



## Nature in Neighborhoods Capital Grants 2014

### **Beaver Creek Fish Passage and Habitat Enhancement**

**Grant amount:** \$ 579,500

**Recipient:** Multnomah County

**Partners:** East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District, City of Troutdale, Mt. Hood Community College, Northwest Steelheaders, SOLVe, Sandy River Basin Council, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

This stream restoration project will enhance key spawning and rearing habitat for federally listed salmonids, steelhead trout, and other native fish species by improving three culverts that significantly block fish passage. These culverts, located in a vital stretch of Beaver Creek, disconnect the upper and lower reaches of the watershed. The project will allow fish to reach the upper basin of Beaver Creek where agencies have already been working with property owners to restore stream habitat. There is an extensive array of partners and agencies dedicated to the restoration of the Beaver Creek basin.

### **Dirksen Nature Park: A Walk Through NW Ecosystems**

**Grant amount:** \$ 390,000

**Recipient:** City of Tigard

**Partners:** Tualatin Riverkeepers, Fowler Middle School, Clean Water Services, and Northwest Youth Corps

This project will improve Dirksen Nature Park to enhance visitors' experiences of Northwest ecosystems including: restoring a forested wetland and installing a boardwalk; restoring an oak savannah and installing an overlook; and building two nature play areas. Metro Council previously invested \$1 million in the acquisition of this property through a capital grant, which closed Dec. 15, 2010. In addition to the acquisition, other deliverables included management and education plans. Both of these plans were developed and approved.

### **Donald L. Robertson Parks Trail Extension**

**Grant amount:** \$ 22,042

**Recipient:** City of Wood Village

**Partners:** Arata School/MESD, Rotarians, and McMenamin's

This project will construct a new recreational nature trail with a new bridge. It will also extend the recreational trail system to encourage connectivity with other trails, neighborhoods and retail centers.

### **Gateway Green**

**Grant amount:** \$1,000,000

**Recipient:** Friends of Gateway Green and Portland Parks & Recreation

**Partners:** 18 non-profits including the International Mountain Biking Association, Northwest Trail Alliance, and Portland Audubon; 7 private businesses including David Evans Associates, and 8 public agencies including Oregon Department of Transportation.

Gateway Green is a long-fallow, neglected piece of public right-of-way in East Portland located between I-205 and I-84. The project will turn 24-acres of undulating and partially forested land into a regional recreational destination and green space that includes habitat restoration, multi-use trails, a stormwater treatment demonstration feature, a children's nature play area, interpretive signage, a small field shelter, and access improvements.

**Lilly K. Johnson Woods Natural Area Phase II**

**Grant amount:** \$ 136,435  
**Recipient:** Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District  
**Partners:** Washington County and SOLVe

Funding from Metro will allow THPRD to purchase two properties totaling approximately 1.2 acres that will be desirable additions to Lilly K. Johnson Woods Natural Area, bringing the park to 11.14 acres. Adding these properties will further the District's goal of creating a larger natural area linked to the nearby Westside Regional Trail. The sites have a secluded feeling that allows people to feel immersed in nature.

**Old Town Loop Trail and Restoration Project**

**Grant amount:** \$ 138,000  
**Recipient:** City of Forest Grove  
**Partners:** Pacific University Sustainability Center, Joseph Gale Elementary School, Clean Water Services, and Natural Resource Conservation Service

This project includes construction of 3,500 linear feet (LF) of a paved multi-purpose trail (10-foot wide) along the edge of the Gales Creek Natural Area in Forest Grove. The trail will connect to the existing B-Street and Hwy 47 trails, resulting in a 1.65 mile total loop. This project will occur on Metro property.

**One North Community Courtyard**

**Grant amount:** \$ 420,313  
**Recipient:** Catlin Gabel School and the Portland Bureau of Transportation  
**Partners:** Kaiser Group Inc and Karuna Properties

The One North Community Courtyard is centrally located in a dense urban area and will offer a neighborhood gathering place surrounded by natural plantings. A public access easement will be placed over the courtyard, making it available for community use at all times. This project demonstrates how redevelopment can provide people with an opportunity to experience urban ecology as our neighborhoods become denser. In addition to constructing the public plaza, the grant will engage the development community and local neighborhood in learning about urban ecology.

**Overlook Bluff Oak Savanna Protection**

**Grant amount:** \$ 288,000  
**Recipient:** Friends of Overlook Bluff and Portland Parks & Recreation  
**Partners:** Trust for Public Lands, Portland Bureau of Environmental Services, Overlook Tree Preservation, North Portland Neighborhood Services, SOLVe, and Backyard Habitat Certification Program

The project will allow Portland Parks & Recreation to acquire a 0.83 acre site on the Overlook Bluff in North Portland with a heritage Oregon white oak believed to be around 200 years old. This site is located within corridor of oak and madrone trees that once stretched from Vancouver BC to California. As a public natural area, it will provide continued watershed, wildlife, and community benefits while providing a site for local outdoor education and stewardship projects.

### **Siskiyou Pathway**

**Grant amount:** \$ 93,780

**Recipient:** Dharma Rain Zen Center and Portland Parks & Recreation

**Partners:** Madison South Neighborhood Association, City Repair, Siskiyou Cohousing, LLC, Portland Bureau of Environmental Services

The Siskiyou Pathway will be located on a restored brownfield site and will create a public path for pedestrians linking two nature and recreation sites. It will also help establish a wildlife corridor between two major habitat islands. This pathway will increase neighborhood connectivity, community, safety, access to open space and awareness of stewardship issues. The property owner (Dharma Rain) will grant Portland Parks & Recreation a public access easement.

### **Site Restoration at the John Inskeep Environmental Learning Center**

**Grant amount:** \$ 868,342

**Recipient:** Clackamas Community College

**Partners:** Clackamas Water Environmental Services, City of Oregon City, Clackamas County office of Sustainability, Clackamas River Water Providers, OSU Extension Services, Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation Service, and Greater Oregon City Watershed Council

This project will redevelop Clackamas Community College's John Inskeep Environmental Learning Center into an outdoor learning laboratory, demonstration site, and natural area that showcases innovations in stormwater management, landscape design, and sustainable living practices through a partnership of local and state agencies and educational institutions.

This project will enhance water quality in Newell Creek and leverage a network of community partners committed to the health of Newell Creek Canyon. It will also increase the capacity of the Environmental Learning Center to be a valuable education resource for college students, local schools, industry members and families while providing passive recreation for families in the Oregon City area.

### **Whitaker Ponds Nature Park - Entry, Parking and Access Improvements**

**Grant amount:** \$ 422,667

**Recipient:** Portland Parks & Recreation

**Partners:** Columbia Slough Watershed Council and Portland Bureau of Environmental Services

This project will improve safety, ADA accessibility and aesthetics at the park's main entrance on NE 47th Avenue. The project includes an improved, expanded parking area designed with low-impact development techniques, construction of the sidewalk leading to the natural area along NE 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue, the addition of a small nature play area and increased native plant diversity. The projects will also removal of the fencing along NE 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue, making the area more welcoming to visitors. A portion of the project will occur on Metro property.

### **Zenger Farm Urban Grange Courtyard**

**Grant amount:** \$ 142,750

**Recipient:** Friends of Zenger Farm and the City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services

**Partners:** Wisdom of the Elders, Xerces Society, David Douglas School District, PLACE Studios LLC, Dennis' Seven Dees, and Bob's Red Mill

Metro funding will support courtyard improvements associated with the new Urban Grange at Zenger Farms. The improvements will enhance Zenger Farm's ability to provide hands-on experiential learning of stormwater and water quality needs in an urban area. Improvements include infiltration basins, a stormwater conveyance feature, bioswales, and permeable pavers. Site features that will enhance the educational experience for visitors include a meadow, outdoor classroom, and signage.