



*Mayor*  
Patricia Smith

*Council President*  
Mark Clark

*Councilors*  
Stanley Dirks

Timothy Clark

Scott Harden

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**CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE**  
**Multnomah County**  
**State of Oregon**

**INFORMATION SHEET**

Wood Village is a suburban community in the eastern Portland metropolitan area and is located along I-84, and is the gateway to the Mt. Hood Scenic Byway. Wood Village also leads to the scenic Columbia River Gorge. Wood Village began as Oregon's first planned community, being built in 1941 to provide housing for those employed at the nearby aluminum plant during World War II.

Population:	3,895 (December, 2013)
Area:	1 square mile
City Tax Rate:	\$3.1262 per \$1,000 assessed value

**CITY GOVERNMENT**

On February 9, 1951 the residents of Wood Village voted to incorporate as a new city. The City is governed by a five-member City Council whose members are volunteers and elected to four-year terms on a staggered basis. The Council selects one of its members to serve as Mayor for a two-year term. Regular City Council meetings are held once each month on the second Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall.

Daily operations of the City are supervised by a City Administrator who reports directly to the Council and Mayor. Services provided by the City of Wood Village include water, sanitary and storm sewer, street maintenance, street lighting, planning and zoning, building permits, parks and community events. The City contracts with Multnomah County Sheriff's Office for law enforcement services. Fire service is provided through a contract with the City of Gresham. The City has licensed Waste Management of Oregon for garbage collection and recycling services.

**CITY FACILITIES**

***Water System***

- 4-Wells
- 3-Reservoirs
- Emergency interconnections with Fairview and Troutdale.
- Operated and maintained by the City of Wood Village.

***Sewer System***

- 98% on sanitary sewer.
- Collection system operated and maintained by the City of Wood Village.
- Regularly scheduled cleaning and TV inspection on contract basis.
- Contract with Gresham for wastewater treatment.

### ***Streets***

- 4.24 miles of City streets.
- All paved and curbed.
- All on storm sewer system.
- Maintained by the City of Wood Village.
- Street sweeping contracted with Multnomah County.
- (Sandy Blvd., 238<sup>th</sup>, Halsey, Arata, Wood Village Blvd., 244<sup>th</sup>, & Glisan are owned and maintained by Multnomah County).

### ***City Hall Building and Land***

Purchased in 1951 with a bond issue for \$12,500.

### ***Park***

The 21 acre Donald L. Robertson City Park is maintained by the City of Wood Village.

The park includes basketball hoops, playground equipment, picnic tables and a picnic pavilion, benches, exercise trails, a viewpoint, softball fields, soccer fields, restroom facilities and an arboretum.

In August 1959, 3 acres of the park property were purchased with private donations, a percentage of business sales receipts, and donations by the Wood Village Booster's Club. Multnomah County deeded an additional 5.5 acres to the City in 1987 for softball and soccer fields. The major portion of park development on the 8.5 acres was funded by State and Federal grants.

In February 1996 the City purchased a 6.8 acre parcel of property from Multnomah County to expand the park. This property connects the original park with a 5.5 acre City owned parcel near Trenchill and Cottonwood Condominiums. The addition of these two properties resulted in a park of nearly 21 acres.

## **WOOD VILLAGE HISTORY**

The Chinook were the first native people to inhabit the hills along the Columbia River. Hundreds thrived in the village of Nechacokee (now referred to as Nichagwli- "nee chalk lee" ) located near today's Blue Lake Park. They gathered huckleberries and cedar bark for making baskets, fished, and traveled by cedar canoe. They were annihilated by smallpox and malaria by the 1820's.

In 1887, George and Hannah Shaw, both English immigrants, built the two-story farmhouse that still stands on the northeast corner of 238th Drive and NE Halsey Street. It now serves as the Wood Village Manor Nursing Home. The Shaws came to Oregon from Missouri to help build the transcontinental rail link eastward through the Columbia River Gorge. Their lone house, located on 208 acres, marked the place in the road from which Wood Village would spring. Stephen A. Arata, an Italian immigrant and the largest liquor distributor in Oregon, bought the Shaw house in 1907. He renovated the property with electricity, pillars, and other frills, and added fields of oats and vineyards to create his country estate. By 1926, the property also served as an electric interurban railway stop known as Arata station.

Wood Village sprang to life on 50 acres of farmland around the Arata Estate in 1942 to house workers from the Reynolds Aluminum Factory during World War II. W. C. Bauman constructed 183 homes and 264 temporary apartments. One of the first planned communities in Oregon was born complete with single and multi-family housing, streets, stores, a water system, a sewage treatment plant, street lights, and a community building. The temporary apartments are gone now, but the Original Village (see plat map) and the community building, which serves as City Hall, are still vital parts of the community.

Wood Village was incorporated in 1951 to meet the needs for regular city services. Since then, it has grown to include the residential Upper Village, a large variety of commercial and industrial enterprises, and a diverse community of 3,878 citizens within 1 square mile. Its crown jewel is the Donald L. Robertson Community Park which was named in 2001 for a past mayor who served 22 years on the City Council. "I've said it many times," Robertson is quoted, "this is one of the best little cities in the country."



*Arata House: Early 1900's*



*Arata House: Present Day*