



Nearby Nature Guide Training Spring 2024

Every spring, thanks to Nearby Nature's school walk field trips, local kids spend 2,500+ hours outside exploring and learning in nature. By becoming a volunteer guide, you can be part of this exciting program. Read on for more information about training sessions. See the other side for trainings in a calendar format.

● **New Guide Required Trainings** (marked 🌸): New guides must attend six required training sessions and at least one shadow walk with an experienced guide. Guides who would like to help with Pond Study or Earth Art activities must also observe these activities during an actual program. Additional optional trainings may be added later in the season. Trainings are offered once on this schedule, but we will be scheduling additional trainings as needed on optional training days so that everyone gets the training they need.

● **Meeting Places and Directions:** Most trainings are outdoors. Meet at the Waterwise Garden outside the Alton Baker Park Host Residence (PHR) unless otherwise noted. **By Car:** Take Club Road south from MLK Blvd., turn left into the park, drive past the parking lots, and veer left. The PHR is just past the Community Gardens. Park in the garden's gravel lot. **By Bike:** Cross Frohnmyer Footbridge, go toward Autzen Stadium, and turn left before the dog park. The PHR is up the road, on the left.

Optional Spring Volunteer Info Session: Learn about our volunteer programs. Meet staff and other volunteers. Not required, but recommended.

Thursday, March 14, 6:30-7:45 pm, Eugene Public Library, Tykeson Room

🌸 **Nature Games and Stories (Required):** Play *Find Your Tree*, take an *Ant Hike*, learn the tale of *Mother Nature's Gift*, and more. Discover how games and stories inspire and enhance learning.
 Thursday, April 4, 9 am-noon
 Make Up Day TBA

🌸 **Rivers and Rocks: (Required):** Discover how water has shaped and changed our park over time. Learn some park land use history as well. Play *Poohsticks* and do the *Water Cycle Boogie!*
 Saturday, April 13, 9:30 am-noon
 Make Up Day TBA

🌸 **Legs, Claws, Wings, and Paws (Required):** Learn about park wildlife, with an emphasis on birds and bugs. Check out park habitats and learn about critter lifecycles.

Tuesday, April 16, 9-11:30 am
 Make Up Day TBA

🌸 **Flowers to Firs (Required):** Learn about all things green, from delicate wildflowers to towering firs. Also check out the Learnscape
 Wednesday, April 3, 9-11:30 am
 Make Up Day TBA

🌸 **Program Safety (Required):** Learn park safety guidelines and tips for handling challenging behaviors. **Meet in Nearby Nature's yurt.**
 Tuesday, April 11, 6-8 pm
 Make Up Day TBA

🌸 **Trail Teaching Skills (Required):** Check out our Eugene Science Center meeting place and role play effective teaching techniques on the trail. **Meet outside the Eugene Science Center.**
 Friday, April 12, 9-11 am
 Make Up Day TBA

🌸 **Shadow Nature Walk (One Required):** Starting in late April, tag along with an experienced guide on one of the season's first school nature walks. **MEET AT THE EUGENE SCIENCE CENTER (not at the WaterWise Garden), 9-11:45 am. Dates available in April.**

Possible Training Make-Up Days:

Tuesday April 9, Wednesday April 10, Thursday April 11, Tuesday April 16, , please let us know which of these days work for you, and what range of times. **We will Wednesday April 17, Thursday April 18, Friday April 19.** If you can't attend one or more of the scheduled trainings **schedule make-up trainings based on who needs which sessions and when people are available.**

Optional – Observe Pond Study Station or Earth Art (Required to assist with these activities): Observe a trained guide leading an actual program. Learn about group dynamics, practice identifications, create art, and use gear. **Dates available in April.**

Please sign up for all of the SCHEDULED required trainings that work for you at the Volunteer Info Session, by emailing info@nearbynature.org, or by calling 541-687-9699. If you cannot make all of these trainings let us know which make up days and what times each day work for you. Make-up trainings will be scheduled based on the needs/availability of volunteers.