



BHCP Volunteer Training Schedule 2019

New Volunteer Orientation

Wed, March 6, 6:30 – 8:00pm

Who: This orientation is *required for all new volunteers*. Returning volunteers are welcome but not required to attend. **Please RSVP to Nikkie**

What: This training will provide an overview of the Backyard Habitat Certification Program and the various roles and expectations for volunteers.

Where: Portland Audubon, Heron Hall cc;KSLDJv

Season Kick-off Meeting

Wed, March 20, 6:30-8:00pm

Who: All RETURNING Backyard Habitat Program volunteers and staff Technicians are strongly encouraged to attend. New volunteers are very welcome. **Please RSVP to Nikkie**

What: We're kicking off another excellent garden season in style - with this fun-filled evening! We will socialize over salad/pizza, discuss program changes and updates, review the process for conducting certification visits, and recognize some of our stellar volunteers. Food will be provided - but please feel free to bring a beverage, side, or dessert to share.

Where: Portland Audubon, Heron Hall

2019 Training for Certification Checkers

Sat, March 30, 9am – 3:15pm

Who: Any and all Backyard Habitat Program volunteers that want to deepen their knowledge. This training is required if you have not attended it in the past and would like to certify yards this year.

Please RSVP to Nikkie

What: This training is required for new/un-trained volunteers that hope to certify backyard habitats in 2019. If you have been through this training in previous years, you are not required to attend – but everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend as a refresher. The training will provide everything you need to know about the five focus areas of backyard habitat certification:

- Native Plants; Identification and Landscape Use
- Identification of Noxious Plants
- Stormwater Management in the Backyard
- Pesticides Reduction at Home
- Sub-urban and Urban Wildlife Stewardship

Where: Portland Audubon, Heron Hall

Certification Visit Field Trainings - Note: There are two dates offered. New/untrained volunteers that wish to certify yards are required to attend at least one of them. Everyone is invited to attend either/both.

Sat, May 4 – 9:00am – noon (Sellwood)

Wed, May 8 – 9:00am – noon (North Portland)

Who: Any and all Backyard Habitat Program volunteers that want experience certifying backyard habitats. This training is required if you are not currently trained to certify yards but would like to be! Returning volunteers are also welcome! **Please RSVP to Nikkie**

What: Learn the steps for conducting a successful certification visit. We will “mock” certify two BHCP yards. The training will include in-depth discussion on the certification criteria, how to calculate “percent naturescaped”, and how to gather and submit other important site data. We will also have a chance to see over more than 50 native plant species growing in backyard habitats.

Where: Please RSVP for training meet-up locations.

Backyard Habitat Open Gardens Project

Ongoing, April - Oct

Who: Any and all Backyard Habitat Program volunteers and participants.

What: We're thrilled to be extending and growing this exciting project for another year! Through the Open Gardens Project, Backyard Habitat Program volunteers have an opportunity to open their beautiful gardens for the rest of our community to enjoy and learn from them.

This amazing project is being coordinated by two program volunteers, Verleen Fletcher and Susan Dale. They will be communicating the details of this project with you directly in the weeks to come.

Where: Many Backyard Habitats region-wide! You will be emailed a link to the registration form in a future volunteer email.

Partner Trainings and Events

Our region is rich with opportunities to grow you knowledge and experience in native plants, habitats and a plethora of additional ecological topics. Below is a sampling of the programs and projects are offered by our program partners that are excellent opportunities to expand your knowledge! **Here's a sampling of some of the best programs our region has to offer.**

- **East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District** has an amazing assortment of **FREE** workshops on Raingardens, Naturescaping, Site Planning and more. See the full listings and register here: <http://emswcd.org/workshops-and-events/upcoming-workshops/>
- **Leach Botanical Gardens** – What an amazing garden to explore, with or without official guidance! For more info about visiting Leach as well as their line-up of educational programming see: <http://www.leachgarden.org/classes-and-events/>
- **Native Plant Society of Oregon** – This impressive conglomerate of plant experts and enthusiasts plans year-round events and lectures. Learn more about their events and/or become a member today at: <http://www.npsoregon.org/>

- ***Portland Underground Grad School***— Projects like this are why I love, and continue to live in, this city. The Portland Undergrad Grad School provides a diverse offering of incredible programs to deepen your botanical and habitat knowledge as well as feed every other aspect of your socio-political soul. Learn more and sign up today at: <https://www.pugspdx.com/>
- ***Outgrowing Hunger*** — Outgrowing Hunger cares for people by nurturing connection to nature, food, and community. They offer a wide range of community-based gardening education programs, including several natural gardening workshop coming up in April. Check out their website for more info: <https://outgrowinghunger.org/>

Please direct volunteering questions, interest, and RSVPs to:
nwest@audubonportland.org or 503-292-6855 x126.

*The Backyard Habitat Certification Program is a collaborative effort of
the Audubon Society of Portland and the Columbia Land Trust*