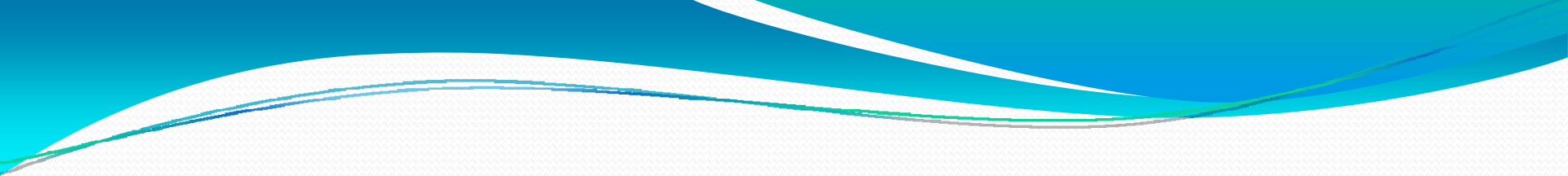




Children's Arboretum Natural Restoration Project



In the Summer of 2003 the East Columbia Neighborhood Association began to uncover the “jewel” of a park from under the piles of blackberries. The overgrowth of trees and bushes provided shelter for itinerant drug users. The neighborhood association cleaned this up and there began the idea of resurrecting this much neglected park.

The Neighborhood Association engaged Portland Parks and on September of 2003 held their first arboretum committee meeting that led to the formulation of a park master plan.

In addition to the neighborhood efforts, they also engaged volunteers from Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism, Washington County Youth Center and hired State Prison Crews to help. Tree Pruning classes held by Urban Forestry were engaged to teach volunteers to prune.

WHERE TO GET MONEY

A grant application with Metro’s Nature in Neighborhood (NIN) was filled out but, there was the condition of getting money for a match. That is when the neighborhood learned about fund raising and how frustrating it can be. Second application with Metro was a charm and the Neighborhood had received the monies they needed to begin this project.

Subsequent partnerships developed with Portland Parks, City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services, Columbia Slough Watershed Council, City of Portland Office of Neighborhood Services and Port of Portland. Other donations included corporate donors, private donors, Columbia Corridor Association, East Multnomah Soil and Conservation and NRCS. Last but not least the great crew of Multnomah County Drainage District and acting as the Peninsula Drainage District (PEN 2) staff were Bob Eaton, Dave Hendricks and Bruce McClelland led the way.

This has been an exceptional project for the Neighborhood and the Park.

The above story was told by Dick Towle and presented to the Metro Council.

Photos can be seen on the next few pages.

Children's Arboretum Natural Restoration Project



Old Culverts restricted water flow



Children's Arboretum Natural Restoration Project

Before



After



Children's Arboretum Natural Restoration Project

Before



After



Children's Arboretum Natural Restoration Project

Before



After



Children's Arboretum Natural Restoration Project

Before



After



Replaces Culvert with Bridge

Before



After



Replaces Culverts with Bridges

Before



After



Entrance at 13th Ave. and Meadow Dr.



Trail Through Arboretum



**Columbia Children's Arboretum
Pedestrian Bridges Project
Ribbon Cutting and Dedication**

Join us to celebrate the completion of the Pedestrian Bridges Project. This project removed two 50 year old culverts that restricted water flow, constructed two pedestrian bridges, and replanted a waterway with native grasses and plants at the Columbia Children's Arboretum.

Date: Saturday, April 12, 2008

Time: 10 am to 11 am

**Columbia Children's Arboretum
For the Ribbon Cutting and Dedication
Enter at the end of NE Meadow Dr.**

Dedication Highlights

- Program
 - Dick and Gyrid Towle
 - Rex Burkholder, METRO
 - Zari Santner, Portland Parks and Recreation
 - Dick Schafer, Peninsula 2 Drainage District
 - Chuck Harrison, Columbia Slough Watershed Council
- Walking Tours
- Gift to the first 100 children
- Light refreshments

For more information contact
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