

SUMMER 2012

# GreenScene



Your summer guide  
to great places and  
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C. Bruce Forster photos

# ¡Vámonos!

## New maps help you explore Cornelius, Forest Grove and Hillsboro on foot and by bike

Washington County is home to a rich cultural history, beautiful parks, unique main streets and...great walking and biking routes!

Metro and Kaiser Permanente's new ¡Vámonos! maps highlight family-friendly routes to explore by foot and by bike in Cornelius, Forest Grove and Hillsboro.

The cities' residents and curious explorers from all over the region can use the maps to find the best ways to get around historic downtowns, parks with playgrounds and picnic facilities, duck-inhabited wetlands and other natural areas.

Everyone knows walking and biking are good for health, but sometimes, it's hard to know where the best routes are. The ¡Vámonos! maps answer that question as they cover a lot of ground: they show longer bike routes with big views, as well as scenic, short and safe walking routes that connect residents with schools, parks, grocery stores and more. The maps also call out churches, heritage trees, historic points of interest, transit stops and safe crossings of busy streets.

You can use the maps to go on a brisk 1-mile stroll in downtown Hillsboro, a kid-paced walk that explores parks and playgrounds in Cornelius, or a bike ride that cruises around Forest Grove's Hagg Lake.

Walking or biking to school instills lifelong habits of health in kids; a pleasant walk on neighborhood streets to the grocery store makes for a happy outing for a parent and small children, a bike ride with views of Cascade and Coast Range peaks is an inexpensive and enriching family weekend outing. And, sometimes, it's fun to just start walking and see what you find along the way.

Each town's map outlines one main route with offshoots to interesting sites. The main route in Forest Grove is 7.8 miles; in Cornelius it's 4.7 miles and in Hillsboro, it's 5.4 miles. The maps are free and easy to use. Each one features information in English and Spanish on walk safety and terrain, and suggestions for using the maps to get around town. The routes have been tested by Metro's walking experts for suitability and to ensure the safety of you and your family.

## What you'll discover with the ¡Vámonos! maps

With the ¡Vámonos! maps as your guide, you can craft daily walking and biking routes that take you where you need to go, or fun recreational excursions that become part of a lifetime of healthy habits. Here are a few of the sites you'll discover along the way:

### Forest Grove

- the Emerald Necklace, a 10-kilometer, multi-use path with long straight-aways and big views
- a historic downtown with shops, cafes and a farmers market, and nearby neighborhoods on the National Register of Historic Places
- an aquatic center and skatepark at Lincoln Park
- a dog park and hiking trails at Thatcher Park.

### Cornelius

- the new Virginia Garcia Memorial Wellness Center with a Metro-sponsored rain garden, opening in October
- a peaceful Tualatin River park where steamboats landed in the 1860s
- fun playgrounds at Harleman, Alpine and Dogwood parks
- Centro Cultural, founded in 1972 by some of Cornelius's first Latino families.

### Hillsboro

- a place to stop and smell the roses at the Harold Eastman Rose Garden
- Outdoors In, an indoor drop-in playground
- a splash park at Walnut Street Park for hot summer afternoons, opening this summer
- street games, a fountain and lots of services at the Civic Center.

### ¡Vámonos! partners

Metro and Kaiser Permanente partnered with community groups and local governments in Cornelius, Forest Grove and Hillsboro, such as Centro Cultural, Hillsboro Futsal and Adelante Mujeres to create the maps. Learn more about the project and see a full list of partners at [www.oregonmetro.gov/vamonos](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/vamonos).

## Where to find ¡Vámonos! maps

Free biking and walking events in English and Spanish are coming this summer to Cornelius, Forest Grove and Hillsboro. Here are just a few of the upcoming events where you can get free ¡Vámonos! maps:

### ¡Vámonos! Hillsboro bike ride 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 7

Join Metro and Hillsboro Futsal for a kid-friendly bike ride around Hillsboro. Meet at Hillsboro Futsal, 346 SW Walnut Street. Free. Advance registration not required.

### Celebrate Hillsboro

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, July 21  
Celebrate family, fun and healthy living at Celebrate Hillsboro at the Hillsboro Civic Center. Visit the Metro booth for maps and information about biking and walking. All ages. Free.

### Cornelius Night Out

5:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 7  
Join Metro and the Cornelius Police Department for National Night Out in Harleman Park, 795 S. Heather St. for bike rides and walks throughout the evening. All ages. Free. Advance registration not required.

### ¡Vámonos! Hillsboro Walk

10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 11  
Join Metro for a family-friendly history walk around downtown Hillsboro. One tour will be lead by Laura Foster in English and



another tour will be available in Spanish. Meet at Hillsboro Civic Center plaza, 150 E. Main St. All ages. Free. Advance registration not required.

### ¡Vámonos! Forest Grove bike ride 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15

Join Metro and Adelante Mujeres for a family-friendly bike ride around Forest Grove's 10k Emerald Necklace. Meet at the Metro booth at the farmers market on Main Street between Pacific Avenue and 21st Street. Free. Advance registration not required.

### ¡Vámonos! bike ride

10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 25  
Join Metro and Hillsboro Futsal for a family-friendly bike ride around Hillsboro. Meet at Hillsboro Futsal, 346 SW Walnut St. Free. Advance registration not required.

Learn more about the ¡Vámonos! maps and upcoming biking and walking events in English and Spanish at [www.oregonmetro.gov/vamonos](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/vamonos).



## Sunday Parkways

Join thousands of fellow bikers, walkers, skaters, wheelers and runners as you enjoy miles of carfree Portland streets. Visit the Sunday Parkways website for information on this year's routes, dates and highlights. *City of Portland and Metro*

[www.portlandsundayparkways.org](http://www.portlandsundayparkways.org)

## Wilsonville Sunday Streets

### 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 19

Explore a loop of open streets in Wilsonville linking parks with family-friendly activities for all ages focusing on fitness, travel and fun. Enjoy this unique time for walking, strolling, jogging, running, bicycling, tricycling, rollerblading, skateboarding, jumping, playing, hula-hooping and more! Free. For more information, call 503-682-0502. *SMART and Metro*

[www.ridesmart.com](http://www.ridesmart.com)

## The Intertwine is all around you



If you've ever biked along a local trail, played with your kids in the neighborhood park, gone for a hike in Forest Park, or relaxed on a bench beside a nearby river or lake; then you've experienced The Intertwine. It's our

region's interconnected network of parks, trails and natural areas.

The new Intertwine website is your portal to nature in the city. Explore parks, trails and natural areas around the region with



a searchable, interactive map. Need a suggestion? You'll also find adventure itineraries for many of the region's most treasured places.

[www.TheIntertwine.org](http://www.TheIntertwine.org)

# Regional trails update

## The Trolley Trail opens and miles of more trails are in the works

Imagine a regionwide network of trails more than 900 miles long that makes it easier and safer to ride a bike or walk to run errands, visit a friend or get to work, school or natural areas. Imagine biking from Forest Grove to Gresham, almost entirely separated from automobile traffic.

In 1903, the famous Olmsted Brothers landscape architects envisioned a 40-Mile Loop of scenic parkways around Portland. That vision has grown to today's 300-plus completed miles of regional trails in Clackamas, Washington, Multnomah and Clark counties.

Just 10 years ago, the region had far fewer options for getting around without a car. Mel Huie, who has been planning trails at Metro since 1988, recalls when there were few off-street trails or bike lanes and many neighborhoods without sidewalks.

But because people value being a walk or a bike ride away from the places they want to go,

Metro is now in its 24th year of working with partners across the region to provide more options for low-car, healthful ways to get around. Trail-making is a long process but Huie says, "It is quite gratifying to work on projects which will always be free and open to the public and provide transportation options and recreation sites. Trails connect people and communities. Being a trail planner requires optimism and eternal hope, because a trail project from idea to completion takes an average of five to 20 years."

The region's trail builders and community advocates are doing great work! Here's an update on some of the newest regional trails:



### Trolley Trail

#### Traveling a historic rail route

Since the Trolley Trail opened this spring, walkers, joggers and bicyclists are following in the footsteps – well, tracks, actually – of the historic streetcar that inspired this 6-mile corridor between Milwaukie and Gladstone.

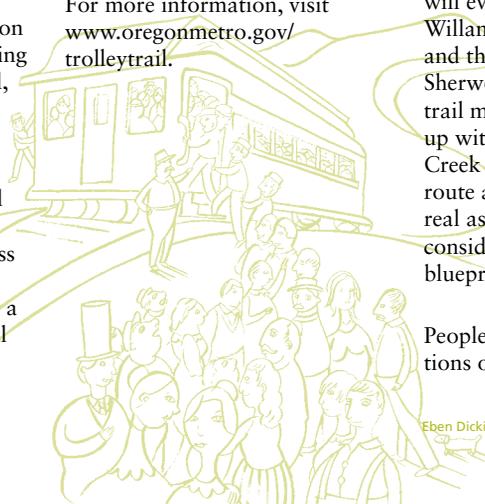
Passengers first boarded the Portland to Oregon City streetcar in 1893. It made its last trip in 1958 and, within a decade, the tracks had fallen into disrepair. Soon, community support swelled to reinvent the right-of-way as a trail.

That vision took several decades and many dedicated advocates to achieve. In 2001, funds from Metro's first natural areas bond measure were used to purchase the historic right-of-way. Metro also worked with the community to plan the trail, and supported construction with federal transportation funds. North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District took the lead on building and managing the Trolley Trail, which came to life during the past year.

Today, the region's newest trail links dozens of neighborhoods plus schools, parks and business districts. It chugs through the heart of Oak Grove, providing a scenic setting for a family stroll or a hassle-free way to bike to

the store. Along the way, you can stop at waysides such as Springfield Family Park, or poke over to the Willamette River to check out the view. And, if you use your imagination, you might just hear a streetcar in the distance.

For more information, visit [www.oregonmetro.gov/trolleytrail](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/trolleytrail).



### Tonquin Trail

#### Connecting neighborhoods, parks, schools and town centers

The Tonquin Trail's 22 miles will eventually connect the Willamette and Tualatin rivers and the cities of Tualatin, Sherwood and Wilsonville. The trail may someday even hook up with the Westside and Fanno Creek trails. This year, the trail's route and design become more real as Metro and its partners consider formally adopting a blueprint for the Tonquin Trail.

People are already enjoying sections of the trail at Stella Olsen

Eben Dickinson illustration

Park in Sherwood, Tualatin Community Park and Metro's Graham Oaks Nature Park in Wilsonville. The Metro Council recently set aside \$5.1 million in federal transportation funds to plan, design and build another Sherwood section, the Cedar Creek Greenway. Other sections will be completed as resources become available.

When the Tonquin Trail is complete, it will link parks, schools, neighborhoods, shops and offices. By bike or on foot, you can use open sections now to explore a unique landscape shaped by ice-age floods. Bring binoculars to spot birds at the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge, then pop into Sherwood's Old Town for coffee or lunch. Enjoy Tigard's Cook Park along the Tualatin River, or learn about Native American history at Graham Oaks. From there, walk or bike to central Wilsonville to pick up something at the grocery or hardware store. The Tonquin Trail is all about connections – to the land itself and to the places you want to go.

## Westside Trail

### Car-free commuting in Washington County

As car, gas and insurance prices rise, the percentage of household dollars going to transportation significantly increases. By providing a safe biking and walking route through Washington County, the Westside Trail will offer a money-saving, healthy alternative to driving.

Metro is working with residents, cities, park districts and community organizations to create a vision for this 23-mile trail, a continuous north-south route from the Willamette River near Forest Park to the Tualatin River at Tigard and King City. The trail will serve some of the most densely populated and fastest growing areas of Washington County.

Parts of the trail are already in place. Once complete, the Westside Trail will offer an uninterrupted path between homes, commercial destinations, schools, transit, natural areas and wildlife corridors, including Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge, Tualatin Hills Nature Park and the Willamette River Greenway. Eventually, the trail will connect with other regional trails, including the Tonquin Trail and the Rock Creek Trail.

Visit [www.oregonmetro.gov/westsidetrail](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/westsidetrail) for opportunities to learn more about the trail and share your thoughts this summer.



## Tualatin River Water Trail

### Paddling an urban river

Imagine a beautiful commute along the Tualatin River with frequent, easy-to-access launch sites from Hillsboro to West Linn. As one step in making this vision a reality, a new small-craft launch site has been selected for Metro's River Road natural area near Farmington.

The 83-mile Tualatin River is an outstanding natural resource that has shaped much of the landscape of Washington County. After an initial fast drop from its headwaters in the Coast Range, the river meanders slowly through the county before picking up speed near its confluence with the Willamette River in West Linn. The languid water speed along much of its length makes the river ideal for canoes and kayaks.

For now, public launch sites in the lower river exist only in Tualatin and Tigard. The next public access point is almost 20 miles upstream, at Hillsboro's Rood Bridge Park. The River Road site will offer another easily-accessible launch point and promote awareness of water quality issues and wildlife habitat protection.

Though funding is not available to build and maintain this new site, its selection helps Metro and project partners such as Tualatin Riverkeepers as they develop a proposal for grant funding to support construction and long-term maintenance.

A Tualatin River water trail was first envisioned in Metro's 1992 Greenspaces Master Plan. Since then, Metro has purchased nearly 400 acres in the Tualatin River Greenway with funds provided by the 1995 and 2006 natural areas bond measures.

## Mount Scott/Scouter Mountain Trail

### Connecting people with parks in Clackamas County

In fast-growing northwest Clackamas County, the 17-mile Mount Scott/Scouter Mountain Trail will create a loop around its namesake buttes, connecting town centers, neighborhoods, schools and natural areas – including the 100-acre Scouter Mountain Nature Park, slated to open in 2013.

Metro's newest nature park will feature hiking trails, a picnic shelter, parking and restrooms. Land for the park was purchased with funds from Metro's voter-approved Natural Areas

Program. The forested area is closed to the public for now, during habitat restoration and park development, to protect natural resources and human safety.

Opening Scouter Mountain is a team effort. The City of Happy Valley is funding park development through Metro's 2006 natural areas bond measure, which set aside money for communities to invest in nature close to home. North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District will manage the park.

Share your ideas and review preliminary Scouter Mountain Trail alignments and plans for Scouter Mountain Nature Park at an open house on Thursday, June 7 at Happy Valley City Hall, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Presentations by project staff and partners begin at 6 and 7 p.m. City Hall is located at 16000 SE Misty Drive in Happy Valley.

## Volunteer for the fifth annual Intertwine Regional Trail Counts

Sept. 11, 12, 13, 15 and 16

In two-hour shifts, trail counters count the number of people biking and walking on the Intertwine – the region's system of trails, parks and natural areas. Help gather accurate trail-use data that impacts where and when new trails are built or are funded. Training session in early September; to register or for more information, contact [mel.huie@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:mel.huie@oregonmetro.gov), 503.797.1731 or visit [www.oregonmetro.gov/trailcounts](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/trailcounts)

Learn more about regional trails and greenways at [www.oregonmetro.gov/trails](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/trails).



# The Columbia Slough Trail

## Gaps are closing in the 30-mile Columbia Slough-Marine Drive Trail system

The Columbia Slough Trail winds past warehouses, wetlands, freeways and fairways through 19 miles of the Columbia River's once-wild southern floodplain. Looking at the barren levees and lots there today, there's no doubt the slough is a highly managed, urban waterway. But in some spots, a thin thicket of trees and shrubs separates the working world from the wild one, providing just enough green to enable cyclists, pedestrians and paddlers to forget about the grey.

"The green isn't very deep, but it gives you a real nature experience – especially if you're on the water," said Jane Van Dyke, Columbia Slough Watershed Council executive director.

As of this spring, Metro had brokered 19 land deals to help close four significant gaps in the Columbia Slough Trail and its northern neighbor, the Marine Drive Trail. More than 2 miles of additional trail can now be built in this 30-mile network, which stretches from Portland's Smith Lake to Fairview's Blue Lake. Funds for the land purchases and easements came from Metro's Natural Areas Program, which uses 2006 bond measure funds to buy wildlife habitat and close trail gaps across the region.

Transforming a line on paper into a multi-use trail on the ground is no easy feat. Some trail gaps are blocked by fences or overgrown by blackberries. Other trail sections, says Metro real estate negotiator Leif Anderson, are already in use: "A lot of areas have 'demand trails'— informal but illegal trails where users have been trespassing on private lands."

To close legal and physical gaps, Anderson buys the land or easement rights to it from property owners. Metro paid about \$35 per linear foot for recent Columbia Slough and Marine Drive trail easements, most of which crossed industrial land; for example, a property owner allowing 500 feet of trail to be

built might be paid a one-time easement fee of approximately \$17,500.

Some property owners are initially resistant, Anderson says, so he explains that replacing an informal, unsanctioned trail has many benefits: a new, legal trail would be professionally constructed and managed by a local government, it could raise property values, it provides recreational opportunities for employees, and it offers an amenity to the public that can generate goodwill for the company.

But what about crime? Columbia Corridor Association executive director Corky Collier says some business owners and operators are wary that enhancing public access increases vandalism, theft and other crime. The nonprofit's members include waste haulers, warehouse operators, metal recyclers and paint producers. Other members believe that more feet and eyes on a trail decrease crime. Businesses that provide access across their property can

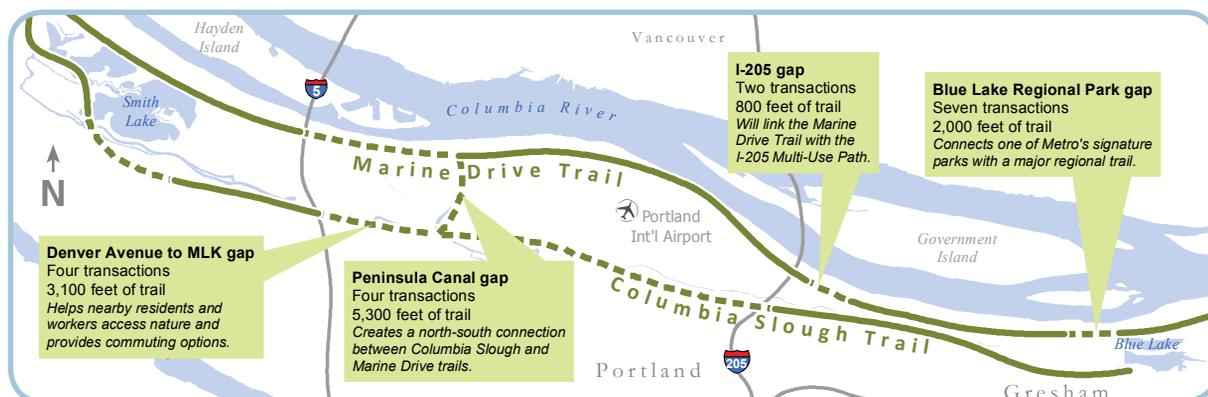
encourage others to use the trails and that discourages hidden, illegal activities, Collier suggests. "The best thing is to design a trail well to make sure it's one people actually use," he adds. "Gaps in the trail are what prevent people from using it."

Van Dyke agrees. "The longer the trail and the more it connects to other trails, the more people are attracted to it and use it."

Portlanders haven't always viewed the slough as a place worth protecting. In the 1920s, the City of Portland and local landowners began diking and dredging the slough under the auspices of the Multnomah County Drainage District. The resulting network of levees and canals provided a way to dispose of sewage and industrial waste, control flooding and reclaim land for development. But over the decades, the slow-moving waters of the slough became severely polluted by the more than 200 industries along its length.



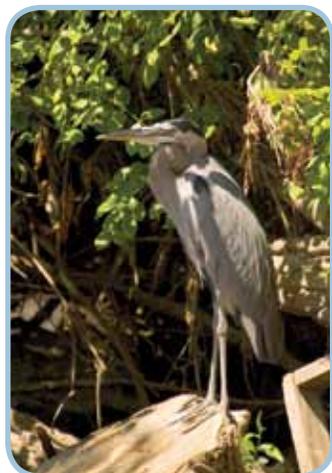
Metro real estate negotiator Leif Anderson stands atop a levee at the southern end of the Peninsula Canal and shows a potential westbound route of the Columbia Slough Trail.



Beginning in 2000, the elimination of combined sewer overflows into the slough helped make the waterway cleaner today than it has been in a century, notes the Columbia Slough Watershed Council. Heron, beaver, raccoon and other wildlife living among native plants are proof that nature finds a way back, even in the unlikeliest places.

And so, in stops and starts, a trail snakes past wildlife, homes, highways, gravel yards, golf courses and racetracks. “Because the urban form is filled out, you work with what you’ve got,” says Metro’s Anderson.

Metro is taking the same approach elsewhere as it creates a regional network of trails. Using money from its 2006 natural areas bond measure, it has purchased land for a trailhead along the developing Cazadero Trail from Boring to Estacada; secured rights-of-way in Southeast Portland to close the Springwater Corridor’s Sellwood gap; and halfway filled a one-third-mile gap along the Fanno Creek Greenway Trail near downtown Tigard. Metro also has opened 11 miles of trails at three nature parks: Mount Talbert in Clackamas, Cooper Mountain near Beaverton and Graham Oaks near Wilsonville. It will use funds from the bond measure to pursue additional acquisitions along the Westside, Gresham-Fairview, Tryon Creek and Tonquin regional trails.



C. Bruce Forster photo



McCarthy Creek

## New natural areas beyond Forest Park forge connections for wildlife and people

**B**eyond Forest Park, where elk roam forested hills and salmon swim in streams, voters have invested in a growing collection of protected natural areas – and Metro is making a long-term commitment to taking care of them.

Metro’s Natural Areas Program has purchased 550 acres in western Multnomah County during the past two years, including a significant addition this winter. As this network of wildlife habitat grows, so do the possibilities for restoration and recreation.

“If we protect enough land, we will have a safe place for native plants and animals to prosper as well as great places to go for a walk and refresh ourselves,” says Metro Councilor Rex Burkholder, who represents the area. “A network of protected creeks and canyons from the flats to the peaks of the Tualatin Mountains will be a treasure and a legacy unparalleled.”

Metro’s new natural areas are divided into two clusters. Near Northwest Kaiser Road, 160 acres of wildlife habitat straddle

Alder Creek, one of the most important headwaters of Rock Creek. A half mile north, another 390 acres – Metro’s most recent purchases – are nestled along McCarthy Creek and its headwaters, north of Northwest Skyline Boulevard and east of Cornelius Pass Road.

These natural areas were built piece by piece through seven transactions, using \$5.3 million from the region’s voter-approved 2006 natural areas bond measure. Land is bought from willing sellers, at market value, in targeted geographic areas across the region.

Although people sometimes assume Forest Park has already been protected, there’s much to be done, says Carol Chesarek. She serves on the Forest Park Neighborhood Association board and leads a City Club of Portland committee advocating for improved restoration and funding at the park. By protecting land beyond the park – and, ultimately, creating links with the Rock Creek watershed and the Coast Range – the region can help elk, black bears and other animals travel across the landscape.



“Those animals can only use Forest Park because of its connections to the larger landscape,” Chesarek says. “They can’t survive in Forest Park if it becomes an island.”

Metro’s natural areas team will monitor use at the new natural areas, making decisions in the coming years about the right level of access to support habitat goals. To protect natural resources, ATVs, hunting, biking, horses and dogs are prohibited at Metro-owned natural areas.

Meanwhile, restoration work will get going right away. Metro’s science and land management team typically marks boundaries, meets neighbors and controls weeds in newly acquired natural areas. In these areas, initial plans call for controlling invasive species such as blackberry, evaluating whether stream banks need to be stabilized and removing a culvert that makes it difficult for fish to travel McCarthy Creek.

Metro will spend decades making these natural areas a good home for plants and animals, scientist Kate Holleran told participants at a tour of the McCarthy Creek area this spring. The timber company that previously owned the land planted it densely with Douglas firs – perfect for a crop, but not ideal for a diverse forest. Metro will strategically thin the firs in areas where they’re likely to out-compete other native plants, Holleran says.

“We have a lot of diversity here, and that’s what wildlife thrive on,” she says. “So we’re going to keep conserving and maintaining that.”

# Take the healthy lawn and garden pledge



Kent Derek photo

A garden without pesticides protects the health of your family, pets and life downstream. Take the healthy lawn and garden pledge and earn garden gloves or a yard sign as a symbol of your commitment. Your good example may inspire friends and neighbors to take the pledge, too!

A pesticide is any material designed to repel or kill certain bugs, weeds, diseases and other pests. Many pesticides – even a few organic ones – are hazardous to humans, animals and waterways.

## Prevent problems with simple methods



The safest approach – for the health of your family, pets, home and the region you love – is to avoid pesticides entirely. That doesn't mean living with weeds or watching your precious plants wilt or get chomped to bits. There are many safe, inexpensive and nontoxic solutions for a healthy garden:

- Foster fertile soil with compost and mulch.
- Select plants right for your site and get them off to a good start with proper care.
- Create a garden that supports pest-eaters like songbirds and ladybugs.
- Squish bugs and pull weeds instead of spraying.

## Do your best

If you plan to use a pesticide – organic or otherwise – call the Master Gardeners to find the lowest-hazard option. For tips on managing bugs, weeds and disease safely, check [www.GrowSmartGrowSafe.org](http://www.GrowSmartGrowSafe.org).

## Sign up for a free natural gardening workshop

Learn from local experts how to garden without chemicals. Natural gardening workshops throughout the region are in this issue's calendar listings. Learn more or register for classes at 503-234-3000 or [www.oregonmetro.gov/gardenworkshops](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/gardenworkshops).

**My healthy lawn and garden pledge to protect the health of my lawn, garden and family:**  
(please pick one)

- I pledge to reduce my use of pesticides, including weed and feed, and earn a free pair of garden gloves.
- I pledge to stop using pesticides, including weed and feed, and earn a free yard sign and a pair of gloves.
- I'm already pesticide-free so I've earned a free yard sign and a pair of gloves for my commitment.



When you're ready to commit to a healthy lawn and garden, call Metro at 503-234-3000 to take the pledge, or visit [www.oregonmetro.gov/healthygardenpledge](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/healthygardenpledge).

## Gardening solutions are a click or phone call away

Oregon State University Master Gardeners™ offer free expert answers to your gardening questions. Call the number for your county:

Clackamas County  
503-655-8631

Multnomah County  
503-445-4608

Washington County  
503-821-1150

To dispose of pesticides, call Metro's recycling hotline, 503-234-3000.

Get tips on gardening year-round, watch instructional videos, download a coupon for local garden retailers, and find other resources to help you grow a healthy home garden at [www.oregonmetro.gov/garden](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/garden).



## Sustainability in action



Last year, the Oregon Zoo investigated how it could use less water. During a six-month audit, the water team repaired leaks and changed a few habits and procedures. The result was a savings of 3 million gallons of water in just nine months.

For most of us, action toward sustainability requires just small, simple steps. A dripping faucet, a running toilet – these fixes save water, and that means saving money.

The zoo's water savings help Metro comply with its sustainability goals. Read the annual sustainability report at [www.oregonmetro.gov/greenmetro](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/greenmetro).

# Creating the hazardless home

Sometimes the products that aren't advertised are the best ones. They can be cheaper, safer and more effective. So it is with a healthy home. A few basic nontoxic ingredients and time-tested hand-tools are often all you need for cleaning, home repairs and improvements.

Avoiding toxic products is better for your health and your wallet. Cleaning and home maintenance products often contain skin irritants, volatile organic compounds and other toxins that can damage lungs and eyes, and perfumes that can trigger allergies. Children are the most vulnerable, but even pets can be at risk.

This spring, via Facebook and Twitter, residents from around the region contributed their own ideas for a hazardless home:

## Green cleaners

Metro GreenScene asked: "What's your solution to bathroom drain slime?"

Heidi writes, "Baking soda and vinegar once a week."

Ruth recommends "a little plastic strip sold in plumbing departments called the zip strip – about 20" long and 1/2" wide with barbs on the side. Cheap and works like a charm. Bacterial drain cleaner will eat what the strip doesn't pull out. Once a month is usually plenty often for that."

Amy noted, "Don't let the hair run down the sink! It's not that hard to capture and discard. Plus regular cleaning a la Heidi's method."

Another bathroom cleaning dilemma: soap scum on shower walls and doors.

Jodi says, via Facebook "Easy. Vinegar." (Truly the wonder cleaner.)

Metro asked how Facebook friends use sodium carbonate, aka washing soda. It's a great grease cutter, and, as Amy noted, it "works magic on stainless steel sinks."



Kent Derek photo

## Repairs, remodeling and maintenance

Since 1992, thousands of Oregonians have used MetroPaint – paint made from recycled paint. Metro GreenScene asked, "What have you painted with Metro Paint?"

Barbara wrote, "Painted the whole basement in the calming white. Really cost effective! Then I repainted the porch in the forest green color. It's withstood two winters so far, in good shape."

Lynn wrote in to cheer "I use Metro paints! Great coverage, great prices!!"

It's the time of year for sugar ant invasions.

Julie recommends, via Twitter, to feed them a last supper of peanut butter and borax.

Brian says, "Just keep crumbs off the countertop."

Moss on the roof is part of the charm of the Pacific Northwest. Chemicals to remove it are not. A wet sweep with a broom is effective.

Amy posted: "Another mistake people make is power washing roofs, which often forces moisture into the sheathing and causes mold in the attic. I'm an indoor environmental consultant so I see a lot of this!"

## Safer, healthier pet care

Healthy pet care is often a matter of preventing flea outbreaks, but flea collars can be toxic. Metro asked, "What steps do you take to keep your home flea free?"



C. Bruce Forster photo

Bubba responded: "I turned the cats into indoor-only. Haven't had a flea problem since, and they're healthier for it."

Amy writes, "Flea comb daily. Put any fleas you catch into rubbing alcohol. Keep upholstery and bedding clean."

**Join the conversation.** Like Metro GreenScene on Facebook or follow @metrogreenscene on Twitter.



Metro's healthy home toolkit is not just about vinegar and baking soda. Green cleaning recipes include less-obvious substances such as hydrogen peroxide and castile soap. Pet care pages contain common-sense tips like "wash pet bedding often" (hot water and dryer heat kill fleas and eggs). And home maintenance pages show how you can use ordinary household items such as brooms, tweezers or aluminum foil for various fix-it jobs. Find the toolkit on Metro's website.

[www.oregonmetro.gov/healthyhome](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/healthyhome)



# At Oxbow Regional Park, humans adapt to nature's engineering

Campers, hikers and other park visitors are in for a surprise at 1000-acre Oxbow Regional Park this summer



Metro arborist and ranger Howard Rasmussen reflects on the damage at Oxbow Regional Park, where the changing course of the Sandy River washed away the riverbank behind him.

While Northwest residents sheltered inside during a wet winter and spring, nature was at work re-engineering the northeastern shore of this spectacular wilderness park in the scenic Sandy River Gorge. Since late 2009, the Sandy has been changing course, redirecting its flow against a 65-foot-tall volcanic sand embankment. The park's campground, amphitheater and trails have been located atop that embankment. This past winter, the erosion was severe, completely washing away the amphitheater and causing other changes.

## An ancient and ongoing story

To trace this story back to its origins, swim upstream to the Sandy's headwaters in the glaciers and snowfields on Mount Hood's southwestern flanks. There, hundreds of years ago, a high volcanic vent near Crater Rock began to ooze a sticky type of lava known as dacite.

This toothpaste-like lava mounded into a gigantic, doughnut-shaped structure called a lava dome. In 1780, the precariously perched dome collapsed under its own weight, sending a massive avalanche of hot rocks into the glaciers and snowfields below.

Snow and ice in the path of this hot torrent melted instantly, in turn sending an enormous volcanic mudflow (a lahar) down the mountain. The sand, gravels and other sediments in the flow came to rest in the upper reaches of the Sandy River basin. In subsequent winter storms over the decades, the materials were carried downstream to the Sandy's confluence with the Columbia River, and upstream of that, to the location of today's Oxbow Regional Park.

As the volcanic sand filled the valley from wall to wall, the forest of ancient Oxbow was buried alive and largely upright. For years, visitors to Oxbow have hiked, slept and barbecued on top of this forest buried 50 feet below the surface. But after events of the past two winters, the river has carved hundreds of feet from its 2009 banks, excavating sand from the

centuries-old flows. While some human-built structures have disappeared, the buried forest has re-emerged and can be seen in ghostly stumps that loom from the ash gray sand.

## What's next for Oxbow

Oxbow is still open to visitors, with some changes in facilities and programs. Meanwhile, park managers, Metro scientists and outside consultants are assessing what the future may bring if the Sandy River continues to carve into its west bank and displace Oxbow's visitor facilities.

Justin Patterson, Metro parks director, says bank stabilization with riprap or retaining walls is unlikely. It wouldn't be an appropriate way to react to nature doing what nature does. "It's a natural and scenic river,



These stumps along the Sandy River are all that remain of trees buried in a lahar in 1780. In January, the river changed course, washing away the sediments and exposing the centuries-old trees.



and there are certain values that come with that," he says.

What is clear is that the park will continue to host visitors who come to hike in the old growth, sleep in the woods surrounded by the quiet sounds of a forest at night, attend nature programs, and marvel at the ancient ritual of the salmon's return each fall to the life-giving and ever-changing Sandy River.

## What you'll find this summer at Oxbow

While Oxbow Regional Park remains open, the altered course of the Sandy River has brought some changes:

**Park roads.** The park entrance road is unchanged. The one-way entrance road to the campground has changed, since parts of it are now within a few feet of the riverbank. It is now a walking trail; the former one-way campground exit road is a now a widened, two-way road that serves both incoming and outgoing traffic.

**Trails.** The riverside trail upstream of the boat ramp is now closed. Other trails remain open.

**Campground.** The campground reopened in May. Last year, Oxbow had 67 campsites; this year there are 59 sites; sites 2 through 9 have been decommissioned since they are

too close to the eroded riverbank. One of the two restroom and shower facilities had to be torn down since it was on unstable ground near the bank; the other facility remains, along with pit toilets and added portable toilets. As before, the campground is a first-come, first-serve facility.

**Amphitheater.** The old amphitheater is gone. Only the benches could be saved before the river chewed away the section of riverbank on which it was located. A temporary amphitheater is located near the old campsite 3; campers use the decommissioned campground entrance road to access it.

**Picnic shelters.** They were not affected and remain open.

### Take a tour of this changing landscape

Learn how ancient and contemporary geologic and weather events continue to impact the landscape at Oxbow, sending portions of the park literally down the river. On Saturday, July 28 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., join Metro naturalist Dan Daly as he explores the lava flows, volcanic mudslides and ancient inland lakes at Oxbow. The tour is suitable for ages 10 and older and involves hiking some moderately difficult terrain. Registration and payment of \$6 per person is required in advance. See page 15 for details.

For updates on the Oxbow campground, summertime events, picnic site reservations and more visit

[www.oregonmetro.gov/oxbow](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/oxbow).



## Around the campfire at Oxbow

Meet around the campfire for stories and old-fashioned entertainment when you camp at Oxbow Regional Park. Enjoy live music on Friday nights and

nature presentations and storytellers on Saturday nights. Campfire shows are open only to overnight campers; day use ends at legal sunset when park gates are locked. Programs are in the outdoor amphitheater at the campground. Free. For more information, call 503-797-1650 option 2.

**Rick Meyers' old time music**  
8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, June 29

**Folk tales with Laura McCormack**  
8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, June 30

**Songs and stories with Cal Scott**  
8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, July 6

**Nature program**  
8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, July 7

**Jazz, blues and pop with Torn in Blue**  
8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, July 13

**Birds of prey of the Pacific Northwest**  
8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, July 14

**Folk music with Kate Power and Steve Einhorn**  
8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, July 20

**Things that go bump in the night with Alton Takiyama-Chung**  
8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, July 21

**Old-time music with Dave and Will Elliott**  
8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, July 27

**How butterflies came to be with Ed Edmo**  
8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, July 28

**Folk City: Mick Doherty and Kevin Shay Johnson**  
8 to 9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 3

**Stories with Margaret Eng**  
8 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4

**Rick Meyers' old time music**  
8 to 9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 10

**Salmon stories and the legend of the swallowing monster with Will Hornyak**  
8 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 11

**Yodel away the blues with Steve Cheseborough**  
8 to 9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 17

**The Waters of Life: stories with Susan Strauss**  
8 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 18

**Dave Mullany blues music**  
8 to 9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 24

**Bears! with Linda Hunter**  
8 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25

**Old-time bluegrass with the GTE String Band**  
8 to 9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 31

**Shadow puppets: Jack and the Fiery Dragon**  
8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 1



# Summer calendar

## **Wetlands bird walk**

9 to 11:30 a.m.

**Saturday, June 9**

Bird activity peaks in June at Smith and Bybee Wetlands: some are building nests; others are feeding their fledged babies. Metro volunteer naturalist and Audubon master birder Patty Newland knows the cast of characters well and helps you get to know them all. Bring binoculars or borrow a pair onsite. Suitable for ages 10 and older. Meet in the parking area on North Marine Drive. Free. Advance registration required; see page 15 for instructions. *Metro*

## **Native Plant Center volunteer ventures**

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, June 9 and 23, July 7 and 21, Aug. 4 and 18

At Metro's Native Plant Center in Tualatin have fun learning to propagate native species used in regional restoration projects. Volunteers harvest and clean seeds, maintain grow-out beds, build bulb beds and work with herbaceous species from the region's prairie, oak, riparian and forested habitats. Gloves, tools, water and snack provided. Suitable for all ages. No experience necessary. Advance registration required; call 503-797-1653. *Metro*  by arrangement

## **Mountain morning bird walk**

8:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday, June 9

At Cooper Mountain, spring is the easiest time to identify birds: they are in their best breeding plumage and singing up a storm. Nesting is in full swing. With a Metro naturalist, watch family activities, such as adults feeding their begging young. Learn to identify birds by sight and sound. Bring binoculars or

borrow a pair onsite; dress for standing outside on an open hilltop. Suitable for beginning and intermediate birdwatchers ages 10 and older. Meet at the Nature House. Registration and payment of \$10 per person required in advance; call 503-629-6350. *Metro and Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District*

## **Painted turtle walk**

1 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, June 9

Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area is home to one of Oregon's largest populations of Western painted turtles. A Metro naturalist will have telescopes for great looks and turtle shells to examine to see how these animals are built. Meet in the parking area on North Marine Drive. Free. Advance registration required; see page 15 for instructions. *Metro* 

## **Killin Wetlands and Pacific University bird walk**

8 to 11 a.m. Sunday, June 10  
Seek elusive marsh birds and acorn woodpeckers at these two great birding sites in and around Forest Grove with naturalist Elaine Murphy. Meet at the Beaverton Backyard Bird Shop to carpool. Free. Advance registration required; call 503-626-0949. *Backyard Bird Shop*

## **Twilight Tuesdays in the wetlands**

7 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays, June 12, July 10 and Aug. 21  
Take a relaxing walk at Smith and Bybee Wetlands on a long summer evening. Dusk is one of the best times to view wildlife, especially during summer. It's about the only time mammals such as beaver, muskrat, otter, raccoon, deer and bats can be seen. A Metro naturalist teaches

basic techniques of wildlife watching and identification. Bring binoculars or borrow a pair onsite. Suitable for ages 10 and older; participants must be able to be quiet, sneaky and patient. Meet in the parking area on North Marine Drive. Registration and payment of \$6 per adult or \$11 per family required in advance; see page 15 for instructions. *Metro* 

## **Canemah Community Celebration**

5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, June 14

Celebrate the reopening of Oregon City's Canemah Neighborhood Children's Park and changes at Metro's Canemah Bluff Natural Area above the Willamette River. Barbecue and pie provided; bring picnic fare, a blanket or lawn chairs. Enjoy guided walks in the natural area, children's crafts and demonstrations by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. At 6 p.m. is the Grand Ronde honor dance and remarks by Metro Councilor Carlotta Collette, Oregon City Mayor Doug Neeley, and Grand Ronde and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department representatives. Free. No parking on site. Walk, bike or park at the Museum of the Oregon Territory, 211 Tumwater Drive, Oregon City; shuttle will run to and from the celebration from 4:45 to 7:15 p.m. *Metro and partners*

## **Explorando el Columbia Slough**

1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 16

Celebrate nature in the city and the environment of the Columbia Slough! This family environmental festival offers activities in Spanish and English for all ages. Meet at Whitaker Ponds Natural Area. Free. For more information, call 503-281-1132. *Columbia Slough Watershed Council*

## **Wild Minds: What animals really think**

10:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily June 16 through Sept. 3  
Can elephants work together to accomplish a task? How do chimps create a mental map of where they live? How do otters use tools? How do birds use their calls to communicate with each other? Explore the minds of cougars, primates, polar bears, bats and more with a series of keeper talks at the Oregon Zoo. Free with zoo admission. For a detailed schedule and more information, visit [www.oregonzoo.org/wildminds](http://www.oregonzoo.org/wildminds). *Oregon Zoo and OMSI*

## **Oaks, floods and fires of Canemah Bluff**

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 23

With Willamette River views, rare oak woodlands and Canemah Pioneer Cemetery nearby, Canemah Bluff brings a bit of the wild close-in to surrounding neighborhoods. Join Metro naturalist Dan Daly to explore how floods, fires and world-class geologic events created Canemah Bluff's woodlands, prairies and ephemeral wetlands. Metro scientist Brian Vaughn explains how maintaining and enhancing the oak woodland and native prairie are a priority for Metro's science team, as well as plans for the site. Directions provided with registration. Free for children under 18. Registration and payment of \$6 per adult or \$11 per family required in advance; see page 15 for instructions. *Metro*



volunteering



sustainable living



wildlife watching



nature discoveries



paddling



wheelchair accessible

## **Twilight Tuesdays on the mountain**

7 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays, June 26 and July 24

At Cooper Mountain, dusk is one of the best times to see wildlife, especially in summer. On this relaxing walk, a Metro naturalist teaches basic techniques of wildlife watching and identification. Some mammals you may see: rabbits, deer, coyote, raccoon and bats. Bring binoculars or borrow a pair on site. Meet at the Nature House. Suitable for ages 10 and older; participants must be able to be quiet, sneaky and patient. Registration and payment of \$10 per person required in advance; call 503-629-6350. *Metro and Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District*

## **Pioneer candle-making**

1 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, July 10  
Come to Graham Oaks Nature Park to make candles using an old-fashioned method. Learn the technique and then make yours unique. Suitable for ages 5 and older; children 16 and under must be accompanied by a registered adult. Free. Advance registration required; see page 15 for instructions. *Metro* 

## **Mount Talbert's hidden beauty**

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sundays, July 15 and Aug. 5  
The rare white oak woodlands of Mount Talbert offer refuge for migrating warblers, tanagers, orioles and cedar waxwings. Move quietly through shaded groves in search of the elusive Western gray squirrel and learn to identify poison oak. Bring binoculars or borrow a pair on site. Trails are rough and steep in places. Suitable for ages 10 and older. \$5 for adults; under 18 free. Advance registration required; call 503-794-8092. *Metro and North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District*

See page 11 for a July 28 tour of the changing landscape at Oxbow Regional Park.

## **Family Nature Explorers**

**F**amily Nature Explorers brings kids and adults together for open-ended nature exploration in Metro natural areas. Families meet other families with the same interests in nature and the outdoors. Kids meet other kids who love to touch, smell and study all things natural. Led by Metro naturalists and volunteers, each adventure explores a special theme – but trip leaders seize the moment when nature presents any unexpected learning opportunity. Bring a sack lunch. Children 4 and older are welcome with a parent, grandparent or guardian. \$11 per family per program. Register for each program separately; come to one or come to all. See page 15 for registration information. *Metro*



### **Nature games at Oxbow**

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 23

Bring your family to beautiful Oxbow Regional Park and play nature games with Metro naturalist Deb Scrivens. Take off your shoes, run in the grass, use your “owl eyes,” stalk like a fox and play “nutty squirrels.” \$5 per vehicle parking fee.

### **Stayin' alive: Fire by friction**

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 7

Join Metro naturalist Dan Daly at Oxbow Regional Park to learn how to make fire without matches by carving your own bow drill friction fire kit to take home with you. Learn about fire safety, construction and fuel selection.

## **Columbia Slough Regatta**

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, July 29

Paddle into the 17th annual Columbia Slough Regatta. Canoe slack water in search of eagles, otters and fish. On land, enjoy hands-on nature activities and snacks for purchase. Bring your boat or make a reservation for a 45-minute rental. Meet at the St. Johns Canoe Launch, 9363 N. Columbia Blvd. T-shirt provided. \$7 suggested donation. For more information, visit [www.columbiaslough.org](http://www.columbiaslough.org). *Columbia Slough Watershed Council*

## **Native bees to the rescue**

1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 5  
At Cooper Mountain Nature Park discover the secret life of native bees – from carpenter bees to leafcutters. These gentle bees almost never sting and provide

critical pollination, but they need your help. Learn to identify bees and the plants they eat, and how to install a bee nursery. \$8 per person, ages 11 and older; under 11 free. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Advance registration required; call 503-645-6433. *Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District and Metro* 

## **Papermaking for beginners**

1 to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 21  
Bees do it and so can you! At Graham Oaks Nature Park, join papermaker Laurel Ann Bower and learn who invented papermaking, and how to make your own decorative paper from recycled materials. Suitable for ages 5 and older; children 16 and under must be accompanied by a registered adult. Free. Advance registration required; see page 15 for instructions. *Metro* 

Participants use knives; the safe conduct of young children is the responsibility of their guardians.

## **Bug bonanza at Graham Oaks**

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 21

Search for insects, spiders, millipedes and centipedes in Graham Oaks Nature Parks' meadows, wetlands and forests. Learn to safely and carefully catch examples for closer examination, then release them unharmed. Become familiar with the best books to use to figure out who lives in your own yard and neighborhood. Learn which insects to leave alone!

## **River exploration at Oxbow**

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 11

Cool your toes in the clear and clean, wild and scenic Sandy River at Oxbow Regional Park. Spend time catching and releasing bugs in the water and looking for animal tracks in the sand with Metro naturalist Deb Scrivens. \$5 per vehicle parking fee.

## **Bug Fest: Meet the Beetles!**

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25

There are more different kinds of insects and other arthropods on Earth than all other living things combined. Celebrate invertebrates and the critical roles they play in our environment at the 12th annual Bug Fest. Explore interactive discovery stations, crafts and games, and enjoy family entertainment. Also included: live bugs to inspect and admire such as beetles in the discovery lab. Catch your own bugs or bring them to be identified by experts. Suitable for all ages. Tualatin Hills Nature Park Interpretive Center. \$3 per person; ages 2 and under free. For more information, visit [www.thprd.org](http://www.thprd.org). *Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District and Metro* 



## Historic Lone Fir Pioneer Cemetery

Lone Fir is Portland's oldest existing cemetery, with burials dating to 1846. Come see this living museum of Oregon lives, nestled in a beautiful urban woodland in inner Southeast Portland.

Enter the cemetery on Southeast 26th Avenue between Stark and Morrison streets. For more information, visit [www.friendsoflonefircemetery.org](http://www.friendsoflonefircemetery.org).

### Clean up day

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

Help keep Lone Fir looking beautiful. Its many trees mean many leaves. Bring a rake and gloves if possible. Bottled water and light snacks provided. Meet at the soldiers' monument.

### Tea and Roses

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 3

Stop by the cemetery's Roses of Old Oregon pioneer garden for complimentary tea and cookies. View historic blooms and hear short talks about old roses and Lone Fir. Special guest: Georgiana Pittock, who passed away in 1918. Free rose and lavender sachets while supplies last.

### Century of Action

1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 21

Get to know Oregon's prominent suffragists buried at Lone Fir. After the keynote speech by Metro Councilor Barbara Roberts, a new headstone for African American suffragist Hattie Redmond will be dedicated. Suitable for all ages. Meet at the soldiers' monument.

### Headstone cleaning workshops

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, June 16, July 28 and Aug. 18

Hold history in your hands: learn techniques to properly care for headstones. Learn safe cleaning methodology and the ethics of caring for these chunks of history. You may want to bring a stool. Cleaning supplies and materials provided. Suitable for all ages.

### Walking tours

10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays, June 9, July 14 and Aug. 11

Walk through history amid the beauty and tranquility of Lone Fir. Tour highlights: Portland's founders, pioneers and nationally recognized figures, plus interesting headstones and monuments. Explore 30 acres of mature trees and a very special rose garden. Suitable for all ages. Meet at the soldiers' monument. Suggested donation of \$10 goes to headstone restoration and educational programs. Registration not required.

*The above events are hosted by Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery.*

### Portland Actors Ensemble presents Hamlet

Various dates: June 14 through July 14, 7 p.m.

For its eighth annual Twilight Tragedie, Portland Actors Ensemble brings Shakespeare's "Hamlet, Prince of Denmark" to Lone Fir. Directed by Bruce A. Hostetler. The show is performed just west of the soldier's monument. Free. For more information, visit [www.portlandactors.com](http://www.portlandactors.com).

## The Conversation Project, unplugged

Oregon Humanities and Metro unplug this summer, bringing some of

Oregon's most fascinating thinkers to voter-protected natural areas. Bring a picnic lunch; Metro will bring the pie. Conversation is free. For details and directions, visit [www.oregonmetro.gov/calendar](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/calendar).



### A City's Center: Rethinking Downtown

1 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, July 21

Nan Laurence, senior planner for Eugene, explores how downtowns can represent a community's ideals and aspirations. Milwaukie Riverfront Park, where a Metro grant is helping launch a transformation, provides a rich backdrop to talk about the changing character of downtown activities, urban forms and public spaces. *Co-hosted by the City of Milwaukie*

### The Art of the Possible: Jazz and Community-Building

1 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 11

At the juncture of suburban neighborhoods and rolling farmland, Metro's Cooper Mountain isn't a typical jazz venue – but it's the perfect place to discuss the value of risk, collaboration and individual voice in this highly democratic art form. Scholar and musician Tim DuRoche will look at the literature, economics and history of jazz.

### Your Land, My Land: Using and Preserving Oregon's Natural Resources

1 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15

Oregonians are known for independence and individuality, as well as progressive environmental policies – a dynamic combination. At Graham Oaks Nature Park, Veronica Dujon, sociology professor at Portland State University, invites you to consider how attachments to places shape our desire to both use and preserve natural resources. It's a topic at home at Graham Oaks: it was once a Native American food-gathering site and then a farm, and was later considered as a site for both a landfill and a women's prison.

## Your group + One Metro naturalist = Field trip!

Did you know Metro naturalists offer tours to groups? With about a month's notice (depending on the time of year), your group can explore with a naturalist at Smith and Bybee Wetlands, Oxbow Regional Park, or Graham Oaks, Mount Talbert and Cooper Mountain nature parks. Requests to visit other sites may also be considered.

Group programs generally include walks up to 2 miles, on trails and at a learning pace, with frequent stops to talk about flora, fauna and topics such as

tracking or ethnobotany. Church groups, scouts, Road Scholars (Elderhostel), meetup groups and hiking clubs have taken field trips with Metro naturalists. Group programs are appropriate for ages 5 and older. Fees are \$25 for up to 20 people; \$50 for 21 to 50 people; and \$75 for 51 or more.

To arrange a tour, call 503-813-7565 or send email to [sandra.jamison@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:sandra.jamison@oregonmetro.gov). Learn more about the various programs for groups at [www.oregonmetro.gov/fieldtrips](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/fieldtrips).

Together, we're  
making a great place



Metro works with communities in the Portland metropolitan area to create a vibrant, sustainable region for all.

Stay in touch with news, stories and things to do.

[www.oregonmetro.gov/connect](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/connect)



## Featured places

### Blue Lake Regional Park

20500 NE Marine Drive, Fairview  
503-665-4995

### Oxbow Regional Park

3010 SE Oxbow Parkway, east of Gresham  
503-663-4708

### Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area

5300 N. Marine Drive, Portland  
503-797-1650

### Mount Talbert Nature Park

10695 SE Mather Road, Clackamas  
503-742-4353

### Cooper Mountain Nature Park

18892 SW Kemmer Road, Beaverton  
503-629-6350

### Metro's Natural Techniques Garden

6800 SE 57th Ave., Portland  
503-234-3000

### Graham Oaks Nature Park

11825 SW Wilsonville Road, Wilsonville  
503-797-1545

### Oregon Zoo

4001 SW Canyon Road, Portland  
[www.oregonzoo.org](http://www.oregonzoo.org)  
503-226-1561

**Blue Lake Regional Park will not host a fireworks festival on July 4. The park will close at sunset.**

## How to register for Metro nature activities

You can now register and pay online for Metro activities. Go to Metro's online calendar, find your event by searching or browsing, and follow the instructions.

[www.oregonmetro.gov/calendar](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/calendar)

For questions or to register by phone, call 503-797-1650 option 2.

Unless otherwise stated, Metro's family pricing is for two or more adults from the same household. Free for children under 18.

## Cancellation policy

Metro's program fees are nonrefundable. If you must cancel a registration, you may transfer credit to another class upon request.

## No dogs policy

Due to a conflict with wildlife, dogs are not allowed at Metro parks or natural areas.

## 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 sustainable transportation and living choices for people and businesses in the region. Voters have asked Metro to help with the challenges and opportunities that affect the 25 cities and three counties in the Portland metropolitan area.

A regional approach simply makes sense when it comes to providing services, operating venues and making decisions about how the region grows. Metro works with communities to support a resilient economy, keep nature close by and respond to a changing climate. Together we're making a great place, now and for generations to come.

Stay in touch with news, stories and things to do.

[www.oregonmetro.gov/connect](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/connect)

### Metro Council President

Tom Hughes

### Metro Council

Shirley Craddick, District 1

Carlotta Collette, District 2

Carl Hosticka, District 3

Kathryn Harrington, District 4

Rex Burkholder, District 5

Barbara Roberts, District 6

### Auditor

Suzanne Flynn

 Metro | *Making a great place*

### On the cover

Summer sun shines through madrone leaves at Cooper Mountain Nature Park and on the face of a happy bike rider (photos by C. Bruce Forster).

**If you have a disability** and need accommodations, call 503-813-7565, 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) or [www.trimet.org](http://www.trimet.org)

**To be added to the GreenScene mailing list or to change your mailing information,** call 503-797-1650 option 2.



# Metro

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NATURE



Thanks to voters, Metro's Natural Areas Program is providing clean water, clean air and healthy habitats for animals – and curious humans. Together we have protected 12,000 acres of natural areas, preserved 100 miles of river and stream banks, planted nearly 2 million trees and shrubs and supported hundreds of community projects. Together we can make the most of these places and preserve them for the future.

Learn about tours and events and ways you can help keep our natural areas healthy for fish, wildlife and all of us. Check out maps, photos and videos and sign up to stay in touch.

[www.oregonmetro.gov/naturalareas](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/naturalareas)

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