

JOIN THE GRANTS REVIEW TEAM!

Nature in Neighborhoods restoration and community stewardship grants

Metro is recruiting people to review Nature in Neighborhoods restoration and community stewardship grants. Members of the committee will help to recommend up to \$700,000 in restoration and community stewardship grants to community organizations and groups seeking to support and create partnerships in local communities.

These grants support projects improving water quality, creating fish and wildlife habitat, getting rid of weeds, or restoring nature in greater Portland. Grant recipients have planted native species at Ross Island, improved water quality and amphibian habitat in Willow Creek, and restored habitat at the Sandy River Delta for fish, migrating birds and turtles all while engaging local residents in being stewards of their local natural areas. Other grant recipients have [transformed the M&M Marketplace's](#) parking lot from gray to green by rain garden creation, native plant installation and creating a [diverse conservation leadership program](#) for youth interns. Metro grants expand partnerships to inspire new approaches to restoration, including economic and environmental equity.

It's important to have a broad diversity of experience and backgrounds represented on the committee. Grant applicants are eligible to serve on the review committee; reviewers must disclose any conflicts of interest. The Metro Council makes all final funding decisions.

This is the second round of Nature in Neighborhood community grants to be awarded from the renewal of Metro's 5-year levy funding. Small grants have a maximum award of \$50,000 and large grants have a maximum award of \$100,000. The restoration and community stewardship grants are offered every other year. For more information about the Nature Neighborhoods community grants, please see www.oregonmetro.gov/grants.

INTERESTED IN REVIEWING GRANTS?

Metro is looking for people with backgrounds in habitat restoration, natural area land management, conservation planning, mentorship and job skill development, diversity equity and inclusion, community partnership development, philanthropy, grant management or related fields. Stipends available upon request.

In selecting members for this committee, Metro seeks a mix of members that bring experience or interest in:

- Reviewing or writing grant proposals and offering suggestions on ways to strengthen programs
- Programs that involve a wide range of partners and funding
- Engaging diverse community groups

GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE DUTIES

- Serve a one-year term with an opportunity to be reappointed.
- Review approximately 30 pre-applications in February and 20 full applications in April. (See dates.)

- Evaluate applications based on the information submitted; the purpose, goals and evaluation criteria; and the review committee’s professional and collective judgment.
- Attend two review committee meetings (4 hours each).
- Develop funding recommendations together with other review committee members.
- Provide feedback to staff about ways to strengthen the grant program administration and outcomes.

EMAIL STATEMENT OF INTEREST AND A RESUME

To apply for the restoration and community stewardship grant review committee, please briefly explain why you are interested in participating in the review committee and attach a resume which details your individual background in an email to the grant coordinator, [Crista Gardner](mailto:crista.gardner@oregonmetro.gov), crista.gardner@oregonmetro.gov. Metro staff will begin reviewing applications in **January 2019**.

Why are you interested in serving on the restoration and community stewardship grant review committee?

- **Experience:** What lived or professional experience, knowledge and skills will help you to evaluate whether community organizations and groups meet the grant purpose and the goals to improve water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, community partnerships, and environmental and economic equity? What is your connection to and involvement with the community and diversity, equity and inclusion work?
- **Conflict of interest:** Are you or your immediate family a staff member or board member of an organization that plans to submit a grant application? Grant applicants are eligible to serve on the review committee, but will excuse themselves from the scoring and the committee discussion of that grant (pre) application.
- **Availability:** In order to serve on the grant review committee, you must attend the two grant review meetings for four hours each. Are you available to do so on **Tuesday, March 5, 2019, and Tuesday, May 14, 2019, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.?**

Resume: Please attach a resume that reflects your relevant experience and skills.

WHAT’S THE TIMELINE?

November 2018	Availability of grant funds announced
January 2019	Restoration grant workshop and one-on-one opportunities
Tuesday, 4 p.m., January 29, 2019	Restoration pre-applications due to Metro
Tuesday, March 5, 2019	Grant review committee meeting, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
March 2019	Successful pre-applications invited to submit full applications
Tuesday, 4 p.m., April 9, 2019	Final applications due to Metro
Tuesday, May 14, 2019	Grant review committee meeting, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
June 2019	Grant awards recommendation announced
July 2019	Metro Council awards grants and funds become available