

**Wilderness International and
First Presbyterian Church of Portland's City Camp
Meldrum Bar Park August 2-4th, 2011**



Weeding the path!

The group partnered with Wilderness International for 3 days at Meldrum Bar park in Gladstone. Over the three days, 31 students and 8 leaders participated in the maintenance and expansion of the native habitat garden area. Together they worked to weed the walking path and spread a fresh layer of gravel over it. In the existing native habitat area they worked on removing weeds.

Bethany Vogeney, with Wilderness International, led the crews each day. She shared with them her conservation experience as well as the Biblical basis for environmental stewardship. At the end of each day she facilitated a discussion about the parallels between spiritual and environmental restoration.

Volunteerism, teamwork, and outdoor experiences are important for healthy youth development. Each summer First Presbyterian Church of Portland organizes City Camp, a week long camp focused on serving the community and growing in their faith.

Middle school students from Roseburg to Vancouver came to participate in City Camp 2011. Each day they worked at a different location, serving in whatever capacity the organization needs.



A group of 6th graders shovels gravel into wheel barrows.



The path, freshly weeded and covered with gravel.



The 8th graders discussing the Biblical principle of stewardship.