

THE TROUTDALE CHAMPION

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2023



What's Next? Update on the Sandy River Waterfront & Park Trail

by Ray Young, Troutdale City Manager

We gave you an update last spring, (see May/June Champion) on what is happening with the Urban Renewal Area (URA). Since that last article several developments have occurred regarding the public park and trail along the river. Not only are the plans and funds available to start the waterfront park construction, Union Pacific Railroad has approved our 60% design plans that allow us to construct the trail under their bridge over the Sandy River. This is a critical connection from downtown, behind Depot Park, to the new park and commercial development. We are working hard to finish their approval process in the next few months. We are hopeful that sometime in 2024 we can start construction of the park and trail.

By 2025 you should be able to hike or bike on a paved trail from downtown Troutdale, all the way to Chinook Landing and beyond!

Along with our project, the Port of Portland is moving forward to build their trail that will connect with our Sandy River Trail. Work begins this fall building a paved trail from the I-84 bridge, north along the west side of the river.

By 2025 you should be able to hike or bike on a paved trail from downtown Troutdale, north along the west bank of the Sandy River all the way to Chinook Landing and beyond!

Bulky Waste Drop-off Collection

by Waste Management

October 21, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Troutdale Transfer Station, 869 NW Eastwind Drive

Please Note: Troutdale residents are allowed free bulky waste items for drop-off. To verify your Troutdale residency, please bring your most recent WM statement. If you are a Troutdale resident who lives in a multifamily property without a WM statement, please bring your most recent utility bill or other piece of mail with your address as proof of Troutdale residency. If you are not a Troutdale resident or do not bring proof of residency, you will be charged accordingly. Items that do not meet WM's acceptable material criteria will not be accepted for drop-off.

Questions? Please contact Waste Management directly at 1-800-808-5901. If you would like to know if items you are parting with can be recycled, donated, or used, visit Metro's **Find a Recycler** webpage at www.OregonMetro.gov/findarecycler, or call Metro at 503-234-3000.

Examples of Accepted Items:

Small Appliances – microwave, toaster, blender, air fryer etc. (not containing freon)

Large Appliances – washer, dryer, dishwasher, oven, range top, etc. (not containing freon)

Outdoor/Garage Items – Grills without charcoal or propane tank, scrap metal, windows, drained water heater (1), bicycles, exercise equipment, file cabinet

Household Items – Mattress, box spring, carpeting (with pad), furniture, sinks, toilets.



Not Accepted: Household garbage, animal waste, car batteries, engines, concrete, dirt, sod or stumps, food waste, household hazardous waste, liquids, paint, propane tanks, refrigerators (and other CFC/refrigerant containing items), rock, roofing materials, concrete, industrial waste, commercial waste, fluorescent fixtures.

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US POSTAGE PAID
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POSTAL PATRON

City of Troutdale
219 E. Historic Columbia
River Hwy.
Troutdale, OR 97060

Come Join Us!
Tuesday, October 31
from 4 until 5:30 p.m.
Historic Downtown
Troutdale



**TRICK
OR
TREAT**
HISTORIC
TROUTDALE

Come on downtown this Halloween for a safe and fun trick-or-treat experience! When you're finished, head over to the outlet mall for more treats from 5-7 p.m. You can never have too much fun!

Sponsored by the businesses of the Historic Downtown, and the Columbia Gorge Premium Outlets

FREE THIS FRIDAY?



SCAN FOR DETAILS

Summer is starting to wind down, but that doesn't mean First Friday is coming to an end! Join us on September 1 to experience the best of Troutdale's art scene! Our downtown restaurants and businesses will once again take over the street, alongside more than 50 regional artisans. You won't want to miss live music at Mayors Square featuring local singer-songwriter Arbielle, our ever-popular kid zone, and great food and drink options!

Don't forget that starting in October, First Friday transitions to an indoor event until next June. Explore the work of area artists and listen to live music in our galleries and participating businesses and get a bite to eat at one of our great downtown restaurants! You can find full details at troutdalefirstfriday.com.

Upcoming Project: Imagination Station Walkway Improvements

The City will soon be replacing walkways, parking, and ADA curb ramps in Columbia Park to improve accessibility and compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act. This project will be the first phase tackling a substantial portion of the walkways, especially around Imagination Station and the concession stands, with the remaining walkways to be budgeted for, and improved, in a future phase.

Columbia Park and access to the very popular Imagination Station

(which includes accessible play features), is a top priority in the City's ADA transition plan, and these efforts are aimed at ensuring the walkways to the parking and curb ramps are accessible as well. The City will also be installing an ADA spectator pad located adjacent to the midpoint of the soccer field to provide those with mobility hindrances a comfortable spot to watch the action. This project will kick off in the fall just after the park's busy season.



For more information on this project, look to the City website, or contact Project Manager Nick Massey at: Nick.Massey@troutdaleoregon.gov



"My, those fall leaves sure look beautiful ...

...until they're clogging storm drains and flooding roadways!"

The City reminds residents to avoid raking or blowing fall leaves, grass clippings and other yard debris onto streets, as these items cannot be removed effectively by street sweepers. Accumulation of leaves on streets also endangers motorists and bike riders, whose tires may slip on leaves. Help keep our community healthy and livable for everyone by either keeping leaves onsite or responsibly collecting and disposing of leaves.

Leaves left onsite in a layer or in a pile to be later used as mulch can help make better soil, create food and shelter for insects, and potentially save time and money. The Troutdale wind will no doubt have its own say on where leaves stay put, but leaves help suppress weeds, retain moisture, and add organic matter to soil. Leaf cover also helps butterflies and moths over winter while providing great habitat for bumble bees, spiders, worms and others that in turn provide food to animals such as chipmunks and birds. According to the

Xerces Society, shredded leaves don't provide the same cover as whole leaves and shredding may destroy caterpillars and chrysalis so no need to shred.

Waste Management collects leaves and other yard debris each week in residential yard-debris roll carts. You can set out your 60-gallon yard debris roll cart, one Kraft paper yard debris bag (no plastic bags, please), or one bundle (prunings limited to 4" diameter and 36" length) or yard trimmings every week for no extra charge. Any additional cans, or bags or bundles are \$4.40 each. For more information, go to: <http://wmnorthwest.com/troutdale/yardwaste.htm>

We encourage you to handle leaves in the following order::

- Keep leaves out of the street
- Use leaves on-site
- Put leaves in your yard debris bin
- Recycle Your Leaves - Leaves and other yard debris can be off-loaded nearby at:
All Wood Recycling - 23001 NE Marine Drive, Fairview

Your efforts can help improve roadway safety, prevent flooding, create better soil and provide habitat to pollinators.

Multnomah County to add safety improvements on SW 257th Drive

Work slated to begin in 2024

Bike Boxes

Bike boxes will be installed at SW Sturges Drive/SW Cherry Park Road. A bike box is a designated area of green pavement markings at an intersection that provides cyclists with a safer and more visible way to stop and wait ahead of vehicles during a red light.

Bus stop improvements

Sidewalks will be widened next to bus stops and signs at those stops will be improved for clear visibility and access.

Bike Box



Enhanced Pedestrian Crossing



Pedestrian Push Button



Radar Feedback Sign



Enhanced Pedestrian Crossings

The County will install two new enhanced crossings in key locations along the corridor at SW 17th Way and SW 28th Street. These crossing enhancements include pedestrian-activated signals to stop traffic.

Signal Improvements

The County will install ADA-compliant accessible pedestrian signal push-buttons and upgraded pedestrian signal equipment.

Accessibility Improvements

The project will upgrade all sidewalk corners with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant curb ramps.

The \$8 million project is designed to make it easier and safer for everyone to get around 257th Drive between SW Cherry Park Road / SW Sturges Drive and SE Stark Street. Construction is expected to begin in 2024.

For additional project information and updates, visit <https://multco.us/257th>

Lighting

Street lights will be replaced to improve visibility at night along SW 257th Drive for all users.

Traffic Calming

Radar feedback signs will be installed and the vehicle travel lanes will be narrowed. These changes can encourage drivers to slow down.

Buffered Bike Lanes

The County will narrow lanes for motorized vehicles to create more space for buffered bike lanes with new striping, from SW 16th Way to SE Stark Street. This will increase bike comfort and add extra space between cyclists and motor vehicles.

Repaving

The project will also resurface the existing pavement from the north side of SW 16th Way to SE Stark Street

Project Background

Located in Troutdale, SW 257th is one of the most heavily traveled Multnomah County roads, serving as a critical connection to I-84 and U.S. 26.



From Physics to Fitness, to Firearm Safety, we offer classes for all ages

Even when kids go back to school – perhaps especially when they go back to school – nurturing their creativity, social skills, and a sense of joy through recreation is a crucial element to their well-being. That's why Troutdale Recreation offers a diverse range of programs throughout the year. This fall, we're excited to bring back some community favorites and expand on some fun activities.

Registration begins on Wednesday, September 13 at 12 noon. Financial Aid and Family Discounts are available. As always, you can find more information in the Recreation Guide or at troutdaleoregon.gov/rec.

Questions? Please contact Recreation Manager Mollie King at 503-674-7206 or via email at Mollie.King@troutdaleoregon.gov

Among the highlights of the Fall 2023 session:

Little Trout Play Park: Starting on October 10 and running on the second Tuesday of each month through December, you can bring kiddos up to 4 years old to the Sam Cox Building at Glenn Otto Park, to play at our indoor play park. No registration is required, and admission is just \$2 per child.

Kinder Programs: Movement is key to kids' early development – it can help boost flexibility, strength and coordination while providing a creative outlet and helping to improve self-esteem. Kinder programs do all that and more by bringing together tumbling, dance, and yoga for kids aged 2 through 9.



Outer Space & Physics Fun: Kids 6 – 11 can learn all about the exciting world of space exploration and even build a model of their very own Solar System! This six-week program offered on Wednesday's after school will offer other mesmerizing physics activities and demonstrations.



Troutdale Recreation offers adult programs as well: Firearm Safety, Sit & Stitch crafting, and Yoga. In addition to our programs, we also encourage everyone to check out the great offerings at the Troutdale Library.



Dog Park Update:

The first Off-Leash area in the City of Troutdale will become available for you and your furry friends later this fall! If you've been to Columbia Park recently, you may have noticed

A WALK IN THE PARK with Jona Jacobsen

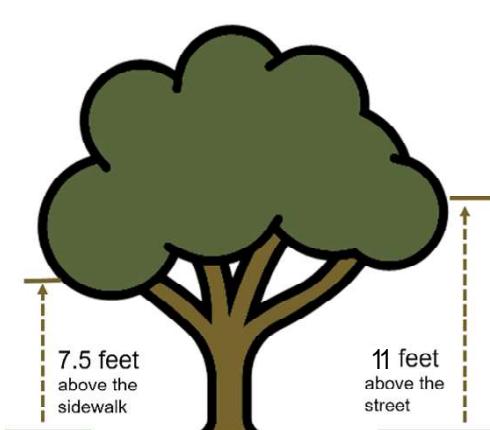
the progress we have made over the summer. The park will be located in the wooded area SW of Imagination Station. The perimeter fence and access gates are now in place and the Parks Staff has been hard at work clearing brush, pulling ivy and preparing the ground in the interior of the dog park. We expect the dog park to officially open by the week of Halloween 2023. Look for an announcement about a grand opening event as we get closer

to October. Please remember that dogs are still not allowed on the beach at Glenn Otto Park, in ecologically sensitive areas like Beaver Creek Canyon, or on any playgrounds or sports fields and courts. Thank you for following these rules and helping us to keep Troutdale's parks clean and safe for everyone to enjoy.

Troutdale Parks is partnering with The Trail Keepers of Oregon organization to make improvements to the trail system in Beaver Creek Canyon later this summer and early fall. The Trail Keepers will be holding a series of volunteer-

supported workdays and educational events in the late summer / early fall to build retaining walls and reconstruct the wooden stairway on the trail below Weedin Park. If you are interested in participating as a volunteer, please visit www.troutdale.info/beavercreektrail

In July and August there were multiple Cougar sightings in and around Beaver Creek Canyon, and one confirmed sighting within a few thousand feet of Columbia Park. Please be alert, aware of your surroundings and exercise caution if you plan to walk in Beaver Creek Canyon alone or with small children, especially during the early morning & twilight hours. Find out more information on what to do if you encounter a Cougar at <https://myodfw.com/articles/living-cougars#SnippetTab>.



Property Owners are Responsible for Street Tree Maintenance Here's what to know

The City of Troutdale needs your help to keep our streets clean and neighborhoods livable. As you may know, Troutdale's streets are swept on a regular basis. Unfortunately, many tree limbs hang too low over the curb, thus forcing the sweeper operator to swerve away from the limb and the curb, which leaves debris behind. Troutdale's Municipal Code assigns street tree maintenance responsibility to the abutting property owner and requires that street

trees be maintained at a height of 11 feet over the curb and 7½ feet over the sidewalk. This means that you should be able to drive an 11-foot-tall vehicle under tree limbs at the curb line, or walk down the sidewalk with your favorite 7½ foot-tall NBA star without him needing to duck below the limbs. Please do your part to trim the street trees adjacent to your property to these height requirements.

Questions regarding street trees and trimming? Call the Parks Division at 503-674-7271.

Questions about street sweeping? Call the Public Works Streets Division at 503-674-3307.

The City of Troutdale Partners with the Backyard Habitat Certification Program



The Backyard Habitat Certification Program (BHCP), a collaboration between Columbia Land Trust and Portland Audubon, is excited to announce that the City of

Troutdale has become our latest funding partner! Beginning as a pilot project within a southwest Portland neighborhood in 2006, the program has since enrolled over 11,300 participants and expanded into four counties: Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington, and Clark. While the first Troutdale resident enrolled in BHCP in late 2020, the recent financial support and partnership from the City will allow for more intentional growth within Troutdale in the upcoming years.

The goal of BHCP is to support community members in transforming their yards and greenspaces into climate-resilient habitats through sustainable and environmentally friendly gardening practices, within urban and suburban neighborhoods. Participants can enroll their residential yards, smaller than one acre, or community sites (e.g. schools, apartment complexes, places of worship, businesses, etc), of any size. They are guided in their efforts by individualized site reports compiled by Habitat Technicians who complete an in-person assessment of participants' yards. Additionally, coupons and access to resources are provided to help them accomplish their rehabilitation goals focusing on five main elements: removing priority weeds, planting locally native plants, reducing pesticide use, supporting wildlife, and managing on-site stormwater. Taking these actions not only creates habitat and increases biodiversity within



urban spaces but may help cool neighborhoods, lower energy costs, reduce water bills, and positively impact mental health of community members.

Individual yards and community spaces join together to create wildlife corridors within the urban setting, exponentially increasing the impact of local parks and green spaces. Together we can support wildlife and mitigate the effects of climate change, one yard at a time. To enroll in the program or learn more about how to care for your outdoor spaces, scan the QR code at left, or visit us at backyardhabitats.org.

A technician will do a walkthrough with you, help you plan, and provide resources and discounts for plants and materials.

Safety tips while the weather's still warm, and a focus on safe driving

Water Safety on the Sandy River

While you are out enjoying the last of our nice warm weather, please know that **drowning is preventable!** When you go to cool off in a river or lake, always wear a life jacket. Life jackets are free to borrow through kiosks at popular parks and boat ramps, including Oxbow Regional Park, Dodge Park, Lewis and Clark Recreation Site, and Dabney State Park. No identification card is required! If Glenn Otto Park is your desired destination, please use EXTREME CAUTION and bring a life jacket with you, as the lifeguards and life jackets will no longer be present at this park after September 4th.



IN THE KNOW WITH
MCSO

Missions focus on Traffic Safety
For the last several months, our patrol deputies have been performing traffic safety missions across east Multnomah County, including within the city of Troutdale. Our goal is to make the roads safer by impacting driving behavior and reminding motorists that they need to drive with care. Citations and warnings are issued to drivers. Please drive safely and obey the law.

Troutdale Historical Society
TAD Talks
October 15th 2-4pm
Sam Cox Building in Glenn Otto Park

Tad's Chicken 'N Dumplings

Listen. Share. Win.
A community storytelling event to commemorate a beloved local restaurant. Plus, a raffle fundraiser!

EVENT CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

- 1 **First Friday Art Walk**, 5-8 p.m., Downtown Historic Columbia River Highway, (see details Page 1)
- 1 **Barnyard Concert** featuring "Josh Putnam", 6-8 p.m. (see details above)
- 4 **Labor Day, ALL CITY HALL OFFICES CLOSED**
For Police/Fire emergency - call 9-1-1,
For Water/Sewer emergency - 503-251-4163
- 13 **Troutdale Recreation Registration begins at Noon!** (see details Page 3)
- 26 **Free Food Market**, Reynolds High School, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., on the west side of school across from Imagination Station. Bring bags, boxes.



OCTOBER

6

First Friday moves inside, 5-8 p.m., Downtown Historic Columbia River Highway. For more information, go to our website at troutdaleoregon.gov, and check out the First Friday page!

15

Troutdale Historical Society presents 'Tad Talks', (see details above). Here's a remarkable opportunity to hear community members tell their stories about legendary local restaurant **Tad's Chicken 'N Dumplings**. A moderated discussion for all attendees. Don't miss it!

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Bulky Waste Drop Off Collection, (see details Page 1)

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It's Halloween! Join us for trick-or-treating along the Historic Downtown from 4-5:30 p.m. See Page 1 for details, and check the city's Facebook page for updates. The Columbia Gorge Premium Outlets will begin their trick-or-treating at 5 until 7 p.m.! Don't miss it!

31

Free Food Market, Reynolds High School, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., on the west side of school across from Imagination Station. Bring bags, boxes.

Backyard Fire Safety

The **mandatory burn ban for safety**, issued by the Multnomah County Fire Defense Board, **remains in effect in all areas of Multnomah County until further notice**. To check for any updates on the status of the burn ban, please call the East Multnomah County burn line at 503-618-3083. The burn ban includes all backyard burning, recreational fires, yard debris and agricultural burning, and permits issued for open burning until further notice. Residents should exercise extreme caution when cooking outside. Here are a few grilling safety tips:

- Place grill at least 10 feet away from your home or other structures. Grills that are placed too close to the house or other wood structures can heat up adjacent materials and cause a fire to start.
- Make sure that your grill is set up on a stable surface such as a concrete pad so that it remains level while cooking food.
- Check the gas lines to make sure that they are free of leaks before using your grill, and always open the lid of your barbecue before lighting.
- Never leave the grill unattended while you are cooking food. If you must leave the grill, ask another adult to watch the grill for you.
- Always have a fire extinguisher close by.

Be Part of the Solution.

Learn how to have difficult conversations!



East County Resolutions

In this 3-day interactive virtual training, Sept. 20-22, participants will learn skills to navigate conflict that can be applied in all facets of life - from work to home. Participants will learn practical skills that can be used immediately.

Register today!

Scholarships are available at Mediate@GreshamOregon.gov.

You can also go to our website at: <https://greshamoregon.gov/Mediation-Training/#MediationTraining>

Tera Cleland
Mediation Specialist
East County Resolutions
503-618-3247

City Meetings

City Council Regular Meetings

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.
September 12, September 26
October 10, October 24

View Council meetings live on Comcast Channel 30 or Frontier Channel 38 at 7 p.m.; rebroadcasts are Fridays at 4 p.m. and Sunday at 9 p.m.

Town Center Advisory Board

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.
Email info@troutdaleoregon.gov for information

Planning Commission

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.
September 13, October 11

Parks Advisory Committee

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.
September 20, October 18

Public Safety and Equity Advisory Committee

Police Facility Kellogg Room – 6:30 P.M.
September 7, October date TBD

Citizens Advisory Committee

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.
September 6, October 4, Email info@troutdaleoregon.gov for information

Historic Landmarks Commission

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.
Email comdev@troutdaleoregon.gov for information

Urban Renewal Agency

Police Facility Kellogg Room – 7 P.M.
September 19, (if needed), October 17 (if needed)

Find meeting agendas, Council packets and audio/video of Council meetings at www.troutdaleoregon.gov

City Offices

City Hall Main Number	503-665-5175
Building Permits	503-674-7229
Building/Parks Rentals	503-674-7297
Business Licensing	503-665-5175
Code Enforcement	503-491-4009
Fire Department (Gresham)	503-618-2355
Mayor & Council	503-674-7258
Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO)	
MCSO Business Office	503-988-7300
MCSO Records (press '0' for Police Records)	503-988-7300
Municipal Court	503-674-7236
Police & Fire Non-Emergency Dispatch	503-823-3333
Parks Department	503-674-7271
Planning/Zoning	503-674-7229
Public Works (Wastewater)	503-666-8377
Public Works (Water & Streets)	503-674-3300
Recreation Program	503-674-7206
Water/Sewer - Billing Questions	503-674-7232
Water/Sewer - Open/Close Acct.	503-674-7225