



FRIENDS OF TRYON CREEK STATE PARK

11321 S.W. Terwilliger Blvd • Portland, OR 97219 • (503) 636-4398 • www.tryonfriends.org

Dear Chaperone,

Thank you for choosing to join us for a program at Tryon Creek State Park! You are a vital part of making sure each student has a safe, enjoyable, and enlightening experience during their field trip.

Each group will be led by a trained Nature Guide who has volunteered their time to help students (and adults) develop connections to the natural world through the exploration of the Tryon Creek forest. Their love for this place shows in the time and energy they give to this program; many guides have been here for over 10 years!

Our Nature Guides count on you to help them keep students safe, together, and learning. In order to get the most out of your visit, we have learned that a few guidelines apply to our programs:

- Students are counting on you to be a role model.
 - Come appropriately dressed for variable weather conditions, as most of your trip will occur outside.
 - Give the guide your full attention during programs by modeling active listening, refraining from participating in side-conversations, and *silencing your cell phone*.
 - Take steps to respect the Tryon Creek ecosystem by staying on the trail and packing out trash.
- Your guide will lead the day's hike and activities. Please be prepared to walk at the back of the group, helping students stay together and listening.
- There is no smoking in any of Oregon's State Parks.

While you are here, feel free to ask questions and model enthusiastic participation in our activities! We do ask that students are given space to explore concepts independently, but feel free to offer words of encouragement and engage with students who need it.

Thank you for volunteering your time to help students connect with nature! We could not run a successful program without you.

Happy Trails,

Erin Cathcart
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