



July 12, 2012

Meet the Newest Member of the Team!

Eugene Park Stewards is proud to welcome Emily Aune who is bravely filling in for our North Region Volunteer Coordinator while she is away on maternity leave. Emily joins us with a tremendous wealth of



knowledge about landscape practices and the natural environment and has the enthusiasm and leadership skills to keep our program running strong. After obtaining her degree in Environmental Science, she came to work for the City of Eugene as a Botany Assistant in the West Eugene Wetlands. After that, she continued on to become the very first employee dedicated to the Native Plant Nursery in Alton Baker Park. Most recently, you could find her taking care of the Rhododendron Garden and working with the volunteers at Hendricks Park. She has a passion for volunteer work, native plants and a clean and

accessible outdoor space. This includes the bike trails, as you will see her bicycle commuting to work nearly every day! Say hello to Emily at Emily.R.Aune@eugene.or.us.

KUDOS KORNER

This is a new feature in our Eugene Park Stewards Newsletters, and one we are thrilled to bring you. Eugene Park Stewards as a program was aptly named given that all of our volunteers are, in fact, individual park stewards who collectively have an enormous impact on our public parks and natural areas. We literally (quite literally) could not do it without the ongoing dedication and commitment from each and every one of you. In this feature, we hope to highlight just a few of your contributions and share our sincere appreciation for one well done job after another. We remain in complete awe of all you do ...



True Trail-Blazers

The Obsidians and Friends of Blanton Ridge are dedicated to caring for Eugene’s unique emerald necklace, the Ridgeline. The Obsidians volunteer each month to do trail maintenance in Spencer Butte Park while the Friends of Blanton Ridge work each month to manage invasive plants along the Blanton Ridge Trail. The Eugene Park Stewards would like to thank all our Ridgeline volunteers for their dedication to keeping this natural area beautiful and accessible for the community to enjoy.

Left: Friends of Blanton and the Obsidians work to salvage plants along the Blanton Ridge trail.

Friends of Washington Park Making a Difference

The Friends of Washington Park and the Eugene Community Softball League are two groups working to reduce pesticide use in Washington Park. Volunteers gave 36 hours of caring for the softball fields, tree wells and native plant bed last month removing 2 yards of debris and spreading 3 yards of mulch. Eugene Park Stewards gives their heartfelt thanks to this dedicated bunch of volunteers!

Right: Volunteers at Washington Park pleased with a job well done.



A Partnership That Really Worked

McKenzie Commercial, a local construction company located in the Whiteaker Neighborhood for nearly 30 years, made a significant contribution to our community by removing the wooden, aging, and



Above: The hard working families of McKenzie Commercial

frequently tagged backboard at Sladden Park and installing a replacement backboard on the existing fence. Twenty employees and their families along with a volunteer from Second Growth worked for nearly three hours to eliminate an eyesore and improve safety in the park, while Natron donated the plywood for the backboard. Many thanks to everyone involved. A special honor to McKenzie Commercial owner Todd Glenz for recognizing a need in his neighborhood and jumping in to fix it, your pioneering spirit is one we hope catches on!

An Equation for Extreme Appreciation: $300 \times 4 \times 5 \times 4 = 3,500$

On Saturday June 9, nearly 300 volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints spent



four hours working in five different parks. The painting, roofing, graveling, weeding, and pruning that got done were nothing short of astounding! This was their fourth project with Eugene Park Stewards which brings their total hours contributed to Eugene Parks and Open Space to more than 3,500. Thanks so much to the local Mormon community for their exceptional gift of ongoing service!

Left: LDS volunteers weeding and pruning Owen Rose Garden

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, July 15

Ridgeline Trail System - Blanton Ridge

9 a.m. to Noon

Join the Friends of Blanton Ridge in trail stewardship! Volunteers will be working to manage invasive plants and the trail corridor along Blanton Ridge. Wear clothes you can get dirty and bring a love of the outdoors! To participate, please RSVP to South Region Volunteer Coordinator, Carrie Karl at 541-682-4850 or carrie.l.karl@ci.eugene.or.us

Wednesday, July 18

West Bank Bike Path

9:00 a.m. to Noon

Come learn about rejuvenating a filbert grove and get some exercise while you're at it. Take your pick: You can weed, prune and mulch 60+ trees to create a healthy, safe space along the river which will begin to produce viable filberts in about 18 months. Or work on the adjacent riparian area to remove blackberries and ivy. Park on Stults just off River Road and take the bike path downstream (to your left) about 20 yards to the filbert orchard. Tools, gloves and a snack provided. Contact Lorna Baldwin, West Region Volunteer Coordinator 541-682-4845 lorna.j.baldwin@ci.eugene.or.us

Sunday, July 22

West Bank Bike Path Clean-up

9 a.m. to Noon

The Many Rivers Group and the River Road Community Organization are pairing up with the Eugene Park Stewards to help clean up our beloved bike paths and could use your help. Bikes welcome! We will be picking up trash along the bike path between the Owosso and Greenway Bridges. The meeting place is the filbert orchard at the end of McClure off River Road. No parking on McClure so if you are driving please park on Stults or Stephens and take the bike path one half block downstream. Gloves, tools, and a snack provided by Eugene Park Stewards. To assist with our planning, please RSVP to the West Region Volunteer Coordinator, Lorna Baldwin at 541-682-4845 or lorna.j.baldwin@ci.eugene.or.us. For the day of the project please use 541-954-1082.

Wednesday, July 25

Ridgeline Trail System - Spencer Butte

5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Join the Obsidians to do trail maintenance in the Ridgeline Trail System. The Obsidians have adopted Spencer Butte and are dedicated to maintaining trails in the park. Be sure to wear weather and work appropriate clothing and footwear. All necessary tools, equipment, gloves, and snacks will be provided by Eugene Park Stewards. To participate, please RSVP to South Region Volunteer Coordinator, Carrie Karl at 541-682-4850 or carrie.l.karl@ci.eugene.or.us

Sunday, July 29

Golden Gardens

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The First United Methodists are spending every 5th Sunday volunteering out in their community and are dedicating time to Golden Gardens, an increasingly used natural area. To join them in adding chips to the trails, take Barger to Golden Gardens. Turn right on Golden Gardens street and continue straight to the ponds. We will meet in between the two ponds so follow the path and you will see a large white truck. We will be using wheelbarrows and pitchforks. Please dress for the weather and for working outdoors. Gloves, tools and a snack provided. To participate, please RSVP to West Region Coordinator, Lorna Baldwin at 541-682-4845 or lorna.j.baldwin@ci.eugene.or.us.

Saturday, August 4

Alton Baker Park

9 a.m. to Noon

What's your favorite part of Alton Baker Park? Chances are, whatever your answer, we've got a project for that! Join us Saturday August 4 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. for a volunteer push to maintain and beautify Alton Baker's ponds, dog park, filbert orchard, Hays Tree Garden, community garden—even The Science Factory and Nearby Nature. Our goal is to have 300 volunteers, and we hope to see you there! Eugene Park Stewards is hosting this volunteer event in conjunction with Northwest Community Credit Union for their annual Project Community. Tools, gloves, instruction, and food will be provided. All ages and abilities are welcome. To participate, please RSVP to North Region Volunteer Coordinator, Emily Aune at 541-682-4831 or Emily.R.Aune@eugene.or.us.

Sunday, August 18

Delta Ponds

9 a.m. to Noon

Volunteers are invited to join the Downtown Lions at Delta Ponds gravel parking lot off Goodpasture Island Road from 9am to 12pm Saturday August 18th. Tools, gloves, instruction and snacks will be provided. To participate, please RSVP to North Region Volunteer Coordinator, Emily Aune at 541-682-4831 or Emily.R.Aune@eugene.or.us.

ONE-TIME OPPORTUNITY

One or two volunteers with carpentry experience needed to re-build stretching structure at Maurie Jacobs Park in the next two weeks. Tools and materials supplied. Contact the West Region Volunteer Coordinator, Lorna Baldwin at 541-682-4845 or lorna.j.baldwin@ci.eugene.or.us.

ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Every Friday

Alton Baker Park Native Plant Nursery

9 a.m. to Noon

Grow, tend and learn about native plants at the Native Plant Nursery in Alton Baker Park.

Contact:

Emily Aune, North Region Volunteer Coordinator

541-682-4831 or Emily.R.Aune@eugene.or.us.

Every Thursday

Owen Rose Garden – 300 N. Jefferson

Noon to 3 p.m.

Weed, deadhead, prune and fertilize in this amazing sea of roses.

Contact:

Lorna Baldwin, West Region Volunteer Coordinator

541-682-4845 or lorna.j.baldwin@ci.eugene.or.us

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, October 6

Great Willamette River Clean Up

9 a.m. to Noon

Join REI and many others for the Annual Great Willamette River Clean-Up, much more info to come.

Questions, thoughts or ideas? We always love to hear from you.

Eugeneparkvolunteers@ci.eugene.or.us or 541-682-4844

To opt out of this e-newsletter [click here](#).