

News Release



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Natural area restorers in North Clackamas are honored by Oregon Community Trees

CLACKAMAS, Ore.— The Natural Areas Division of the North Clackamas Parks & Recreation District has been honored by Oregon Community Trees and Oregon Department of Forestry for its work over the past eight years to restore 800 acres of local forests, wetlands and streams in northern Clackamas County. Oregon Community Trees and ODF are supported by the U.S. Forest Service to recognize organizations and individuals anywhere in the state who are promoting healthy urban and community forests through leadership, education, awareness or advocacy.

Samantha Wolf, an Oregon Community Trees board member who served on this year's Awards Committee, said the Natural Areas Division won this year because of the cumulative impact of their restoration work. "They're doing environmental restoration in fast-developing urban and suburban settings and doing a great job of involving the community in their work," said Wolf.

North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District partners with student groups, water council boards, Friends of Trees, SOLVE, Metro and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service among others to plant thousands of trees each year. The District also educates volunteers and the public, does park maintenance and engages the community in park clean-up days.

"Especially impressive is their restoration of Oregon white oak on Mt. Talbert and their recent work to restore habitat for fish and wildlife in Spring Park in Milwaukie," said Wolf.

Kristin Ramstad is acting manager of the Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program at the Oregon Department of Forestry, which promotes urban forestry. She said, “The Natural Areas Division of North Clackamas Parks & Recreation District is a great example of how local governments can engage residents to help build a healthy, thriving urban forest.”

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Oregon Department of Forestry was founded in 1911. Today, it serves Oregonians by protecting, managing, and promoting stewardship of Oregon's forests to enhance environmental, economic and community sustainability. ODF directly manages 800,000 acres of state-owned forestland, including the Clatsop, Santiam and Tillamook forests in northwest Oregon and the Gilchrist and Sun Pass State forests east of the Cascades. The Department of Forestry's top priority is to provide fire protection on 16.2 million acres of private and public land. The 13th State Forester is Peter Daugherty, selected by the Board of Forestry in 2016.