

## Portland Ardenwald and Johnson Creek

This walk straddles the boundary between Portland and Milwaukie and takes you along the Springwater Corridor Trail past wildlife viewing platforms at the 6-acre Tideman-Johnson Natural Area. Located in a gorge of Johnson Creek, the natural area is a favorite of local birdwatchers. Return through Milwaukie's charming Ardenwald neighborhood.

Begin at SE 45th Avenue and Crystal Springs Boulevard. Walk south on 45th and turn right on Harney. Follow Harney/45th Place to the Springwater Trail trailhead. Turn right onto the trail and walk west. Take a left into Tideman-Johnson Natural Area, walking along a paved path and elevated wooden platforms along the creek. Continue west and follow the trail that reconnects with the Springwater Trail.

At the intersection of Sherrett Street, you are standing on the Multnomah and Clackamas county boundary as well as the line between Portland and Milwaukie. Here, leave the Springwater Trail and walk east on Sherrett to 32nd; then turn right. Walk two blocks on 32nd to Roswell and turn left. Walk east, passing Ardenwald Park and Ardenwald School. At 42nd, turn left. Walk one block to Johnson Creek Boulevard. Cross it, turn right and walk back to the trailhead. Follow 45th/Harney back to the start.

2.5 miles

5280 steps

difficulty

45.465, -122.615

## PORTLAND: ARDENWALD AND JOHNSON CREEK

### Tideman-Johnson Natural Area

The Tideman-Johnson Natural Area is named for a pioneer family whose land claim included this wilderness. The Johnson family encouraged public use of its property for recreational purposes and in 1940 donated the land to the City of Portland. Over the years, heavy use and non-native plants had degraded the land.

Recent work has reconstructed the original creek bed, created new riparian habitat, restored the natural floodplain and reestablished native plants. The natural area is home to coyotes, beavers, dozens of varieties of birds and waterfowl (including the occasional bald eagle) and is the site of a comprehensive plan to recover salmon and steelhead runs.

Milwaukie's Ardenwald Park was built on land also donated by the Johnson family. The park is a center of a close-knit community; during summer sunset concerts, children play while their parents enjoy jazz, marimba, blues and even polka music.



Mallard duck



