



Whether you're in the mood for a short hike or a weekend camping trip, a boat ride or a picnic, Metro has a destination for you. You'll share the landscape with salmon swimming in restored streams, birds streaking across the sky and giant old oak trees towering overhead. Thanks to voters, you can explore 16,000 acres of regional parks, trails and natural areas across the Portland metropolitan region. You also have opportunities to take nature classes and volunteer at these special places.

Learn more

www.oregonmetro.gov/grants

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Get ready to volunteer with a project in your community

Nature in your neighborhood

Are you involved in an innovative project that nurtures nature in your community or connects people with the outdoors? If so, Metro can help fund your project, forge partnerships and build long-term success.

Who can apply?

Individuals, citizen groups, businesses, neighborhoods, nonprofits, schools and school groups, government agencies, faith groups and service groups with nonprofit or other tax-exempt status may apply. Grants must benefit the Portland metropolitan area.

Which projects get funded?

Successful projects involve a wide range of community members, foster partnerships and lead to outcomes that make our neighborhoods healthier. These can include local jobs or youth leadership as well as improved water quality, wildlife habitat and people's access to nature.

Application review and selection

A team made up of community representatives with backgrounds in restoration, education, volunteer coordination, project planning and community engagement review applications and make funding recommendations to the Metro Council.

We're Here to Help You

We can help envision your project, meet others that can help, or provide guidance on filling out the application. We also offer translation services to other languages.

Which grant is the best fit for your project?

Turn the page or visit oregonmetro.gov/grants.

FIND THE RIGHT METRO NATURE GRANT FOR YOU



Thousands of volunteers helped plant native trees and shrubs along Interstate 205 – a project funded by a Metro Nature in Neighborhoods capital grant.



Volunteers from Milwaukie Presbyterian Church restored a small wetland next door, improving water quality and creating a quiet refuge for wildlife – and people.



Grant projects provide people of all ages with “boots on the ground” opportunities to restore local natural areas and take care of nature close to home.

	Restoration grants	Education grants	Capital grants
Overview	Restoration projects are as diverse as the region’s habitats and waterways. Metro grants have supported work to improve water quality and habitat at Beaver Creek in Troutdale, Camassia Natural Area in West Linn, the Pittock Bird Sanctuary near Forest Park – and many other places across the Portland metropolitan area.	Conservation education grants connect people with nature in a variety of ways, from giving school children hands-on experience in local natural areas to offering job skill development for nature-based careers. The common denominator: providing opportunities for people across our region to learn about the natural world.	Across the region, capital grants are fueling urban transformations, neighborhood livability, restoration and land acquisition. Recipients must purchase land or make capital improvements to public property with a value of at least \$50,000.
Project example	The Johnson Creek Watershed Council is helping native plants thrive on 20 high-priority sites. The project removed invasive vegetation and added 10,000 new plants, providing tree cover along two miles of the creek and its tributaries. Public agencies partnered with private landowners to provide on-the-ground assistance and training for future maintenance of the sites.	STEAM, Centro Cultural de Washington County’s after-school and summer program, teaches science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics to Latino youth struggling with core academic subjects. Through partnerships with Pacific University, Clean Water Services and surrounding schools, STEAM leaders blend academic learning and hands-on enrichment activities to create innovative education approaches at the B-Street Farm in Forest Grove.	Nadaka Nature Park, tucked in the East Wilkes Neighborhood of Gresham, is now easier to access thanks to a two-acre expansion connecting the park to NE Glisan Street. Many community groups, led by the Columbia Slough Watershed Council, are now transforming the site with nature play areas, community gathering spaces and a community garden.
Grant amount	Grants up to \$30,000	Grants up to \$30,000	Grants up to \$500,000.
Timing	Applications due in spring 2016; grants awarded in the summer.	Simple application due January 26, 2016; finalists invited to submit full applications; grants awarded in the spring.	Simple application due by April 2016; finalists invited to submit full applications; grants awarded in the fall.

Thanks, voters!

Metro nature grants expanded with help from a levy approved by the region’s voters in 2013. The levy allows Metro to better care for regional parks and natural areas, improve some for visitors and offer more volunteering and conservation education opportunities.