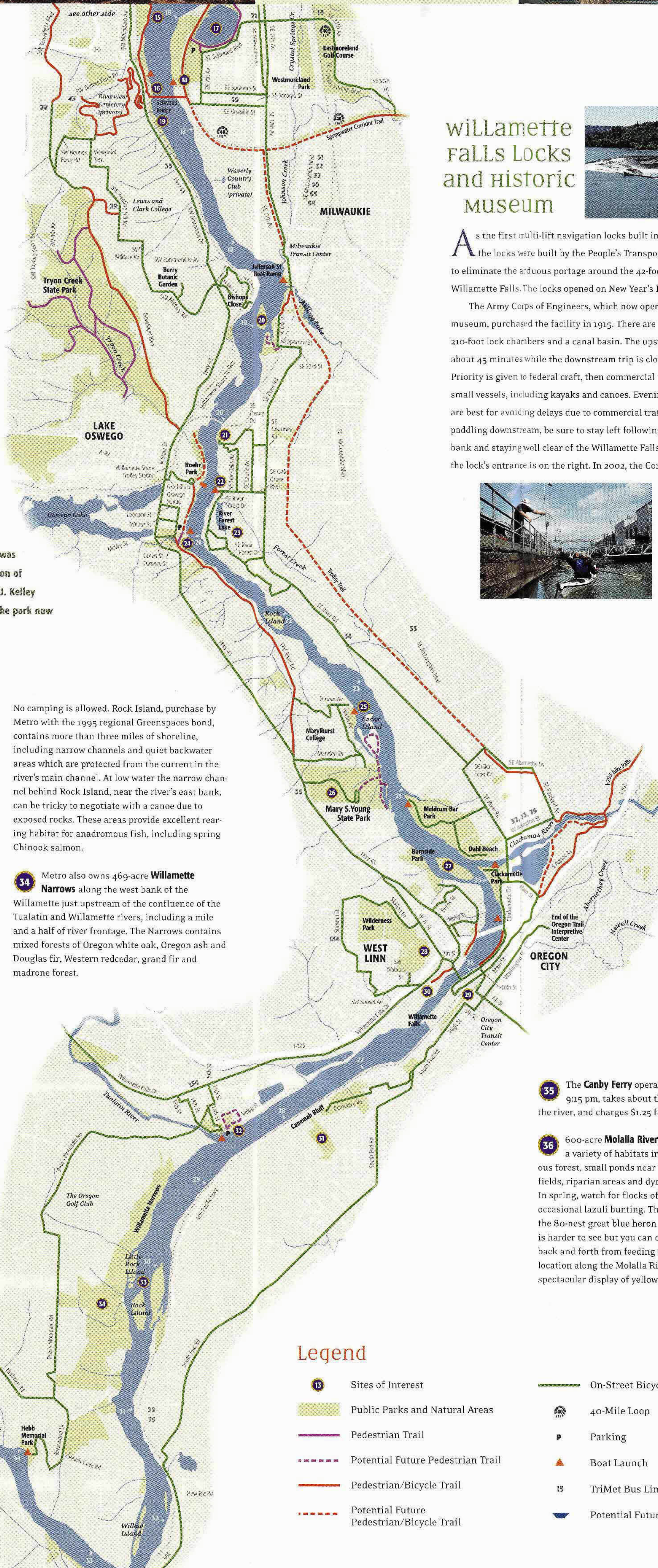
25 Cedaroot Boat Ramp, a 17-acre West Linn park located at the end of Elmer Avenue has a boat ramp, restrooms and hiking trails. A trail provides access to the lagoon at Cedar Island. Nearby 14-acre Cedar Island, also owned by West Linn, is accessible via boat or a walking path that connects the island to the adjacent Mary S. Young State Park via a small drawbridge.

26 The 128-acre Mary S. Young State Park was originally owned by Mary Scarborough Young, who donated the land to the state with the provision that it be kept natural. Young had plans to build a house there with tennis courts and an equestrian trail. Although the house was never built, she did fence the property, build trails and create extensive gardens, remnants of which can be seen along portions of the trail. A trail from the picnic shelters provides a great viewpoint of the Willamette and the forest canopy below. After reaching the river, an informal dirt trail leads downstream to Cedar Island. 35

27 State-owned Goat Island hosts a 30-nest great blue heron rookery on its east side. The herons can also be seen from the end of River Street, off Burns Street. A quiet backwater channel runs on the west side of the island. 35

28 The Camassia Nature Conservancy Preserve has wetland, grassland and oak forest habitats that are home to 300 species of plants. About 12,000 years ago the Bretz floods roared down the Columbia River Gorge and into the Willamette Valley, backing up the river all the way to Eugene. The floods scoured huge areas of Eastern Washington and areas of the Willamette including Camassia, the Willamette Narrows and the Tonquin Geologic Area between Sherwood and Tualatin. This 26-acre botanic area, owned by The Nature Conservancy, is named for camas, which was used heavily by Indians. Prime blooming time is April and early May when the plateau turns blue with camas and pink with plectritis. Shallow soils support wet meadows, white oak and madrone woodlands, vernal and permanent ponds. Before visiting, check the Conservancy's visitation guidelines. www.nature.org/oregon, 503.230.1221 154

29 Until the Oregon City Elevator started operating in 1915 local residents had to use stairs that were constructed in the mid-1860s to reach the bluff overlooking the city. Prior to stair construction, locals used Indian trails to climb the bluff.

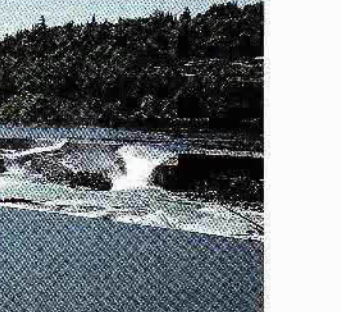


willamette Falls Locks and historic museum

As the first multi-lift navigation locks built in the United States, the locks were built by the People's Transportation Company to eliminate the arduous portage around the 42-foot high basalt Willamette Falls. The locks opened on New Year's Day, 1873.

The Army Corps of Engineers, which now operates the locks and museum, purchased the facility in 1915. There are four 40-foot by 210-foot lock chambers and a canal basin. The upstream passage takes about 45 minutes while the downstream trip is closer to a half hour. Priority is given to federal craft, then commercial traffic, and finally small vessels, including kayaks and canoes. Evenings and weekends are best for avoiding delays due to commercial traffic. If you are paddling downstream, be sure to stay left following the river's west bank and staying well clear of the Willamette Falls. Coming upstream, the lock's entrance is on the right. In 2002, the Corps ceased operation

during the winter months. Call ahead to make sure the locks are open and to reserve passage, 503.656.3381.



EXPLORE FURTHER . . .

Wild on the Willamette, Exploring the Lower Willamette River was designed to be used as a stand alone map and reference, but your explorations will be enhanced with the following resources.

Wild In The City: A Guide to Portland's Natural Areas, OHS Press and Portland Audubon Society. Detailed site descriptions and location maps. www.audubonportland.org

Willamette River Recreation Guide, Oregon Marine Board and Oregon State Parks. A paddlers guide from Eugene to Portland. www.oregonstateparks.org

Bike There!, Metro's regional bicycle map, guide to the best bicycling routes in the region. www.metro-region.org

Regional Trails & Greenways, A Booklet of Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces program. www.metro-region.org, 503.797.1850

Metro GreenScene, Quarterly Calendar of Tours, Classes, and Events. www.metro-region.org/greenscene

SW Walking Map, Portland Office of Transportation. www.GettingAroundPortland.org

Canoe and Kayak Routes of Northwest Oregon, by Philip N. Jones, The Mountaineers.

Willamette River Basin Planning Atlas, Trajectories of Environmental and Ecological Change, edited by David Hulse, Stan Gregory, and Joan Baker, OSU Press.

Portland's Willamette River Atlas, Portland Bureau of Planning, River Renaissance Program, August 2001 www.planning.ci.portland.or.us

Urban Natural Resources Directory, Portland Audubon Society, Urban Conservation Program, www.audubonportland.org, 503.292.6855

A History of the Port of Portland and Marine Department Riverbank Management Plan, April 2001, Port of Portland. www.portofportland.com

The Portland Bridge Book, Sharon Wood Wortman, OHS Press. All bridge references in *Wild on the Willamette* were excerpted with the author's permission.

TriMet System Map, route and safety information, TriMet. www.trimet.org

kayak and canoe rentals
Alder Creek Kayak & Canoe, 250 NE Tomahawk Island Dr., 503.285.0464. www.aldercreek.com

Ebb and Flow Paddleports, 0604 SW Nebraska, 503.245.1756

Portland River Company, Esplanade at RiverPlace Marina, 503.229.0551. www.portlandrivercompany.com

Sportcraft Marina, 1701 Clackamette Drive, 503.656.6484. www.sportcraftmarina.com

GET INVOLVED

Now that you've explored the river, get involved. Information about becoming a river steward and numerous volunteer opportunities is available from government agencies and nonprofit groups.

- government agencies
 - Water Quality Information
 - Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, www.oregondeq.org
 - Watershed Groups and the City's River Renaissance Initiative
 - Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services www.cleanrivers-pdx.org
 - Planning Bureau, www.planning.ci.portland.or.us
 - Endangered Species Program www.fish.ci.portland.or.us
 - Riverbank Restoration and Wetland Efforts
 - The Port of Portland, www.portofportland.com
 - Local and Regional Parks, Trails and Field Trips
 - Metro, www.metro-region.org
 - Portland Parks and Recreation www.parks.ci.portland.or.us
 - Natural Gardening, Hazardous Waste Disposal, and Recycling
 - Metro, 503.234.3000

- nonprofit organizations
 - Local and Regional Grassroots Organizations, Field Tours, and Conservation Activities, Natural Resources Directory
 - Portland Audubon Society www.audubonportland.org
 - Clean Water Issues
 - NW Environmental Advocates www.northwestenvironmentaladvocates.org
 - SCOW (Skippers for Clean Oregon Waters) www.pwllcox@easystreet.com
 - Protection and Restoration of the Willamette River
 - Willamette Riverkeeper www.willamette-riverkeeper.org
 - Boating Activities
 - RiverWest Small Craft Center, www.riverwest.org



The spotted sandpiper, or "teeter butt," has a characteristic habit of bobbing its tail while walking at the river's edge, a loud, repetitive call, and unique "quivering" wing beat.



Oregon City Bridge, opened in 1922, replaced an 1888 pedestrian suspension bridge.



River otter, while not common, can be seen in Holgate Channel, Ross Island and the Columbia Slough.