

City of Wood Village January 2014

The Village News

2055 NE 238th Drive • Wood Village, OR 97060-1095 • (503) 667-6211
Fax (503) 669-8723 • city@ci.wood-village.or.us • www.ci.wood-village.or.us

2013: A BACK

1. PARK IMPROVEMENTS

■ The City has started the planting of the City's Arboretum in the Park. Public Works Engineering Technician Scott Sloan has led the planning and design efforts, and is actively working with other staff members and volunteers to make the Arboretum a reality. The initial planting took place last spring with the help of students from the Arata Creek School. Additional trees and shrubs were planted this past fall. This will be an ongoing project that will get more beautiful every year as the trees grow and the berry bushes will be a treat to all the children who play in the park.

■ The playground area was enhanced with new items. Several new items were added to both play structures. These new features will be enjoyed and used by children for years to come. This was a very cost effective way to upgrade the playground without spending tens of thousands of dollars on a completely new play structure. At any given day in the summer, our park is full of children and families enjoying the play structures.

■ More of the ever popular "Poo"lution solution stations were added to the Park to assist animal owners in cleaning up after their pets. There are now four stations located around the park. Now, hopefully, every pet owner will use them.

■ The trail system was enhanced with new material, and discussions are taking place to expand the trail into Troutdale, the Cherry Park Shopping Center, and McMenemy's Edgefield. It's such a pleasant walk through our trails, and it will be even better if we can connect to our neighboring cities.

■ An old staircase near the new David M. Fuller Gazebo was refurbished and turned into a photo op location. This is now a great place for families and other people using the gazebo to take beautiful photos. Remember, you can reserve the gazebo and other facilities at the Park for no cost in most cases. This gazebo could not have happened without the volunteer labor from the Rotary Club. Our City Administrator and Rotary Club President, Bill Peterson, was instrumental in this project.

2. UTILITY CHANGES AND ROADWAYS

☀ Crack sealing and asphalt repair work was completed in the lower village area as well as on the 239th hill. This work really lets people know exactly what is happening with the street utility fee. It looks great!

☀ Using Community Development Block Grant funds, the City was able to reconstruct the vital pedestrian pathway between Halsey and Arata along 230th and 231st Ct. Not only was the pathway reconstructed, but solar lighting, garbage cans, and new plants were added.

☀ 24 old fire hydrants were replaced this year with new high flow hydrants. The new hydrants allow for a dramatically increased water flow, and a faster connection. The remaining hydrants received a new coat of bright yellow paint.



☀ Water and sewer lines were constructed between Arata and Halsey along the future Wood Village Blvd. extension. This project will allow for the build out of the Town Center, and a more efficient utility system.

☀ The two steel tank reservoirs that the City owns were inspected, and one of them was fully repainted. The other tank will be painted this spring. This project will add years of life to the reservoirs. Too bad we can't paint flowers on them to make them more attractive.

3. CITY EVENTS

✚ This year marked the 25th Annual Easter Egg Hunt. We hosted the event with style by having 25,000 eggs and 1,000 prizes. The Easter Bunny flew in by helicopter to greet the over 2,500 people who attended the event. We had wonderful volunteers from several organizations to help make this event a great success. If you have never been to our Easter Egg Hunt, you should experience it next year. The look on the children's faces when they see all the candy is just awesome. We put out 1,000 pounds of candy this year, a dentist's dream.



✚ The City took a new approach to the Clean Up Day this year. The City had to change from offering a waste pick up event, to a waste drop off event. With the help of the Wood Village Baptist Church, Waste Management, and the volunteers from several area businesses we were able to collect over 10 tons of waste, and over 1 ton of scrap metal. We hope to continue the success next year. This event was held at the Wood Village Baptist Church, a great community partner.

✚ Our 14th Annual City Nite Out was once again full of free food, activities for kids, live music, and lots of police demonstrations. The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office along with the Wood Village Baptist Church, and the City work to make this the most successful 'Nite Out' in the area. We even had free bicycle helmets for kids. A great free family night out event. We have the biggest and best night out in Multnomah County, maybe all of Oregon. It's too bad the event doesn't generate more media coverage.



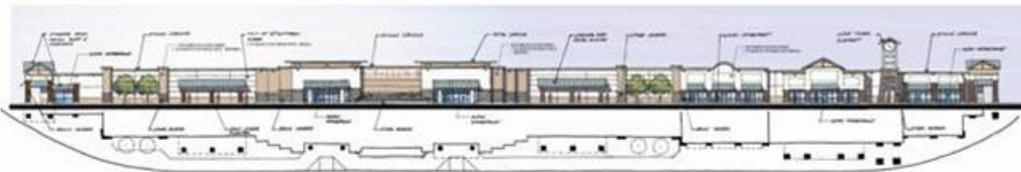
✚ The ever popular Citizen's Police Academy had another full class this year. This 11 week program teaches people about the different areas of the Sheriff's Office, and all the training and education that each deputy has. Sgt. James Eriksen who created the class nine years ago stepped down this year, but we welcomed

Det. Lazzini who is now running the class. We are starting an academy for teens in February of 2014, so look for the flyer in this newsletter for more information.

✚ We once again lit up an 85' tree for the City's 4th Annual Tree Lighting event. The Reynolds High School Expression's Choir sang songs of the season, and Kohl's handed out free books to children. It was a cold evening, but we hope you were able to enjoy the tree sometime during the month it was lit. You can see this tree all night from the freeway. It is bigger than the City of Portland's and just gorgeous!

4. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- ☀ Conditional use zoning amendment authorizations were approved for fueling stations in the Town Center as well as the industrial area north of the freeway. We like to look at possible ways to help businesses achieve their goals.
- ☀ A round table discussion was held with the property owners of the Town Center which includes the former dog track facility. While no plans were finalized, lots of ideas for future developments were shared. We are planning on doing more planning work on the Town Center in 2014. We hope to attract a business or businesses that will conform to our standards and make the Town Center a beautiful and welcoming place.
- ☀ Developed a Tourism and Branding Committee to come up with a marketing approach for the City. Wood Village is now identified as the Base Camp for all activities in the Gorge and Portland area. We have everything you need in one square mile. The phrase “Portal to the Gorge” has been suggested as we are the town where tourists can gather everything they need for their trips to the river, mountain, and ocean.
- ☀ Wood Village welcomes GNC, Joy Teriyaki and Oregon Medical Coordinators. We are still waiting on Famous Dave’s, and they should be open at the Town Center in 2014. A great success story from last year is the continued expansion of Pressure Safe LLC. This business keeps on expanding, and is planning another \$4 million project to grow the business and increase employment. We have a “meet or beat” concept when it comes to adapting regulations for new businesses. We get things done faster than many larger cities can, and businesses value that. We will continue that concept into the future.



5. OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

★ The City received its 10th consecutive Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Award. Our finances are in excellent shape, and we work hard to be very cost effective. Due to staff's great work, we are in a much better position than most cities today. Peggy Minter, our Finance Director works very hard at this and it shows.

★ The City acquired a new financial software program. Staff has been working very hard on compiling and converting all the data for the new program. This program should be up and running in early 2014. New utility bill statements will also be developed. Look for more information in the next newsletter.

★ Community Banners were installed along several roadways in the City. The banners were designed and printed by art students at Reynolds High School. Look for more banners to be installed this spring. Now people will know when they are in Wood Village.

★ The contract with the Multnomah County Sheriff's office for police services was renewed and the contract with Gresham Fire for fire service is ongoing. Excellent law enforcement and fire services continue to be delivered in Wood Village. We are very proud of our Sheriff and all the Deputies, the best law enforcement team in Oregon!

TREE OF LIGHTS

City Hall was once again transformed into a winter wonderland this past December. On December 6th the lights to an 85' tree, as well as several smaller street trees were turned on to celebrate the 4th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony. Despite the freezing temperatures and areas of snow on the ground, many people came to celebrate the event. The cold temperatures did not last as the guests were invited inside City Hall for free hot Chocolate donated by Wal-Mart, and a performance by the Reynolds High School Expressions Choir. For the fourth year in a row, Kohl's donated free children's books, and Santa Clause handed out candy canes to those naughty and nice. The lights were on through December, and we hope you and your family were able to enjoy them. This event would not have been possible without the help from Kohl's, Wal-Mart, Reynolds High School, Barlow High School, Gresham Fire, and NW Arbor Culture.





RESIDENTS RESPOND TO THE FLUORIDE QUESTION



In the October newsletter, we asked the question:

Do Wood Village residents want to have fluoride added to their water supply?

We did not get an overwhelming response. We have just over 700 separate water accounts and nearly 4,000 residents. We received responses from eight residents and two business owners that are not residents, along with comments from personnel that work for the City.

All the comments received oppose the addition of fluoride to the Wood Village water supply. Results were reported to the City Council at their council meeting in December. The Council has determined to take no further steps on this issue at this time, so our system will NOT have fluoride added in the foreseeable future.

The City Council wants to express our sincere thanks to each of you that took the time and made the effort to let us know your opinion. What people think really does make a difference in our town.

TREE TRIMMING SCHEDULED TO BEGIN JANUARY 13TH, 2014

Wood Village Public Works will be trimming street trees and shrubs throughout the City beginning January 13th, 2014.

Trees and shrubs will be trimmed up to 14 feet above the street and 7½ feet above sidewalks. If the trunk of the tree is on private property, the limbs will be trimmed just to the City right-of-way. This will prevent damage to your plantings and to vehicles (snowplows, street sweepers, school buses, mail delivery and garbage trucks) as well as allowing for clear visibility for vehicles and pedestrians.

Also please note, any private plant material interfering with street lights, traffic or pedestrian visibility (driveways and intersections), or obscuring city signage will also be subject to trimming. Fire personnel require 10' of clearance around fire hydrants to ensure adequate visibility and access.

If you are concerned about your private trees or shrubs being trimmed by City crews and you want to do this work yourself please complete your trimming before January 13th, 2014. Members of our City crew are not trained arborists so they will not be pruning your plantings for aesthetics or health; they are trimming for safety purposes only.

Your assistance will make Wood Village a safer place for pedestrians as well as motorists. If you have questions, please contact the Public Works Department at 503-489-6859.



Thank you for your cooperation!

PAINTING THE WATER RESERVOIRS

The City of Wood Village has three water storage reservoirs, one ground level concrete reservoir and two steel tanks. The two steel tanks have to be painted periodically to protect the metal, and to maintain the asset.



We had planned to complete both reservoirs in the current year. During the cleaning of the exterior of the tank, we were informed by our contractor that they suspected one of the tanks had a lead based primer system on the outside of the tank. We tested the primer and it is lead based.

Your City Council decided to proceed with painting the reservoir by sand blasting the lead based material entirely off the tank, priming the tank with a different paint, and then painting the exterior. This is a long range solution that will make sure that the presence of a lead based primer will not create issues in the future.

A bid will be taken this spring to sandblast and repaint the tank. Residents need to know that the water system is not impacted by this paint source. Your City tests the water supply for

the presence of toxins, and no lead or other toxins have been detected in your water supply.

The lead primer we have found is all on the exterior of the tank. While this is still an issue and could have negative environmental impacts if not removed, it does not create any issue for the quality of the water supply.

Full removal of all paint from the tank, including this lead based primer, will be accomplished with all appropriate environmental protections, and materials will be properly handled for disposal. The cost of this effort is estimated to be \$150,000.

The other tank was prepped and painted as planned. The fresh coat of paint looks great and will protect the tank for years to come.



RECYCLING MADE EASY

Residents and businesses in Wood Village can recycle most household items right at the curb. Cardboard, paper, scrap metal and glass can all be recycled through Waste Management. Even used motor oil can be recycled curbside if it is in a clear capped container like a milk jug. Other items such as electronics, scrap wood, paint and other hazardous chemicals can be a bit harder to recycle. Luckily Oregon Metro makes it easy to find the right recycler or disposal site for your needs. You can go to www.OregonMetro.gov and click on the Garbage and Recycling tab to find the closest facility, or you can call Metro at 503-234-3000 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Some facilities may charge a fee, so you will want to check with the specific recycler or disposal location first. The City will also have a free Clean Up day in May, so look for more information on that event in the upcoming newsletters.



THE GRAFFITI FREE ZONE

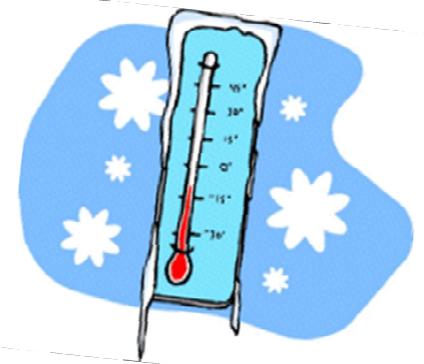
The City was recently hit with a lot of graffiti. Everything from fences and signs, to buildings and cars were sprayed. The City's utility crew did a great job of cleaning up the graffiti along the right of way, and the City offered free graffiti removal kits to citizens and businesses to help clean up the mess. Photos of the graffiti were sent to the Sheriff's office for identification, and hopefully the graffiti will not be reappearing anytime soon. Keeping the City free of graffiti is a community effort. In addition to notifying the City when graffiti appears, we also need people to promptly remove graffiti from their property. Removal within the first 48 hours is the best method to prevent graffiti in the future. The City has free graffiti removal kits for people to use, and we also have an online graffiti reporting tool. Together we can be a graffiti free City.

PREVENTING HOMELESS SHOPPING CARTS

We may not know how or why shopping carts get left abandoned in the City, but we can all agree that shopping carts need to get back where they came from. The good news is that anyone with a phone can help return a lost or homeless shopping cart. Grocery store carts including Fred Meyer can be returned by calling 1-888-552-2787. All other carts can be returned by calling 503-427-1013. All you will need to provide is the location and number of carts. A company will pick up the carts within a few days and return them to their store. Together we can prevent homeless carts.

“DO-IT-YOURSELF” WEATHERIZATION WORKSHOP

Cass Cole from the Community Energy Project facilitated this year's annual DIY Weatherization Workshop at our City Hall. She provided an interactive, hands-on workshop that gave attendees some tools to make their homes warmer and more energy-efficient! They learned how to stop drafts, maintain heating appliances and save money on energy bills. Income-qualifying individuals received a free weatherization kit and non-income-qualified individuals were able to purchase the kit at a reduced price. Cass reported that ten attendees left the workshop with many helpful items. This workshop is typically held in November or December so watch for an announcement next year or go to www.communityenergyproject.org for more information.



PREPARED FOR



While the danger from winter weather varies across the country, nearly all Americans, regardless of where they live, are likely to face some type of severe winter weather at some point in their lives. Winter storms can range from a moderate snow over a few hours to a blizzard with blinding, wind-driven snow that lasts for several days. Many winter storms are accompanied by dangerously low temperatures and sometimes by strong winds, ice, sleet and freezing rain.



One of the primary concerns is the winter weather's ability to knock out heat, power and communications services to your home or office, sometimes for days at a time. Heavy snowfall and extreme cold can immobilize an entire region.

The National Weather Service refers to winter storms as the “Deceptive Killers” because most deaths are indirectly related to the storm. Instead, people die in traffic accidents on icy roads and of hypothermia from prolonged exposure to cold. It is important to be prepared for winter weather before it strikes

BEFORE WINTER STORMS AND EXTREME COLD

To prepare for a winter storm you should do the following:

Before winter approaches, add the following supplies to your emergency kit:



Rock salt or more environmentally safe products to melt ice on walkways. Visit the Environmental Protection Agency for a complete list of recommended products.

Sand to improve traction.

Snow shovels and other snow removal equipment.

Sufficient heating fuel. You may become isolated in your home and regular fuel sources may be cut off. Store a good supply of dry, seasoned wood for your fireplace or wood-burning stove.

Adequate clothing and blankets to keep you warm.

Make a Family Communications Plan. Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to know how you will contact one another, how you will get back together and what you will do in case of an emergency.

Listen to a NOAA Weather Radio or other local news channels for critical information from the National Weather Service (NWS).

Be alert to changing weather conditions.

Minimize travel. If travel is necessary, keep a disaster supplies kit in your vehicle.

Bring pets/companion animals inside during winter weather. Move other animals or livestock to sheltered areas with non-frozen drinking water.





DURING WINTER STORMS AND EXTREME COLD

Stay indoors during the storm.

Walk carefully on snowy, icy, walkways.

Avoid overexertion when shoveling snow. Overexertion can bring on a heart attack—a major cause of death in the winter. If you must shovel snow, stretch before going outside.



Keep dry. Change wet clothing frequently to prevent a loss of body heat. Wet clothing loses all of its insulating value and transmits heat rapidly.

Watch for signs of frostbite. These include loss of feeling and white or pale appearance in extremities such as fingers, toes, ear lobes, and the tip of the nose. If symptoms are detected, get medical help immediately.

Watch for signs of hypothermia. These include uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech, drowsiness, and apparent exhaustion. If symptoms of hypothermia are detected, get the victim to a warm location, remove wet clothing, warm the center of the body first and give warm, non-alcoholic beverages if the victim is conscious. Get medical help as soon as possible.



Drive only if it is absolutely necessary. If you must drive: travel in the day; don't travel alone; keep others informed of your schedule; stay on main roads and avoid back road shortcuts. Let someone know your destination, your route, and when you expect to arrive. If your car gets stuck along the way, help can be sent along your predetermined route.

If the pipes freeze, remove any insulation or layers of newspapers and wrap pipes in rags. Completely open all faucets and pour hot water over the pipes, starting where they were most exposed to the cold (or where the cold was most likely to penetrate).

Maintain ventilation when using kerosene heaters to avoid build-up of toxic fumes. Refuel kerosene heaters outside and keep them at least three feet from flammable objects.

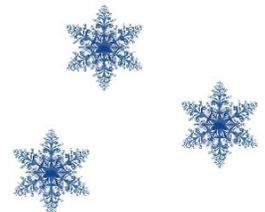
Conserve fuel, if necessary, by keeping your residence cooler than normal. Temporarily close off heat to some rooms. If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55°F.

AFTER WINTER STORMS AND EXTREME COLD

Go to a designated public shelter if your home loses power or heat during periods of extreme cold. Text **SHELTER** + your ZIP code to **43362** (4FEMA) to find the nearest shelter in your area (example: *shelter 97060*).

Continue to protect yourself from frostbite and hypothermia by wearing warm, loose-fitting, lightweight clothing in several layers.

Stay indoors, if possible



East Metro Mediation's Basic Mediation Training



Learn mediation skills to resolve conflict

The 42-hour training includes skill development in communication, listening and conflict resolution. Experienced instructors offer theory and techniques in an interactive learning environment. You will learn how to help others resolve conflict and gain valuable skills that can be applied in all facets of life - from the workplace to the home and community. Training includes working with people individually over the phone and meeting with people around the table. This course is required for volunteer mediators at East Metro Mediation and meets State of Oregon training requirements for community mediators.

- WHEN** Wednesday evenings 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., March 19 - April 16, 2014
Saturdays from 9:00 am to 5:00 p.m., March 22 - April 12, 2014
- WHERE** Gresham City Hall, 1333 NW Eastman Parkway, Gresham, Oregon
- COST OPTIONS**
- 1) \$575 general public
 - 2) Up to six individuals who are willing to volunteer at East Metro Mediation for two hours each week for one year will pay a reduced fee of \$50. Two full scholarships are available.
 - 3) Community leaders in east Multnomah County pay a reduced fee of \$300.
- TO APPLY** Applications are available at www.GreshamOregon.gov/mediation or mediate@GreshamOregon.gov or 503-618-3247. Applicants will be chosen based on interest, ability and willingness to learn - no prior experience is needed. The deadline for applications is February 10, 2014. Applicants will be contacted for interviews. Successful applicants will be notified two weeks prior to the training.

*“This class has changed how I
deal with my friends.
Listening and resolving
conflicts make for such better
friendships.”*

participant in Basic Mediation Training



**EAST METRO
MEDIATION**

1333 NW Eastman Parkway
Gresham, OR 97030
www.GreshamOregon.gov/mediation
503-618-FAIR (3247)

CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE
2055 NE 238TH DRIVE
WOOD VILLAGE, OR 97060-1095

PAID BY STANDARD MAIL
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WOOD VILLAGE
97060

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

THE VILLAGE NEWS ♦ JANUARY 2014

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City Council Meetings:

Jan 14th 6:00 PM
Jan 28th 6:00 PM
Feb 11th 6:00 PM
Feb 25th 6:00 PM

City Services:	Emergencies	911
Wood Village City Hall	Mult County Sheriff	503-823-3333
Water & Sewer 503-667-6211	Gresham Fire Dept	503-618-2355
Building Permits 503-667-6211	Abandoned Vehicles	503-823-3333
Other Services:	DEQ Burning Info	503-618-3083
Waste Management 503-249-8078	Animal Control	503-248-3066
Frontier 800-921-8101	Reynolds School District	503-661-7200
PGE 503-228-6322	East Metro Mediation	503-618-3247
Power outages 503-464-7777	Multnomah County Commissioner:	
Streetlight outages 503-736-5710	Diane McKeel, District 4	503-988-5213
NW Natural 503-226-4212	City of Wood Village Contacts:	
City Administrator Bill Peterson	BillP@ci.wood-village.or.us	503-489-6856
Mayor Patricia Smith	PatriciaS@ci.wood-village.or.us	
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Councilor Timothy Clark	TimC@ci.wood-village.or.us	
Councilor Scott Harden	ScottH@ci.wood-village.or.us	

Mayor Patricia Smith ♦ President Mark Clark ♦ Stanley Dirks ♦ Timothy Clark ♦ Scott Harden

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