



Durham

News Notes



Fall 2020

Living With Durham's Wildlife



Durham is home to many different species of wildlife including birds, squirrels, raccoons, and skunks. As the population in our area grows, basic resources like habitat, food, and water for these critters becomes harder for them to find. It is for this reason you may start seeing more wildlife around your neighborhood. They are often looking for food and a place to nest.

To avoid these critters building a nest in and around your property you should try to critter-proof your home. Some tips on how to do this include sealing potential entryways with sturdy wire mesh or solid materials and caulk openings before animals move in, screening foundation vents, covering window wells with chicken wire or heavy wire mesh, screening chimneys, wood stove pipes, furnaces, attic/dryer vents, and closing dampers when not in use. Additionally, it is a good idea to prune all large overhanging tree limbs that

animals may use to gain access to your roof or upper floor windows and vents.

Avoid feeding wildlife and secure your garbage. If you have bird feeders, make sure to keep them in a location that is not accessible to other curious critters.

Remember that trapping and relocating nuisance critters including squirrels and skunks requires a permit from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. It is unlawful to release any nuisance wildlife anywhere other than on your property without a permit. If you need to get rid of a critter that has taken up residence in your house, the best solution is to hire an ODFW-permitted Wildlife Control Operator who can lawfully and humanly remove the unwanted animal from your property. Find a complete list of wildlife control operators at www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/license_permits_apps/wildlife_control_operator_contacts.asp



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Fall Leaf Recycling

Durham residents may dispose of leaves from their property in a free dumpster available on **November 14-15, November 21-22, and December 5-6 at Durham City Park.**

Please **do not overfill the dumpsters or leave extras outside the dumpsters.** When piles or bags of leaves are left outside the dumpster, the City has to pay to have someone clean them up and haul them away. Unfortunately, if leaves are left outside the dumpster, the city may not be able to provide this service in the future.

Because the contents will be composted, the dumpsters are for leaves and needles only. Paper leaf disposal bags are ok but please do not put woody debris, branches, or plastic bags in the dumpsters.



Leaves change color in the fall because they stop producing chlorophyll (which produces the green color) allowing the other pigments to be seen.



MYN - We live among trees! Be prepared for potential risk of evacuation.

Residents should be aware of the danger that exists in their area, monitor emergency services websites and local media outlets for information.

Level 1- Be Ready

This is the time for preparation and precautionary movement of persons with special needs, mobile property and (under certain circumstances) pets and livestock. If conditions worsen, emergency services personnel may contact you via an emergency notification system.

Inside: Update Go Bags for each person & pet and CERT Backpack. Review meeting location with family and family plan contacts, escape routes from each room, fire extinguisher use, utility shutoffs and ID who is in charge of what. Charge phones, HAM radio, computers, chargers and replace flashlight batteries. Know where you'll go and your evacuation route and site. Photo or video each room, closets, drawers, etc. and describe contents in video noting important or expensive items and each person in the home and pets. Store this in a "cloud" service. Register for Emergency Alert systems, and do NOT turn your phone on silent setting

Outside: Move BBQ away from house, connect garden hose to water, fill water buckets around house, leave on exterior lights, and put ladder outside for firefights to use.

Level 2- Be Set

You must prepare to leave at a moment's notice: This level indicates there is a significant danger to your area, and residents should either voluntarily relocate to a shelter or with family/friends outside of the affected area, or if choosing to remain, to be ready to evacuate at a moment's notice.

Help Reduce Localized Flooding

With the fall comes Oregon's infamous rain. While we can't control the weather there are things that can be done to help lessen the threat of floods. Residents are encouraged to clear leaves and other debris from storm drains near their property and keep them clear. By clearing the leaves, limbs, and debris that get caught the storm drains will be able to keep flowing smoothly at peak performance during the wet weather. Remember to **never remove a storm drain cover or attempt to clean a drain located in a busy street**. If a blockage can't be safely cleared and the road is flooding, call Clean Water Services at 503.681.3600.



Residents may have time to gather necessary items, but doing so is at their own risk. This may be the only notice given: Emergency services cannot guarantee that they will be able to notify you if conditions rapidly deteriorate. Area media services will be asked to broadcast periodic updates

Remember to shut all windows & doors-leave unlocked, leave lights on, shut off pilot lights and AC, put Go Bags into car and back car into driveway, keeping your keys with you, close windows, locate pets, and then check on neighbors.

Level 3- Leave Immediately

Danger to your area is current or imminent, and you should evacuate immediately. If you choose to ignore this advisement, understand that emergency services may not be available to assist you further. Do not delay leaving to gather any belongings or make efforts to protect your home.

If immediate evacuation is required, remember:

→People & Pets

→Personal computer

→Prescriptions, COVID-19 masks, eyeglasses

→Paperwork (important documents such as birth certificates, passports, insurance)

→Pictures (or other keepsakes that cannot be replaced)

→Phone (with chargers) and important numbers, HAM radio

→Plastic (credit/bank cards) and cash

And if you have time, experts suggest turning on sprinklers and turning off your main gas line before you evacuate.

These guidelines are also available on the City's website.

Tips to Prevent Window Falls

Windows are one of the top five hidden hazards in the home. Each year falls from windows account for about eight deaths and more than 3,300 injuries to young children in the US, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

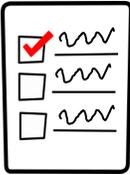
Please share and keep the following tips in mind around children in close proximity to windows:

- Keep windows closed and locked when not in use
- Keep furniture away from windows
- Do not open windows more than 4 inches
- Install stops that can be opened by adults
- Actively watch children near windows

November 3rd Election

Durham City Councilors Keith Jehnke, Chuck Van Meter, and Leslie Gifford are running for re-election on **November 3, 2020**. The incumbents are seeking additional 4-year terms on the City Council beginning January 2021 and going through December 2024.

Residents have until Tuesday, October 13, 2020 to register to vote in the November election. Citizens can register to vote online on the Oregon Secretary of State's [website](#). Voters should mail their ballots no later than Wednesday, October 28, 2020 or drop them off at the Ballot Box at the Tualatin Library no later than 8pm on November 3.



About the City Council

The City Council includes five councilors. The positions are nonpartisan and councilors also serve on the City Budget Committee with citizen appointees. Every year, at the January Council Meeting, the City Councilors elect a councilor to serve as mayor for one year.

Monthly Meetings:

Planning Commission

1st Tuesday of the Month

City Council

4th Tuesday of the Month

**Both meetings start at 7:30pm
at Durham City Hall.***

* Please note monthly meetings are currently taking place via Zoom. Links available upon request.

Great Oregon Shake Out 10/15

Join thousands of Oregonians for the 2020 Great Oregon Shake Out. On October 15th at 10:15 am millions of people worldwide will practice how to Drop, Cover, and Hold On. The drill is meant to help people learn how to stay safe during big earthquakes by practicing the skills now. Go to www.shakeout.org/oregon to find out information and register for this year's Great Shake Out.



Tualatin Police Prescription Drug Take Back Event 10/24

On Saturday, October 24, 2020, from 10am-2pm, Tualatin Police, in cooperation with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), will host a "Pharmaceutical Drug Take Back Day".

This is an opportunity for citizens to bring in unwanted or expired prescription medications (liquid or solid) and over-the-counter medicines and dispose of them in a way that is safer for the environment and our community.

The drop off site will be in the parking lot of the Tualatin Police Department. It will be drive-thru convenience with no questions asked.



The following items will be accepted:

- Expired prescription and over-the-counter medications
- Unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medications
- Unneeded medication from a deceased friend or family member

The unwanted drugs can be in the original container or placed in and/or combined in another container or bag. The labels from prescription containers may be removed or covered with a permanent marker if desired. We cannot accept thermometers, syringes or needles, medical waste IV solutions, lotions or creams. Also, medications from nursing homes, doctors' offices or any type of medical facility or business will not be accepted

Please note the DEA will collect vape pens or other e-cigarette devices from individual consumers only after the batteries are removed from the devices. It is important to stress that the DEA is not responsible for removing the batteries from the devices. If the battery can't be removed, individuals can check with large electronic chain stores who may accept the vape pen or e-cigarette devices for proper disposal. Individual consumers may also contact their local Hazardous Materials Management Facility to determine if they accept these devices, and for additional guidance regarding proper disposal..



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Find out more on our website:
www.durham-oregon.us

Durham News Notes is written and published by City staff. We welcome information and contributions that may be of interest to Durham residents. The newsletter is published by the 15th day of the first month of each quarter (Jan, April, July, Oct). Deadline for inclusion is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Archived newsletters are available online or at City Hall.

Holidays During COVID

The holidays are going to look different than normal for most people due to COVID-19. With Halloween right around the corner, there are many questions surrounding yearly traditions like trick-or-treating and parties. Here are some ideas to celebrate safely this season;

- Go all out with Halloween decorations in and around your home,
- Follow or create a scavenger hunt in your house or with neighbors,
- Have a scary movie marathon,
- Have a virtual costume party with friends and family.



There are over 50 different holidays celebrated around the world between October 1st and December 31st! Remember to follow COVID-19 guidelines when planning your holiday celebrations. Avoid large crowds as best as possible and limit the number of non-household members in your house. Celebrations are going to be different from our normal ones and its is important to stay safe and healthy throughout them all!

Juanita Pohl Center Programs

The Juanita Pohl Center is continuing to offer a number of virtual resources and activities for older adults during the pandemic. You can visit their [website](#) to see their scheduled programs, including virtual wellness and fitness, enrichment, trips & trails programs, as well as services and support groups.

