

SEPTEMBER 2023 CLUES (See Map in Related Links/Attachments)

(Please leave the Gnomes in place so others can have fun discovering them!)

LUSCHER FARM (125 Rosemont Rd.)

Relax in the country and explore this 42 acre park with active farm land, community gardens, rolling meadows and oak tree savannahs. Stroll on natural surface paths in the meadows.

1. This gnome hunt starts **BEHIND** the historic white barn. Walk past the Lusher Farm kiosk and admire the colorful Pollinator Garden! Pass by the greenhouse and follow the path thru an opening in the trees. Go **LEFT** on the path and stroll up the hill. Blossom is on a small Pacific Willow tree looking for Red Tail Hawks.
2. Continue up the path as it turns **RIGHT** to cross the top of the rolling field. There may be a vocal Stellar Jay squawking when you discover Greenie in a group of young Hawthorne trees! Admire expansive hillside vistas and look for Black Tail deer that often graze in the fields.
3. Follow the path **DOWN** the hill to a 3 way split. Take the path on the **RIGHT** that heads back to the white barn. Oak chased a Brush Rabbit into some Poplar trees on the **LEFT** of the path. Keep going on the path that leads to the barn and walk through the same opening in the trees that started the hunt!

IRON MT. PARK (2401 Iron Mt. Rd.)

Discover some of Lake Oswego's history as you walk part of the Iron Heritage Trail. This 52 acre natural park has a pond with a viewing platform, a nature play area and woodland paths.

1. Pass the picnic shelter and cross the footbridge over Springbrook Creek. Take a **RIGHT** on the path that winds under a canopy of Douglas Fir trees. Blossom followed a Townsend Chipmunk that scurried up a native Madrone Tree.
2. This forest path parallels Springbrook Creek. Songs from Red-winged blackbirds, perched on nearby Cattails, often fill the air. Giant boulders on the hillside nestle amidst Sword ferns. Greenie is hiding on a Douglas Fir tree with a large root that snakes across the path.
3. Notice the change in vegetation as the hillside is now covered in Oregon Grape, Snowberry shrubs and Sword ferns. Banana Slugs and Pacific Sideband Snails often enjoy this lush vegetation! Oak is waiting for you on a Big Leaf Maple tree that leans over the path.

WOODMONT PARK (Intersection of Atwater Rd. and Knaus Rd.)

Explore winding paths in this 6.8 acre nature park with a bounty of sunflowers, a nature play area and a 6 foot bird's nest!

1. From the Atwater Rd. and Knaus Intersection, follow the path down past the meadow to the park kiosk. Take the path on the LEFT up a slight hill. Look for a wee path on the LEFT that leads to a rock "bench". Have a seat and Blossom will wave to you from an Oregon Ash tree!
2. Return to the main path. Stroll thru trees and arrive at a 3-path intersection. Take a RIGHT and head to the park kiosk. Nearby is the Nature Play Area where you can crawl through 2 logs! Greenie found a Big Leaf Maple tree to hide on as he looks for Downy Woodpeckers.
3. Continue on the path that wraps around the meadow. You may spot Brush Rabbits hopping across the grass! Notice native Snowberry shrubs along the path. Snowberry is a pollinator and the small pink flowers attract hummingbirds and bees. Oak is hiding in a young Cedar tree.

(Extra credit: Find the 6-foot birds' nest! From the wide main path to the LEFT of the park kiosk, there is a very small, rustic side path leading into the woods....you will need to look closely to find the path. The 6-foot birds' nest is worth the hunt!)

