

Columbia City Newsletter

December

2013

COLUMBIA CITY
1840 SECOND STREET
PO BOX 189
COLUMBIA CITY, OR 97018
PHONE: (503) 397-4010
FAX: (503) 366-2870
colcity@columbia-city.org
www.columbia-city.org

PUBLIC HEARING ON DRINKING WATER PROTECTION STRATEGIES

The City Council will hold a public hearing at 6 pm on December 19, 2013, to accept public testimony about proposed drinking water protection strategies for the City's water system.

The City received a Technical Assistance Grant from the Source Water Protection Fund to complete a source water assessment update. The update included the delineation of a source water protection area - the critical area over that part of the groundwater aquifer that supplies water to the City's wells. That critical area is shown on the map below in three time travel zones. The largest zone represents a three-year travel time, the next zone represents a two-year travel time, and the smallest zone represents a one-year travel time. The travel time is the estimated amount of time it would take for contaminants within that area to reach the City's drinking water source.



The project includes the development of source water protection strategies designed to protect against potential contamination to the City's drinking water supply. Source water protection strategies also raise local community awareness of drinking water contamination risks and provide information about how communities can help protect their drinking water sources.

The City's Water and Sewer Committee will meet at 6 pm on Wednesday, December 4, 2013, to come up with a list of source water protection strategies they believe are most suitable for our community. They will forward their recommendations to the Council for consideration during the December 19 meeting. The draft source water protection strategies will be made available for public inspection and posted to the City's website by December 12, 2013.

An implementation schedule will also be developed for the source water protection strategies, which will be included in a Source Water Protection Plan and submitted to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for certification.

HELP SUPPORT OUR NEW VETERANS PARK

The City is looking for additional support for the NEW Veterans Park, which is currently under construction at the north end of the City's bike path.



You can help by:

- ★ Volunteering your time
- ★ Contributing services or materials
- ★ Purchasing an engraved brick for a veteran to place on the veteran's wall
- ★ Purchasing a sponsor brick engraved with your name or your company's name
- ★ Making a cash donation

For more information, to order a personalized brick, or to donate time, materials or financial support, please contact City Hall or visit our website.



CHIEF'S CORNER

SHOP WITH A COP 2013: This year's Shop with a Cop event will take place on Saturday, December 14, 2013 at the Walmart in St. Helens. This program continues to focus on providing a needy family and children with wintertime necessities and as many "wish list" items as we can provide.

The Police Department would like to request your continued support in being our eyes and ears in the community. Please feel free to contact us with any information that you feel would help us in keeping our community safe. We can be reached via 9-1-1 (emergency), at the office (503) 397-4010 (non-emergency), or through C-COM (non-emergency dispatch) at (503) 397-1521.

Stay safe ~ Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

We frequently find that the phone numbers we have listed on our utility accounts are no longer valid. It is very important that we have current contact information on file for you. We may need to call you to:



- Let you know about a water leak we discovered while reading your meter, or
- Notify you of a temporary street closure that will impact your access, or
- Let you know your water will be shut off due to a waterline break or other repair work, or
- Let you know your dog was spotted near Highway 30, or
- Contact you in the event of an emergency.

For whatever the reason, we hope we have your current contact information in our records when we attempt to call you. If your work phone number has changed, or you have a new cell phone or home telephone number, please keep us informed so we can update our records. To update your contact information, please email the information to colcity@columbia-city.org, stop by City Hall, or drop us a note with your water bill payment.

FLU SEASON INFORMATION

Flu season looms! To prepare for flu season, vaccine is in and members of the community can schedule flu shots by calling the main Public Health Foundation number, (503) 397-4651, extension 2003 or 2016. The Centers for Disease Control recommends flu vaccine for all people six months of age and older. Flu season is traditionally October through May and the vaccine takes two weeks for protection to develop after the shot. By getting flu vaccine you can protect yourself from influenza and may also avoid spreading influenza to others.

CHRISTMAS SHIPS

The Christmas Ship Parade will visit Columbia City on **Saturday, December 7th**. The ships will assemble at the St. Helens City docks at 6 pm and motor downriver to Columbia City. Both the Columbia and Willamette Fleets will be in the parade! The Christmas ships will be out approximately two hours, will stay overnight at the St. Helens City docks and leave Sunday morning via the Multnomah Channel.

Caples House Christmas Ship Party: Watch the Christmas Ships at The Caples House Knapp Center, located at 1915 First Street, in Columbia City on Saturday, December 7, 2013 starting at 6:00 pm. They will gather for cookies, hot chocolate and cider while waiting for the Christmas Ships to come downriver. After the ships have passed, they will gather again to sing Christmas Carols. This event is free, but donations are always welcome.



BUSINESS LICENSE REMINDER

Now is the time of year to renew business licenses for the new 2014 year. Be advised that late fees or penalties may apply if the license is not purchased prior to starting work. Business license applications are available on our website at www.columbia-city.org. If you have any questions about business licenses please contact City Hall.

LIBRARY NEWS

Thanks for participating in the holiday bazaar. We had 80 people visit the Library on the two days, and made \$217, including vendor percentages, direct sales, and book sales. It was nice to see the Library so busy! We'll do it again next year, so if you think you'd like to be a vendor or contribute some items, start working on them now!



All *Second Hand Prose* holiday books are half price during the month of December. Come see what treasures you can find! Hundreds of new sale books go on the shelves each month, thanks to Kit Gardes who shelves sale books, and your generous donations to the Library.

The Library will be closed for Christmas and New Year's Day so come in earlier in the month to check out books to read, cookbooks for your feasts and holiday baking, or some of our wonderful decorating books. There are even some great books on making ornaments!

New Books: We added 129 books to our Library collection in the last month. Some recent books we've added to the Library include:

- *Salmon, People, and Place* by Jim Lichatowich (Columbia City resident!)
- *Even Silence Has an End: My Six Years of Captivity* by Ingrid Betancourt
- *One Guinea Pig is Not Enough* by Kate Duke (counting book for preschoolers)
- *Time Machines Repaired While-U-Wait* by K.A. Bedford
- *Hush Now, Don't You Cry* by Rhys Bowen
- *No Rest for the Dead* by Sandra Brown
- *Creole Belle* by James Lee Burke
- *An Arsonist's Guide to Writer's Homes in New England* by Brock Clarke
- *The Tombs* by Clive Cussler
- *The Kill Room* by Jeffery Deaver
- *Notorious Nineteen* by Janet Evanovich
- *The Ocean at the End of the Lane* by Neil Gaiman
- *Angels at the Table* by Debbie Macomber
- *Bones are Forever* by Kathy Reichs

- *Avatar: The Last Airbender 5* by Michael Dimartino (Graphic novel)
- *Here Lies the Librarian* by Richard Peck

Story Time:

11 am every Monday

Friends of the Library:

No meeting planned

Novel Quilters Meeting:

No meeting planned

Mystery Book Group:

Tuesday, December 3rd at 7 pm

Library Closed:

Wednesday, December 25th

Wednesday, January 1st

Staffed Hours:

Monday 10 am – 2 pm

Wednesday 4 pm – 8 pm

Thursday 2 pm – 6 pm

Columbia City Community Library

2000 Second Street, PO Box 189

Columbia City OR 97018

(503) 366-8020

ccclibrary@live.com

CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

- Signs shall not be attached to a utility pole or placed within any public right-of-way (unless specifically approved by the City Council). Signs placed in the public right-of-way or on City-owned real property may be immediately removed by the City without prior notice to the owner of the sign.
- Animals - dogs, cats and other pets - may not run at large. Owners must have complete control, by adequate leash, of their animals at all times while the animals are off the owners premises, and owners must pick up after their pets.
- It is unlawful to keep an animal that makes loud, disturbing or unnecessary noise that annoys and or disturbs the comfort and peace of others.



WATER CONSERVATION TIP



If your shower fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace the showerhead with a water-efficient model.

**POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT
October - November 2013**

See below for the department's activity during the most recent reporting period. Please feel free to contact me, or any of your police officers, with feedback or further questions that you may have.

Stay safe ~ Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

ACTIVITY REPORT: Your police officers answered 570 calls for service; both self-initiated as well as dispatched calls, during the reporting period. Although many of these calls were self-initiated by officers of this department, we have summarized below both significant community policing and criminal investigations that we have conducted. Additionally, within the reporting period we have conducted investigations and/or arrests in the following types of cases: Domestic Disturbance, Harassment, Possession of Controlled Substances – Marijuana, Narcotics Complaints, Theft, Threats, and Traffic Crashes.

COMMUNITY POLICING ACTIVITY:

- Residential Security Checks: 327
- Area Patrols: 77
- Foot Patrols: 8
- Assist the Public: 9
- Disabled Vehicles/Hazards: 4
- Radio Calls: 16
- Nuisance/Code Enforcement Complaints: 2
- Assistance to Outside Agencies: 4
- Traffic Complaints: 2
- Welfare Checks: 2
- Reserve Police Officer Hours Worked: 80

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/INVESTIGATIONS:

- Investigative Follow Up's: 10
- Suspicious Circumstances, People, Vehicles and Prowler Calls: 6
- Traffic Stops: 37
- Domestic Disturbance: 4
- Theft Investigations: 3
- Service of Arrest Warrant(s): 1
- Threats Investigations: 3
- Motor Vehicle Crash: 1
- Narcotics Complaints: 1

CALLS OF INTEREST:

1. PCS - Marijuana investigation in the area of Highway 30 near "L" Street on 10/26/13. Suspect identified and charged.
2. Theft investigation in the 400 block of Pacific Street on 10/31/13. Investigation closed as leads

- exhausted.
3. Traffic Crash investigation in the area of First Street at "F" Street on 11/18/13. Investigation closed with responsible driver charged.



**COLUMBIA COUNTY SAFE KIDS
CAR SEAT EVENT**

Columbia County Safe Kids will be holding a child safety seat checkup event on Thursday, December 12, 2013, at the St. Helens Fire Station, 105 S. 12th Street, St., Helens, from 4 pm to 6 pm.

The clinic provides an opportunity to have a child safety seat checked by a certified technician who is trained to correct misuse, help with installation, teach you how to correctly install the seat, and check for seat recalls. The clinic services are free to the public.

Child safety seats are also available to low-income families at a reduced cost while supplies last. Questions? Call (503) 397-7211 or ACTS Oregon Child Safety Resource Center 1 (877) 793-2608.

**AFTER HOUR WATER AND SEWER
EMERGENCIES**

When City Hall and Public Works offices are closed and an urgent water or sewer situation arises, call the following after-hours emergency number:

(503) 397-1521

The dispatcher will contact the appropriate person to respond to the situation.

**WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR
SHOP WITH A COP DONORS**

We'd like to extend a very special thank you to this season's Shop with a Cop sponsors:

**Wal-Mart
The Vault
Private Citizens**

RESOURCES FOR WINTER TRAVEL



ODOT offers travel information via the Internet, by phone, and on cable TV. Visit ODOT'S travel information website at www.TripCheck.com. In addition to text-based reports, the site offers camera images from urban areas, mountain passes, and other key locations

throughout the state. Maps detail road conditions and trouble spots and include information about weather, road construction, and maintenance work and traffic incidents.

In the Portland area, a speed map provides average travel times for local commuters and other highway users. You can also develop a custom camera page to check specific routes at a glance. The QuickCheck page brings camera and incident information together in a text-based format for easy access.

TripCheck.com has links to bus, airport, train, bicycle and trucking information. A

mileage calculator allows you to estimate distance and choose the most direct route. Other features include detailed information on scenic byways,

safety rest areas, and SnoParks. Motorists can access winter driving information at www.oregon.gov/ODOT/COMM/winterdriving.shtml. Topics include preparation for stormy conditions, driving in the rain, low-visibility driving, chains and traction tires, road conditions and travel information.

Travelers in Oregon can dial 511 to access TripCheck road and weather information by phone. You can select updated reports about driving conditions by highway, mountain pass, or major city from easy-to-use menus. The 511 system responds to voice as well as touch-tone commands. Calls to 511 are local calls when dialed from a pay or wire line phone. Wireless phone users are responsible for airtime and roaming charges according to their service contracts. If you cannot use 511, call toll-free 1 (800) 977-6368 for road and weather information. Outside Oregon, call (503) 588-2941.



FIRE SAFETY

Each year, fires take lives and burn numerous structures resulting in mounting costs that have enormous impact on families, communities and businesses. Fires also have devastating impacts on the environment and wildlife. Below is a list of zero and low cost safety precaution measures you can take to protect your home and workplace:

Candles:

- Ensure candles are in sturdy metal, glass, or ceramic holders and placed where they cannot be easily knocked down. Most importantly, keep candles out of the reach of children and pets.
- Never leave the house with candles burning and never leave burning candles unattended.

Electrical:

- Routinely check your electrical appliances and wiring.
- If an appliance has a three-prong plug, use it only in a three-slot outlet. Never force it to fit into a two-slot outlet or extension cord.
- When buying electrical appliances look for products evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories.

Gas:

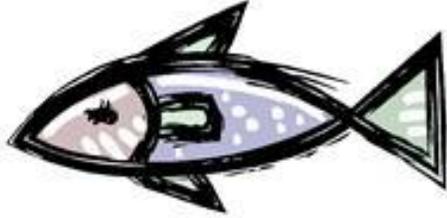
- When lighting a gas fireplace or gas space heater, strike your match first, then turn on the gas.
- Never use a gas range as a substitute for a furnace or space heater.

Additional Tips:

- Purchase an ABC type extinguisher for extinguishing all types of fires. Fire extinguishers should be mounted in the kitchen, garage, and workshop for use only on small fires. If there is a large fire, leave immediately and call 9-1-1.
- Cooking equipment is also the leading cause of unreported fires and associated injuries. Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- Plug microwave ovens and other cooking appliances directly into an outlet. Never use an extension cord for a cooking appliance, as it can overload the circuit and cause a fire.
- If you use candles, ensure they are in sturdy metal, glass, or ceramic holders and placed where they cannot be easily knocked down.

STORM WATER PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

What is storm water pollution? Rainwater or even runoff from sprinklers or hoses carries contaminants - such as litter, animal waste, automobile fluids, fertilizers and pesticides - into the storm drains and pollutes the City's neighborhoods, creating health risks for children and polluting our waterways.



What can I do to prevent storm water pollution? Here are a few tips that can help improve our storm water quality and protect our environment:

- **Don't put anything in the storm drains but rainwater.** Storm drains can carry surface runoff directly to streams and rivers without treatment. Make sure runoff carries only rainwater.
- **Remove litter from the street.** Trash-laden gutters increase neighborhood pollution and clog drains, which may lead to street flooding.
- **Pick up after your pet.** Animal waste, when left on the ground, washes down storm drains and contaminates waterways and beaches.
- **Recycle your motor oil.** The Columbia County Transfer Station, along with many gas stations, auto parts stores and repair shops will collect and recycle used motor oil.
- **Bag, compost or recycle grass, tree limbs, leaves and other yard waste.** Soggy yard waste is a major contributor to clogged storm drains.
- **Be smart when you apply pesticides or fertilizers.** Do not apply pesticides or fertilizers before it rains. Not only will you lose most of the chemicals through runoff, but you will also be harming the environment. Do not over-water after

application. Read the label and do not apply more than recommended.

- **Don't wash dirty paintbrushes under an outdoor faucet.** This dirty rinse water flows into the street and down the storm drain.

HOLIDAY LIGHT SAFETY TIPS

Decorating your home with indoor and outdoor lights brings a festive glow to the holidays. However, when used improperly, these decorations can result in fire or serious injury. Following a few simple guidelines from the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission will ensure that the holidays remain joyous and safe for your family and neighbors:



- Before using lights outdoors, check the label to be sure they are certified for outdoor use.
- Unplug lights before replacing burned-out bulbs.
- Check for frayed or bare wires and throw away damaged sets.
- Keep plugs and connections away from sources of water, like puddles and snow.
- Know your circuits' limits and don't overload the system.
- Stay away from power lines leading from utility poles.
- Fasten outdoor lights securely to trees, house, walls, or other firm supports to prevent wind damage.
- Turn off all holiday lights when you go to bed or leave the house.

MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - DECEMBER 2013



December 2 nd	6:00 pm	Hazard Mitigation Committee Meeting at City Hall
December 3 rd	5:00 pm	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
December 4 th	6:00 pm	Water Committee Meeting at City Hall
December 5 th	6:00 pm	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
December 10 th	7:00 pm	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall cancelled
December 12 th	6:00 pm	Municipal Court at City Hall
December 19 th	6:00 pm	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
December 24 th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed for the Christmas Holiday
December 25 th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed for the Christmas Holiday

