



# Nature in Neighborhoods

## Conservation Education Grants 2015

### CONSERVATION EDUCATION GRANTS

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**Adelante Mujeres** \$93,940  
**Teaching the Importance of STREAM via Youth Engagement and Career Mentorship**  
**Partners:** Tualatin Riverkeepers, Friends of Fernhill Wetlands, Clean Water Services and Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve

Adelante Mujeres, Tualatin Riverkeepers and others will partner to prepare Latina girls to become conservation leaders through hands-on education and mentorship. They'll also help families empower their daughters to become our next generation of scientists.

**Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO)** \$25,000  
**Asian Pacific Islander Youth Leaders in Nature**  
**Partners:** Jade District, Audubon Society of Portland, OPAL Environmental Justice, Pacific Islander Student Association, Harrison Park School and Center for Diversity and the Environment

APANO's youth-led group will organize retreats and projects to connect high-school age students with nature, work on local environmental justice issues in their neighborhoods and help close the leadership gaps faced by their community.

**Audubon Society of Portland** \$100,000  
**The TALON Program (Teach, Advocate, Learn, Observe, Nurture)**  
**Partners:** ROSE, Hacienda and Bienestar Community Development Corporations, Friends of Nadaka, City of Portland's Parks & Recreation and Leach Botanical Gardens

Through 20 weeks of training and paid employment, the TALON program is preparing a new generation of environmental stewards, conservationists, educators and naturalists from east Multnomah and northern Clackamas counties.

**Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH)** \$25,000  
**Home is Where the Watershed Is: Conservation Education for Low Income and Housing Insecure Families**  
**Partners:** Tualatin Riverkeepers, Beaverton School District English Language Learners/Somali Program and Good Neighbor Center

Located in Washington County, CPAH's Home is Where the Watershed Is project will offer culturally rich, hands-on conservation lessons to children in low-income and insecure housing so that all children, no matter their ethnicity or income, can increase their scientific skills and learn in nature.

**Ecology in Classrooms and Outdoors**

\$24,900

**Ecology Education in North Clackamas**

**Partners:** North Clackamas School District, Milwaukie Elementary, Oak Grove Elementary, Riverside Elementary, Ardenwald Elementary, Bilquist Elementary, Lewelling Elementary, Clackamas Water Environment Services, North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District, Oak Lodge Sanitary District, Portland State University and Institute for Permaculture Education for Children

47 classrooms of budding scientists in North Clackamas’ School District will develop their critical thinking skills through hands-on ecology lessons and outdoor field experiences in their local natural areas.

**Friends of Tryon Creek**

\$91,869

**Friends and Neighbors for Environmental Diversity**

**Partners:** Neighborhood House, Center for Diversity and the Environment and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

With programming taking place at Tryon Creek State Natural Area, this three-year program represents an investment by the Friends of Tryon Creek in their organizational mission to connect low-income individuals and people of color with outdoor nature learning in their own backyard.

**George Middle School**

\$93,676

**St. Johns Community Conservation Program**

**Partners:** Portland Metro STEM Partnership, Portland State University Graduate School of Education, Columbia Slough Watershed Council, Sauvie Island Center, Portland Public Schools, Wind & Oar Boat School, and the City of Portland

The St. Johns’ Community Conservation program for George Middle School will develop personalized learning strategies for 3,000 K-12 students – activities include building school gardens, field trips to Sauvie Island Center and exploring the Columbia Slough.

**KairosPDX**

\$15,478.50

**Kairos Learning Exploration Garden**

**Partners:** Portland Community Reinvestments Initiative, Independence Gardens and Ask Mr. Science, LLC

KairosPDX, a non-profit charter school north Portland, is creating a local learning garden in this rapidly developing urban neighborhood. Programming will provide hands-on nature-education opportunities for students in their K-5 Learning Academy.

**Momentum Alliance**

\$15,000

**Opportunity Corps & Beyond**

**Partners:** Northwest Youth Corps, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Foundation, Bureau of Land Management, Open Meadow and Outside In

This partnership will create a pilot internship, and a year-round training and coaching program for 10 underrepresented youth leaders. While increasing their connection and knowledge of nature, the program will improve students’ leadership, community engagement and environmental stewardship skills. It will also be used as a new model for social justice education in the region.

**People-Places-Things, LLC** \$7,608  
**Exploring Language, Exploring Nature, Curriculum for Immigrants & Refugees**  
**Partners:** Columbia Slough Watershed Council, City of Gresham Natural Resources Program, Portland Bureau of Environmental Services' Green Street Steward Program, Multnomah County libraries and Friends of Nadaka

This partnership will use Gresham's Nadaka Nature Park as an outdoor classroom to teach real-world language and life skills to English-language learners from around the world.

**Portland OIC/Rosemary Anderson High School** \$25,000  
**Friends of Trees Student Crew Leader Training Program**  
**Partners:** Friends of Trees, Portland Parks and Recreation, Friends of the Columbia Children's Arboretum and Ecology in Classrooms & Outdoors

Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center, Rosemary Anderson High School and Friends of Trees will develop this school-based nature program to help at-risk minority youth build their self-confidence, foster a strong work ethic and focus on their personal and community success.

**Urban Greenspaces Institute** \$15,478.50  
**OakQuest Phase 2: Expanding Education, Empowering Citizens & Native Youth**  
**Partners:** Native American Youth and Family Center, Kingfisher Ecological Services LLC, Mark G. Wilson, consultant, PSU Indigenous Nations Studies, Metro, The Intertwine Alliance, Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District, North Clackamas Park and Recreation District, City of Portland Parks and BES, West Multnomah, East Multnomah, Clackamas, and Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Conservation Biology Institute, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Audubon Society of Portland, Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation

In phase two of this successful program, three Native American youth will gain hands-on conservation leadership experience and career training. These interns, will lead approximately 50 citizen-scientists in activities such as fact-checking a map detailing the location of the region's remaining Oregon white oak and teaching more than 45 private landowners how to enhance oak habitat in their own backyards.

**Verde** \$25,000  
**Verde Landscape**  
**Partners:** East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District, Portland Parks & Recreation, BESThq, Innovative Changes, Hacienda Community Development Corporation and Metro

Verde Landscape, a nonprofit social enterprise, offers stable work and education for Latino men from the Cully neighborhood. By helping build environmental literacy and habitat restoration skills, Verde boosts their workers' future long-term employment prospects.

**Wisdom of the Elders, Inc.**

\$75,000

**Wisdom Workforce Program**

**Partners:** Native American Youth and Family Center, Beaverton Schools Indian Education, Metro, Portland Parks and Recreation (City Nature East), Portland Bureau of Environmental Services, Portland Bureau of Planning & Sustainability, Johnson Creek Watershed Council, Highland Park STEM Middle School, Oregon Health Authority, Portland Community College Career Pathway Program, Mt. Hood Community College Workforce Development and Ecotrust

Wisdom of the Elders' Workforce Program will educate and train Native adults and youth to become future conservation leaders. Through meaningful, culturally relevant, hands-on learning experiences in local natural areas, they will strengthen careers, cultural identity and boost health and wellness.

**Zenger Farm**

\$67,050

**Farm School**

**Partners:** David Douglas School District, Lent School and East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District

Zenger Farm will develop new partnerships with schools and organizations in underserved communities of outer Southeast Portland, particularly Lents. Their work will expand their already successful Farm School program where students observe, experience and study the seasonal changes of the farm and local wetlands.