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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

Department/ Program/ Team

Parks and Nature/ Conservation/ Science

Purpose

Conserve uncommon, threatened and rare native herbaceous species by monitoring and documenting regional populations, tracking phenology and collecting seed for amplification and banking. 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: **March 19th and June 4th**. Required trainings include 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 and collection; know phenological stages and collection protocols
- Document volunteer hours; report monthly

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

- Intermediate knowledge of PNW native herbaceous plants
- Attend seed scout training (2 days)
- Methodical, organized, good observation skills, attention to detail
- Ability to navigate, using a handheld GPS unit, maps, and compass and create waypoints
- Experience using dichotomous key
- Committed to filing prompt and complete reports, posting pictures

Time Commitment

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

Two Day Training Provides:

Training Day One: the first half is a classroom setting and will cover seed scouting protocols, phenology data collection, photo documentation/sharing and introduction to Metro sites; the second half is in the field testing protocols covered in class.

Training Day Two: review the first training, and hands-on experience collecting and documenting phenology data, waypoint and seed collection protocols

Receive Guidance and Direction From:

Marsha Holt-Kingsley, Natural Resource Associate Scientist; Botanist
marsha.holt-kingsley@oregonmetro.gov

Jennifer Wilson, Native Plant Center Program Assistant