

Name of Project: Hollinshead Community Garden, Bend

Project Coordinator: Tammara Waterman & JoAnne Abbott

Brief History of Project: The community garden at Hollinshead Park in Bend began in 1985 as a partnership between Bend Park and Recreation District and OSU Extension Service Master Gardeners™ and Central Oregon Master Gardener Association (COMGA). Master Gardeners manage the 86 garden plots available to the general public as well as three demonstration beds in the community garden. The goals of the project are to provide organic gardening space to the community and provide education on sustainable gardening practices.

Generally, ten Mentors, who must be certified Master Gardeners, ten Assistants and several auxiliary members volunteer each year. Trainees qualify for the assistant position and will be paired with a Mentor for your patch which consists of nine plots. You provide these gardeners with assistance, encourage compliance with garden guidelines, and help them achieve success in their gardening endeavor.

Monthly meetings in the Garden are on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, April through October, from 10am to noon. As a volunteer, you are asked to attend Opening Day (**April 14, 2024**) and Closing Weekend (**Oct. 12 & 13, 2024**) if at all possible. You may also assist at Open Garden, an event that showcases the Garden and provides information to the public, and with any COMGA Community Education when those events are scheduled at the Garden.

This garden **provides ample opportunity to meet volunteer hour requirements** in that it lasts from the Orientation Meeting through the Closing Weekend. You are free to work your **volunteer time in the garden into your own schedule**, which is good for those who have employment or other commitments.

Volunteering at Hollinshead is a great way to get to know vegetable gardening in a fun and hands-on way. Prior vegetable gardening experience is not necessary.

If you are interested in volunteering on this project, an orientation meeting will be held at **10:00 – 12:00 am, March 25, 2024 at the Extension office-classroom annex, building 3.**

For more information or to volunteer for Hollinshead Community Garden, please contact either Tammara or JoAnne at: hollinshead@gocomga.com