



# DURHAM NEWS NOTES

*Fall 2025*



## FREE LEAF DISPOSAL FOR DURHAM RESIDENTS

Dumpsters will be located at Durham City Park on:

**November 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>**

**November 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>**

**December 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>**

Through our partners at Pride Disposal and Clean Water Services, the City provides free dumpsters for leaf and needle disposal each fall. To help us keep this service available, please **do not overfill the dumpsters or leave extra piles or bags outside of them**. When material is left outside the dumpsters, the City must pay for cleanup and hauling, which makes it harder to continue offering this program in future years.

Because the contents of the dumpsters are composted, the dumpsters are **for leaves, needles, and paper yard debris bags only**. As such, the **following items are NOT acceptable** and **should NOT** be placed in the dumpsters: **Woody debris, Branches, Plastic bags, or Landfill Waste**.

Thank you for helping keep this program running smoothly for everyone in Durham!

### Get Durham News Notes by Email

Receive Durham News Notes by email by visiting <https://durham-oregon.us/> and clicking "Subscribe to Receive Durham News and Digital Newsletter" in the green banner. Enter your email and you will receive a copy of the newsletter, and any important information the City may need to communicate.

The City does not intend to eliminate printing the newsletter, and so your printed copy of Durham News Notes will still arrive by post.

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### Daylight Saving Time Ends

On Sunday, November 2nd, Daylight Saving Time ends. At 2:00 a.m., the time of day "falls back" one hour to 1:00 am, giving everyone an extra hour of rest. As such, don't forget to set your clocks back one hour!

With shorter days and darker evenings, please remember to drive carefully and watch for pedestrians and bicyclists. Slowing down in neighborhoods and school zones helps keep everyone safe.



## Take Charge of Fire Safety

October is Fire Prevention Month, and Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue invites you to “Take Charge of Fire Safety” by learning how to buy, use, and recycle rechargeable batteries safely, especially lithium-ion batteries.

Lithium-ion batteries are becoming increasingly common in many devices people use daily from cell phones, smart watches, and laptops to electric vehicles.

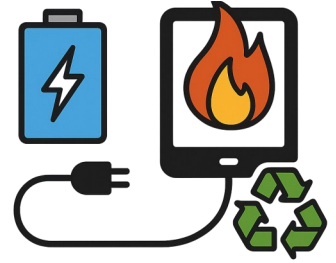
This type of rechargeable battery is unique in that it stores a large amount of energy in a small amount of space, making it an effective and efficient source of power. However, when that energy is released in an uncontrolled manner due to being mishandled, damaged, or improperly used, it generates heat, which can turn certain internal battery components into flammable and toxic gases, prompting chemical reactions that can catch fire or even explode.

This month is all about taking simple steps to protect your home and loved ones from fire risks.

TVF&R encourages you to **Take C.H.A.R.G.E.** with these safety tips.

- ◆ **Choose certified products.** Prioritize your safety by selecting lithium-ion battery-powered devices certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory to ensure they meet important safety requirements.
- ◆ **Handle with care.** Always follow manufacturer guidelines and use the provided charging equipment. Avoid modifying batteries or chargers and charge your devices in safe environments away from extreme temperatures, direct sunlight, and flammable materials. Remove devices from chargers once they are fully charged. For larger devices, such as electric bikes and scooters, charge in a location that does not block your exit path and is ideally outside your home.
- ◆ **Always stay alert for warning signs.** Regularly inspect devices for any signs of damage, such as swelling or punctures. Be aware of unusual sounds like hissing or popping. Watch for excessive heat or a strange odor. White or gray wispy smoke indicates immediate fire danger. If you notice any of these signs, immediately stop using the lithium-ion battery-powered device.

- ◆ **Recycle devices and batteries properly.** Responsibly dispose of old or damaged batteries and devices by taking them to a designated battery recycling center. Never discard batteries, chargers, or battery-powered devices in regular trash bins.



- ◆ **Get out quickly if there's a fire.** Know the warning signs to look and listen for and get out if you see or hear them. Follow your home fire escape plan, exit immediately, closing doors behind you, and call 911.
- ◆ **Educate others about safe practices.** Help protect your loved ones and friends by sharing how they can Take C.H.A.R.G.E. of Battery Safety.

For more information about lithium-ion battery safety, visit [www.tvfr.com](http://www.tvfr.com).



## Neighborhood Ready: Cluster Host Update

In 2016, Durham volunteers organized the City into 30 neighborhood clusters with

hosts who helped neighbors connect, share contact information, and learn basic preparedness steps. With new residents and recent disaster events, the updated Neighborhood Ready program now offers free presentations on topics such as sheltering in place, evacuation, water storage, communication, utility shut-offs, and sanitation to strengthen community resilience.

As such, new Cluster Hosts are being recruited while existing ones are being confirmed. The next Cluster Host training is set for November 8.

If you're willing to host or co-host your cluster, or simply want more information, please contact Barbara Bracken at [dbrac2@aol.com](mailto:dbrac2@aol.com) or 503-620-1567. Becoming a Cluster Host is a simple, high-impact way to strengthen neighborhood resilience and help Durham be ready before, during, and after an emergency.

## Help Keep Our Streets Clear This Fall

As the seasons change and we transition from summer to fall, we politely remind residents to avoid blowing leaves, needles, or other yard debris into the street. The City's streets are only swept once a month, and when leaves or debris are pushed into the roadway, they can quickly clog storm drains. Blocked drains increase the risk of localized flooding and could lead trash or other materials to get washed into our waterways, harming water quality and wildlife.

Additionally, leaves and needles left in the street can build up and create slippery conditions that are dangerous for drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians. Keeping debris out of the road helps ensure that our streets remain safe for everyone.

Please also be mindful of the noise created by leaf blowers, especially gas-powered models. Under Section 92.02(B) of Durham's Municipal Code, landscape maintenance using power tools may only occur between 7:00 AM and 9:00 PM Monday through Friday, and 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM on weekends. Being considerate about both noise and debris helps keep our neighborhoods pleasant for all.

Please be neighborly and keep yard debris on your property. It can be composted, mulched, or placed in your yard waste bin for collection. There will also be leaf dumpsters at Durham City Park two weekends in November and the first weekend of December (See "Free Leaf Disposal" section on page 1 for more info). By working together, we can keep Durham's streets safe, clean, and welcoming throughout the fall season.

### Monthly Meetings:

#### Planning Commission

**1st Tuesday of the Month  
at 7:00 PM**

#### City Council

**4th Tuesday of the Month  
at 7:30 PM**

**Unless noticed otherwise, meetings are held at Durham City Hall**

\* Visit [durham-oregon.us](http://durham-oregon.us) to verify dates

\* Zoom links are available upon request



## City Hall Holiday Closures

Durham City Hall will be closed on the following days:

**Veterans Day – Tuesday, November 11, 2025**

**Thanksgiving – Thursday, November 27**

**Day After Thanksgiving – Friday, November 28, 2025**

**Christmas Day – Thursday, December 25, 2025**

**New Year's Day – Thursday, January 1, 2026**

We wish all residents a safe and happy holiday season!





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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 typically 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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### Annual West Coast Giant Pumpkin Regatta – Tualatin

This much-loved local event returns to the Lake of the Commons in Tualatin on **Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**! The Regatta includes a series of wacky races in gigantic gourds piloted by costumed racers. On dry land, you'll find pumpkin bowling, pumpkin golf, and other fun activities to enjoy at this free, family-friendly festival.

To make parking easier, organizers encourage visitors to carpool, walk, or bike to the event. **Free shuttle buses** run about every 10 minutes from 9:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. from the following locations:

- ♦ Kaiser Permanente (19185 SW 90th Ave)
- ♦ Bellagio's Pizza Parking lot (8835 SW Tualatin-Sherwood Rd)
- ♦ The Oregon Clinic (19250 SW 90th Ave)
- ♦ Hedges Green Parking Lot (8639 SW Tualatin-Sherwood Rd)

**A free bike valet** will also be available at the corner of Nyberg Street and 84th Avenue from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please note that only service animals are allowed at the Regatta. Costumes are encouraged! Entry and all activities are free, while food and merchandise will be available for purchase.

