



DURHAM NEWS NOTES



Summer 2022



Durham Scout Completes Service Project

Durham resident, Gillis Watko, of Troop 35, led a group of volunteers to improve an overgrown trail in Durham Park this Spring. Watko planned and facilitated the project to earn his Eagle Scout rank as part of the Boy Scouts of America Scouting Program. Scouts seeking to obtain the rank of Eagle Scout must complete a service project to demonstrate leadership of others while performing a project for the benefit of his community. Visitors to the park have commented on the improvements which cleared, widened, and resurfaced the trail, as well as cleaned and painted the bench at the end of the path. Thank you, Gillis!



Watershed Navigator at Your Service

The Watershed Navigator is a new resource for people who live and play in Oregon's Tualatin River Watershed. It includes tools for your home, yard and community and information about where to access parks, trails and the river. Explore the site to learn more about our water; how we use it, how it moves across and shapes the land, and what to do when there's too much.

Visit watershednavigator.org.

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Home Businesses Need Licenses, Too

Do you operate a business out of your home? If you declare income from a home-based activity on your taxes, then you are running a business and you need a City business license. The annual fee for a home occupancy business license is \$50. You need a business license if you:

- ◆ Provide services using your home as a base of operations;
- ◆ Regularly sell things online;
- ◆ Distribute merchandise or dropship from your home;
- ◆ Teach classes for profit in your home;
- ◆ Work as a home-based contract employee;
- ◆ Free lance; or
- ◆ Undertake any enterprise, activity, profession or occupation for profit from your home.

To download an application for a business license, please visit the City website:

<https://durham-oregon.us/business-license/>

ADA Sidewalk Improvements

The City is improving ADA sidewalk ramps in the Kingsgate neighborhood thanks to a grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation. Bidding for this project took place in May and construction began at the end of June.

Sidewalk Safety and Care

Sidewalks provide people with a safe space to travel around the neighborhood away from vehicles. It's the growing season again and everything is in high growth mode and can easily get out of control very quickly. As in most cities, property owners in Durham are responsible for keeping sidewalks and planting strips abutting their property in good repair and condition, even if the sidewalk is on the other side of your fence. The sidewalks along Upper Boones Ferry Road are the responsibility of the abutting property owner.

Sidewalks should be kept free of obstacles, overhanging obstructions, tripping hazards, and protruding objects. By regularly cutting back vegetation that grows in and onto the sidewalks, property owners safeguard pedestrian access and limit safety problems. Property owners should also attend to seasonal hazards such as leaf debris, snow, and ice.

The following standards apply:

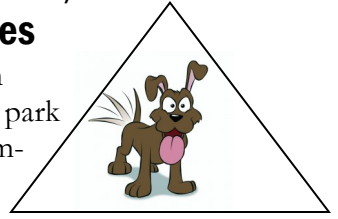
1. The landscaping is not to partially or wholly obstruct visibility of a stop sign or traffic control device within 100' as viewed by a person operating a vehicle from the normal vehicular approach.
2. It should not obscure pedestrians or vehicles approaching within 20' of an intersection or driveway when viewed within 3' and 10' above the street grade.
3. Overhanging branches need to be more than 8' above a sidewalk or bicycle path and 14' above an area designated for vehicle travel.
4. No portion of the landscaping should lie on any roadway, sidewalk, or bicycle path.

Damaged or uplifted sidewalks that may cause pedestrians to trip, or conditions that make them inaccessible, should be repaired promptly. As a property owner, you can repair a damaged sidewalk yourself or have a contractor do the work. Either way, you will need to get a sidewalk repair permit to ensure the work done meets City standards.

By keeping the sidewalks maintained and accessible, you are providing yourself and everyone a safe way to enjoy our City.

Durham's Dogs Love Summer, Too! Remember Off-Leash Rules

Dogs love to run and play ball in Durham City Park! To make the park fun and safe for all, please remember to keep your dog on a leash while on all paved trails and in riparian areas. Dogs are allowed off leash in the grassy, triangular field on the west side of Fanno Creek. Please do not allow your dog to approach other park users. Please also remember to pick up after your pet and dispose of the waste properly in trash bins.



Backyard Debris Burning Prohibited (Yard and Household Debris)

With temperatures rising, it's important to be thoughtful and careful when it comes to fire. Not only does summer burning have the potential to get out of control quickly, it also creates smoke and fine particulate matter that can be unhealthy for people to breathe.

Open burning of yard debris or household waste is **prohibited** in Durham per Oregon Department of Environmental Quality regulations. Report illegal burning by calling your local DEQ office at 503-229-5263 or filing an online complaint form at www.oregon.gov/DEQ.

Combustible Vegetation

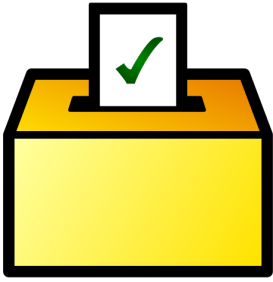
Our Nuisance Ordinance prohibits grasses/combustible vegetation at a height greater than 12" from **March 20 to October 20**. Please pay particular attention to all areas along the public right of way, including those in the reverse frontage areas. These areas are the most common offenders and pose the greatest exposure to fires due to careless smokers.

City of Durham Monthly Meetings:

Planning Commission—1st Tuesday of the Month, at 7:30pm

City Council—4th Tuesday of the Month, at 7:30pm

Please note that monthly meetings are available via Zoom. Links are provided upon request.



2022 City Council Election Deadline

Two positions on the Durham City Council are up for election this Fall. Any residents interested in running for City Council have until August 26, 2022 to file a petition to be placed on the November Ballot. The General Election will be November 8, 2022 and one Councilor has decided not to run for re-election.

Filing Qualifications:

- Registered to vote in Oregon.
- Durham resident continuously since November 8, 2021. Councilors must continue to live in Durham while in office.

How to File:

- To be placed on the ballot, potential candidates need to be nominated by a petition signed by at least ten Durham registered voters. The required forms are available at City Hall.
- Completed forms must be filed at City Hall by 10am on August 26, 2022. There is no filing fee for City Council offices.

About the City Council:

The City Council includes five councilors. Positions are nonpartisan. Councilors also serve on the City Budget Committee along with citizen appointees. Councilors are elected at large for a four year term beginning January 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2026. The Council meets monthly on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm at Durham City Hall. Councilors must file an annual Statement of Economic Interest with the Oregon Government Ethics Commission.



Unwanted or Expired Medication? Dispose of it Safely!

Envelopes and information for mailing back unwanted or expired medication is available at Durham City Hall. A drop box is also available weekdays from 8 am to 5 pm in the lobby of the Tualatin Police Department at 8650 SW Tualatin Rd., Tualatin, OR, 97062.

Middle Housing: New Housing Opportunities Starting July, 2022

In May 2022, the Durham Planning Commission reviewed the proposed middle housing code changes and heard public testimony before recommending the document to City Council for review and acceptance. The Council approved the ordinance adopting these changes at the May 24th and June 28th meetings. These new middle housing developments will mean increasing housing options for those who want them. The goal is to create more home ownership opportunities for the people of Durham.

Starting in July 2022, new code amendments will allow duplexes, triplexes, quadplexes, townhouses, and cottage clusters to be built in residential areas. This means it will be easier for people to find the home that works best for them during their current phase of life.

These changes are required by the Oregon Legislature's House Bill 2001, and have been adopted successfully by many other cities throughout Oregon.

These changes will create choices for renters and homeowners across multiple price levels, as well as allowing for greater variety in household structures. These new opportunities will also make it easier for Durham residents to age in place, with accessible homes that still offer inde-



pendence. The project started in the fall of 2021 with a review of the current city code. The technical team then drafted code amendments that were presented to the Durham City Council and Planning Commission in two joint working sessions. The final code updates were adopted in June 2022.

Throughout the project, the wider community was updated through these newsletters and the City's web-

site. An online survey was posted to the project website from January to April 2022, and two virtual information sessions were held in February 2022 to hear from the community about their values, goals, and concerns for middle housing.



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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.

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Durham Needs You!

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) provides an opportunity for individuals to make a commitment to the emergency readiness and response of our city.

The Tualatin CERT team provides interested Durham residents training in earthquake awareness, disaster fire suppression techniques, disaster medical operations, first aid/triage, light search and rescue, as well as team organization and management. With an emphasis on hands-on practice, trained instructors guide participants through a FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) course that covers

basic skills that are important to know in a disaster when emergency services are not readily available.

To find out more about CERT and register for the upcoming Zoom training on Tuesday, July 19, at 7 pm, visit: <https://www.tualatincert.org/tualatin-ready>

Durham HAM Radio Operators Call to Action!

The city now has an emergency HAM communication board and we need to train some resident operators. In the event of a disaster, this system will allow us to communicate with Washington County and Tualatin emergency services.

If you have your HAM license or would like to get trained, please email Barbara at dbrac2@aol.com.

