

New Visitors Center on Mt Tabor



Active members of The Mt. Tabor Foot Patrol and FMTP Guin Hillman, Bertha Guptil, Beau and Nancy Russell

The new Mt. Tabor Visitors Center is already attracting out-of-town travelers. It officially opened October 12, utilizing an existing Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) building. It will be staffed by Friends of Mt. Tabor Park (FMTP) and they plan to be open on weekend afternoons as long as volunteers are available.

The first weekend of its opening, Dave Hillman reported that Saturday 50 people came by and on Sunday 30. Mostly visitors from other places, as far away as Surrey England, Chicago, Vancouver B.C. and Grass Valley, CA.

"We've always envisioned a visitor center on Mt. Tabor," Hillman said. "We were inspired by the one at the Hoyt Arboretum."

The walls are lined with all different types of brochures, sort of like a mini Chamber of Commerce. Visitors are welcome to the brochures on area geology, plants, trees, and wildlife. There are park maps not only of Mt. Tabor but other parks as well.

Find out about the Harvey Scott statue, downtown Portland fountain tour,

Benson Bubblers tour, walking tours—information and a lot the locals don't know. One wall has old Portland photos, courtesy of the Jan Caplener collection and an aerial view map of Mt. Tabor and the surrounding area.

Hillman has been involved with the FMTP since its inception in 2000. Members conduct foot patrols and stewardship at Mt. Tabor Park. They recognize that Mt. Tabor is a Portland landmark and a destination park for Rose City neighbors and visitors.

The new Mt. Tabor Visitor Center can be accessed by entering the park at SE 60th & Salmon. It is located adjacent to the main parking lot, next to the Crater Amphitheater.

Friends of Mt. Tabor Park is a volunteer friends group and partner of Portland Parks & Recreation.

For more information, call Dave Hillman, Friends of Mt. Tabor Park, 503.720.0979, email davehillman@comcast.net 503.823.5300 or visit portland-parks.org NT