



# Filming and photography with Parks and Nature

## Special-use and frequently asked questions

*Metro protects water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and creates opportunities to enjoy nature close to home.*

**Metro Parks and Nature** manages 17 parks, 14 historic cemeteries and more than 100 natural areas across the region, from Gaston to Gresham and from the Columbia River to Wilsonville.

Metro permits filming and photography through our special-use permit process. We receive more than 200 requests each year for a variety of special-use activities, with film and photography representing approximately 10% of our annual requests. Information about permits, standard conditions and fees can be found at [www.oregonmetro.gov/specialuse](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/specialuse).

### How and when to apply

There is no fee to apply. A script or detailed creative summary should be included with the application.

Permit requests are reviewed by several different stakeholders including park managers, planners, scientists and other specialists who possess detailed information about each of our properties as well as expertise in particular activities. Staff members reviewing requests are regularly in the field, and not at desks or email most of the day. Due to reviewer capacity, we are unable to process requests made less than 5 days in advance.

We often require staff monitoring for productions that have large crews, take place in ecologically sensitive areas, or are in parks that have lots of guests. Per union contracts, staff must be scheduled a minimum of a week in advance.



### Location scouting

- Stay on established trails.
- Pay parking fees where required and park in designated spots.
- For Oxbow Regional Park, location scouts should check in at the Oxbow Welcome Center upon arrival.

### Rates and fees

Special-use fee schedule is posted on the special-use webpage. Filming produced by students currently enrolled in an academic program are eligible for fee subsidies.

#### 2023 Fees

Filming	\$75/h, \$450/d
B-roll filming	\$150/d
Commercial photography	\$25/h, \$150/d
Refundable security deposit (or 20% whichever is greater)	\$500+
Staff monitoring	\$86.42/h
Vendors/suppliers	\$50 per vendor/per day
Shelter reservations	See current rates
Medium/High impact	\$450, \$800
Parking	\$5 per vehicle

## Payment

Payment of fees and security deposit must be received in advance of activity. Cash, Visa, Mastercard, American Express, and debit cards accepted.

## Insurance

A certificate of insurance providing evidence of general liability insurance, vehicle insurance (if applicable) and workers' compensation insurance are required. Metro must be a certificate holder, using address 600 NE Grand Ave, Portland OR 97232.

## Vendors/suppliers

Vendors or suppliers who come to the site to provide goods, services or equipment set-up/take-down (portable toilets, temporary structures, food service, hired security) must complete a vendor permit and submit a certificate of insurance meeting coverage details as required in the vendor permit.

## What factors lead to a request being approved or denied?

Requests are weighed against our obligation to make park spaces available for the community as well as any threats to natural resources. We carefully consider how the details of a production or script are consistent with our commitment to safe and welcoming spaces.

Please be aware that public demand often precludes filming at Oxbow Regional Park between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

## Will drone footage be permitted?

Drones are not allowed in Metro spaces due to wildlife disturbance and, in some cases, proximity to airports.

## Why is a script required?

Reviewing the script for scenes set in Metro spaces helps reviewers determine the degree to which a production will uphold our vision for safe and welcoming spaces. For example, scenes with firearms, real or prop, will not be permitted.

## Will filming before park opening or after park closures be permitted?

Requests outside of park hours will depend upon staff availability and safety factors such as lighting. Requests for filming outside of general park hours can only be considered if submitted more than 10 days in advance.

## Will filming on roads be permitted?

Metro can permit filming on internal park roads. Filming on roads and trails may be permitted if access for other guests is maintained, within a five-minute interval. Certified flaggers with high-visibility clothing must be provided by the permittee.

## How long will it take to process my permit?

Permit processing time can take 5 to 30 days depending on the complexity of the requests and number of other pending permits.

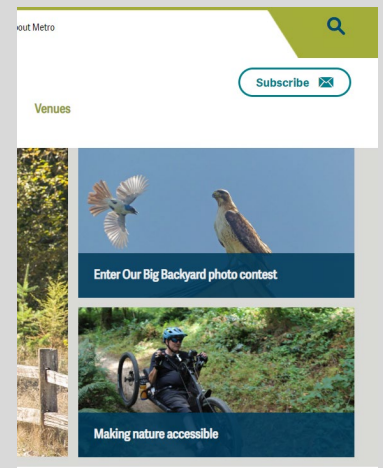
Special-use permit coordinator  
[specialusepermits@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:specialusepermits@oregonmetro.gov)  
503-349-7807

Special-use permits webpage:  
[oregonmetro.gov/specialuse](http://oregonmetro.gov/specialuse)

Learn more about Metro spaces:  
[oregonmetro.gov/parks](http://oregonmetro.gov/parks)



Parks and Nature System Plan, especially pages 58-139  
[oregonmetro.gov/sites/default/files/2018/03/23/Parks-and-Nature-System-Plan.pdf](http://oregonmetro.gov/sites/default/files/2018/03/23/Parks-and-Nature-System-Plan.pdf)



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