

The Dallas Digest

City of Dallas, Oregon



City Manager's Space

In April, I generally have my head down in financial reports, budget documents and capital plans working hard to ensure the City's operations are financially secure for the next year. While I really do enjoy that part of my job, what I enjoy most about April is seeing the community rallying behind our children by participating in the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign.

When you are out and about in the community, I hope that you too notice the support our businesses, agencies and organizations are providing by displaying the blue pinwheels! The pinwheels "represent childlike whimsy and lightheartedness and a vision for a world where all children grow up happy, healthy, and prepared to succeed in supportive families and communities." (www.preventchildabuse.org)

I want to thank CASA, our local organization who's "sole focus is to ensure children and youth in the judicial dependency system have safe, permanent homes through advocacy, fundraising, and awareness," and are leading the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign in Dallas! (www.casaofpolk.com)

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Parks and Recreation

Saturday, April 27th

Arbor Day Celebration

9–11am Ivy Removal in Dallas City Park

Meet near the restrooms on Branvold Dr. Bring gloves and a water bottle - we'll bring the rest!

10am–12pm Forest Therapy (Session 1) at the Delbert Hunter Arboretum

Forest Therapy, also known as Forest Bathing, is a deeply relational practice that offers the time and space to reconnect with ourselves, and with the other-than-human world. Forest Therapy is for those with bodies, minds, hearts, and spirits that need tending. For ages 12 and up, minors must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required (503-831-2830 or Jennifer.Ward@dallasor.gov).

12–1pm The Need for Trees Guided Walk through Delbert Hunter Arboretum

Try out our new TRACK Trails activities with Parks and Recreation Manager, Jennifer Ward. For ages 6–10, children must be accompanied by an adult.

1–3pm Forest Therapy (Session 2) at the Delbert Hunter Arboretum

For ages 12 and up, minors must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required (503-831-2830 or Jennifer.Ward@dallasor.gov).



This project is supported with funding from Oregon Community Trees

PUBLIC WORKS

Nothing in the Drain but Rain!



‘NOTHING IN THE DRAIN BUT RAIN’ is a familiar message associated with stormwater. This is a good reminder that stormwater, and all the pollutants it carries are discharged to your local waterways without being treated. It’s up to all of us to adopt good practices that keep contaminants from entering the storm system. Did you know that approximately 80% of ocean pollution comes from runoff on land? Let’s look at some of the impacts of things that might be in your neighborhoods.

Take a walk on your street and you might see oil spots on driveways, in the gutter, and parking lots. According to the US Environmental Protection Agency, 1 single quart of oil poured down the storm drain can pollute up to 1 million gallons of water. It would take approximately 1,000,000 gallons of water to fill 34 large backyard swimming pools! 1 pint of oil can produce a slick of 1 acre!

Another thing you might see on your street, and the most common item littered, is cigarette filters – butts. We don’t tend to think of something so small causing big problems, but they do.

We know that tobacco smoke isn't good for us, but the filter is particularly harmful. Cigarette butts are made of non-biodegradable plastic and the filter contains a multitude of toxic chemicals that are proven to be carcinogenic. The World Health Organization claims that there are 4.5 tons littered annually.

Last but not least, let's take a look at pouring concrete for housing, sidewalks, or a patio. Concrete washout water (or wash water) is a slurry containing toxic metals. It's also caustic and corrosive, having a pH near 12. In comparison, Drano liquid drain cleaner has a pH of 13.5! Caustic wash water can harm fish gills and eyes and interfere with reproduction.

The City of Dallas, like other municipalities in Oregon and the United States, is in the process of developing an ordinance that will prohibit dumping and illegal discharges to the stormwater system. The goal will be to reduce the contribution of contaminants to local streams.

How can you help be a good neighbor and community member?

1. Dispose of all litter, including cigarette filters, in the trash.
2. Recycle oil from maintenance projects such as those associated with your vehicle. Check with your local hauler for pick-up information. If you must do it yourself, do not work in the street, and always use absorbent pads to catch any spills. Keep your vehicle in good working order and fix leaks right away.
3. Have you ordered concrete for a home improvement project? Make certain that the operators do not wash residue or clean tools on the street.
4. Ordering mulch or landscape supplies? Have it dumped in your driveway, not the street? Sweep up and dispose of any residue.

See the [City's website](#) for more information. Do your part to keep local streams fishable and swimmable.

WHAT'S NEW WITH DALLAS FIRE & EMS?

Here is what to look forward to from Dallas Fire & EMS!



“In like a lion, out like a lamb.” Have you heard this phrase used for March? Whether you follow the Farmer’s Almanac or the constellations, it looks like spring is on the way!

Opening your windows for fresh air? Please be mindful for the safety of young kids. Window screens keep bugs out but don’t keep kids in. Last year two children fell from second story windows and sustained injuries. Most window falls can be prevented with these tips in mind:

- Always supervise young children.
- If windows open top down, open them that way. Otherwise, open them 4 inches or less.
- Install safety devices on windows 6 feet or more from the ground outside. Be sure the device can be opened by an adult in case of emergency.
- Keep furniture and other things that can be used for climbing away from windows.



As the weather is improving and we begin working in the yard, consider finding alternatives to backyard burning like curbside debris containers, mulching, and composting. Think about weeds and overgrowth around your home and other structures and set up a defensible space.

Here are a few safety tips for Spring Time!

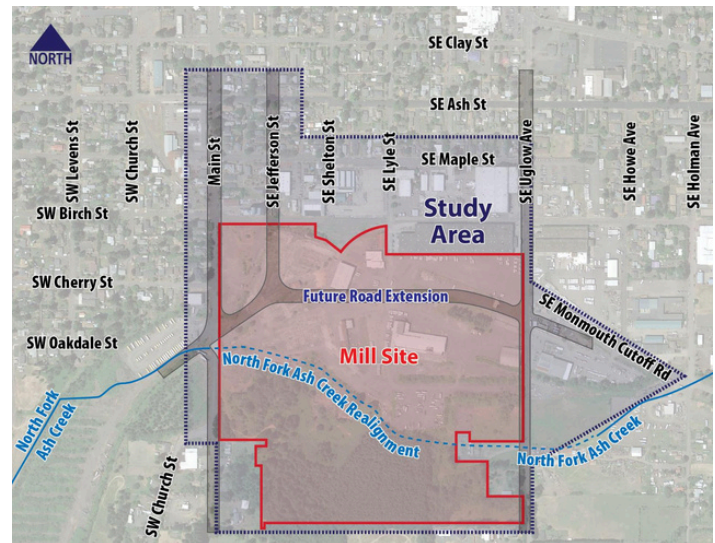
- Have all power equipment cleaned, serviced and readied for use.
- Use power equipment in early morning when the humidity is higher and temperatures are lower. Lawn mowers and chain saws can spark and ignite vegetation such as weeds, grass and bark dust.
- Check fuel containers for leaks and make sure they are properly stored.
- Ensure your garage or shed is properly ventilated.
- Never store flammable materials underneath decks or porches. Remove dead vegetation and debris from under decks/porches and between deck board joists.
- Trim branches that overhang the home, porch and deck and prune branches of large trees up to 6 to 10 feet from the ground.
- Make sure organic mulch is at least 5 feet from structures.

With the time change this spring, make sure you've checked your batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Plan and practice exit drills with your family. Prepare for storm related outages by having the following ready: flashlights, radio, candles, and first aid kit. And don't forget to check your fire extinguishers. Finally, make sure your address numbers are visible from the street.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & URBAN RENEWAL

Dallas Mill Site Area Redevelopment project seeks public input

Using a state Transportation Growth Management (TGM) grant, the City has retained David Evans & Associates and their subcontractors to help design a redevelopment plan for the Dallas Mill Site and surrounding areas to include transportation improvements and potential land use changes.



The City Council's goal is to create new industrial and commercial development opportunities to bring new jobs, investment, and tax revenue to support public safety, parks, and other important City operations. A large and diverse Project Advisory Committee convened on January 25, 2024 to assist the consultant, ODOT and the City shape the project. The committee will meet again on the afternoon of April 3.

Two new ways for broad community input have just been announced! First, a community meeting has been scheduled for May 1, 4-6 pm in the Dallas Civic Center. All interested Dallas citizens are encouraged to attend. Also, a new public survey launched on April 1 on the project website <https://mill-site-redevelopment-project-deagis.hub.arcgis.com/>. Please go to this website and participate in the survey, which will be live until mid-May. As always, residents can subscribe to automatically receive updates on this project and other City business by going here: <https://www.dallasor.gov/newsletter/subscriptions>

BUILDING & PLANNING DEPARTMENT

May 2024 is Building Safety Month

The 2024 campaign theme is "Mission Possible"
Celebrate with us! Visit our website [here!](#)

Week 1 (May 1-5): Understanding the Mission

Includes an introduction of building safety, what Building Safety Month is, and how building safety affects us all.

Week 2 (May 6-12): Preparing a Building Safety Plan

Highlights available educational resources (water/fire, sustainability & resiliency/disaster preparedness), including downloadable brochures, for building safety tips and best practices at home and in your community.

Week 3 (May 13-19): Learning from the Pros

Shines a spotlight on building safety professionals, including what they do, how to work with them and how to become one yourself.

Week 4 (May 20-26): Engaging Your Community

Includes information on how to advocate for building safety in your community, including actionable tips on how to be a proponent of building safety and ways to get kids involved.

Week 5 (May 27-31): Celebrating Success in Building Safety

Highlighting individuals and communities who are making a difference in building safety (editorial spotlights), including sharing the current year's Building Safety Month celebrations and events.

Checkout the [ICC International Code Council pages](#), their hashtag **#BuildingSafetyMonth2024** on social media, and check back often for updates and resources!

CODE SERVICES

Weed Abatement 2024



Happy spring Dallas residents! This will be our third annual weed abatement season. With the beautiful weather spring brings us it's only natural that vegetation grows and blooms along with. Soon, Code Services will perform a citywide inspection for obnoxious vegetation:

- Any vegetation that is a fire hazard
- Weeds or grass that are more than 10" tall or going to seed
- Blackberry bushes growing into the street, sidewalk, or onto other properties
- Poison oak or poison ivy

In most cases a warning will be placed on your door asking you to remedy the violation giving at least a weekend to get it done. When we return for re-inspection, if the violation still exists a weed abatement notice will be placed on the property.

If a notice is placed, a certified letter along with a regular copy will be mailed to the property owner. You have 7 days to remedy the violation. If the violation still exists a contractor will be assigned and a bill will be issued.

We realize that life happens and obnoxious vegetation may not be your top priority, communication is key, give one of our code specialists a call or email if you have any questions or need an extension. We appreciate your efforts in keeping a clean & vibrant community.



The BLUE REVIEW

DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

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DPSST Training

On March 4th, Officer Andrew McDonald started his first day at DPSST for training which consists of 16 weeks.

New Hire Updates

- Recruit Officer Jesse Friedow is completing the final weeks of field training. Estimated completion within a few weeks.
- Lateral hire Marty Watson achieved his solo status on 2/29/24.

Dallas Police Department Programs

Ongoing recruiting for Volunteers in Policing (VIP):

We are currently accepting applications for volunteers to assist with some of our special programs and events. Volunteers donate their time and skills to assist the department in better serving the community in which they live. By choosing to volunteer with the police department, you are making a difference in our community. The program utilizes volunteers with a variety of skills and talents and is designed to be beneficial to all involved. Interested persons can reach out to Sergeant Colby Hamilton at colby.hamilton@dallasor.gov

LIBRARY EVENTS THIS MONTH

APRIL 2024		Dallas Public Library Events				
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2 Storytime 10:30am  Friends of the Library Meeting 5:00pm	3 Little Bitty Storytime 10:30am	4 Storytime 10:30am  Book Discussion: On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous 12:00pm Movie Night Duck Soup 6:30pm 	5	6
7 	8	9 Storytime 10:30am	10 Little Bitty Storytime 10:30am Kids Pokémon Party 3:30pm 	11 Storytime 10:30am	12	13
14 	15	16 Storytime 10:30am	17 Little Bitty Storytime 10:30am Teen Advisory Board Meeting 4:00pm 	18 Storytime 10:30am Friends of the Library Member Pre-Sale 5pm - 7pm 	19 Friends Book Sale 3:00pm - 7:00pm Teen Game Night and Ice Cream Sundaes 5:00pm 	20 Friends Book Sale 10:00am - 3:00pm Bag Sale (2:00- 3:00pm) 
21 	22	23 Storytime 10:30am  Library Board 4:00pm	24 Little Bitty Storytime 10:30am	25 Storytime 10:30am	26 Author Visit Elizabeth Mehren 7:00pm	27
28 	29	30 Storytime 10:30am	Teen Collage Poetry Submissions April 1st to 19th 			

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 <https://www.dallasor.gov/library>

 https://www.instagram.com/dallas_library_oregon/

Dallas Farmers Market opening in less than 1 month!

Opening day is May 5th, 2024 from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM @ Polk County Courthouse Square!

Dallas Farmers Market was awarded a \$500 grant from 4imprint in order to purchase branded tote bags in order to sell as a fundraising opportunity for our market.

Oregon State Credit Union has graciously sponsored our first season, and we are grateful for their contribution to this effort!

We are so excited to have Sunreach join us for our season, selling all sorts of local goodies for us to enjoy.



32ND ANNUAL POLK COUNTY
MASTER GARDENER™ ASSOCIATION



Friday, May 10th: 9am-4pm
Saturday, May 11th: 9am-2pm

Polk County Fairgrounds

Rickreall, Oregon

www.polkmgga.org

Perennials Berries
Vegetables Native Plants
Herbs Trees & Shrubs
House Plants Country Store
LOTS of Annual Flowers
Beautiful Hanging Baskets
\$1 Kids Craft / Kids Table



Oregon State University
Extension Service
Master Gardener™

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Polk County
Master Gardener™
Association



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