

The Dallas Digest

City of Dallas, Oregon



**Let us make your life easier.
Simplify your routine.**

You can now put your recycling and organics carts out every week with your trash cart!



REPUBLIC SERVICES
Sustainability in Action

City Managers' Space

The Dallas City Council recently approved changes to the recycling and organics pickup schedule. These services are now provided weekly. The every week schedule also allows additional items to be placed in the yard debris bin. These items include other organic materials such as meat, dairy, bone and other food waste.

The discussion to increase these services, by the City Council with Republic Services, spanned several months, with the Council ultimately deciding to approve the expanded services.

Republic Services noted with the ability of customers to remove items, like food waste, from their trash bin and instead place it in their yard waste/organics bin that many customers may be able to reduce their trash cart size. The added weekly pickup costs residential customers an additional \$4.30 each month.

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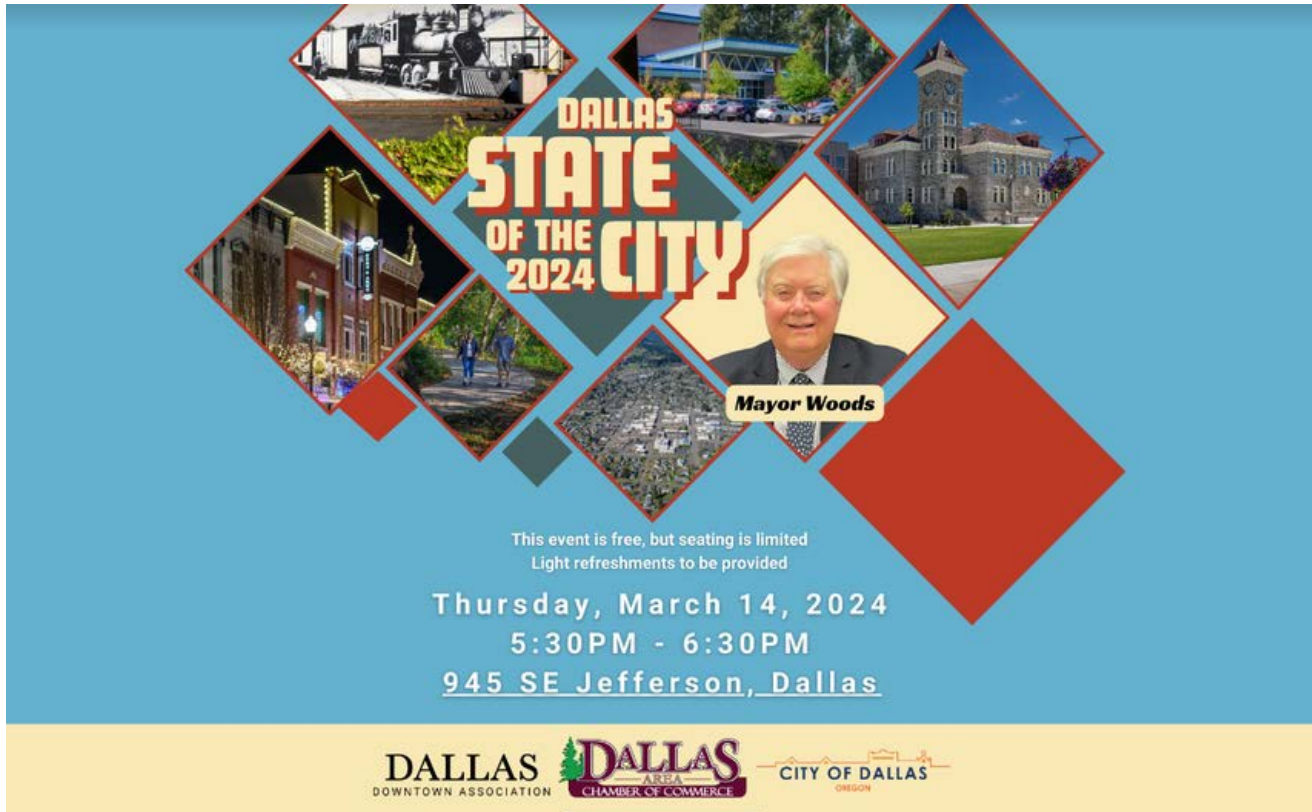
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City Manager's Office



DALLAS STATE OF THE CITY 2024

Mayor Woods

This event is free, but seating is limited
Light refreshments to be provided

Thursday, March 14, 2024
5:30PM - 6:30PM
945 SE Jefferson, Dallas

DALLAS DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION | DALLAS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | CITY OF DALLAS OREGON

Mayor Kenneth L. Woods Jr. invites you to join him on the evening of March 14th to hear the State of the City. The event will take place in the Dallas Civic Center (945 SE Jefferson Street) at 5:30 pm.

Parks and Recreation



Winter Wildlife Field Days are coming to Dallas!

Where - Roger Jordan Park (801 SE Walnut Ave, Dallas, OR 97338)

When - Saturday, March 9, 10 am-1 pm

Who - this is a family-friendly, bilingual event!

What - Winter Wildlife Field Days is a month-long event throughout the mid-Willamette Valley. This is the first year for a field station in Dallas! This is a free event, open to all. Come and stay as long as you like and learn about our local wildlife. Activities include:

- Dragonfly or mole craft
- Microscopes for close-up views of soil life and other specimens
- Kinesthetic activities - (1) jump like a jumping spider, (2) eat like a bird!
- Welcome table with 2023 eDNA results
- What animal is this? - audio recordings and guess the animal
- Bird Detective - bird watching with binoculars
- Nature scavenger hunt

Find out more - Winter Wildlife Field Station at Roger Jordan Community Park | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service ([fws.gov](https://www.fws.gov))

PUBLIC WORKS

Fish Passage Project Moves Toward Construction this Summer



A project to provide downstream fish passage at the City's Mercer Reservoir is moving toward construction this summer.

Last year, the City was awarded a \$280,000 grant from the Oregon Water Resources Department to build a splash pool on the downstream side of the Mercer Reservoir Dam. Engineered plans for the project are nearing completion which will allow the project to occur in the summer months during low flows in Rickreall Creek.

When the dam was built in 1959 it did not offer a way for fish migrating downstream to safely pass over the dam's spillway. The new pool structure addresses this issue by creating a pool on the downside of the dam designed to accommodate migrating fish.

WHAT'S NEW WITH DALLAS FIRE & EMS?

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

March brings us a new batch of volunteer firefighters for the 2024 Recruit Academy. We have three brand new fire and EMS recruits confirmed. During the course of training, they will put in 120 hours, scheduled for most of the day on Saturdays, in addition to regularly scheduled Wednesday night drill time. Our recruits will be taught by our seasoned firefighters, both career and volunteer. After the academy, they will be response-ready and have everything they need for Firefighter 1 and Emergency Medical Responders. These individuals are non-paid and give their time while they maintain jobs, school, and family responsibilities. The Recruit Academy concludes in June.



Did you know we are a combination department? That means we have both paid staff and volunteers. We have 16 paid full-time staff and 20 flexible schedule employees who are made up of 75% dual role certifications, 4 admin, 5 chaplains, 8 support staff, and 16 suppression volunteers. Are you looking for a way to serve your community and support your local fire department? We are always looking for volunteers and have many options to become involved.

During the first two months of 2024, we have seen an increase in call volume from the same time in 2023.

2023 FIRE calls = 290	2024 FIRE calls = 966	Increase = 676 calls
2023 EMS calls = 645	2024 EMS calls = 800	Increase = 155 calls



In between calls, our staff assist local businesses with Emergency Incident Preplans and Safety Inspections. This lets them scope out businesses, and get familiar with the building in case an emergency occurs at which time they also do educational fire safety inspections with the owners.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & URBAN RENEWAL

Director's Corner



Charlie Mitchell, CEcD
Economic & Community Development Director

As I write this column, it is March 1, 2024, and it's snowing! And that's okay because technically, it IS still winter after all. But I know that spring is just around the corner, and before we know it, it will be summertime in the Willamette Valley. Although many of us celebrate New Year on January 1 each year, in my mind spring is more like the New Year, with new beginnings, fresh starts, flowers popping up, longer days, and more sunshine. It is time to find the shorts, flip-flops, and sunscreen. There are many things to look forward to as we head into spring here in Dallas. I'd like to highlight just a few coming up soon.

First, I'd like to extend an invitation for an opportunity to celebrate one of Dallas' greatest success stories, OpenRoad Global. Many may not be aware that Dallas is the headquarters of a global logistics company. This is a wonderful, local family-owned company that just completed a multi-million-dollar expansion right here in Dallas – at 288 E. Ellendale. Come celebrate their success with them during their open house on Friday, March 22 from 1-3 pm. We should all be proud to have such a wonderful employer in our community – one who gives back, creates good jobs, and puts Dallas on the map.

Second, in just a couple of months, the Dallas Farmers Market returns downtown. I encourage everyone to come downtown on the morning of May 4 and support your local farmers, growers, makers, and crafters. The market will continue two Saturdays each month through October right downtown on the Courthouse Square. I think you'll find it will become a healthy habit, and you'll likely see your friends and neighbors there, too.

Finally, Dallas turned 150 years old this year. If you missed the Sesquicentennial celebrations earlier in February, you can still celebrate this milestone birthday of our fair city throughout the year. Invite friends and relatives to town. If you haven't been downtown in a while, you need to check it out and you may be surprised to find several new businesses that were not there the last time you visited. Let's all join together to continue to make Dallas happy, healthy, and thriving by supporting our local businesses!

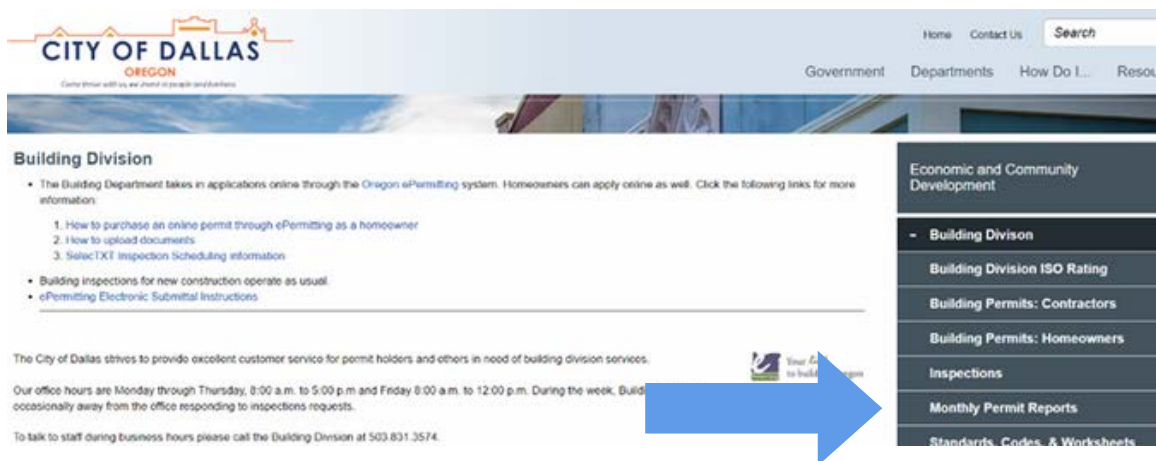


BUILDING & PLANNING DEPARTMENT

What Happens to My Permit Information after the Permit is Issued?

Every month, the report listing all permits that are issued by our Building Division is posted on the City's website:

Building Division <https://www.dallasor.gov/eCd/page/building-division>

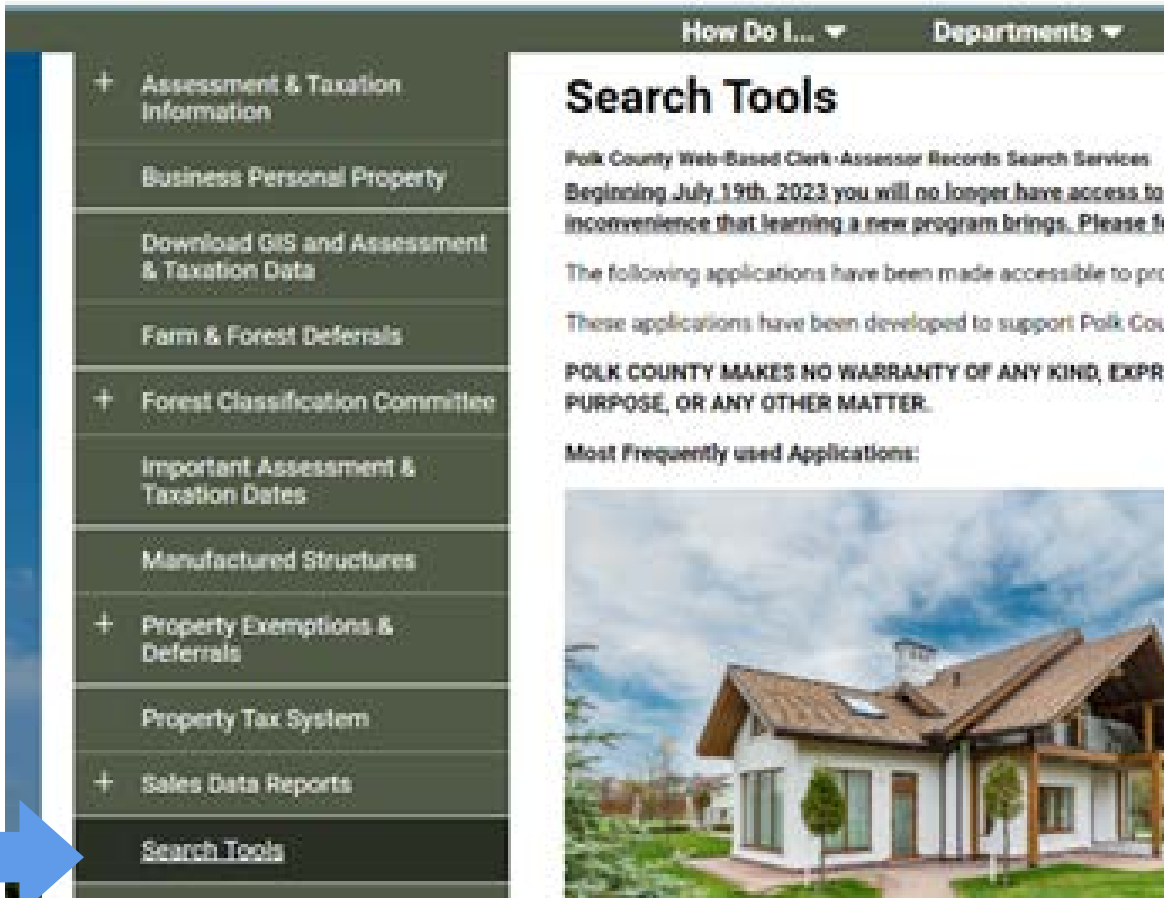


Our staff sends a copy of the report and each permit to the Assessor's office for the Commercial permits, Residential Dwellings and Structural permits.

There the information is verified and then added to the various tax records as needed. Another result of this process can be found on the Polk County Assessor's page. There is a Search Tools & Applications feature where public records can be located, and it provides a significant variety of history, maps, and current information about every property.

POLK COUNTY

OREGON



Check out the great resources at Polk County Assessor here, <https://www.co.polk.or.us/assessor/search-tools-applications>

Let's Build Dallas Together!
Contact us at 503-831-3571

How does Dallas prevent flooding with all the new developments being built?

Oregon is well into the rainy season now, and as Rickreall Creek is filled with rushing water folks may be wondering how does Dallas prevent flooding with all the new developments being built?

The Dallas Development Code requires that all new developments collect rainwater into a storm drain system. The collected rainwater is not allowed to leave the property any faster than before the development was built, and developers have several options for doing this.



Digging an open pond to hold the water is a cheap and easy solution, but takes up valuable buildable land that could often be better utilized for other purposes.

Underground storage in a cistern, vault, rock gallery, or oversized pipe doesn't sacrifice land but is more expensive to build and maintain.

An increasingly popular option is curbside rain gardens. Built in the street between the curb and sidewalk, rain gardens don't take up additional buildable land and can be less expensive to build than underground storage, but the garden plants have high maintenance needs, which is usually the responsibility of the adjacent property owner.



Regardless of which method is used, the goal is the same; limiting how quickly water reaches the drainages and creeks, to prevent flooding downstream and protect us all.

For additional information on how the city manages stormwater in new developments, contact the Dallas Planning Department at planning@dallasor.gov

CODE SERVICES

Solicitation



DCC 7.600-7.645

Solicitation is allowed within the City of Dallas only after obtaining a registration certificate from the city manager's office. However, canvassing is allowed with no registration required. The difference between canvassing and solicitation is purposely engaging with the intended person. For example, they can leave door hangers on the porch but they cannot knock on your door.

The council finds it necessary and desirable to regulate solicitation to provide an effective opportunity for the occupants of residential property to protect themselves from the unwanted disruption of the peaceful and quiet enjoyment of their property and the right of privacy that is caused by solicitors. Please contact Code Services if there is an unpermitted solicitor at your door.

Click the link to report a concern

<https://www.dallasor.gov/ecd/webform/report-concern>

or email code.services@dallasor.gov



The BLUE REVIEW

DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

MARCH 2024		Dallas Public Library Events				
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1  Stuffed Animal Sleepover 5:30pm-6pm	2  Stuffed Animal Sleepover: Pick up your buddy 10am -2pm
3  Storytime 10:30am Friends of the Library Meeting 5:00pm		5 Storytime 10:30am  Friends of the Library Meeting 5:00pm	6 Little Bitty Storytime 10:30am	7 Storytime 10:30am Book Discussion: Lessons in Chemistry 12:00pm		
10  Storytime 10:30am		12 Storytime 10:30am	13 Little Bitty Storytime 10:30am	14 Storytime 10:30am Making Space for Our Elders Oregon Humanities Conversation Project Pamela Slaughter 6:30pm	15  Kids Mad Hatter Tea Party 4:00pm Storyteller Will Hornyak: "Teachers of the Hedgecrow" Dallas Event Center 7:00pm	
17  Storytime 10:30am Library Board 4:00pm		19 Storytime 10:30am  Library Board 4:00pm	20 Little Bitty Storytime 10:30am Teen Advisory Board Meeting 4:00pm	21 Storytime 10:30am	22  Teen/Tween Movie Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse 5:00pm	
24  Storytime 10:30am Kids STEAM Event 4:00pm		26 Storytime 10:30am  Kids STEAM Event 4:00pm	27 Little Bitty Storytime 10:30am	28 Storytime 10:30am		

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

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

Dallas Farmers Market Awarded Local Grants

The Dallas Farmers Market has been awarded \$3,500 in total funding to help facilitate the start of the SNAP program at the market. This funding is from both the Dallas Community Foundation and the Salem Health Foundation, who awarded \$1000, and \$2,500, respectively.

This funding will be used to cover the cost of the necessary infrastructure needed to facilitate SNAP transactions at the market, as well as provide matching funds to market attendees who wish to use their SNAP benefits as part of the Market's larger mission of increasing access to nutrient-dense, farm fresh products to residents of Dallas and Polk County. This matching fund program is set to be a pilot program to test the viability of introducing "Double Up Food Bucks," a state-sponsored matching program, to the market beginning in 2025.

The market is still in need of sponsors to help offset the cost of creating a high-quality market. Businesses and organizations who wish to donate are encouraged to contact Mikayla.Slawosky@dallasor.gov

The Dallas Farmers Market is a collective effort of volunteers whose mission is to provide farm fresh products to the Dallas Community. The City of Dallas, Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center, and Dallas Downtown Association are all financial and organizational partners in the project.

The first season of the market is set to begin on May 4, 2024, and the market will be on the first and third Saturdays of the month from May to October.

Vendors interested in signing up for this market can contact Agribusiness Development Coordinator, Mikayla Slawosky at Mikayla.slawosky@dallasor.gov or by calling (971) 446-1164



Sustainability in Action



Turn Food Scraps Into Farm-Fresh Produce

Ever wonder where your apple cores and sandwich crusts should go? Here in western Oregon, Republic Services makes sure your food scraps get a second life when you put them in your yard debris cart instead of the trash.

What is food scrap recycling?

Just what it sounds like. Put your food scraps in your yard debris cart for a convenient way to divert food waste from landfills and transform it into nutrient-rich compost. This amazing process helps our environment and closes the organic waste loop!

How does it work?

Simply toss your food scraps into your yard debris cart. Think anything you'd put on your plate: fruits, veggies, even bones, dairy, onions and citrus! Our local high-tech composting facility handles it all.

What else can go in the yard debris cart?

Leaves, grass clippings, garden plants, sticks and branches (6" diameter or less) can all go in the cart.

Can I put the packaging in too?

Keep food containers and garden planter pots out of the yard debris cart, along with any "compostable" plastic or bioplastic bags or packaging. No matter what the marketing says, stick them in your regular trash instead.

Benefits? You bet!

- ▶ Reduce landfill waste: In Oregon, the average family throws away nearly 9 pounds of wasted food each week. That's more than 450 pounds each year! Food scraps take up precious space and create harmful greenhouse gas. Composting diverts this waste and creates a valuable resource.
- ▶ Save money: Depending on how much food waste your family makes each week, you could switch to a smaller trash cart.

- ▶ Grow a greener future: Compost nourishes soil, promoting healthy plants and reducing fertilizer reliance. Most of the compost we make goes to local organic farms, which use it to grow nutritious organic produce.

Toss your food scraps in the yard debris cart, and be a champion for our planet. Together, we can divert waste, create nutrient-rich compost and cultivate a healthier environment for everyone.



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 <https://www.facebook.com/cityofdallasoregon>

If you have questions about the newsletter, please contact alyson.roberson@dallasor.gov