

# The Portland Observer

## Sustainability



# Pirates-themed Water Festival

What do pirates and groundwater have in common? This question is asked every year at Aquifer Adventure, a family festival that celebrates both pirates and groundwater protection and water conservation tips that can be implemented at home.

"Pirates are known for seeking hidden treasure and groundwater is a natural hidden treasure. We challenge kid pirates to discover the mysteries of groundwater through fun hands-on activities, such as making edible aquifers," said organizer Rebecca Geisen. "Besides, the staff and volunteers really enjoy saying things like 'avast' and 'shiver me timbers'."

Co-sponsored by the Portland Water Bureau and the Columbia Slough Watershed Council, Aquifer Adventure will be held on Saturday, Sept. 18, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the water bureau facility at Northeast 166th Avenue and Airport Way.

Activities include a treasure hunt, live music, and hands-on activities for all ages. Free children's t-shirts will be available while supplies last as well as eye patches and other prizes.

More information, visit [columbiaslough.org](http://columbiaslough.org) or call 503-281-1132.



A pirates theme brings some fun to Aquifer Adventure, a family festival that focuses on groundwater and water conversation. The annual event returns Saturday to the Portland Water Bureau facility at Northeast 166th Avenue and Airport Way.

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## Green Power Challenge Success

The City of Portland's Green Power Challenge is close to reaching its goal of signing up 1,000 new green power customers by the end of September.

As of Aug. 31, more than 725 residential customers and 25 business customers had signed up for renewable energy from Portland General Electric or Pacific Power. The goal, set by Portland City Council, is 1,000 customers by the end of September.

The challenge, which officially began Aug 1, is the largest attempted nationally and the first to involve both of the

state's major utilities.

"Portland's residents and entrepreneurs answer the call to action when it comes to our environment and our economy," said Portland Mayor Sam Adams. "The success of the Green Power Challenge so far shows just one more reason why we should be proud to call Portland our home."

Carol Dillin, PGE's vice president of customers and economic development agreed. "It's great to see so many Portland residents and businesses signing up for renewable power and furthering their commitment to sustainable living."