

A River Runs Through It

The Clackamas Watershed

Welcome to Barton Park, a special place in the Clackamas watershed. You are standing before the Clackamas River, once crossed by pioneers on the Barlow Road and still used today as a destination for fishing, boating, and camping. The Chinookan tribes, referred to as the Clackamas People, have called this area home from time immemorial and are still strongly connected to the river today. Whether you live, work, or play in the watershed, we are all linked to the Clackamas River as it flows 83 miles from its headwaters at Olallie Butte in the Cascade Range to the Willamette River in Oregon City.

Image by The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde



Salmon Stronghold

The Clackamas watershed is salmon country, home to Chinook, coho, and steelhead. Salmon are anadromous. They are born in fresh water, migrate to the ocean, and return to the stream where they hatched to spawn. After spawning they die, leaving behind their nutrient rich carcasses to not only nourish their young, but also support 137 other wildlife species that depend on them as a food source.



Barton Park

● BORING

● DAMASCUS

Deep Creek

Eagle Creek

Clear Creek

Eagle Fern Park

● ESTACADA

Metzler Park



Weed Watch

Invasive weeds spread aggressively, displacing native plants that are essential to Oregon wildlife. Garlic mustard releases a chemical from its roots that keeps native trees and shrubs from establishing. Do not compost once it has flowered — it will spread the infestation. If you spot this weed, report to oregoninvasiveshotline.org.

Neighborhood Native

From Douglas fir to Oregon grape, native plants are an important part of the Clackamas River ecosystem. Salmonberry flowers, leaves, and berries are a source of food for diverse wildlife. People count on it too. The Chinookan tribes traditionally cooked and ate the sprouts with dried salmon.



What Can You Do?

- Stash the Trash — take out what you take in
- Protect fish — keep waterways chemical free
- Plant natives — improve habitat for wildlife
- Conserve water — use only what you need

