Portland Parks & Recreation maintains some beautiful fountains throughout Portland. The largest concentration of fountains lies within the downtown area.

Take an opportunity to discover and explore downtown Portland and her treasure chest of unique artwork — Portland's fountains.

Unlock their secrets as you wind your way through this bustling area of the city on a 2.6-mile, self-guided tour.

### Maintenance

Maintaining these fountains is no small feat. Portland Parks & Recreation employs one full-time "fountain man" who spends his days ensuring that Portland's fountains are in working order, safe for public enjoyment and running efficiently. The bureau turns the fountains off for the cold weather months to prevent water from blowing or freezing on surfaces. This down time also provides an opportunity for maintenance and repair projects.

### Efficiency

Most of Portland's decorative fountains recirculate water to minimize water use and run-off. The bureau has installed meters to gauge water use and electrical consumption.

### Health and Safety

The health and safety of Portland's fountains is a top priority for Portland Parks & Recreation. The bureau cleans fountains regularly, monitors operations and chlorinates the interactive fountains to the level of a swimming pool.

### Aesthetics

Portland Parks & Recreation works with the Regional Arts & Culture Council to maintain aesthetics at each fountain. Sculptures undergo restoration when needed in order to present the art as originally intended.

For more information on Portland's municipal fountains, visit: [www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/fountains](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/fountains)
**1. Animals in Pools Fountains**  
SW Yamhill & Morrison streets between 5th & 6th Avenues  
1966 - Georgia Gerber - bronze, concrete

In 1849, Elijah Hill bought this block of downtown Portland for $24 and a pair of boots. The fountain, which features imported tile, is a major part of Portland's "living room." Look for designer Will Martin's bronze hat at the top of the fountain.

**2. Pioneer Courthouse Square Fountain**  
SW Broadway Avenue & Yamhill Street  
1983 - Will Martin

**3. Teachers Fountain**  
Simon & Helen Director Park, 815 SW Park Avenue  
2010 - concrete

Located in Pettygrove Park, Manuel Izquierdo's design of a reclining woman is made from surplus navy bronze that he bought and cleaned. Izquierdo said, "The Dreamer speaks of hope, of beauty and serenity, of love, and for a better life in our midst." Izquierdo filled the sculpture with foam so that falling rain would make a gentle sound like a kettledrum instead of ringing hollow. Izquierdo is professor emeritus at the Pacific Northwest College of Art.

**4. Shemanski Fountain (Rebecca at the Well)**  
South Park blocks between SW Salmon & Main streets  
1926 - Oliver Barnett (stone) and Carl Linde (bronze)

Joseph Shemanski, the fountain’s namesake, was a Polish immigrant who commissioned this fountain as a gesture of appreciation for the people of Portland who had so warmly welcomed him. His compassion for animals inspired the three pet-level drinking fountains. There are also three human-level fountains. Two years after the initial fountain was erected, Shemanski commissioned the sculpture of Rebecca at the Well, which reflects the biblical tale of Abraham’s discovery of a bride for Isaac when he saw Rebecca drawing water for camels. Abraham chose Rebecca for Isaac because of her kindness and service. The water is suitable for drinking at this fountain.

**5. Chimney Fountain**  
North of SW Lincoln Street between 3rd & 4th Avenues  
1968 - brick

The southwesternmost of downtown fountains, this small structure was erected as part of the South Auditorium Project, the Portland Development Commission’s first urban renewal project. The Chimney Fountain gives the illusion that water is flowing between the bricks, as smoke might seep through a chimney.

**6. Lovejoy Fountain**  
Lovejoy Fountain, SW 3rd Avenue, between Lincoln & Harrison streets  
1968 - Lawrence Halprin - concrete, brick

In an 1843 contest with Francis Pettigrew, Asa Lovejoy, this fountain’s namesake, lost one of the coin tosses and thus the right to name our city after his hometown of Boston. Lovejoy and Pettigrew flipped the coin a second time to determine which of two neighboring parks would be named Lovejoy and which would be named Pettigrew. This beautiful fountain was built in Lovejoy’s park and took on his name.

**7. Dreamer Fountain**  
Pettygrove Park, SW 3rd Avenue between Market & Harrison streets  
1979 - Manuel Izquierdo - Munza bronze

Designed to mimic the majestic waterfalls of Oregon’s Cascade Mountains, the Ira Keller Fountain is truly one of Portland’s best known landmarks. Designed to honor the late Portland businessman and civic contributor of the same name, this fountain includes two interactive water features within the park, the Upper and Lower Plaza fountains. The Upper Plaza is the interactive fountain area under the canopy with playful water spouts emerging from decorative pavers. The Lower Plaza is the pool area to the south of the canopy with dancing water jets. This fountain and park include a sprawling pavilion that houses Portland’s Saturday Market on the weekends at which time portions of the fountain are turned off.

**8. Ira Keller Fountain**  
Keller Fountain Park, SW 3rd & 4th Avenues between Market & Clay streets  
1971 - Roland Perry (bronze) and H.G. Wright (stone)

On 12th and Clay, just west of the Burnside Bridge and looking north, a reclining woman is seen as a free-spirited woman who will wash the feet of those who would wash her feet. The fountain recycles the water and is a major influence on the rehabilitation of the area.

**9. Elk Fountain**  
SW Main between 3rd & 4th Avenues  
1900 - Roland Perry (bronze) and H.G. Wright (stone)

The Elk Fountain, Portland’s oldest commissioned public art, stands at what was once the city center. Druggist Stephen Skidmore left $5,000 in his will so that “horses, men, and dogs” could have a cold drink. New York critics lamented that the sculpture was in Portland instead of decorating Central Park.

**10. Salmon Street Springs Fountain**  
Gov. Tom McCall Waterfront Park, SW Salmon Street & Naito Parkway  
1978 - Robert Perron - concrete

The Salmon Street Springs Fountain is one of Portland’s most iconic fountains, majestically spouting water in an array of designs and speeds. A computer changes the pattern of the water display every 20 minutes. At full capacity the fountain recycles 4,924 gallons of water per minute through as many as 137 jets at one time. Taking its name from the winner of a city-wide naming contest, the fountain has become one of Portland’s most popular summer hangouts.

**11. Bill Naito Legacy Fountain**  
Waterfront Park, SW Naito Parkway and the Willamette River & W. Burnside Bridge & SW Ash Street  
2009

This uniquely shaped fountain, never washed cars, but the name seems appropriate given its similarity to a car wash. As a precaution for passing pedestrians, a wind guard shunt off of the pump if the wind speed exceeds 3 miles per hour.

**12. Skidmore Fountain**  
Ankeny Plaza, SW 1st Avenue between W. Burnside & Ankeny streets  
1888 - Olin Warner - bronze, granite

Inspired by the Skidmore Fountain, former mayor David Thompson, president of the Oregon Humane Society, donated the money for this fountain as a trough for horses and dogs, and as a reminder of the elk that once lived in the West Hills and used the neighborhood as a feeding ground. Shortly after the statue was erected, a local artist offered to wire the antlers with electric light bulbs for $50. The offer was declined.

**13. Car Wash Fountain**  
SW 5th Avenue & Ankeny Street  
1977 - Carter, Hall, Hilsch, McCauley & Baxter - steel

**14. Lee Kelly Fountain**  
SW 6th Avenue & Pine Street  
1977 - Lee Kelly - stainless steel

Oregon artist Lee Kelly won an international competition to design this sculpture named “Unlocated.” Kelly has designed several other sculptures in Portland and throughout the Pacific Northwest. In this work, water flows over several 20-foot-tall steel structures.

**OPTimal tour extension:**

15. Jamison Square Fountain (not on map)  
810 SW 11th Avenue (Jamison Square)  
2002

If you’re feeling extra energetic, head over to Jamison Square Fountain. Just across West Burnside and into the Pearl District, Jamison Fountain has quickly become one of the city’s most popular hot-weather hot spots. Proud of the vezesence of Jamison Square, the fountain’s wading pool offers cool relief to kids and adults all summer long. It was named in honor of William Jamison, an early advocate of Pearl District development. Somewhat like Oregon’s coast, water cascades into shallow pools where it falls and flows like the tide.

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**Walking Tour**  
Streetcar or MAX Line  
Streetcar or MAX stop

Total Tour Length: 2.6 miles

Total Tour Time: 2 hours

Please use designated crosswalks when possible.

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