



FRIENDS OF
Hendricks Park

NEWS FROM THE

Park Bench

EUGENE'S FIRST PARK

AUTUMN 2005

NEW PARK MAP

A map of the entire park was recently installed in the kiosk by the parking lot off Floral Hill Drive. This is the first time in the park's history that there has been a map on site. The map is a great addition to the park. It will help visitors orient themselves, find trails in the 78 acres, and locate the three main areas of

Hendricks Park (the Rhododendron Garden, Native Plant Garden and Forest).

This map was made possible by a wonderful contribution from REI. Thanks to REI for believing in us. Mike Engelmann of Info-Graphics provided the detailed cartography, resulting in a map that gives elevations, trail distances and other contextual information. He gave the map project special attention, and it shows. To Mike, our thanks.

Sally Marcos of the City of Eugene Public Works Department used her skill as a graphic designer and artist to make the map shine. Thanks, Sally for your golden touch on color and design. It will be appreciated for years to come.

After various Friends shepherded the map through the different businesses and departments, making suggestions and additions along the way, a final production is now complete for everyone's use.

The map was dedicated at the Volunteer Appreciation Party on September 14. All attending agreed it was a well-defined and useful contribution to the park.

Visit the kiosk and check out everything the map has to offer. Then, please thank the people who made it possible. 

Update on the Oak Knoll

The Hendricks Park Forest Management Plan lists the restoration of the oak forest as a top priority. In June 2003, Friends of Hendricks Park in partnership with REI developed the Oak Knoll Trail to access the area for further study. For the past year, board member Jenny Lippert has worked diligently to find grant funding for a restoration plan. We were unable to secure a grant, but with a large, dedicated donation we were able to hire Bruce Newhouse of Salix Associates to start the inventory and planning process this fall. In 2006, we hope to secure grants to implement the plan. Timing is important because the Oak Knoll is threatened by invasives-including overgrowth by Douglas-fir. To hear more about the Oak Knoll restoration, come to Bruce's lecture on November 2 (see back page). 



At a glance, visitors can see all 78 acres of the park.

Oregon Community Foundation Awards Grant

In May, the Oregon Community Foundation awarded a \$5,000 grant to Friends of Hendricks Park. The grant was made possible through the foundation's John and Jane

Oregon
Community
Foundation

Youell Fund. It was given to develop a volunteer program aimed at rejuvenating and maintaining the Rhododendron Garden.



The new sign will be used to recruit volunteers.

The Friends of
Hendricks Park
Match Grant

The Friends received the grant money with the requirement that the money would be matched. To raise the matching funds, the board asked the membership for contributions. The response was overwhelming! Within 4 weeks, the money from OCF was equaled! Thank you. The board is proud of this dynamic response.

Although writing a grant and organizing the financial paperwork takes time, the hard work begins when the grant is received. Making the program successful and worthwhile will take time and effort. Karen Goebel will work as the program coordinator. Her gardening skills and interest in the park will be great assets.

The volunteers will meet every Tuesday morning at the park office and work with Karen. One of the program's first projects will be planting the park's entrance bed at Summit Avenue with perennials. Join the Tuesday volunteers, and learn about plants and maintenance while building community. 

Friends of Hendricks Park Board Members Needed

If you are interested in the natural environment, concerned about our local park, like to plan events and fundraisers, or have skills in any of these areas, please consider joining the FoHP Board. There are also opportunities for you to learn about forest restoration while protecting this public park. For more information, call FoHP at 607-4066 or Sandra at 343-3452.

Forest Restoration From Every Angle

An interview with Ginny Alfriend

Adaptive management is the process used to preserve, maintain and restore the forest at Hendricks Park, explains Hendricks Park staff manager, Ginny Alfriend. In that approach, changes are based on what is learned from the initial results. Ginny was quick to add that forest management is a relatively new area of study with evolving methods of practice and many variables. One variable is the residential homes surrounding the park.

Restoration of this urban forest in Hendricks Park started about 10 years ago when English ivy was cleared from the trees and around their bases. Since ivy sets seed in its upright adult phase, this was an effective strategy for limiting the spread of seed.

The next phase was the effort to clear the forest floor of ivy. Areas near roadways and along the paths were chosen for this phase because access was relatively easy and ivy could be pulled down to an access point and hauled away. Those areas were also most visible to park visitors, thereby bringing attention to the problem and gaining support.

Ginny refers to the current phase as removing ivy from the “most intact areas of the forest,” where native plants and seed beds have not been completely overwhelmed. The focus has moved from simply removing ivy to encouraging native plant populations. Connecting cleared areas to create larger, contiguous ivy-free zones and native plant havens is also part of this plan.

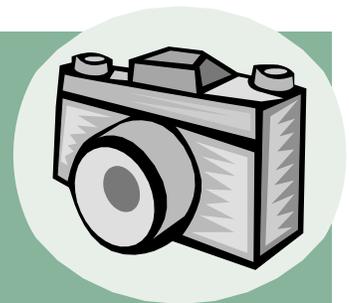
Restoration is complicated by the appearance of secondary invaders. Invasive plants such as

herb-Robert, nipplewort and wall lettuce arrive on the scene in their usual aggressive pattern. Quickly reseeded and transported by wind, foot traffic and pets, the invasives establish what Ginny calls “weed corridors,” often overrunning native plants. People and their pets inadvertently spread weed seeds along pathways, so it makes sense to pull nipplewort and herb robert from the “weed corridors” to try and limit the spread. This is an important reason to keep dogs on a leash — well behaved or not, they spread weeds throughout the forest. Much of the volunteer efforts have targeted roadside and pathway invasives. Frequent efforts are needed, Ginny pointed out, as the goal is to pull the weeds before they set seed.

A multifaceted approach is being applied. Eliminating weeds from the paths is one part of the approach. At the same time, it is imperative that the outliers* be dealt with. Paths or roadways border most of the forest, but in the interiors of these zones is where the outliers are found. Becoming adept at spotting yellow nipplewort and pink herb-Robert flowers from a distance and pulling those first are worthwhile skills. Although Ginny agrees that fighting the invasive plants is both slow and daunting work at times, it is critical to establishing a healthy forest floor. 

**Outliers is a semi-technical term used by restorationists to explain the movement of invasive plants from the edges to the inner areas. The term helps to explain why pulling herb-Robert along the trails is an important role in restoration.*

THE SEARCH IS ON for historic photographs of Hendricks Park. Family albums hold old photographs of weddings and picnics that help tell the story of the park through the last 100 years. If you have any information about the park's history, please contact Joan Kelley at 485-1895.



President's Message

First, I want to thank all of you who responded with contributions to FoHP to help match the grant we received from the John and Jane Youell Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation. You showed true community spirit and support for this treasured open space. We're always thrilled when we receive help from our new and renewing members—you keep us going strong.

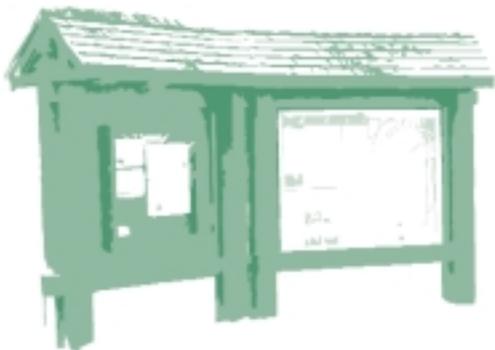
Next year is going to be an exciting one for Hendricks Parks as we celebrate the centennial of Eugene's first city park. FoHP's Board of Directors is busy preparing plans for centennial events that will highlight the three areas of the park.

One recently completed project will help all of us enjoy the park as we honor the first 100 years. Be sure to check out the new map in the kiosk located next to the main parking lot. The map provides needed details about the park and will help you explore some areas that you may not be familiar with.

Restoration of the forest is a long-term process that the Friends continue to support. Our regular work parties always need volunteers, so please join us as we improve the forest area of Hendricks Park for the next 100 years. When the Park was established in 1906, the terms "ecology" and "ecosystems" were not in anyone's vocabulary. Today, we realize how important these concepts are and how we need to improve the forest ecosystem for the Park's future.

Looking forward to a dynamic centennial year,

David Moon
FoHP President



Volunteer Spotlight

Jim Beyer, a regular Tuesday morning volunteer at the Rhododendron Garden, has been volunteering since he was 6 years old. His first volunteer experience was in migrant camps in California.

His father, at 94 years, is still volunteering.

Jim is retired from Oregon Student Assistance Commission, where he was manager of grants and scholarships. He was also in the Peace Corps in Panama, and just this April he and his partner, Cindy Fitzgerald, were in Guatemala with Cascade Medical on the "Stove Team."

When asked why he volunteers at Hendricks Park, he had many answers: He loves the park, he lives near the park, he goes through the park four or five times a day, he has volunteered his whole life and now he's retired he can do things he likes such as "working in the garden and the dirt." He and Cindy have also adopted plots to care for in the Native Plant Garden and Rhododendron Garden.

Come and join Jim and others on Tuesday mornings in the garden. This great group of people accomplishes so much. Karen Goeble, volunteer coordinator, leads the group.

For more information about volunteering on Tuesdays, contact Karen Goeble at 682-5324 or Sandra Austin at 343-3452.



Jim in Guatemala with *Proyecto de las Entufas*.



Volunteers enjoying dinner in the shelter.

Volunteer Appreciation Party

On September 14, the Hendricks Park staff and FoHP board gave an appreciation party for the Hendricks Park volunteers. The warm autumn evening complemented the outstanding food and friendly conversations. Although the fireplace blazed, no one huddled near. The volunteers were reminded how important their work and commitment are to the park. Thirty-five people attended. 



Welcome

Shauna Sully has recently joined the Hendricks Park staff. She comes with 28 years of experience with the City of Eugene's Public Works Department. Daily and seasonal maintenance in the park varies from removing graffiti to hauling rocks, and Shauna is up to those tasks and more. Her skills and friendly attitude will be an asset. Welcome, Shauna!

Seasons in the Park



From left:
Artists on a hot summer day, volunteers huddling during the Mother's Day rain, Tuesday regulars in autumn.



Edible - But Not a Grape!

Tall Oregon grape [*Berberis* (or *Mahonia aquifolium*)] is a familiar component of the Hendricks Park forest understory. It spreads by short runners to form thickets that can grow 10 feet high if left undisturbed, though it is usually shorter. Bright yellow flowers appear in showy clusters at the tips of the canes in early spring, followed in late summer by striking blue berries. They provide good bird food and also, I am told, make a tasty jelly. The glossy, iridescent leaves are a feature all year long, but the reddish foliage on new spring growth is especially noticeable.

This versatile Pacific Northwest native adapts well to life in the garden, enjoying almost any degree of sun or shade and growing with or without summer irrigation.



Oregon grape with dark blue berries.

Occasional post-bloom pruning is beneficial in garden settings, keeping the plants dense and four to five feet tall. Naturally low-growing selections (such as *B. aquifolium* 'Compacta') are available from nurseries. They are excellent for groundcover or a dwarf hedge. Leaves turn wine red in winter sun.

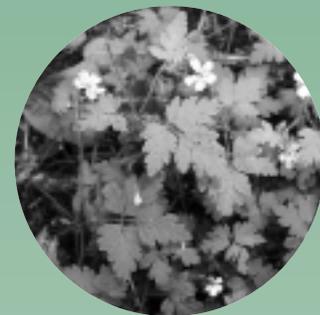
Oregon grape might be confused with English holly, an invasive, non-native species in local forests. Both have shiny leaves with spines along their margins. But Oregon grape has compound leaves, each made of five or more leaflets arranged along a midrib, whereas English holly (like other hollies) has single, simple leaves that spring directly from the twig. 

Rachel Foster, local author and well-known gardener, contributed this article, and we look forward to more newsletter articles about native plants in the future. Rachel is currently a board member.

Aunt Rhodie tells all...

Dear Aunt Rhodie:

Where does herb-Robert come from originally, and why is it noninvasive in its native country?



Thank you, Martin

Dear Martin:

This was a very interesting subject to research, though the information was contradictory and confusing at times. It appears that herb-Robert (*Geranium robertianum*, stinky Bob) is common in Europe, Asia and North Africa. In the United States, especially on the West Coast, it poses a threat to forest understory and plant biodiversity by displacing native species. When you take a plant out of its normal habitat, you leave behind its pests, such as fungi and bacteria, that keep it under control. One article stated that a specific aphid feeds on herb-Robert in the plant's native range. In Hendricks Park, herb-Robert obviously has no enemies except enthusiastic forest restoration volunteers.

In earlier times, the herb was used medicinally for such things as toothache, nosebleeds, skin cancer, wounds and dysentery. It was even put to work as a mosquito repellent. Maybe we should be selling all the herb-Robert we pull to some pharmaceutical company!

The bad news is that some herbal companies are selling the seed on-line—that's scary for all of us enthusiastic herb-Robert eradicators. If you don't know how to recognize herb-Robert, come to one of our Saturday work parties, and volunteers will be happy to show you. Pictures and other interesting information are also available on-line. 

Sincerely,
Aunt Rhodie

Send questions to:

Aunt Rhodie, Friends of Hendricks Park
P.O. Box 3784, Eugene, OR 97403
or call 607-4066 and leave a message.

New and Renewing Friends of Hendricks Park

April 11, 2005 to September 19, 2005

Benefactors

The Hendricks Park Native Plant Garden Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation
The John and Jane Youell Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation
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Ward Beck

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Joel & Jacqueline McClure
Mary Lyle Janousek
Megan Clark
Richard & Marilyn Linton
Sarah Lichtenstein
Virginia Hendrickson

We wish to extend a special thanks to these members for their generous response to our request for contributions to match our grant from the John and Jane Youell Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation for support to develop a volunteer program to rejuvenate and maintain the Rhododendron Garden in Hendricks Park.

Lee & Linda Michels
Fred & Sandra Austin
Sharon & Michael Posner
Eugenia Karns
Erik Fisher
Victor Sabin
Franklin Stahl
Carolyn Kranzler & Lynn McDonald
Mats & Nonie Fish
Jim & Sally Weston
Anita & Art Johnson
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Bobbie Reed & David Shellabarger
Betsy Steffenson
Bert & Tim Boyden
Karen & Greg Goebel
Louise Behnke
Gloria Merriam
Jim & Dottie Dougher

Thanks to all our contributors, and we regret any omissions or errors.

Memorial Contributions Received

Native Plant Garden Contributions in Memory of:
The Strong Family — Alice Strong
Mary Ames Alfriend — Joan Kelley & David Moon,
Fred & Sandra Austin

Forest Restoration Contributions in Memory of:
James T. Moriarty — Fred & Sandra Austin

Hendricks Park Contributions in Memory of:
George Mikesell — Raymond & Grace Mikesell
Roy Lieuallan — Bill & Genna Lemman

In-Kind Contributors:
Rudy Fox/Fox Graphics
Charles Koehler/ Eugene City Bakery
Eugenia Karns, CPA/ Griggs & Associates, L.L.C.

Yes! I want to become a member of Friends of Hendricks Park

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

- Senior/student/limited income \$20
 Individual \$30
 Family/household \$45
 Sponsor/business \$100
 Sustaining \$250
 Guarantor \$500
 Benefactor \$1,000
 Other amount \$_____

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS \$_____

- Forest restoration (i.e., ivy removal)
 Native Plant Garden
 Rhododendron Garden
 Unrestricted gift
 Memorial/commemorative gifts

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$_____

Make checks payable to Friends of Hendricks Park

Yes! I want to volunteer

- Work parties
 Education
 Standing committees



Friends of Hendricks Park

P.O. Box 3784, Eugene OR 97403-0784

PERSONAL INFORMATION

name _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

telephone _____

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Friends of Hendricks Park
P.O. Box 3784
Eugene, OR 97403-0784

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Hendricks Park**

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Vice President Joan Kelley
Secretary Sandra Austin
Treasurer Fred Autin
Jenny Lippert
Erik Fisher
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*Special thanks to our
printer, Clancey Printing.*

*Newsletter by Joan Kelley,
Sandra Austin, Linda Sage,
Rachel Foster and Beneda
Design*



OPPORTUNITIES

Mushroom and Plant Festival

October 30, 1–4:00 p.m. Mt. Pisgah Arboretum
Mushroom Festival and Plant Sale.

Forest Restoration

November 19, Saturday morning. Forest restoration work party. Meet at the shelter at 9:30 am.

Tuesday Morning Rhododendron Garden Regulars

Every Tuesday morning, 9am-noon. Meet at HP office for work in the Rhododendron Garden.

Education Opportunity: Oak Prairie Habitats, Lecture

Lecture: On November 2, local field ecologist, Bruce Newhouse will give a lecture, "Oak Prairie Habitats in the Willamette Valley." It will be held at 7pm at the Eugene Public Library. The event is free and open to the public.

