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**Metro Regional
Center**
600 NE Grand Ave.,
Portland. TriMet bus
and MAX light rail
Northeast Seventh
Avenue stop. Covered
bicycle parking
is available near the
main entrance.

Volunteer opportunity

Native Plant Center – Seed Scout

Division / Program

Land Management / Sustainability Center, Science and Stewardship

Purpose

Conserve uncommon, threatened and rare native herbaceous species by monitoring regional populations, tracking phenology and documenting locations of native and relocated species. The seed conservation program supports Metro's work to enhance biodiversity in regionally significant habitats.

Responsibilities

- Attend two, 6 hour trainings for seed scouting and collection protocols; includes classroom and field work
- Commit to and conduct site visits on 2-week intervals to monitor and collect phenological data, take photographs and file electronic reports within one week of visit.
- Become familiar with species listed for monitoring; know phenological stages, ripe seeds and collection protocols.
- Mentor/lead volunteer seed collectors as needed.
- Document volunteer hours; report monthly.

Required knowledge, skills, and abilities (see seed scout description for additional requirements)

- Intermediate knowledge of native herbaceous plant identification
- Completion of seed scout training (2 days)
- Methodical, organized, good observation skills, attention to detail
- Ability to navigate using handheld GPS unit; create waypoints, take compass readings.
- Experience using dichotomous key required
- Committed to filing prompt and complete reports, posting pictures

Time Commitment

Mid-March through October, two-week intervals; approximately 12 hours per month, not including travel time. Attending classroom and field training is required to be considered for seed conservation program.

Two Day Training Provides:

Classroom: Seed scouting protocols, phenology data collection; photo documentation and sharing and introduction to Metro sites. Fieldwork: hands-on experience collecting, documenting phenology, finding/setting waypoints, use of GPS and seed collection protocols.

Receive Guidance and Direction From:

Marsha Holt-Kingsley, Natural Resource Associate Scientist; Botanist
Jennifer Wilson, Native Plant Center Program Assistant