

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager
SUBJECT: Friday Update
DATE: October 7, 2016

Fire Restrictions Lifted

The rain and chilly mornings have lowered the fire danger in the area, and as a result Fire Chief Wooten has issued the following statement lifting the fire restrictions from within South Lane Fire and Rescue District boundaries:

“In accordance with ORS 478.960, I hereby proclaim the regulated use restrictions placed in effect for the 2016 Fire Season terminated immediately. Open burning remains closed until October 15, 2016 or such time as declared open by LRAPA.

The lifting of regulated use restrictions applies within the City of Cottage Grove, City of Creswell, and any lands within the SLCFR District boundaries, not protected by the Western or Eastern Lane Districts of ODF.”

Police Chief Attends Leadership Conference

Chief Scott Shepherd attended the annual Fall Leadership Conference for the Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police and the Oregon State Sheriff's Association in Salem. The training included a speaker from the Dallas Texas Police Department on the topic of 21st Century Leadership, a speaker from the Kernersville North Carolina Police Department on the topic of Fair and Impartial Policing, a speaker from the Federal Bureau of Investigation with a message from Director James Comey, and speaker, Dr. Olivia Johnson D.M. on Enhancing Your Resiliency - Thriving in Leadership.

Youth Advisory Council

Middle and High School aged youth are encouraged to apply to participate in the Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council. Applications are still being accepted and the next meeting of the YAC will be on Monday, October 17th. For more information and applications visit the City's webpage.

do. Stand

At this year's Open Enrollment meetings for health insurance, our provider, City/County Insurance Services (CIS), introduced the “do.” wellness campaign, from Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon. The program aims to integrate wellness into employee lifestyle choices and habits in fun, engaging ways. Posters were provided to entities to use in their local campaigns. All of the printing costs for posters and other materials were paid for by CIS.

The first of the three-part campaign, “do. Stand,” was deployed October 3rd. Information about the campaign is included in each of our employee’s open enrollment materials. The do.Stand campaign compares sitting to smoking, being equally bad for your health. The campaign encourages employees to stand once an hour, offering health benefits such as decreased blood pressure, decreased risk of diabetes, and improved mental health and creativity. It is a campaign aimed to show how simple little actions or choices can make a difference in our health.

Taylor Street Pump Station

City staff has been visiting with South Lane School District representatives to develop a power service to the Taylor Street pump station. By coordinating the development of power service we can reduce the power service costs for both the pump station and the new school project. The coordinated efforts will require an easement on the School District property. The South Lane School Board reviewed the draft proposal at their last meeting and authorized the Superintendent to approve the easement agreement. The easement agreement will be coming before the City Council in a future meeting for their acceptance. The site for the Taylor Street pump station is being prepared between the School District site and the freeway. The future extension of Gateway Boulevard will run adjacent to the pump station.

Pressure Vessel Testing

This week the Chubb Group of Insurance Companies, working on behalf of City/County Insurance Services (the City’s insurance carrier) completed a Risk Engineering Services inspection on all pressure vessels under the control of the City. There are five such pressure vessels at the Row River Water Treatment Plant and one at the City Shop facility. The State of Oregon requires periodic inspection and certification of each pressure vessel in use throughout the City. Each tank was inspected and found to be properly constructed, installed, and protected. Ultra-sonic thickness readings were used to confirm the material integrity of each vessel. In addition, each pressure relief valve and automatic drain device on each tank was operationally tested.

Copper Testing in Wastewater

The Wastewater Treatment Plant staff has been notified by DEQ that beginning in early 2017 the Agency plans to revise the freshwater aquatic life criteria for copper. Copper is a pollutant that can cause adverse effects to salmon, trout, and other aquatic species. Oregon DEQ’s current criteria for metals testing, including copper is based solely on water hardness. The new testing criteria for copper will include 11 different water quality parameters that affect the bioavailability and toxicity of copper in freshwaters. These parameters include temperature, pH, dissolved organic carbon, specific conductance, calcium, magnesium, sodium, potassium, sulfate, chloride, and alkalinity, along with total and dissolved copper. These new tests will be required once per month over a two year period and will be in addition to the myriad of other tests, required of the City when discharging treated effluent to the river.

Oregon Emergency Management Association Conference

Emergency Manager Schesser attended the 2016 OEMA conference where the theme of “Preparing, Responding and Recovering” brought together public, private and non-profit emergency management professionals in Oregon. Keynote speaker was General Russel Honore’ who spoke on ‘Resilient Leadership Prepare Today To Prevail Tomorrow’. General Honore’

was tasked with response and recovery during the Katrina incident. Other topics included lessons learned from the UCC shooting, and the Loma Prieta Earthquake as it relates to the Cascadia Earthquake. School and hospital emergency plans, creating a culture of safety, threat prevention and response decision making were major tracks of the conference.

Teen Read Week

October 9-15 is Teen Read Week. As a part of the festivities teens are encouraged to stop by the Cottage Grove Public Library to participate in the "Guess the Shredded Book" contest and possibly win fabulous prizes. The contest is open to 6th -12th graders and they can make one guess per day.

STEAM at the Library

All kids are welcome and encouraged to come to the Cottage Grove Public Library to participate in fun activities focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM). This is a great opportunity to meet other kids, eat amazing refreshments and enjoy individual and group activities all related to STEAM. STEAM at the LIBRARY will happen every month on the 3rd Wednesday from 2:30 to 4:00 pm.

Behind the Pages Bookclub for Kids

The next meeting of Behind the Pages, the Cottage Grove Library book club for kids, is Saturday October 15th from 2:30 to 3:30 and all 6th – 8th grade aged youth are welcome. This month our book is "Matched" by Ally Condie. Youth can join the book club even if they have not read the book yet.

Quote of the Week

“Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement; nothing can be done without hope.”

~ Helen Keller ~