

DUAL POWER

JULY 11-14
2024

GATHERING

ORIENTATION GUIDE




"BEFORE WE CAN FORGIVE ONE ANOTHER, WE
HAVE TO UNDERSTAND ONE ANOTHER."

— EMMA GOLDMAN

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Organizers of the Dual Power Gathering acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional and unceded lands of the Multnomah, Wasco, Cowlitz, Kathlamet, and Clackamas Bands of Chinookan people, the Tualatin Kalapuya, and the Molalla.

One of the goals of the gathering is to discuss the importance of indigenous leadership of the movements to defend water and life and our collective responsibility to abolish the settler colonial states occupying Turtle Island. We give thanks to be allowed to gather on this land.

Land Back!

History:

The Portland Metro area rests on traditional village sites of the Multnomah, Wasco, Cowlitz, Kathlamet, and Clackamas Bands of Chinookan people, the Tualatin Kalapuya, and the Molalla. Following several treaties, including the Willamette Valley Treaty of 1855, these peoples were forcibly removed to reservations throughout Oregon. Today, many of their living descendants are a part of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon while others are part of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs, the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians, and the Chinook Nation. Many Native Americans from across Oregon and throughout the United States have relocated here - representing over 380 tribes - and are a part of an active and engaged inter-tribal community.

The Mission

To co-create a space of learning and practice. From skillshares, to workshops, to open discussions, and more; we want to encourage all forms of networking and community building in order to advance the multitude of struggles that are fashioning our new world in the here and now.

Community Norms

Indigenous Leadership

- All social movements on stolen land should, at the very least, seek to work with and build mutual relationships with Indigenous people of those lands

Accessibility

- Access to the space we are creating is crucial, from mobility, to family, to elder, and youth access, and more. We want to ensure the everyone gets to participate in these valuable activities.

“Move up, Move up”

- If you're someone who tends to not speak a lot, please move up into a role of speaking more. If you tend to speak a lot, please move up into a role of listening more. The 'up/up' confirms that in both experiences, growth is happening

Rule of Movement

- Go to the sessions that peak your passions, move from the ones that don't

Mutuality

- give in accordance with your capacity, and take what you need

Respect

- Every participant deserves at least this bar minimum of qualities

Pack it in, Pack it out

- If you bring something in to camp with you take it when you leave, Leave no trace behind

All sessions are welcome

Be generous with each other

Alone we know a little, together we know a lot

No intentional oppression

Act in solidarity, not charity

Yes to passion. No to obligation.

Ask for support if you need it /

Offer support if you can

We value feedback

Dissent and questions are a gift to the group

Vulnerability and sharing emotions are encouraged

Organizing Principles:

The participants of this network have agreed to adhere to these structural and organizational principles as much as it relates to our work:

Stolen Land Acknowledgement - This organizing and the event itself takes place on many, many ancestral and current Indigenous lands. It is our duty to give back these lands in the here and now, however we are able to. The original tenders of these lands are the rightful inheritors of them, we give thanks and are eternally grateful they allow us to do this organizing on their lands and hope that this organizing is a small part of what eventually topples settler colonialism.

NO DOXXING - Do not reveal ANY personal information about anyone in this space. Even if you believe they won't care, even if you think it's inconsequential. Some projects may require more or less anonymity. We will respect and use the identifiers a person desires. If you know the true identity behind an alias DO NOT reveal that connection without express permission.

Security Culture - We categorically reject the sentiment of "if you're not doing anything wrong, what do you have to hide?" Resisting state repression and surveillance is not evidence of illegal behavior. Secure digital security practices are recommended by digital security experts for all users in all cases. We affirm the vital importance of knowing and using proper security practices online and off to any successful social movement of the 21st century. For more details check out Crimethinc's article on Security Culture.

Campground Facilities

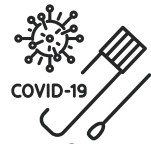
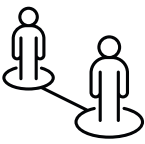
- Campsites: picnic table, fire pit, cooking grill (some sites have a lantern pole)
- RV sites: pull-through, with no electric or water hookups, restricted to use by RVs or trailers only
- Four ADA accessible sites
- Accessible, heated restrooms with flush toilets
- Free hot-water showers
- Park gates close each evening at 7 p.m. and open each morning at 6:30 am. No re-entry after gates are closed. In case of after-hours emergencies, gate directions are posted on the gate.

Campground basics

- One vehicle is included with reservation, a second vehicle pays the \$5 parking fee on day of entry
- Firewood available at \$5 per bundle when campfires are permitted and can be reserved online when you make your camping reservation
- Maximum six people per site
- Check in at 2 p.m., check out at noon
- Overnight use only

Policies and guidelines

- Camping is allowed only in designated areas and numbered sites
- No pets, fireworks, alcohol or other intoxicants are allowed
- Smoking and vaping are not allowed
- Minors (younger than 18) must be accompanied by an adult
- Pull-through sites are restricted to use by RVs or trailers
- Fires are allowed in provided barbecues and designated fire pits only
- All plants and animals are protected
- Do not feed wildlife
- Do not stick axes, knives, nails, or other items into trees or tables
- Quiet time is from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.; no driving after 10 p.m.
- Secure site: gates close at 7 p.m. and reopen at 6:30 a.m.
- Arrive at least one hour prior to gate locking
- No re-entry after gates are locked
- In case of emergency, use call box located in front of the welcome center; 911 calls are free.



We recognize that the COVID pandemic is ongoing (despite what the officials say) and a concern for many attendees. Members of the Coordinating Team work in healthcare and know the seriousness of the problem for everyone. This is the primary reason we opted for Dual Power to be an outside event, in a park, in a space where our events can take up more space as needed, and that attendees will be sleeping in individual or small group tents with people they are responsible to.

- Prior to the event we ask that all attendees take a COVID test 48-72 hours before attending, and to stay home if they test positive or are symptomatic.
- We will also ask anyone who can to bring some rapid tests so that they can use them in case they're needed to supplement rapid testing capacity of the gathering.
- At the event we expect attendees to wear masks in situations where they are in close quarters with each other, such as during morning assembly and in meal lines.
- We will be breaking into smaller groups that disperse throughout the park throughout the event. Rapid tests will be on hand during the event, and our medics will be available to hand them out to anyone who looks like they might have symptoms or who wants to double check.
- We will be expecting and asking attendees to practice mask reciprocity, where if you see that someone near you wearing a mask, you too put on a mask.
- We will be announcing and reminding people of these things each morning and throughout the event. N95 masks will be available for any attendee who requests one.

We do however want to emphasize that we as organizers will not have the capacity to eliminate COVID risks and we are all relying on our collective capacity to encourage and practice mask wearing when appropriate for all attendees. All attendees should be aware that the gathering is taking place in public parks and there will be members of the public not wearing masks. We want to be transparent about this risk to anyone considering coming to the event.



WHAT IS DUAL POWER?

Dual power is a way to imagine the moment just before our movements converge, as the possible becomes the actual. When the seeds of social transformation we have sown for generations bloom. When the old world begins to wither, and new worlds can be born. It is a way of thinking about how we get to that moment and beyond it. Dual power is the project of building self determination, mutual aid, solidarity, and direct democracy in our communities by creating spaces that empower us all and from which new emancipatory institutions can emerge.

“Dual Power” has had multiple different definitions throughout the years. We aren’t too tied to any historical definitions, as we believe language is fluid and evolves! Our contemporary understanding of Dual Power is this: The State holds all the power currently, and we need to grow a second power, a community power, in opposition to the oppressive and crushing current power.

When many people hear “POWER” they think of hierarchies, coercion, and a boot stamping on a human face forever. But this is not the case...Power is the ability to change things. Those in the ruling elite use their power to take all passion and energy and turn them upon other places of passion and energy, to have them battle each other and cancel each other out; leaving the world unchanged or further battered and alienated. In a word, those in power take people’s will for change and turn it upon other’s will for change, to change the change back to the status quo. A status quo that has and will continue to benefit those already in power.

“The master’s tools will never dismantle the master’s house” - Audre Lorde

We need to come up with new tools, new ways of relating, and new powers to create a better, happier, more liberated world. Or we need to remember, reawaken, and relearn more natural and traditional ways of relating to each other and the world, which must be led by indigenous peoples. The ways we start growing must be prefigurative: they must be seedlings that resemble the larger thing we hope to grow into. If they are not decentralized forms of power, one’s that share it amongst the many, amongst the people, we will only recreate hierarchies, create more coercion, and make a new boot.

Our hope and dream with the Dual Power Gatherings is to create spaces where we can not only talk about a more liberated future and how to get there, but to experience it in some way here and now, no matter how small. To practice and grow our ability to be in community, share power horizontally, and to create decentralized and autonomous powers across this country, together.

Alone we know a little, together we know a lot. We don’t have all the answers, or any authority on Dual Power, and hope this Gathering helps create better questions, better thoughts, and better connections towards creating a more liberated world.

For a series of articles exploring dual power, check out the ROAR magazine issue on it. For a map that plots dual power projects, with a focus on cooperatives, check out the Dual Power Map on the Black Socialists in America website. For an overview that touches on the major points, look at Dual Power: a Strategy for Building Socialism in our Time.”



Preparing for an Unconference

From www.unconference.net

The unconference format creates space for peer-to-peer learning, collaboration and creativity. At the start, the whole group will gather together and be guided through creating an agenda using open space technology. The exact process is not important to understand in advance - the process will become clear as it happens. The important part is that all those gathered will have the opportunity to put conference sessions on the agenda. No session will be voted off or 'won't happen' for some other reason. All sessions are welcome.

The sessions convened will range from the formal to the informal:

- From the well thought out pre-prepared talk reflecting years of research and practice, to the spur of the moment 'new idea' that would be fun to talk about.
- From the presentation of a working tool to the white boarding of something completely new.

Before the event...

- You may think about subjects ahead of time- but the agenda gets created at the event itself.

Convening a session...

- There are several key points about an unconference:
- You do not need to do preparation in order to convene a session. If you get an idea the day of the event, call a session.
- There is no 'right way' to lead a session. However there is a bias towards interaction and discussion.
- Choose a format for your session will help you achieve your vision.
- Collaboration among participants who convene sessions and even merging of sessions on similar topics are both encouraged. If you convene a session, the decision to merge with another session will always be yours to make.

The following are a few ideas about different session types to get you thinking about possibilities.

Types of sessions:

- The longer formal presentation

This is tricky, because it's difficult to make a formal presentation interactive. But if you have a big, well-developed idea you can pull it off.

- A short presentation

To get things started 5-15 minutes of prepared material/comments by the session leader followed by an interactive discussion

- Group discussion

Someone identifies a topic they are interested in, others come to join the conversation and an interesting discussion happens

- My Big (or Little) Question

You have a question you want to know the answer to, and you think others in the group could help you answer it. This format could also just be the seed of a conversation.

- Show and tell

You have a cool project, a demo, or just slides to show, this can be a springboard for the conversation in the session.

- Learn how to do X

If you're inclined to teach, this can be simple and effective. Bring the equipment that you need, and have a plan that will let you teach five, ten, or 15 people how to do something all at the same time.

Do take photos of different elements of your program so you can share them with others either at sessions you lead or in other sessions.



ADVICE

for leading a session...

If you convene a session, it is your responsibility to “hold the space” for your session. You hold the space by leading a discussion, by posing a “first question,” or by sharing information about your program. Be the shepherd – stay visible, be as involved as necessary, be a beacon of sanity that guides the group.

- Ask for help holding the space if you need it. You might, for example, put a session on the board and know that you are so passionate about the topic that it would be better if someone else, someone more objective, facilitates the discussion. Choose someone from your team, or another participant who is interested in the topic.
- Don't assume people in the room know more, or less, than you do. You never know who is going to be interested in your session. You might want to start by asking people to hold up their hands if they've been involved with the topic for more than five years, for one to five years, or for one year or less.
- Don't be upset if only two people show up to your session. Those two people are the ones who share your interest.
- Don't feel that you have to “fill” up an hour of time. If what you have to say only takes 15 min and the group has finished interacting—then the session can end. At the start of the conference, we will discuss guidelines for how this can happen.
- Don't feel pressure to have everything take place in “only” 45 minutes . If you start with a short presentation, and then a group conversation gets going, and your discussion needs to continue past an the time allotted – find a way to make this happen. You might be able to keep talking for awhile in the room you are in, or move to another part of the conference area. At the start of the conference, we will discuss guidelines for how this can happen.
- Be Brave! Others are interested in making your session work!
- Do think about the ideas that you want to cover in your session, and how you want to cover them. But don't feel as though you need to prepare a great deal. (If you're over-prepared, your session might lose energy.)
- Experiment with the kind of sessions you lead. There is no such thing as “failure” in an unconference.

for everyone at an unconference...

- Go with the flow - This event is intended to help you and all the other grantees find the time and space to talk with and learn from each other.
- Follow your passion - Go to the sessions that interest you.
- Take responsibility for your own learning - If there are topics you are really interested in that don't appear on the agenda at first, you need to put them on there.

HALT

HALT!



HUNGRY? PLEASE EAT!!

ANGRY? PLEASE WRITE!!

LONELY? PLEASE CALL!!

TIRED? PLEASE NAP ♡

stay cool

stay rad

HALT!

HUNGRY? PLEASE EAT!!

ANGRY? PLEASE WRITE!!

LONELY? PLEASE CALL!!

TIRED? PLEASE NAP

Stay cool Stay rad

Often "S" is added to this...reminding us to not take ourselves too SERIOUSLY!

It's a simple skill for self-awareness. When these basic needs are not met, it's hard to think straight, make good decisions, and take care of yourself.

The St. Paul Principles came from St. Paul Minnesota, circa 2008, and were formally adopted by the varied groups organizing to disrupt the Republican National Convention of 2008.

St Paul Principles

1. Our solidarity will be based on respect for a diversity of tactics and the plans of other groups.
2. The actions and tactics used will be organized to maintain a separation of time or space.
3. Any debates or criticisms will stay internal to the movement, avoiding any public or media denunciations of fellow activists and events.
4. We oppose any state repression of dissent, including surveillance, infiltration, disruption and violence. We agree not to assist law enforcement actions against activists and others.

Public infighting and policing of tactics divides the movement and does the State's work for them. When we allow space for all tactics, we are stronger, we are larger, we are united in purpose, and the powers that be are more challenged to hold us back.

"People have made the mistake of confusing the methods with the objectives. As long as we agree on objectives, we should never fall out with each other just because we believe in different methods or tactics or strategy to reach a common goal." - Malcolm X



CULTIVATE RESISTANCE

Security Culture is a set of shared customs for a community whose members may be targeted that are designed to minimize risk, to offset paranoia, and to increase effectiveness and trust. These intentional practices can become habitual and instinctive.

SECURITY CULTURE PRINCIPLES

The central principle is that people should never be aware of sensitive information they do not need to know - Don't ask, don't tell. The greater the number of people who know something that can put a project at risk, the more chance there is of it getting into the wrong hands.

Security culture involves a code of silence, but it is not a code of voicelessness. It should preserve as much secrecy as is necessary for individuals to be safe in their activities, while still organizing effectively. Learn and abide by the security expectations of each person you interact with, and respect differences in style. Ask people to outline for you their specific security needs and let others know yours.

SECURITY CULTURE PRACTICES

You can say "no" at any time to anyone about anything. Don't answer questions or participate in any projects you don't feel good about. Look out for other people. Don't imperil others with your decisions. Don't brag about past actions. Remember: Jokes can be taken seriously. Don't throw any direct action ideas around in public that you think you might want to try at some point. Brainstorm with trusted individuals. Develop methods to establish the security level of a group or situation. People who understand the importance of good security will not feel insulted if asked to leave a sensitive conversation.

Meeting location is an important factor in security. Consider the risks. Don't get too distracted worrying about whether people are infiltrators or not; if your security measures are effective, it shouldn't even matter. Keep sensitive information inside the circle of people it concerns, collaborate with reliable and experienced comrades whose history you can verify, and don't give away anything about your private activities.

Learn more: neighborhoodanarchists.org/security-culture

Digital Hygiene

There is a never-ending amount of learning involved in digital security and the more you take into your own hands the safer you will be. We realize this is daunting and challenging to most people and are willing to help with any questions. Each person will have to decide for themselves what level of security they require although at a bare minimum we think you should be aware of these practices. Developing a pseudonym and not operating in public spaces under your real name is probably one of the simplest methods for avoiding far right wing attempts at doxxing. Here we provide some very basic digital security guidance from trusted organizations, as well as a much more in depth document for those interested in learning more. Please review these resources for a beginning look at what steps you can take to protect yourself and others.

Signal Messaging App:

We use Signal for texting in real time and for more immediate responses (think day of an event). Requires linking to a phone number - we recommend a burner. LifeHacker has a good article regarding how to buy a burner phone. Keep in mind that you will need a smartphone to use signal as an messaging app.

Signal is a encrypted text messaging app that can work in addition to your phones regular messaging app. It is super useful for real-time communications in the field as you would use texts. It is very easy to set up and use and requires no knowledge of or management of encryption keys since that all takes place behind the scenes. You simply send a text as you normally would, then it will be end-to-end encrypted.

The overall security of Signal is mostly determined by the size of the group chat in question, the larger and more open - the less secure.

Discord:

We use Discord for more back-end organizing as its structured channels allow for much more categorization and organization than the steady stream of Signal messages. Unfortunately, it is not encrypted or zero-knowledge. This means they are monitoring and collecting our data for money making purposes. This creates a security risk that is not present on Signal. Not to say that our group chats on Signal are super secure given their open nature and relative sizes, but at least data shared there is being encrypted and not collected.

Discord is a communication app that allows for text, and video chatting as well as structured channels and server arrangements. Discord's channels allow us to keep track of many different lanes of thought at once, we have dedicated channels for outreach, logistics, food, and communications, for example. This functionality played a large role in deciding to use Discord for our coordination of labor around these gatherings.

Treat Discord as a public venue, regardless of the channel, including direct messages. We have seen too many leaks of Discord servers to think that our data there is truly secure. Luckily DPG's security threat risk is relatively low, and so planning a large camping trip on Discord is well within best practices.



**Digital Security
Resources:**

**[Linktr.ee/Sabot_Uilities](https://linktr.ee/Sabot_Uilities)
from Sabot Media**

This is a living document being revised every gathering, so jot some notes, or edits down for us to all discuss when we meet this time, and you will support the effort of making these gatherings better!

MEDIATION / SUPPORTIVE CONVERSATIONS

Conflict Resolution Principles

- We engage to the best of our ability to resolve conflict, and seek help when needed.
- We resolve conflicts as close as possible to the people involved. Begin with the people directly involved, and expand from there as needed.
- We have mutual responsibility and care for each other.
- We act in good faith and work to be constructive, empathetic, and honest. We resolve conflicts with both our individual needs and the needs of the collective in mind.
- We view each other through the “Green Lens”:
 - This person is a hero, whole and complete
 - They have goals, dreams, and a desire to make a difference
 - They have their own answers
 - They are contributing to me right now
 - They deserve to be treated with dignity and respect
- Disagreements can inspire discussion and learning. However, if a disagreement is blocking progress, is hurtful, or is harmful, then a resolution needs to be found.
- Resolution means the parties involved feel heard, the agreed outcome or change is clear, and normal activity is possible. If a conflict continues to negatively impact an individual or the group, it is not resolved.

