

◆ CPO #15 NEWSLETTER ◆

Citizen Participation Organization #15

Serving: Fern Hill Area

CPO Newsletters available on the web at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/washington/cpo-15-fern-hill>

CPO 15 Map: http://extension.oregonstate.edu/washington/sites/default/files/cpo15_0.pdf

Washington County

July 2009



Extension Service

Oregon State University Extension Service supports CPOs through an intergovernmental agreement with Washington County, the sole funder of the CPO program. Extension CPO coordinators provide information on land use and livability issues, resource referrals, and work with CPO members to increase understanding of public policy and decision-making processes.

This newsletter material was developed by representatives of your local CPO and is forwarded to you as part of the Extension Service's support to citizen involvement in local government. Washington County administration, departments, and/or officials claim no responsibility, expressed or implied, for the content of this document.

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To review copies of the Rural/Natural Resources Plan Element, go to

www.co.washington.or.us/deptmts/lut/planning/publicat.htm

Citizen Participation Organization 15

Wednesday, July 15, 2009

7:00 p.m.

Forest Hills Golf Course

36260 SW Tongue Lane

AGENDA

6:30 P.M. Opportunity to sign up for Neighborhood Watch Program

7:00 P.M. Program Agenda

Welcome and Introductions – Peggy Harris

Sheriff's Deputy Report (if available)

Program #1 Welcome Nicole Anderson, Field Crops and Soils- Extension Faculty serving Washington, Polk and Yamhill Counties

- Her work with the farm community
- Photos and information about pests that are currently a problem
- New crop ideas
- Latest updates on wheat, grass seed, and clover production

Please come and bring your questions and your neighbors so you can participate in this important discussion.

Break for cookies and conversation

Program #2 Hal Ballard, Washington County Bicycle Transportation Alliance will talk about:

- What makes a safe bicyclist
- Bicycle/car/narrow road issues in our area. Bicyclists love to cycle in our CPO area, especially on weekends.
- Rules of the road that bicyclists and drivers need to know
- The latest bicycle safety gear

Local cyclists and CPO members brought this topic to our attention for a discussion because of safety issues. If drivers honk at cyclists to move off the road, cyclists could fall in front of a car. There is often no place to move off the road in our area. Cyclists also need to be thoughtful of cars and go single file. Safety in our CPO area is the most important issue.

Come be informed! Bring your questions and share your experiences.

CPO Reports and Updates if time. Update on Neighborhood Watch Program for our area—Come find out about it! (See page 3 for related article.)



Metro Councilor Kathryn Harrington

Supporting Business and Economic Vitality

Jobs, jobs, jobs. It seems to be a word on everyone's mind, the jobs of today, the jobs of the future. I am a firm believer that quality of life begins with a job, and I am often asked, is the Metro regional government an economic development agency? Well no, not like Greenlight Greater Portland¹, for instance, but Metro does play a significant role in providing opportunity for economic health and diversity in our three county, twenty-five city metropolitan region here in Oregon.

In early June, I helped sponsor a tour for the seven-member Metro Council of some major technology businesses in the Hillsboro area. In addition to seeing the impressive technology and workforce in place at SolarWorld, Genentech and Sheldon Manufacturing, through a business panel, we also heard from Intel Corporation, Sun Microsystems, Portland General Electric and an experienced national site selector from CH2MHill about major factors that lead companies to invest their future in our area.

Along with making available infrastructure-serviceable land sites for company operations, Metro supports business growth and sustainability in many other significant ways. Moving products from manufacturing to customer markets, referred to by planners as 'freight movement,' demands reliable transportation routes. Metro through its regional transportation planning responsibility established by federal and state law, takes a lead in planning improvements to our transport system for products and employees. This includes roadways and bridges of regional significance, access to trade ports (rail, air, marine), Intelligent Traffic Control Systems, travel option programs, and public transit, giving businesses and workers choice in travel means.

Our region is credited with an exceptionally high quality of life, one that we often take for granted until we travel to other places. Here too Metro plays a key role fostering a high quality of life, which serves to attract and retain a valuable workforce. Businesses and their markets range in size from small to large, so too do their workforces and their pay scales. All of this creates a diverse market of housing needs, and we need more affordable solutions for all house hold income levels. Metro also invests its general fund resources to help communities develop more services and amenities in their city downtowns and neighborhood centers, places where people like to congregate, such as restaurants, plazas and parks. And yes, maintaining our natural environment, and providing access to nature both in neighborhoods and in protected areas is another contribution by Metro to our overall economic attractiveness. And another exciting recent program is Metro's work of convening business leaders, government, non-profits and passionate volunteers to accelerate the implementation of a regional trail system for transportation and recreation, connecting you from your nearby place to the regional place you want to be.

These are just some examples of efforts over this last year that demonstrate Metro's role in supporting economic development in your community and our larger region. I appreciate the opportunity to work for you and your family and our collective future, and hope that you will join me and my colleagues on the Metro Council as we keep working to make this the greatest place to be. <http://www.greenlightgreaterportland.com>.

Kathryn Harrington represents District 4 includes Northern Washington County, Cornelius, Hillsboro, Forest Grove, Northwest Beaverton, Bethany, Aloha, Bonny Slope, Raleigh Hills, West Slope, Cedar Mill and Cedar Hills. Councilor Harrington can be reached at 503-797-1553 or send e-mail to Kathryn.harrington@oregonmetro.gov.

Mark Your Calendar

Please put the following dates on your calendars. Our CPO meets every other month. We are organizing interesting speakers of vital interest to our CPO 15 and we need your support, ideas and attendance. Our meetings are the third Wednesdays of every other month. Circle these dates for CPO 15 meetings and let all your neighbors know!



--Wednesday, September 16, 2009
--Wednesday, November 18th, 2009

LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

CASE FILE TYPE	APPLICANT/LOCATION	PROPOSED ACTION	STATUS
09-173 Type II AF20	John and Elda Saunders 39040 SW Blooming Fern Hill Rd.	Request for a temporary health hardship permit in the AF-20 District.	Application received. Awaiting public notice.

Type II land use applications have a 14-day public comment period. No public hearing is held unless the decision is appealed. All Type III land-use hearings are held at the Charles D. Cameron Public Services Building.

Mailing Address: Washington Co. DLUT, 155 N. First Ave Hillsboro, OR 97124.

<http://washtech.co.washington.or.us/LDS/index.cfm?id=4>, Tel: 503-846-8761 Fax: 503-846-2908

CPO 15 Neighborhood Watch Program

CPO 15 is beginning a **Neighborhood Watch Program** for our area. In these difficult, economic times, it is in our best interest to watch out for each other and to be good neighbors to each other. Neighborhood Watch is one of the most effective ways to prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime. Neighborhood Watch helps create a partnership between citizens and the Sheriff's Office to address criminal activity and livability issues within neighborhoods. Neighborhood Watch fights the isolation that crime creates, helps neighbors get to know each other, helps recognize and report suspicious behavior, and helps neighbors learn safety strategies to protect themselves from harm. A great deal of interest has been shown in having our own Neighborhood Watch Program adapted a bit to our rural area. Darlene Schnoor, Crime Prevention Specialist for the Washington County Sheriff's Office has been helping us set up our program. There is not a big time commitment, so please contact us to learn more about how you can help keep your area safe.

An active Neighborhood Watch Program can help reduce drug dealing, discourage gangs and improve safety for young and old alike. Our rural CPO 15 area is quite special, but is not immune to problems. Because of the internet, updates and alerts can be sent out to all of us quickly and efficiently, once we are organized. We are able to post Neighborhood Watch signs strategically around our area that let out the word that we care and that we are organized. We received a grant to post Neighborhood/Farm Watch signs at the entrances to our CPO 15 area. Watch out for them. We need everyone to sign up to be a part of the Neighborhood Watch, so together we can be a safe, CPO 15 area. To sign up:

- Come at 6:30 before our CPO meeting on July 15th at the Forest Hills Golf Course
- Or call Kay Nakao at (503) 357-2936 or (503) 348-6951
- Or contact any of your CPO 15 officers (contact information on front cover of this CPO 15 Newsletter).

Please join us in our Neighborhood Watch Program

Pacific NW Integrated Pest Management Alerts Now Available on TWITTER

What is Twitter? It is a new communication tool available on the internet at Twitter.com. All one needs to follow a particular information source is to sign up for free account. Tweets (as the messages are known) are quite pithy, limited to 140 characters so alerts will be succinct.

Why would one want to Twitter? One of the unique features of this tool is that one could receive alerts by text message on a regular cell phone. So, if you wanted to be out in the field on a nice day like this . . . you could still find out that spruce spider mite eggs have hatched, alert your field scout to monitor your conifers for activity and activate your management program and spray crew, if necessary. All, within minutes!

Twitter.com will get you to the Twitter website where you sign up for an account. In your settings, activate your mobile device (cell phone) by checking the appropriate box and later texting a message to the number given to signal agreement to receive text messages (Note - Standard text message charges apply). Once you are set up, search for *PNWNurseryIPM* at the search link <http://search.twitter.com/search> and you should be able to follow the tweets (or alerts). Many of us are new to this tool and just learning, so a little patience will be helpful. Robin Rosetta, who focuses on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for Extension encourages those who want a little extra mobility with their communications to consider trying this new technology.

Master Gardener will Help you Curb Use of Pesticides

Master Gardener Dian Cooper is searching for neighborhood associations, groups of friends and other interested in scheduling a presentation on household pesticide use.

Cooper recently underwent training as part of the Urban Pesticide Reduction Program a joint effort of Oregon State University and the Oregon Department of Agriculture designed to make homeowners aware of pesticide use and present alternatives to reduce or eliminate pesticides.

Cooper says during the two to three hour presentation, designed for ages 12 and up, she will talk about how to eliminate pests using physical barriers, help identify which pests are actually good for your home and garden and look at plants that don't get pests.

"Although I thought I was well-versed on pests and pesticides," Cooper said, "I was surprised a few times by the information in this class. There are opportunities for small group discussion and sharing, and at the end of the program people should be fired up to make changes.

Contact Diane Cooper at 503-644-8365 or cooper@msn.com.

Oregonian June 25, 2009, Cindy Hudson

Washington County Libraries Offer Free Online Assistance to Prepare for Careers

The Washington County Cooperative Library Services (WCCLS) has just launched a new electronic product for library patrons titled LearningExpress Library. Improving the job search process, preparing for career certification, raising college entrance test scores and improving 21st century basic skills are all possible now with just the click of a mouse. The LearningExpress Library service is available on the WCCLS website (www.wccls.org) through three of the Online Resource links — it can be found under the categories of: Careers, Education and Jobs.

LearningExpress Library is a wonderful tool to help anyone interested in preparing for their GED, US Citizenship, Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) or SAT, as well as many online civil service tests such as those for EMT, police officer and firefighter careers. Jodi Nielsen, WCCLS Senior Program Educator reports that "through the new service library patrons can take courses on writing resumes and preparing for interviews — and use of the service will also help improve basic skills in reading, writing and math". The service enables users to create their own individual username and password to take tests and track their progress. Participants will get immediate scoring, complete answer explanations, and an individualized analysis of their results.

There are even tests and courses designed for native Spanish speakers who are interested in improving English reading and writing skills. Patrons can prepare to take important tests in English, or hone skills for a school or workplace where English is used. Instructions are also provided in Spanish.

WCCLS has recently trained local library staff on how to use this new online resource and the product is now fully ready for use by WCCLS library cardholders. Additional assistance for the service is available in the online tutorial in the LearningExpress Help Center.

Metro Summer Calendar

GreenScene provides a comprehensive calendar of nature activities, gardening workshops and volunteer ventures offered by Metro and more than 100 other organizations. Some of the highlights include Fourth of July fireworks at Blue Lake, Sunday Parkways, Bug Fest and Oxbow Explorers. Click here for the full calendar. <http://calendar.oregonmetro.gov/events/index.php?com=searchresult&t=4>





Garage Sale Safety Also Applies to Farm Stands

Criminals are always looking for opportunities to avail themselves of property, merchandise or money that doesn't belong to them. One of the best ways to avoid becoming a crime victim is "awareness." It is often said that one must "think like a criminal" in order to stay one step ahead. While there might be some truth in that statement, the best solution is to remove crime opportunities that we create for criminals, sometimes unknowingly.

In the event that you're planning a garage sale, here are a few good tips to consider to help you avoid financial or physical harm to yourself, your family, and your property.

1. When planning a garage sale, consider inviting or joining with other neighbors and have a neighborhood-wide garage sale. This will create "neighbors looking out for each other."
2. If possible, avoid conducting the garage sale alone. Make it a family affair. Assign family members to certain tasks, i.e., one in charge of and guarding the cash box; another assisting the customer; yet another observing and making sure no one strays into areas of your property that are "off limits" to the public.
3. Make sure your garage is clearly marked and directs people to stay within a designated area of the garage. Separate items or areas that are not part of the garage sale.
4. If possible, have a wireless or cell phone close by. Avoid having to run into the house to answer the phone. If asked by a customer to use your phone inside your house, do not allow it. If it's a real emergency, place the call for them.
5. If asked by a customer to use your bathroom, do not allow it. Remember, you probably have prescription drugs or other personal medications in your medicine cabinet that strangers would have access to if they entered your bathroom.
6. Make sure you lock all your doors (even from the garage into your home) and windows.
7. Do not leave the cash-box unattended. Periodically take large bills into a safe place inside your home and avoid displaying large bills.
8. Do NOT accept personal checks, **PERIOD**. Tell the customer that you will **hold** the item while he/she goes to the bank or ATM and gets the cash. **Never** accept 3rd party checks.
9. Report any person that looks suspicious or that is attempting to **sell** you merchandise.
10. Take everything back into the garage after each day of sales. Do not leave anything outside.

Be Aware, Be Observant!

Neighborhood Watch News Vol. 23 issue, 6-June, 2009

CPO 8 Forum on Reserves

CPO 8 (North Plains, Mountaindale, Helvetia, and surrounding areas) will host a Special Meeting at **7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 14** at the Fire District 2 Station on Commercial Street in North Plains (next to the new Library).

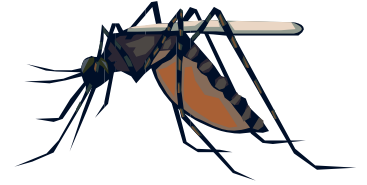
The purpose is to engage additional audiences about the urban and rural reserves process and to inform citizens so that they may participate in the August 20 public hearing process.

CPO 8 will host a panel discussion including Jim Johnson from the Oregon Department of Agriculture, Mary Kyle McCurdy from 1000 Friends of Oregon, Tualatin Valley Irrigation District (TVID), Metro, and Washington County.

Please see <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/washington/cpo-8-north-plainshelvetiamountaindale> for more information.

Please share the notice of the forum with others.

Protecting Against West Nile Virus



It's time to send out the West Nile Virus alerts for mosquito season, but Kenny Carver already started his annual campaign against the insects in Washington County. Carver, a 2004 graduate of Eastern Oregon University, hadn't planned to become an expert in mosquito abatement, but his work in Union and Multnomah counties prepared him for his current assignment: to protect the people in Washington County from the West Nile Virus carried by mosquitoes. He now works for Washington County as the Mosquito Control Coordinator.

His adversary is formidable. "There are mosquitoes that thrive in the cold waters of Alaska and other species that inhabit hot springs," Carver reports. Almost anywhere that water sits in ponds, backwaters, bird baths, and the drains in parking lots (called catch basins) and along gutters will harbor mosquito larvae.

Carver's main job is "surveillance," looking for spots that mosquitoes have started to breed. He uses a dipper in ponds and catch basins to catch larvae. He collects recently dead birds and tests them for West Nile Virus. And he has traps that use dry ice (mosquitoes are attracted to carbon dioxide), little fans and netting to capture adult mosquitoes so he can test them for the virus.

The first approach that Carver uses to control mosquitoes is to eliminate their "viable habitat:" buckets, old tires, and planters that collect water are easy targets and easy to deal with, just empty them out. "Homeowners can be really helpful by being sure that places with standing water on their property where mosquitoes breed are drained," according to Carver. "Birdbaths are fine as long as the water is changed at least once a week. Swimming pools that are properly chlorinated won't support mosquito larvae, either."

Sometimes water gathers when there is a drainage problem. Carver works with the property owners to stop the source of the water, or move it away from where water can gather into pools.

"When it comes to treatment of self-contained water bodies, our first line of defense is mosquito-eating fish, called *Gambusia*," says Carver. From his office, he gives away hundreds of the almost translucent two-inch long fish for free to homeowners, farmers, timber mills, and businesses. Mosquito fish are non-native to Oregon and therefore state law restricts their use to self-contained water bodies which are not fed or drained by natural waterways.

If *Gambusia* aren't enough, Carver and his team plant a "larvicide" in mosquito breeding habitat throughout the county. The larvicide is actually a naturally occurring bacterium found in soil, BTI, for bacillus thuringiensis israelensis, contained in small pellets.

Carver also works with other government agencies, schools, shopping centers, and other businesses, apartment buildings and anywhere people gather to provide education and services. "We'll help the owners understand what they can do to eliminate mosquitoes."

In Washington County, Carver has found West Nile Virus in birds but not yet in mosquitoes, horses or people. About 80 % of the people who get it have no symptoms and usually don't even know that they had it.

But approximately 20% of people who get West Nile virus will experience mild, flu-like symptoms. Less than 1% will develop severe illness – usually people older than 50 years, or with hypertension, diabetes or who consume high levels of alcohol.

"We don't want to create fear," says Carver, "but we want to encourage people to take practical protective measures." He suggests:

- Eliminate breeding spots around your home: empty buckets, drain old tires, clean out rain gutters, change water in bird baths and similar fixtures at least weekly.
- Wear protective clothing when you're out in the mornings and evenings, when mosquitoes are most active.
- Check to be sure screens in your home are secure.
- Use a mosquito repellent with DEET in it, or natural repellents like picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus.

To contact Kenny Carver for information or to obtain free *Gambusia* fish, call **503-846-2904** or see <http://www.co.washington.or.us/HHS/News/mosquito-hunter.cfm> for more information.

Dahlias Add Sunny Tones to the Summer Garden

Although they require special care, colorful dahlia perennials can grace Oregon's gardens from July until frost.



Native to central Mexico, the first wild dahlias were mostly single-flower types that grew on well-drained volcanic soils. Today's come in a great variety of forms, from dinner-plates and pom-poms to single anemones and orchids.

Dahlias grow from tender, fleshy tubers, according to Barb Fick, home horticulturist with Oregon State University Extension Service. Their roots tend to be shallow; she recommends careful cultivating. In early July, mulch plants with well-aged compost to keep out competing weeds. Bait for slugs when the plants are young, and watch for earwigs when blossoms begin to form.

Dahlias are fast growing and require a rich, well-drained soil. It is important to keep the soil moist, but not soggy. Their fleshy roots can be damaged if waterlogged.

As plants grow, a monthly feeding will encourage large blooms, but do not fertilize dahlias after mid-August.

The large-flowering types may grow into bush-sized plants and should be staked to keep large, bushy plants from falling over.

For the showiest flowers, some dahlias perform better with some disbudding. When the flower buds appear, remove any adjacent side buds or suckers just below the terminal flower buds.

Dahlias make wonderful cut flowers. Cut the blossoms when they are fully open and put the cut ends into warm water immediately. Use floral preservatives or change the water every two to three days to increase the life of cut flowers.

For more information about growing and caring for dahlias, the OSU Extension Service offers a free fact sheet entitled "Dahlia Culture" (FS 95) online at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/html/fs/fs95/>

By Judy Scott, 541-737-1386
Source: Barb Fick, 541-766-6075

Ride Connection Announces New Partnership with ACS

Ride Connection is pleased to announce a new partnership with the American Cancer Society (ACS); together we will provide transportation to and from cancer treatment through the *Road to Recovery* program. The ACS is a nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy and service.

The *Road to Recovery* program is new to the Portland area and serves people with cancer in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties. It is estimated that more the 19,000 residents in Oregon will learn they have cancer this year. "It is not unusual for cancer patients to need radiation therapy every weekday for six to seven weeks," said Gretchen Renggli, Portland Metro Market Quality Life Manager for the ACS. "In many cases, a patient is driven to hospitals and clinics by relatives or friends, but even these patients must occasionally seek alternative transportation."

This new partnership will benefit cancer patients as well as other customers seeking transportation from Ride Connection service partners. Most service partners in the Ride Connection network already provide transportation to cancer treatment. By shifting some of the cancer-related rides to new ACS volunteers, capacity will be freed up to provide trips for other purposes like shopping and nutrition; rides that might otherwise have been turned down.

Ride requests for the *Road to Recovery* program are coordinated and scheduled through the Ride Connection Service Center and the rides are provided by volunteer drivers. For more information about Road to Recovery, or to become a volunteer driver, call your local ACS office at 503-795-3906 or toll free at 1-800-227-2345 or email Gretchen renggli@cancer.org



Oregon State University Extension Service
Washington County
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**CPO 15 NEWSLETTER
TIME SENSITIVE**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Come Celebrate our Neighborhood at a CPO 15 Potluck Block Party Tuesday, August 4, 2009, 6:00-8:00 P.M.

At the home of Peggy and Tige Harris, 4800 SW. Golf Course Road, Cornelius

CPO 15 has started a Neighborhood Watch Program. August 4th is America's Night Out Against Crime.

Block Parties are being held all over the U.S. August 4th to raise awareness of safety issues and help neighborhoods and neighbors get acquainted.

Come Join Us and Have Fun!!!

The Sheriff's Office will bring their K-9 Unit and their Motorcycle team!! Face Painting for kids ! Opportunity to sign up for Neighborhood Watch

Bring a potluck item to share. Utensils and punch will be provided

Questions call Kay Nakao (503) 357-2936, Peggy Harris (503) 359-0798 or Kelly Lester (503) 357-4902

