



# Durham

## News Notes



Fall 2021

### Durham's New Look!

Out with the old and in with the new! The City of Durham has a new logo! After 50+ years of the classic logo featuring trees and Mt. Hood, the City has adopted a new, more modern logo highlighting the City's many trees and its waterways.



Original Logo - 1966



Previous Logo - c.2006



The new logo consists of a dark blue "D" with green trees inside, and blue waves below. You can see the new logo on the "Welcome to Durham" sign near the Tualatin View Apartments as well as on our website.

### Fall Leaf Recycling

It's that time of year again, when the trees start to change colors and lose their leaves. Durham will be providing leaf dumpsters to help residents keep their yards and sidewalks tidy and clear of leaves. Durham residents may dispose of leaves from their property in a free dumpster available on **November 13-14, November 20-21, and December 4-5 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. If leaves are continually being left outside the dumpster, the City may not be able to provide this service in the future.

So what can you put in the dumpsters? 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.

### Fall Yard Maintenance

As you are gathering up your leaves for disposal in the leaf dumpsters next month, please take a minute to see if any of your trees or bushes are growing in front of or around a street sign, reducing its visibility. If you find that a branch or some leaves are covering the sign, please cut them back to ensure that the sign is visible, keeping Durham safe for residents and visitors.



New Logo - 2021

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Did you Know ?

The word "pumpkin" comes from the Greek word "pepon" meaning large melon!



## Home Security Systems



We all want to know our homes and loved ones are safe. Security systems can protect your home and provide peace of mind to homeowners. However, they can also be problematic to police and emergency dispatchers. Over 90% of security alarms called into the police are false. False alarms burden the police by preventing them from responding to genuine calls for service.

Unlike other cities, Durham does not require homeowners to obtain alarm permits for security systems that summon police or make noise. Instead, Durham prohibits property owners from transmitting more than three false alarms per address in a twelve-month period. Every month, the city reviews Durham police calls and maintains a database of false alarms. If your home security system generates more than 3 false alarms in a 12-month period, the City will contact you to let you know. Any additional false alarms would be subject to a fine of up to \$720 per violation.

Here are some things you can do to prevent false alarms:

- Know your password and shut off code and keep them in a place you can remember.
- Keep contact information with your provider up to date.

## Voters Will See Proposed TVF&R Bond Measure 34-308 on November Ballot

This November, voters will have the opportunity to vote on whether Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue can issue \$122 million in proposed general obligation bonds for emergency services. If the proposed bond measure were to pass, TVF&R would use proceeds to:

- **Replace response vehicles** as they reach the end of their useable life, including fire engines, trucks, and medical vehicles used throughout the District.
- **Fund fire station projects** including seismic upgrades, security features, expansions, or living quarter modifications at 10 of 29 stations
- **Rebuild the King City fire station** at the existing location.
- **Relocate the Aloha fire station** to a more central location for local and regional response.
- **Fund safety upgrades** for TVF&R's training center where responders practice fire suppression, emergency medical care, technical rescue, hazardous material response, and other emergency skills.
- **Purchase land for future fire stations** in areas where growth is expected to occur.

### WOULD PROPERTY TAX RATES INCREASE IF VOTERS PASS THE PROPOSED BOND MEASURE?

Due to declining debt on existing bonds, the proposed measure would maintain the current rate of \$0.1415 per \$1,000 of assessed value unless assessed property values decline. For property assessed at \$300,000, about the average in TVF&R's service area, the estimated cost of the proposed bonds would continue to be about \$42.45 per year or \$3.54 per month if the measure passes. Assessed value is currently between 36-38% lower than market value.

The total tax rate for TVF&R is currently \$2.1167 per \$1,000 of assessed value, which includes:

\$1.5252 Permanent Rate

\$0.45 Local Option Levy

\$0.1415 General Obligation Bond

### WHAT HAPPENS IF PROPOSED BOND MEASURE 34-308 DOES NOT PASS?

If the proposed bond measure does not pass, the proposed safety projects, land, and equipment purchases would not be completed, and the tax rate would decrease.

**For more information call Cassandra Ulven at 503-649-8577.** *This information was reviewed by the Oregon Secretary of State's Office for compliance with ORS 260.432. The assigned approval number is SH21-065.*

## Summary of Recent Activity

- The City installed new lights along the Heron Grove Park path.
- The City Council approved a rate increase for Pride solid waste disposal.
- The City had Chaucer Ct and Cambridge Ln repaved in September.
- The City Council had their annual update from Tualatin Police Chief Steele.
- The City Council agreed to allow Pride Disposal to recycle batteries at no charge to customers. More information will be sent out from Pride.

## New Face at City Hall

There is a new face at City Hall! Nancy Brewer is taking over as Administrative Assistant for Emily Baker. Baker, who has worked for the City for two years, left her position with the City at the end of September to pursue graduate school in Portland. Brewer is excited to join the City and work with city staff and residents. She has a background in administration and will bring a lot of fresh ideas to her role. The City is excited to welcome her to City Hall!

## Great Oregon Shake Out

Join thousands of Oregonians for the 2021 Great Oregon Shake Out. On October 21st at 10:21 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](http://www.shakeout.org/oregon) to find out information and register for this years Great Shake Out.



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

### 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. \***

## Planned Residential Development Application Submitted

The City has received an application from David Weekley Homes for a 36-home planned residential development north of Afton Lane with a proposed access to Upper Boones Ferry Road. This application will be reviewed by the Planning Commission at a public hearing on November 2nd. If you would like to attend, information about the time and format for this meeting will be posted on the City website in mid October. In addition, the application and complete set of plans are available for inspection at no cost at Durham City Hall during normal business hours. Masks are required while in City Hall.

## Upcoming Changes to Durham Development

In 2019, the Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 2001 to help address the housing crisis in Oregon. HB2001 requires cities to allow middle housing to be built in residential zones, creating more housing options for Oregonians. Middle housing includes duplexes, triplexes, quadplexes, townhouses, and cottage clusters.

The City of Durham will be updating the Development Code to ensure the city is in compliance with the new law. The changes will include allowing duplexes and middle housing on lots that allow for detached single dwellings within the City. These changes are designed to increase the variety of housing across multiple price levels to allow renters and homeowners more opportunities when it comes to housing.

The city will be holding public hearings in the future for public comment on the changes to the code. Please watch the City's website for further updates.





## City of Durham

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### Durham City Hall Office Hours

9am – 5pm, Monday through Friday

Find out more on our website:  
[www.durham-oregon.us](http://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.

## Community Critter Committee: Help! Increasing Critter Problems in Our Community!

Several local Durham residents have gotten together to discuss the increasing critter annoyance within our city. Their priority was to become educated on the behavior, dangers and alleviation of predominantly skunks, raccoons, rats and squirrels. Mike Gephart, Field Manager of Allied Pest and Wildlife, spoke recently at their gathering. His motto: Inspection, Removal, Monitor entry points, Exclusion.

**Pay attention to your home:** Once a month or at least quarterly tour your foundation vent screens and look for open holes. Pay special attention to Cable, HVAC, or Dryer vent entry points. If you spot anything, crinkle up some paper and shove it into the hole. In a couple of days check for activity. If you find activity, you have a problem!

Check garage door seal for gaps and around sinks where waterlines comes from crawlspaces, these are especially appealing to mice & rats that like gaps in your foundation & crawl space. Check attic vents & dormers which should be metal, not plastic, so they aren't appealing to squirrels.



Signals to look for include cone shaped holes in lawns, which can be skunks & raccoons looking for grubs & crane flies. Raccoons will also pull the grass back. Damage to vegetation is usually from rabbits, and mice droppings are often near doorways.



Pay attention to noises. Rats are most active between 9pm & 3am, squirrels are most active between 6am & 4pm, and Skunks are most active during dark hours. Skunk's breeding is between Dec & Feb (~8 week gestation) and rats tend to breed Feb-Jun.

**What you can easily do: Do Not Feed or leave any kind of food outdoors!!!** Don't bait around the foundation or yard and clean up fallen fruit. Repellants are 99% worthless.

For mice use Victor spring-type traps with peanut butter. They work best when the trap is placed right next to a wall. For rats use larger Victor traps baited with slim-jims. However, don't initially set the trap for a couple of days; rats are more cautious. Less bait is better.

Watch for a survey from the citizen committee in the future.