

Greenspaces—Conservation and Restoration Grant, final report

Friends of Tryon Creek State Park

Tryon Creek Restoration Project

FWS Agreement # 13420-1122-1016

Final Report Date: July 30, 2006

For the period: September 7, 2004-July 30, 2006

Methods & Effectiveness: In all areas, we employed the same methods used in Tryon Creek State Natural Area over the last ten years to remove English ivy, Himalayan blackberry, European clematis, cherry laurel and English holly. The ivy, blackberry and clematis we removed manually, by pulling, digging, and cutting the vegetation. When possible, we dug out the roots of large tree ivy, holly, and laurel. We left the vegetation on-site to decompose, elevating the ivy piles on stumps, downed logs, the Vs of tree trunks or high ground to prevent the vines from re-rooting. Brush and branches we left on-site, often blocking unwanted "user-trails" on switchbacks or to the creek edge. Manual removal, while labor-intensive, was very effective in removing invasive weeds, and had minimal impact on native plants. Plants quickly re-established in the areas where we removed ivy, and we did not need to replant. A year later, the disturbance is hardly noticeable; shrubs, flowers, ferns and trees are growing back in abundance. To remove some of the large holly and laurel shrubs in Marshall Park, Portland Parks used a chainsaw to cut them and then applied herbicide to the cut stumps to kill the root system. This method had minimal impact on the surrounding area, and was quite effective.

Marshall Park

Goals and accomplishments: We achieved most of our goals for Marshall Park, including removing ivy, holly, and laurel with NWSA-AmeriCorps field teams, scouts, and neighborhood volunteers. We did not complete all of the ivy removal in the area described, as the task was somewhat more extensive and difficult than we estimated. We did achieve our goals for volunteer involvement, hours contributed to the site, and organizing a sustainable volunteer group to continue the project's efforts long after the end of the grant period. Field teams and scout groups removed ivy on very steep slopes bordering the creek in the fall, winter and early spring of 2004-05. Starting in April of 2005 and continuing through the present, a monthly work party continues to meet and pull ivy. Portland Parks matched our efforts through using a chainsaw to cut very large trees, and limited herbicide applications to their stumps to kill the roots. See attached map.

Continuing Work: Our staff coordinator, Catherine Sherraden, worked closely with the Tryon Creek Watershed Council and the Marshall Park Neighborhood Association to establish a neighborhood volunteer base. This group now meets independently once a month to remove ivy in Marshall Park, and expects to continue meeting and recruiting new volunteers with the ongoing support of the Friends, Portland Parks, and the Watershed Council.

Tryon Creek : Canyon

Goals and Accomplishments: With the help of NWSA-AmeriCorps crews, volunteer groups, and dedicated individual volunteers, we successfully removed three acres of ivy in the canyon by hand, completing that part of the project and fully meeting our goals. Three Portland Community College students “adopted” the canyon area, and each worked 50-100 hours in the canyon as part of their course requirements. Phil Hamilton, one of our longtime volunteers, lead many of these groups, pulled ivy by himself, and finished the last areas of ivy in the canyon. Since he removed the last ivy vine this spring, native herbaceous plants and flowers readily re-established and are thriving.

Tryon Creek: Other Sites

Tree Ivy Sites: In the first year of the grant period, we coordinated volunteers to cut tree ivy at sites 3 and 4 described in the original grant proposal. Small groups of trained volunteers cut mature tree ivy on approximately five acres of trees. In addition, we cut about a fourth of the tree ivy and European clematis in the section of the park above SW Boones Ferry Road, above and beyond the scope of the original grant proposal. Trained volunteers and the staff project coordinator were able to access these steep and difficult-to-access areas and remove the tree ivy.

Steep Slope: In our original grant proposal, the Friends proposed removing mature tree ivy on approximately 30 trees growing on a near-vertical slope. Until now, Portland Mountain Rescue was unable to recruit the resources and expert volunteers necessary to complete this section of the grant proposal. Our original contact person with PMR is still in contact with us and pursuing this effort.

Other Areas: The Coordinator for this project was able to use her time effectively to coordinate ivy pulls in adjacent areas throughout the park, bordering the canyon and building on our efforts to address ivy and other invasive weeds in the park overall. The Greenspaces grant gave us the resources to continue to capitalize on the dedication and hard work of our many hundreds of volunteers every year, restoring upland forests, slopes and riparian areas for fish and wildlife habitat throughout the Park. We had students, scouts, church groups, clubs and private companies participate in ivy pulls, maximizing impact throughout the park.

Summary and Conclusions:

The Greenspaces Conservation and Restoration grant positively impacted the health of Tryon Creek, and its habitat for fish and wildlife. We were able to remove acres of ground ivy, saw mature ivy off trees, and dig the roots of other weeds, allowing the forest to naturally regenerate.

The staff coordinator allowed us to recruit, train, track, retain and recognize the efforts of volunteers, an essential role in the success of this project. Her position supported not only the sites within the scope of work for this grant, but also restoration, education and outreach efforts throughout the watershed. A half-time watershed coordinator allowed the Friends and the Watershed Council to grow and effectively address essential needs within the watershed. The TCWC and the Friends are dedicated to continuing and

supporting this new position. In January of 2006, the Friends hired a permanent staff coordinator, Robin Petersen, who will continue to support restoration efforts throughout the watershed, including Marshall, Tryon Creek, and other sites. Without a doubt, the benefits will extend well into the future, as we continue to address the problem of invasive weeds throughout the watershed.

Staff:

Catherine Sherraden (Staff coordinator, 2004-2005)

Partners:

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD)

Tryon Creek Watershed Council (TCWC)

City of Portland, Environmental Services (BES)

City of Portland, Parks and Recreation (PPR)

Marshall Park Neighborhood Association

Northwest Service Academy (NWSA)

MARSHALL PARK

MALL*001

MALL*002

MALL*004

MALL*003

MALL*005

Maplecrest Dr.

MALL*006

MALL*011

AREA COMPLETED

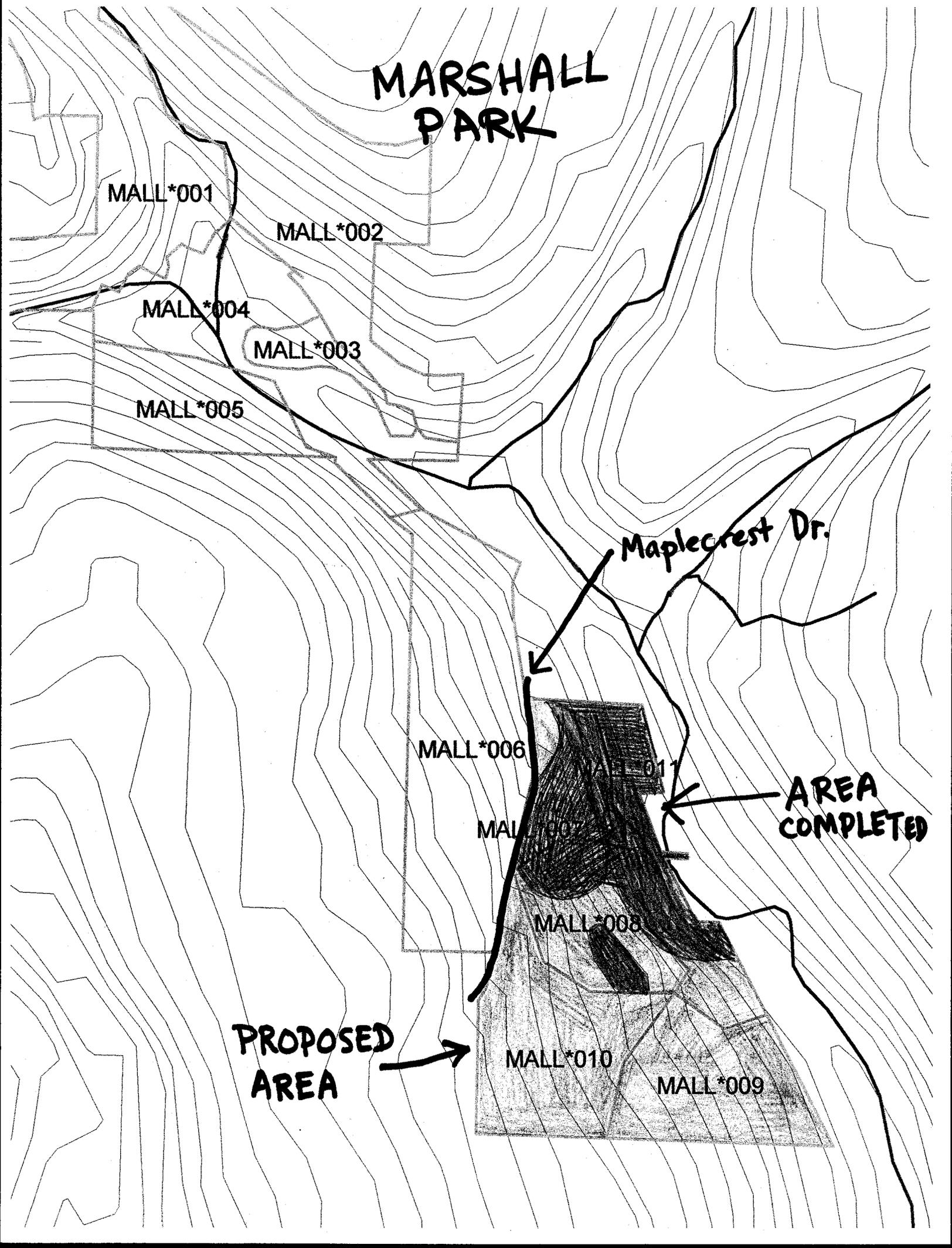
MALL*007

MALL*008

PROPOSED AREA

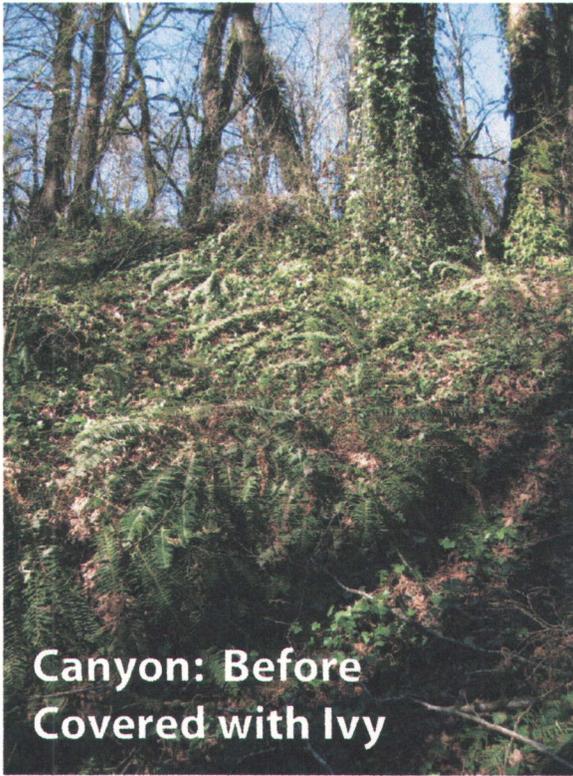
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MALL*009

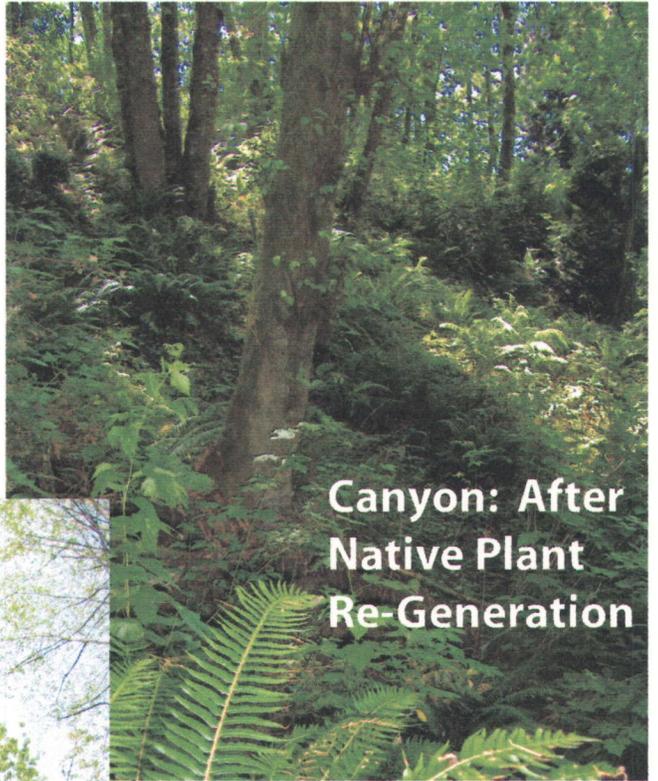


**Friends of Tryon Creek State Park
Greenspaces Project Profit & Loss
September 2004 through December 2005**

	<u>TOTAL</u>	Greenspaces Grant	Matching Contributions Friends Funds	In-Kind	Total
Ordinary Income/Expense					
Income					
Grant Income	2,800.00				
Interest & Dividends					
Total Income	<u>2,800.00</u>	2,800.00			2,800.00
Gross Profit	2,800.00	2,800.00			2,800.00
Expense					
Contractor (Americorps)	2,800.00	2,800.00			2,800.00
Volunteer Labor				13,348.80	13,348.80
Insurance					
Liability	757.00				
SAIF	198.52				
Health Insurance	<u>1,735.35</u>				
Total Insurance	2,690.87		2,690.87		2,690.87
Payroll Expenses					
Medicare	217.72				
FICA/SS Company	930.99				
WBFund	20.75				
OR Unemployment	255.40				
IRA Company	257.58				
Wages	<u>15,012.00</u>				
Total Payroll Expenses	16,694.44	12,200.00	4,494.44		16,694.44
Postage (volunteer recruitment & recognition)		<i>(Contracted)</i>			
Stamps & Delivery	32.25				
Bulk Mail	42.69				
Total Postage	<u>74.94</u>		74.94		74.94
Printing	21.60		21.60		21.60
Refreshments	157.76		157.76		157.76
Supplies (Trees & Plants)	873.75		873.75		873.75
Overhead	833.00		833.00	432.00	1,265.00
Total Expense	<u>24,146.36</u>	<u>15,000.00</u>	<u>9,146.36</u>	<u>13,780.80</u>	<u>37,927.16</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-21,346.36</u>	<u>-12,200.00</u>	<u>-9,146.36</u>	<u>-13,780.80</u>	<u>-35,127.16</u>
Net Income	<u>-21,346.36</u>	<u>-12,200.00</u>	<u>-9,146.36</u>	<u>-13,780.80</u>	<u>-35,127.16</u>



**Canyon: Before
Covered with Ivy**



**Canyon: After
Native Plant
Re-Generation**

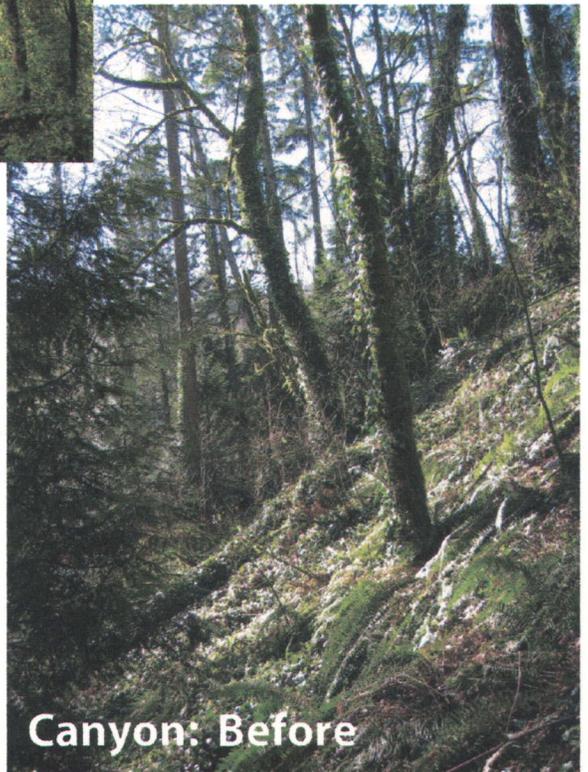
Tryon Creek State Park Before & After



Tree Ivy Before



**Volunteer Phil H
Cutting Tree Ivy**



Canyon: Before

Marshall Park Before & After



Marshall Park: Before



Marshall Park: After
(with decomposing ivy pile)



Marshall Park:
NWSA Field Team