

# EARTH DAY 2010

## Thousands 'SOLV IT' for Earth Day

### Metro sites cleaned up

Six thousand volunteers participated in the first statewide "SOLV IT" Earth Day event held on Saturday. The event took place at approximately 200 project sites throughout the state.

With SOLV (formerly Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism) support, volunteers completed the following impressive list of accomplishments: Removed 154,101 pounds of mixed waste from neighborhoods and natural areas; recycled 17,310 pounds of plastic, glass, paper and metal material; removed 262,827 pounds of invasive, non-native vegetation and collected and recycled 467 tires

In addition, volunteers planted 3,965 native trees and shrubs in parks, on school grounds and in natural areas. Other maintenance activities included spreading mulch and maintaining watershed restoration sites.

An additional 2,000 students and staff were working this week on cleaning up trash during at various school and community sites.

Portland General Electric helped sponsor the events>

"SOLV IT is a great opportunity for PGE employees to get together with their family and friends and do something for the environment. It's a chance for us to give back to the communities where we live and work," said Dave Robertson, vice president of public policy.

Of the many successful projects, the Murray Hill Creek Restoration Project stands out. Volunteers were surprised to discover a waterfall beneath years of

English Ivy and Himalayan Blackberry growth. The team worked tirelessly to reveal the beautiful sight and look forward to continuing the momentum in the future through other SOLV projects.

"Metro is proud to continue supporting SOLV's efforts to clean up and restore natural areas," said Metro Councilor Rod Park. "Metro's own restoration projects and those of local cities, non-profit agencies, community groups and local businesses are important to protecting water quality and clean air. By working together, we all help to ensure that residents throughout the region will always have nature in their neighborhoods."



PHOTO BY JORDAN NORRIS

Amy Singmaster gathers trash at the Portland Gateway Green site, a 35 acre parcel of underdeveloped and overlooked land at the confluence of I-84 and I-205 near Rocky Butte.


### City Adopts 'Green' Rules

New "green" rules will make it easier to install solar panels, wind turbines, eco-roofs, rain or grey water cisterns and mechanisms that produce energy from compost and other sustainable sources.

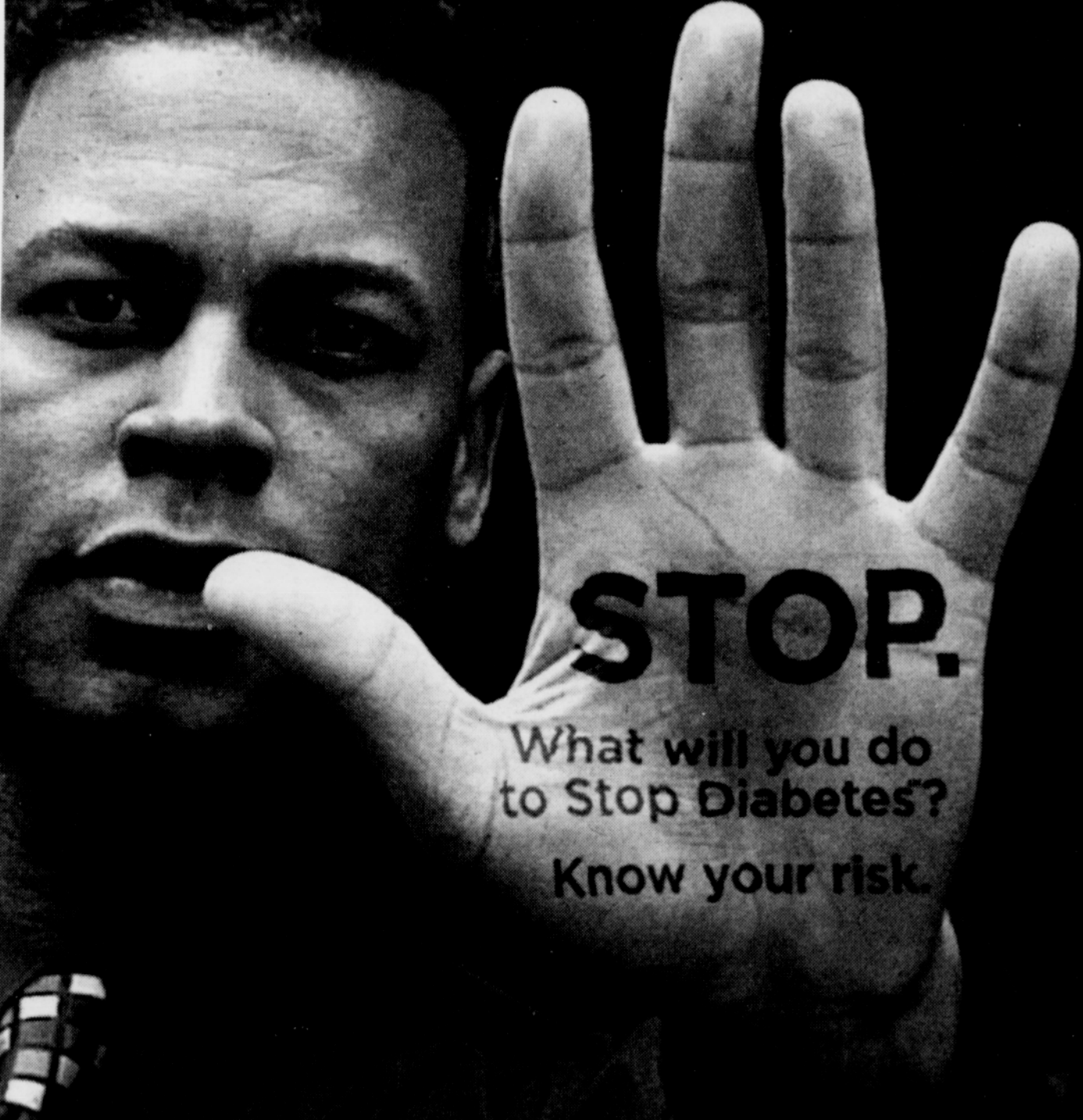
The Portland City Council recently passed the regulations as part of a package of new rules prepared by the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability. Other areas addressed include easing limitations on family-oriented housing built around courtyards and increasing the amount of bicycle parking for multi-dwelling developments.

Another change was to allow larger Accessory Dwelling Units, sometimes called "granny flats," a green housing option because they use less energy, take advantage of existing infrastructure and require fewer materials to build than larger single family homes.

The new rules also allow "empty nesters" to remain in their houses by renting part of it to another household, thus providing more affordable housing throughout the city.

 American Diabetes Association

## ALERT! DAY



**STOP.**  
What will you do to Stop Diabetes?  
Know your risk.

1 in 5 Americans are at higher risk for developing type 2 diabetes. You might not know it, but you can find out if you're one of them with a simple test. And then take steps to delay or even prevent a disease that kills more Americans every year than breast cancer and AIDS combined.

Join the movement to Stop Diabetes.

TAKE THE DIABETES RISK TEST  
at [stopdiabetes.com](http://stopdiabetes.com) or 1-800-DIABETES.

