



# Mason Hill Park

## FIELD GUIDE

Located in the North Tualatin Mountains, Mason Hill Park rests on the original homelands of the local Indigenous tribes and bands, whose families and communities continue traditional healing practices to care for ancestral lands, foods and medicines for present and future generations.

Nestled among a forest of cedars and Douglas fir trees, a scattering of maple trees creates shade and sun-dappled light for gatherings in the spring and summer, and a retreat for quiet repose any time of the year. A covered picnic area provides shelter from the rain or summer heat, as well as bench seating for group story sharing. Painters love this gem of a park for the changing light and the natural wildlife that claim their home here – such as robins, redtailed hawks, black-tailed deer and coyotes.

Located off of Northwest Johnson Road, the park is a respite for long-distance cyclists and those taking scenic drives through the North Tualatin Mountains and the surrounding settled farmlands.

The picnic shelter at Mason Hill was a one-room schoolhouse built by colonizers for their children after the forced removal of the Tualatin people in the 1850s. A bell remains from the original structure, which stood on the site from 1891 to 1944.

Though the park is just one acre in size, many animals call Mason Hill home. Listen and look for black-tailed deer leaping through the trees, coyotes calling to one another across the meadow, red-tailed hawks soaring through the air and robins singing in the trees. The grassy hills also attract pollinators like hummingbirds and mason bees.

### Be on the lookout!



robin



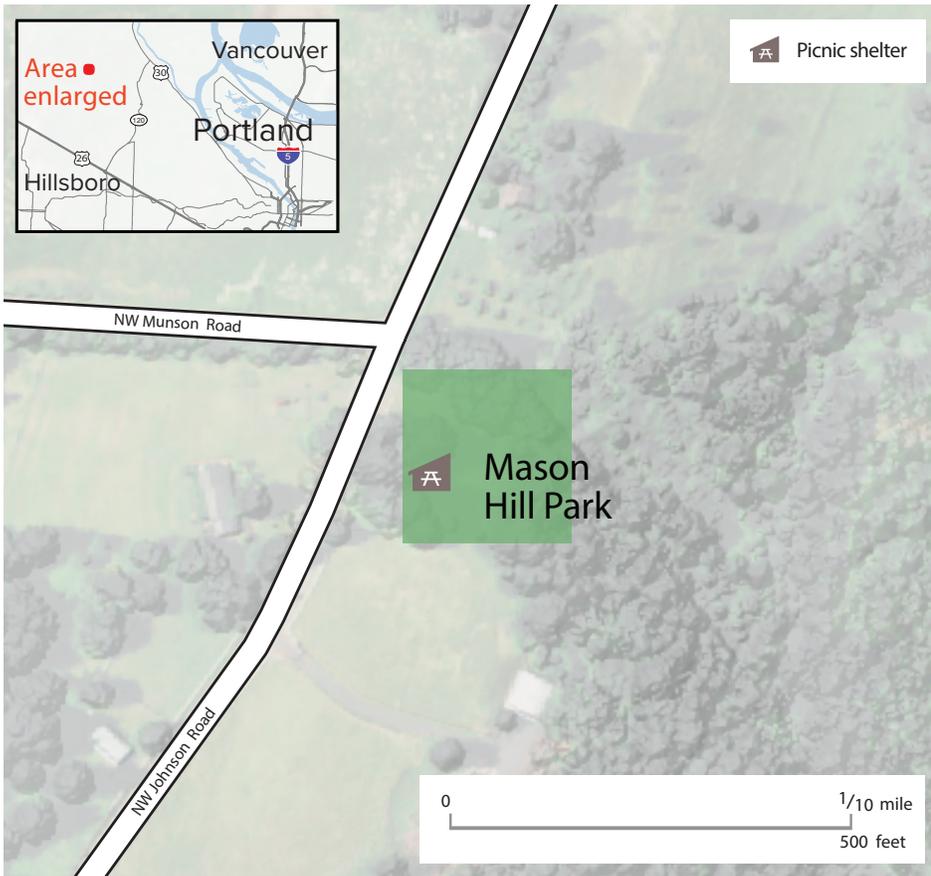
coyote



red-tailed hawk



black-tailed deer



### Drive and bike around Mason Hill

Traveling along the Valley Scenic Tour Route takes visitors near the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge, through the Forest Grove wine region and by old colonial churches and farm houses.

The Tualatin Valley Scenic Bikeway captures some of the best scenic views of the northern part of the Willamette Valley. The trail starts in Hillsboro at Rood Bridge Park and heads west to Forest Grove. Cyclists can find their way onto the

iconic Banks-Vernonia State Trail, a 21-mile paved trail that travels through L.L. Stub Stewart State Park, and over to Mason Hill Park for a ride through the hillsides. Bring a lunch or stop at one of the u-pick farms during the summer for berries or other fresh fruits and vegetables. Or stop by one of the vineyards with breathtaking views of the valley below.

Learn more about these tours at [traveloregon.com](http://traveloregon.com) and [tualatinvalley.org](http://tualatinvalley.org)



## Mason Hill Park

16498 NW Johnson Rd., Portland

### Getting there

From Portland, head west on U.S. 26. Take exit 61B and head north on Northwest Helvetia Road. Shortly after the road curves left, take a right on Northwest Logie Trail, which naturally becomes Northwest Johnson Road. Mason Hill Park will be on the right at the intersection with Northwest Munson Road. If you come by car, be prepared to park in a narrow roadside spot.

### Know when you go

Park open sunrise to sunset. No pets, please.

### Amenities

Picnic shelter.

### Pets policy

To protect plants, wildlife and people, Metro does not allow pets at most regional parks and natural areas. Pets can damage sensitive habitat and threaten wildlife the region has worked to protect. In natural areas where pets are not allowed, people see more wildlife and get closer to it. Seeing-eye dogs or other service animals are allowed. Please bring cleanup materials.

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