
City of Wood Village July 2011

The Village News

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ARATA CREEK WETLAND PRESERVE

By: Randy Jones, Director of Public Works

When you arrive at the entrance to the Donald L. Robertson City Park your thoughts go to playgrounds, ball fields and picnics, but there is much more to the park than this first impression would lead you to believe. To the south, beyond the soccer fields, baseball diamonds and multi-purpose track is a world you wouldn't expect. There you will find newly constructed wetlands working together with established ones and beautiful Arata Creek to create a very special place. Benches, boardwalks, interpretive plaques and trails allow visitors to absorb its quiet energy.

It hasn't always been that way though. Over the years the City of Wood Village's leaders have worked on a vision for a natural area that would provide an educational and relaxing escape to nature within the hustle and bustle of the City. It started by moving Arata Creek back to its original bed, out of the ditch where it had once been confined temporarily trading its potential for other uses of the land it once traversed.



What you see today is the result of several projects over the last two decades. Arata Creek now meanders through wetlands and trees providing habitat for wildlife and plants reminiscent of a time when the only humans to observe it were the natives who camped there from time to time.



The most recent wetland enhancement project is now complete. The scope included streambed restoration, new benches, additional wetland, an environmental learning center and a boardwalk.

The funding for the project came from the Metro Parks Bond. The project was designed by Harper Houf Peterson Righellis Inc. The permitting was done by ESA and Associates. The boardwalk was designed by Scott Sloan, City of Wood Village. Construction was by Henderson Land Services.



The process is not yet complete and may never be as the City looks to the future for what else might be done to add value to the natural environment and opportunities for all of us to experience it.



Investing in Wood Village and the East Metro area

by Metro Councilor Shirley Craddick

One of my goals as your Metro Councilor is to do what I can to ensure that Wood Village’s aspirations come to fruition. This part of the Metro region needs more jobs; good jobs that can support a family. Metro and the City of Wood Village are being proactive on this front by partnering with other nearby cities on the East Metro Connections Plan.

This effort will bring governments together to identify important public investment projects and commit to implementing those that **advance our prosperity**. Agreement on near- and long-term investments increases our ability to leverage regional, state and federal funds for our communities.

In **your neighborhood**, these improvements would help you and your neighbors meet your daily needs. For example, you may see new or safer crosswalks and better traffic flow at intersections. For employers and community developers, a plan with agreement from local jurisdictions that looks out to 2035 provides certainty and incentive for long-term investments.

East Metro Connections Plan will be successful to the degree that it reflects the values and interests of the community it is intended to serve. **That means there’s an important role for you!**

- Visit the project website at www.oregonmetro.gov/eastmetro
- Sign up for email updates by sending a request to trans@oregonmetro.gov
- Request a briefing for your neighborhood association or local event
- Attend a Steering Committee meeting and share your comments
- Participate in public workshops later this year; stay tuned for more information or check the project website

Next steps include

- Spring 2011 – Identify the problems we need to solve
- Summer 2011 – Develop potential solutions
- Fall 2011 – Evaluate and prioritize solutions
- Winter and spring 2012 – Agree on local and regional actions to implement solutions



We hope you will become involved and let us know if you have questions, 503-797-1756.

Citizen's Police Academy

The Citizen's Police Academy is a 12 week program designed to provide a working knowledge of the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office. This course provides an opportunity for community involvement and gives attendees firsthand experience of law enforcement services. Classes are held on Wednesday evenings from 7pm to 9pm at the Wood Village City Hall. This FREE academy starts on September 8th, 2011 and the graduation is on November 16th, 2011. The classes are open to all community members ages 18 and older. Please go to the City's webpage for more information, or stop by the Citizen's Police Academy Table at the **Nite Out** on July 15th. Space is limited, so sign up now!

Community Pride Award Program

The Community Pride Award program was recently revised, and five awards will be given out in the months of April, June, August and December. The award categories are single family homes, multi-family homes, manufactured homes, and a general category. Please consider nominating a

neighbor or another property owner in Wood Village for the exceptional care or improvement of their property. Nomination forms are now available at City Hall and on the city's website, and there is no limit on how many properties you can nominate. Winners will be selected by the Parks and Recreation Commission. Please see our website for additional information, and get your nominations in soon as the first awards of the season will be presented in August.

**Help reduce
CRIME
in your Neighborhood!**



Neighborhood Watch is a program that helps residents prevent crime in their neighborhoods. Wood Village residents work together and in partnership with the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) to keep informed about criminal activity in the City.

What will I learn?

- How to improve home security and personal safety
- How to recognize and report suspicious activity
- Who your neighbors are and how to work with them to prevent crime

Contact City Hall to learn about the Neighborhood Watch Program in your area!

Wood Village Clean-Up Day

The Annual Community Clean-Up Day was held Saturday, May 14th, 2011. Waste Management of Oregon picked up 47.9 tons of non-hazardous bulky waste, .25 tons of scrap metal and 127 tires that were placed at the curbside all around the city.

With assistance from Waste Management and Metro we are able to provide this special event for the citizens of Wood Village so we can all enjoy a clean and beautiful city. We extend our thanks to the staff at Waste Management, Metro, and the residents of Wood Village who participated.

If you have any comments or suggestions for future Clean-Up Day events please call Marie at 503-489-6859.

Save the Date!

End of Summer OKTOBERFEST



*September 10th
Donald Robertson
City Park*

The Annual End of Summer Oktoberfest is back and will feature free, family friendly activities including live music, multiple vendors, and free beverages and snacks. Like last year, there will also be a beer garden with spritz and additional food menu items.

Be on the lookout for more information about this event in the next newsletter, and on the City's webpage. Please contact Greg at City Hall for more information, or to reserve a booth space. See you on September 10th!!!

Oregon E-Cycles!

Oregon E-Cycles is a free, easy and environmentally responsible recycling program for computers, monitors and TVs. The program is financed by electronics manufacturers and jointly implemented

with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

Anyone can bring seven or fewer computers (desktops and laptops), monitors and TVs at a time to participating Oregon E-Cycles collection sites for free recycling. Please note that computer peripherals (keyboards, mice, etc.) and other types of electronics are not included in this program.

Oregon E-Cycles collection sites are located statewide and operate year-round. All computers, monitors and TVs - regardless of brand, age or condition - are accepted for free recycling.

Participating recyclers must meet DEQ's Environmental Management Practices. The EMPs ensure electronics are recycled in a way that protects human health and the environment. The following locations within the 97060 zip code area will take Computers, Monitors and Televisions:

- Salvation Army – Wood Village Town Center in the Fred Meyer parking lot, Wood Village
- Goodwill - 2501 SW Cherry Park Drive, Troutdale, 503-238-6100
- Goodwill – Lamb's Thriftway, 26942 SE Stark St, Troutdale, 503-238-6100

Boys & Girls Club

The Boys and Girls Clubs of the Portland Metropolitan Area are hosting a Summer Camp in Wood Village with fun and safe activities for your children ages 6 years old and older. There is **NO COST** for the camp to families that register. There is also a Free School Lunch Program for children ages 1 year old to 18 years old. Parents must accompany children for initial registration. Please see the Boys and Girls staff from 12-5 PM at Wood Village Baptist Church, 23601 NE Arata Road, to register.

The Boys and Girls Club is actively seeking donations for support and materials. If you can help, please contact Pam Hiller at 503-988-6250 X 25043.

Former Mayor David Fuller Resigns from Council

In Wood Village, the Mayor is elected from the City Council. Councilor David Fuller had served as Mayor for ten years, and the City Council selected Patricia Smith as the Mayor for 2011 and 2012. Former Mayor Fuller remained an elected City Council member and served on the City Council following the selection of Mayor Smith.

Councilor Fuller resigned from the City Council April 26, 2011. Councilor Fuller dedicated ten years of his life to assisting Wood Village, providing leadership through the primary growth years in Wood Village, from the office of Mayor. As Mayor, Fuller was a strong voice for Wood Village in regional forums, provided guidance and support for our Village and the image of the future for our community. His contributions are valued and honored. A wonderful

ceremony in honor of Mayor Fuller was organized by the Multnomah County Sheriff's office, with testimonials for the great work Fuller completed for Wood Village.

A controversy concerning a potential ethics violation arose at the end of Mayor Fuller's work with the City of Wood Village. The State Ethics Commission dismissed the charges for lack of evidence. Mayor Fuller will take his place in the history of Wood Village

for his positive contributions and his achievements that helped to make this a great place to live.

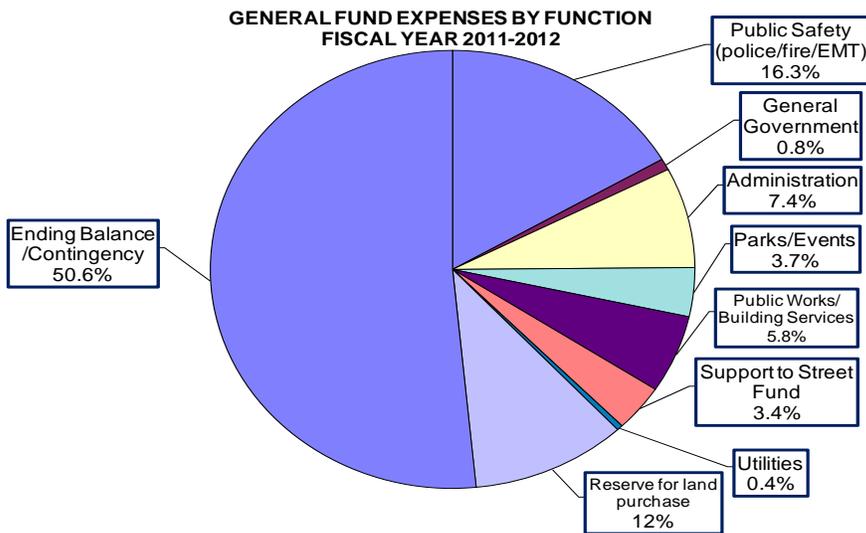
The Wood Village City Council interviews potential candidates for filling Fuller's city council seat at the City Council meeting of June 28, 2011. By the time residents read this newsletter, a new member of the Wood Village City Council will be taking office to help Wood Village over the next several years.

2011-12 CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE BUDGET COMMUNICATION

By: Peggy Minter, Finance Director

A Budget Committee comprised of the five City Council members and five citizen volunteers, reviews and approves the proposed budget and the tax rate levy, and recommends adoption to the City Council. The City Council may make limited adjustments to the approved budget before

adoption in June. The budget for fiscal year 2011-2012 was adopted at the City Council meeting on June 14th, 2011.



The budget contained an overall increase of 4%, however expenditures decreased by **-10.7%** led by reductions in total staff positions. No service level cuts were made in the recommended budget, and no fees will be increased or altered in the plan. Public Safety services for Wood Village will continue to be provided by

contract at the current service level, with police service provided by the Multnomah County Sheriff and fire service from the City of Gresham. The total revenues increased by 7.8%. Wood Village is proud to have the second lowest property tax for an incorporated city in the Portland metro area, while able to provide quality services. For more detailed information on the budget, please visit our website: www.ci.wood-village.or.us. If you would like a copy of the budget, please call 503-667-6211, and we will provide you with a copy.

Keeping Your Water Drinkable

Although the water that reaches your home or business is pure and safe, contamination can occur within your own piping system. This article describes potential water contamination hazards, called *cross connections*, and tells how you can help keep your water safe and drinkable.

Cross Connections are the Culprit

A cross connection is an accident waiting to happen. Any time the potable (drinking) water supply comes in contact with an objectionable or harmful substance, a cross connection is created. For example, placing a hose in a bucket of detergent, or attaching a hose to a sprayer of fertilizer creates a cross connection and a possible health hazard. Cross connections can lead to contamination when a change in pressure within the water supply piping allows the water to flow backwards. This reversal of flow, called *backflow*, can allow contaminated water to flow back into the supply piping, threatening health and safety. Although under normal circumstances the city water supply is pressurized to keep water flowing to your tap, unforeseen circumstances (such as the need to fight a fire) can suddenly change the pressure in the supply piping, allowing the water to siphon back from your tap to the city supply.

Guarding Against Contamination

Most modern water-using fixtures and appliances are made to guard against backflow. Many sinks, toilets, clothes washers and other water-using appliances have built-in backflow prevention features. However, some water-using fixtures and equipment have no built-in backflow prevention features and require added protection. In these cases backflow preventers should be installed to guard against the possibility that contaminated water could flow back into the supply piping. Following are a few common water uses that can create cross connection hazards, and tips for preventing accidental water contamination.

HOSES: Hoses are used in a variety of ways that can create cross connections. Simply placing a hose in a container to mix water with detergent, fertilizer or any other non-potable substance creates a cross connection that can allow the contents of the container to backflow into the water supply. The simplest solution to this hazard is to always avoid placing hoses into non-drinkable fluids. In cases where hose-end attachments like chemical spray applicators and radiator flush kits are being used, the only way to guard against contamination is to install a backflow preventer on the hose connection. Hose-type backflow preventers are available at many local plumbing supply stores. They must be equipped with a break-away set screw.

WELLS: Well supplies are often equipped with a pump that, if connected to the potable piping, can overcome city water pressure and create a backflow. Although wells generally operate at pressures less than the potable water supply, changes in supply pressure, water main breaks, and shut-downs for water system maintenance can cause potable supply pressures to be less than well output pressures. Untreated well water can contain harmful bacteria and other contaminants that can backflow into the drinking water supply. There are two ways to guard against backflow from well supplies: 1) permanently disconnect the well system piping from the piping that carries water from the city water supply; or 2) install an approved backflow preventer on your side of the

water meter that supplies water to the well system. For a list of approved backflow preventers, contact your local water supplier (listed at the end of this article).

LAWN SPRINKLERS AND UNDERGROUND IRRIGATION SYSTEMS: Because they are not always under pressure, irrigation systems are subject to ground water infiltration. Fertilizers, pesticides, and other chemicals that are used directly on landscaped areas can flow into the irrigation system piping if the system has a leak or if sprinkler heads are mounted where water pools on the ground. Because of these potential hazards, lawn sprinklers and irrigation systems require backflow prevention as per plumbing code. To find out what type of backflow preventer to use on your system, contact your local water supplier (listed at the end of this article).

POOLS AND SPAS: Chlorine and other chemicals used to keep your pool or spa bacteria free can be hazardous if allowed to backflow into the drinking water system. First, when filling your pool or spa, be sure that the hose end does not touch the water in the pool. Second, install a hose-type backflow preventer on the hose connection serving the pool as per plumbing code. The hose-type backflow preventer must be equipped with a break-away set screw. Additional plumbing requirements may apply depending on what type of pool or spa system you have. Contact your local water supplier (listed at the end of this article) for additional requirements.

HEATING, COOLING AND FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS: Heating, cooling and fire sprinkler systems that use water from the potable supply pose a hazard because water within those systems often sits stagnant for long periods of time or may have chemical additives. Plumbing codes require that these systems be equipped with backflow prevention. For a list of approved backflow preventers or for more information about these systems and cross connections, contact your local water supplier (listed at the end of the article).

What You Can Do

It is impossible to cover all of the information pertaining to cross connections in this article. We hope the preceding information will inspire you to further educate yourself on the hazards of unprotected cross connections.

Like fastening your seat belt or donning a life vest, backflow prevention measures provide protection for events that can happen. Hopefully the backflow preventers you install will never be needed; however, once installed, backflow prevention measures help keep your water drinkable.

Questions? Please Contact: Julie Starr at Wood Village City Hall – (503) 489-6861

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

PAID BY STANDARD MAIL
PERMIT #75
WOOD VILLAGE
97060

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Planning Commission and Parks Commission
Call 503-667-6211 for more information

THE VILLAGE NEWS

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Wood Village Oregon 97060
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City Council

Patricia Smith, Mayor
Mark S. Clark, President
Stanley Dirks
Timothy Clark

City Councilors are volunteers who do not keep regular office hours but messages can be left at City Hall at 503-667-6211.

Regular Council meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

**Planning Commission
Design Review Board**

Planning Commission/Design Review Board meetings are normally held the last Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

All meeting agendas are available at City Hall and on the City’s website.

City Services

Water & Sewer: Wood Village City Hall: 503-667-6211

Building Permits: Wood Village City Hall: 503-667-6211

Trash & Recycling:
Waste Management: 503-249-8078

Phone: Frontier – 1-800-483-4000

Electric: PGE – 503-228-6322
503-464-7777 (power outages)
503-736-5710 (streetlight outages)

Gas: NW Natural: 503-226-4212

Abandoned Vehicles
503-823-3333 (non-emergency number for Sheriff’s Office)

DEQ Burning Information:
503-618-3083

Multnomah County Sheriff:
503-823-3333 (non-emergency)
9-1-1 (emergencies)

Gresham Fire Department:
503-618-2355 (general information)
9-1-1 (emergencies)

Multnomah County Animal Control:
503-248-3066

Reynolds School District:
503-661-7200

East Metro Mediation:
503-618-3247

Multnomah County Commissioners:
Jeff Cogan, County Chair
(503) 988-3308

Diane McKeel, District 4
(503) 988-5213