Natural Resources Program
- 1,300 acres of natural area
- Active management needed
- Growing system of trails and paths
- Connecting people to nature
The map above is a compilation of the Rivers to Ridges vision map that was endorsed by local elected officials in 2003 and an overlay of major open space acquisitions that have occurred since that time. 2017 acquisitions are shown in red.
Policy Framework
Policy Framework

District Wide Plans

Master Plans

Site specific Management Plans
NR Site Plans

Thurston Hills Natural Area Management Plan

Willamalane Park and Recreation District
250 S. 32nd Street
Springfield, Oregon 97478
July 14, 2016

Middle Fork Path
Five-year Natural Area Management Plan
2016-2021

Prepared by:
Willamalane Park and Recreation District
Planning and Development
250 S. 32nd St.
Springfield, OR 97478

Eastgate Woodlands
Five-year Natural Area Management Plan
2016-2021

Prepared by:
Willamalane Park and Recreation District
Natural Resources Program
250 S. 32nd St.
Springfield, OR 97478
Natural Resources Program

1. Policy and Vision
2. Site Specific Plans
3. Funding
4. Annual Work Plan
5. Implement Work
6. Assess and Learn

Prioritize
Bond Progress

PARKS & PLAY FOREVER

BOND PROJECT UPDATE

When voters said yes to a bold investment in parks and trails, Willamalane delivered. Follow us as we move that vision forward.

1. Gamebird Park
   - Willamalane partnered with Springfield Public Schools and Hershey to build a 2-acre community garden with 36 plots. COMPLETED.

2. Pacific Park
   - Willamalane redeveloped a park to the Pacific Park subdivision, adding a new playground, seating areas, and a basketball court. COMPLETED.

3. Adult Activity Center
   - Willamalane replaced outdated kitchen equipment and shipping costs. COMPLETED.

4. Island Park
   - Willamalane added new playground equipment and a sand play area. A new restroom is underway. TO COMPLETE IN 2018.

5. Dorris Ranch
   - Projects at this historic park include a new restroom, signage, and safety improvements. TO COMPLETE IN 2018.

6. Mill Race Path
   - This 25-mile walking and cycling path follows the historic Springfield Mill Race from downtown to the Midtown Park. COMPLETED.

7. Les Schwab Sports Park
   - Willamalane constructed two new synthetic turf fields and is replacing the turf on our fields. We've also added an entry plaza and restrooms. TO COMPLETE IN 2018.

8. Clearwater Park
   - Willamalane built two new trails and installed a disc golf course. COMPLETED.

9. Quartz Park
   - Willamalane worked with Springfield Public Schools on a new park that will serve as a playground and a future school. COMPLETED.

10. Splash' at Lively Park
    - Willamalane made energy conservation upgrades. COMPLETED.

11. Ruff Park
    - This growing neighborhood has new improvements to parking, paths, and landscaping. COMPLETED.

12. Wylerauser-McKinzio Natural Area
    - Willamalane is reconstructing a parking lot. COMPLETED.
Natural Resources Program

- Policy and Vision
- Site Specific Plans
- Assess and Learn
- Implement Work
- Funding
- Annual Work Plan

Prioritize
Implementing work

• Partners:
  – Watershed Councils
  – Rivers to Ridges and
  – Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

• Team Springfield:
  – City of Springfield
  – Springfield School District
  – Springfield Utility Board

• Contractors
  – Integrated Resource Management and others
Current Projects

• Thurston Hills Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project phase I and II
• Thurston Hills oak restoration project
• Dorris Ranch oak restoration project
• Thurston Hills Trail development
• Natural Area Maintenance
Sites of Interest

• Thurston Hills Natural Area (McKenzie and Middle Fork)
• McKenzie Weyerhaeuser (McKenzie)
• Harvest Landing (McKenzie)
• Moe Mountain (McKenzie)
• Other Natural Areas
  – Dorris Ranch (Middle Fork)
  – Clearwater (Middle Fork)
Education
Moe Mountain
Harvest Landing
Future Projects

- Future phases of trail construction at Thurston Hills Natural Area
- Environmental Education and Interpretation signage/program
- Continued Hazardous Fuel Reduction project phases at Thurston Hills Natural Area
- Dorris Ranch oak restoration phase II
- Restoration/Development of Weyerhaeuser McKenzie
- McKenzie River Path along the south bank
Challenges and Opportunities

• Day-to-Day operations
• Dogs off Leash
• Homeless issues
• Neighbors
• Grants
• Partnerships
• Trail Development
• Funding
• Staffing
• Program expansion