



# COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

## January 2015

**COLUMBIA CITY**  
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### CHIEF'S CORNER

**Shop with a Cop 2014:** We would like to thank all of our community members who nominated families for this year's Shop with a Cop program. This event took place on Saturday, December 20, 2014 at the St. Helens Wal-Mart and was another resounding success thanks to the involvement and support of our citizens. Without you this attempt to help others would never be possible.

In addition to our citizens who donated financially or provided gifts for this year's program, we would like to thank the St. Helens Wal-Mart who remains our primary corporate sponsor for this annual program. We would also like to thank the officers and families of the St. Helens Oregon State Police Office, the St. Helens Police Department and the Scappoose Police Department who volunteered their time to help our officers and their families shop with the sponsored families from our community.

**Special Thanks:** To our citizens here in Columbia City we would like to express our appreciation for allowing us to serve the community as your police department. Without your trust, support, and partnerships we would not be able to do so. We exist because you allow us to and remain ever grateful for the opportunity to serve. Thank you for another year where you have remained partners with us in the continual effort to keep each other safe. We look forward to your continued stand with us in the upcoming year. From all of us....we hope you had a Merry Christmas, and have a very safe and happy New Year!

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 your thoughts, questions, or any information that you feel would help us in keeping our community safe. We can be reached via 9-1-1 (emergency), (503) 397-4010 (office), or (503) 397-1521 (non-emergency dispatch). Best regards, Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

### CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

**Recreational vehicles:** Only one vehicle that is designed for human occupancy (RV, boat, travel trailer, camper, or motor home) may be parked or stored at any single property at any time.

**Home occupations:** Under certain conditions, residents may use their home to engage in small-scale business ventures which might not be sustainable if it were necessary to lease commercial space. All home occupations require a permit.

**Sidewalk maintenance:** The owner of property abutting a sidewalk is responsible for keeping the sidewalk free of ice, snow, yard debris and other obstructions.

### GET READY FOR WINTER STORMS

1. Minimize the impact of rainwater and melting snow by clearing walkways and keeping leaf piles and debris out of the street and storm drains.
2. Report flooding, downed trees, storm system problems, backed up sewer, and other similar problems to the Public Works Department by calling (503) 366-0454 during regular work hours, or by calling (503) 397-1521 (dispatch) after hours and on weekends.
3. Free sand bags can be picked up at the City Shop, 1755 Second Place, anytime during a declared flood-related emergency.
4. Keep snow from piling up on flat rooftops. In the event of accumulation, heavy snow load can cause structural failures.
5. Listen for unusual sounds that might indicate moving debris, such as trees cracking or boulders knocking together. A trickle of falling mud or debris may precede larger landslides. If you think there is danger of a landslide, leave immediately.
6. Assume highways are not safe. Be alert when driving, especially at night. Don't overdrive your headlights. It should take your car four seconds to catch up to the spot where your low beams were originally at. Embankments along road sides may fail, sending rock and debris onto the road.
7. Remember to check on your elderly or disabled neighbors, friends and family.



## HOLIDAY TIME RECYCLING

Christmas trees, greeting cards and wrapped presents brighten homes and warm our hearts. After the holidays, however, sometimes these holiday items end up in our garbage cart. That means they will go to the landfill, even though they could have been recycled. When you consider the trees, cards, wrapping paper, envelopes and the stamps, that's a lot of trees cut down for our holiday enjoyment.

### **Why should I recycle my tree?**

Recycling your tree "gives back" to the environment as trees are composted for garden mulch. Mulch provides a protective barrier for the roots of other plants while suppressing weeds and holding in moisture. As the mulch decomposes, it provides nutrients that plants need.



### **Tree Recycling Tips**

- Recycle your tree and support Boy Scout Troop 106 in Columbia County. The Scouts offer two recycling options:
  - ✓ Drop your tree off in the drop box at Lawrence Oil in St. Helens for \$6.
  - ✓ Schedule curbside pick up for \$8. Curbside pickup will be offered on January 3, 8, 9, 10, and 11. To schedule a curbside pickup, call Bill Reese at (503) 366-0726, or e-mail him at [billr@columbia-center.org](mailto:billr@columbia-center.org).
- If you have yard debris service, you may recycle your tree by cutting it up and placing it inside your yard debris cart. It must fit entirely in your cart.
- Recycle your whole tree at the Columbia County Transfer Station. The minimum load fee of \$21 will apply.
- Beaver Bark in Scappoose will process your old tree into compost for a minimum charge of \$8.

Before recycling or composting discarded trees, be sure to remove the tinsel, plastic and other non-recyclable ornaments.

### **Wrapping Paper, Gift Boxes and Greeting Card Recycling Tips**

- Save used wrapping paper, gift boxes, bows and ribbons this Christmas and reuse it all next year.
- Recycle your non-shiny or non-glittering wrapping paper, the cardboard roll the paper is wound around, tissue paper, gift boxes and tags

by placing these items in your co-mingle bin or roll cart.

- You can recycle your greeting cards by donating them to St. Jude's Ranch for Children. The program accepts all types of greeting cards. Only the card front can be used, (please check to be sure the back side is clear of any writing etc.) they are not able to accept Hallmark, Disney or American Greeting cards. 5" x 7" size or smaller is preferred. Mail donations to: St. Jude's Ranch for Children, Recycled Card Program, 100 St. Jude's Street, Boulder City, NV 89005. Currently, they have found the least expensive way to mail large quantities of card donations is through the USPS in a Flat Rate Box which holds up to 70 pounds (available at the Post Office). The ranch provides counseling and opportunities for troubled youth. The kids operate a business taking used greeting cards, creating new ones and selling the results. The kids earn money, experience and a sense of purpose through this program. For more information visit their website: [www.stjudesranch.org/shop/recycled-card-program/](http://www.stjudesranch.org/shop/recycled-card-program/).



### **Electronic Recycling Tips**

Electronics can be recycled for FREE at any time during regular business hours at the Columbia County Transfer Station on Railroad Ave. in St. Helens.

### **WATER CONSERVATION TIP**

Make sure all outdoor spigots are winterized to keep pipes from freezing, bursting and losing water.



### **FREE WATER CONSERVATION KITS**

The City still has free water conservation kits available to water customers while supplies last. Kits include a 1.5 GPM dual thread faucet aerator, a dish squeegee, leak detection dye tablets, a toilet tank fill cycle diverter, and a shower timer. Limit one kit per water customer.



## LIBRARY NEWS

Cuddle up with a book during January's storms! You can't garden yet so you might as well read!

**White Sale at Second Hand Prose!** In January, all books with a white tag will be half price at Second Hand Prose.

**New Books:** We added 116 books to the Library during the past month. Some recent additions to our Library include:

*Moonwalking with Einstein: The Art and Science of Remembering Everything* by Joshua Foer

*Better Than Normal: How What Makes You Different Can Make You Exceptional* by Dale Archer

*Unnatural Selection: Choosing Boys Over Girls and the Consequences of a World Full of Men* by Hara Hvistendahl

*The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Olympics* by Daniel J. Brown

*The Gold Seekers: A 200 year History of Mining in Washington, Idaho, Montana and Lower British Columbia* by Pauline Battien

*The Union Quilters* by Jennifer Chiaverini

*Tom Clancy's Support and Defend* by Mark Greeney

*The Lost Key* by Catherine Coulter

*The Bootlegger* by Clive Cussler

*Just One Evil Act* by Elizabeth George

*Gray Mountain* by John Grisham

*Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes

*Origami Adventures: Dinosaurs and Other Prehistoric Creatures* by Nick Robinson

### Library Hours

Monday 10 am - 2 pm  
Wednesday 4 pm - 8 pm  
Thursday 2 pm - 6 pm  
Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

### Storytime

Every Monday 11 am

### City Celebration Planning

Tuesday, January 13, 6:30 pm

### Friends of the Library

Monday, January 19, 7 pm

### Novel Quilters

Wednesday, January 21, 6:30 pm

### Mystery Book Club

Wednesday, January 28, 7 pm

Columbia City Community Library  
2000 2nd Street/PO Box 189  
503-366-8020

## ABOUT HOME FIRES

If a fire starts in your home, you may have just a minute or two to escape. The most effective way to protect yourself and your home from fire is to identify and remove fire hazards. 60 percent of house fire deaths occur in homes with no working smoke alarms. During a home fire, working smoke alarms and a fire escape plan that has been practiced regularly can save lives.

If a fire occurs in your home, GET OUT, STAY OUT and CALL for help.

If your clothes catch on fire, stop where you are, cover your face, drop to the ground and roll back and forth. STOP, DROP AND ROLL!



### Smoke alarms:

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas.
- Test smoke alarms once a month. If they are not working, change the batteries.

**Fire extinguishers:** Purchase an A-B-C- type fire extinguisher and teach all responsible family members how to use it. Fire extinguishers are for small fires only. When using one, stand back ten feet from the fire, keep your back to an exit and remember the PASS sequence:

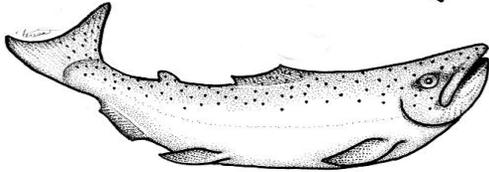
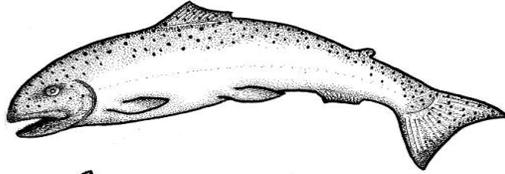
- Pull the pin out.
- Aim the extinguisher at the base of the fire.
- Squeeze or press the handle.
- Sweep from side to side at the base of the fire.

## STREETLIGHT ISSUES

To report a street light outage, a light going on and off (cycling), a light on during the day, or any other problem with a street light, please contact City Hall by calling 503-397-4010 or e-mailing [colcity@columbia-city.org](mailto:colcity@columbia-city.org). When reporting a problem, please provide as much information as you can about the location, such as the pole numbers, adjacent addresses, cross streets, etc. We depend on citizens to report problems, and appreciate your assistance.



# COLUMBIA CITY



# OREGON

## NEW ORDER OF T-SHIRTS FOR SALE

We've restocked our shelves with these navy blue T-shirts. Stop by City Hall to make a purchase!

Small-XL: \$10

2X: \$11

3X: \$12

4X: \$13

## POLICY ACTIVITY REPORT SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2014

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 287 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: Criminal Mischief, Failure to Perform Duties of a Driver Involved in Crash with Property Damage, False Report to Law Enforcement Agency, Fraud, Game Violations, Hit and Run with Property Damage, Theft, and Threats.

### **COMMUNITY POLICING ACTIVITY:**

Residential Security Checks: 115  
Area Patrols: 11  
Foot Patrols: 27  
Assist the Public: 5  
Disabled Vehicles/Hazards: 4  
Game Violations: 1  
Assistance to Outside Agencies: 9  
Animal Complaints: 6  
Parking/Traffic Complaints: 1  
Noise Complaints: 2  
Reserve Police Officer Hours Worked: 89

### **CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/INVESTIGATIONS:**

Investigative Follow Up's: 12  
Suspicious Circumstances, People, Vehicles and Prowler Calls: 3  
Traffic Stops: 43  
Theft: 1  
Criminal Mischief: 1  
Fraud: 1  
Hit and Run: 1  
False Reports to LE Agency: 1

### **CALLS OF INTEREST:**

1. Fraud Investigation in the 1800 block of Second Street on December 4, 2014. Investigation forwarded to appropriate law enforcement agency.
2. Criminal Mischief, Hit and Run Property Damage, False Report to Law Enforcement Agency, and Failing to Perform Duties of Driver in Crash with Property Damage Investigation in the area of Fifth Street near "I" Street on December 13, 2014. Investigation cleared with the suspect identified. Case forwarded to the Columbia County District Attorney's Office.

## MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - JANUARY 2015

January 1 <sup>st</sup>	CLOSED	City Hall is closed for the New Years Holiday
January 1 <sup>st</sup>	6:00 PM	<del>Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall</del> (rescheduled for January 6th)
January 6 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 PM	Special City Council Meeting at City Hall
January 8 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 PM	Municipal Court at City Hall
January 13 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 PM	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
January 15 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 PM	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 PM	Friends of the Library Meeting in the Library
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 26 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 PM	Hazard Mitigation Meeting at City Hall