

◆ CPO #8 NEWSLETTER ◆

Citizen Participation Organization #8

Serving: North Plains, Helvetia, Mountaindale, Dixie Mountain, Pumpkin Ridge

CPO Newsletters available on the web at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/washington/cpo-8-north-plainshelvetiamountaindale>

Washington County

February 2009



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 8

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

7:00 p.m.

North Plains Fire Station

31370 N.W. Commercial, North Plains

AGENDA

Introductions

Henry Oberhelman, Chairman

Public Safety Reports: Sheriff's Deputy

Fire District 2

Business Spotlight

Columbia Industries, LLC., Chris VanRaden, manager of this locally-owned custom equipment company, will speak about the products they manufacture for three industries: wood products, refuse and oil. His family has lived in the West Union area for several generations.

Minutes

Pat Wolter

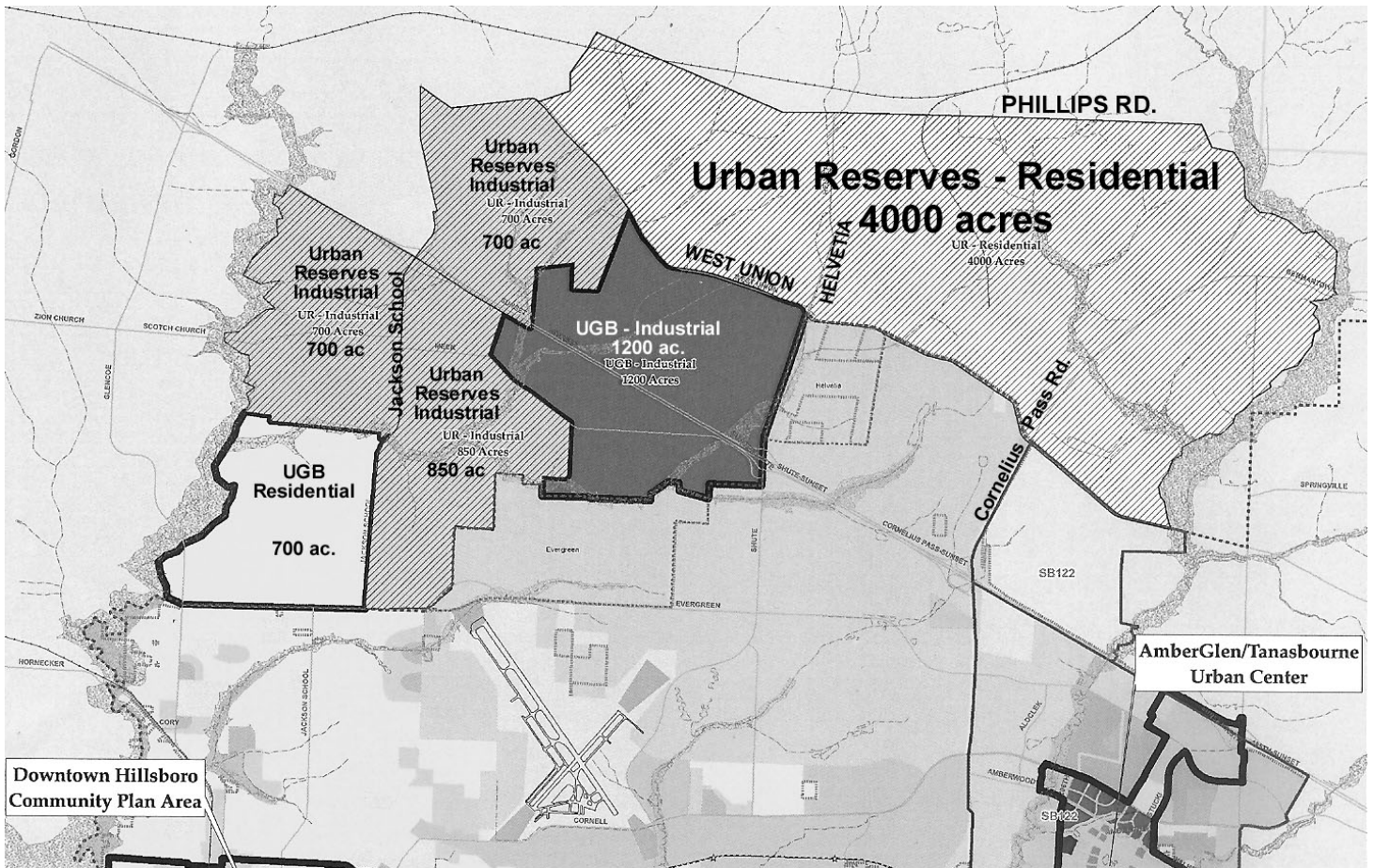
Old Business

Approval of letter re: CPO8 concerns to Washington County Reserves Coordinating Committee
Land Development Applications—Susie Anthony
Rural and Urban Reserves—Susie Anthony
LNG Pipeline
Other

Break For Refreshments

Program

Hillsboro's "Aspirations" For Future Growth, Alwin Turiel, AICP, City of Hillsboro. As the region's elected officials and stakeholders hash out what lands to "put in the bank" for future growth, the City of Hillsboro has its eye on 11,800 acres. Using the natural boundaries of Dairy Creek on the west, the Tualatin River on the south, and a line along the foothills of Helvetia to the north means that we in CPO 8 should be paying very close attention. We have included a map of the proposed reserves on page 2 in this newsletter for your reference.



OSU Web Site Helps People Find Help When Recession Hits Home

Oregonians who are finding it hard to make ends meet during these tough economic times have a new resource at their fingertips that quickly links them to key assistance programs with the click of a mouse.

In an effort to compile useful resources in one easy-to-access place, the Oregon State University Extension Service has created a Web site, "Finding Help in Tough Times," containing links to agencies like the Federal Trade Commission and Oregon's Employment, Education and Human Services departments. These sites help people find information about filing for unemployment, finding a job, avoiding foreclosure, staying mentally and physically healthy, and applying for food stamps, nutrition programs and free or lower-priced school meals.

"The Web site highlights health and social service resources available to people in need," said Sally Bowman, a specialist with OSU Extension who was involved with creating the Web site. "It's aimed at individuals and families who need help, such as people who've had the rug pulled out from under them in bankruptcy, foreclosure or layoffs."

The site is at: http://extension.oregonstate.edu/emergency/tough_times.php .

This new Web site also links to a site provided by the Cooperative Extension System, a nationwide, noncredit educational network, that contains advice on how to weather the economic storm financially and psychologically. Articles on that site offer tips on topics that include how to manage debt, avoid eviction and foreclosure, determine one's net worth, engage in family activities on a budget, and cope with the stress and anger that may follow a job loss.



Metro Council Expands Waste Reduction Education to Outdoor Immersion Programs

Waste reduction education will be made available to sixth grade students throughout the region in collaboration with outdoor school immersion programs starting spring 2009. By integrating waste reduction practices and curriculum into the formative experience of outdoor school, the decision-makers of tomorrow will learn how they can protect the environment, laying the foundation for a sustainable future for our region.

The Metro Council voted in 2008 to make a small increase in solid waste disposal fees to pay for a day of waste reduction education at outdoor school in order to achieve the waste reduction and recycling goals adopted by the region in the Regional Solid Waste Master Plan. Metro waste reduction educators worked with a team of sixth grade teachers and outdoor school immersion program providers to develop curriculum that aligns with and supports state science and social studies benchmarks and standards. The content will include 6.5 hours of waste reduction education that will be integrated into the outdoor school learning experience.

Why outdoor school? Studies have found that immersion experiences, such as outdoor school, increase the amount of information retained by the students. When students leave outdoor school they are then able to relate their hands on experiences to everyday life, creating a greater impact on them and the environment. Lack of funding is one of the primary reasons that schools either currently don't participate in outdoor immersion programs or participate in a shortened program. One of the goals of this program is to enable every sixth grader in the region to attend outdoor school, where they will be able to learn about waste reduction and the environmental impacts of everyday choices.

Schools located within the Metro boundary that participate in outdoor immersion programs can request a credit from approved outdoor school providers. For more information, contact Freda Sherburne at 503-797-1522 or send e-mail to Freda.sherburne@oregonmetro.gov. Information is also available on Metro's website at www.oregonmetro.gov/outdoorschool.

Final Chance to Weigh In On the 2010-13 Regional Flexible Funding Recommendation

On January 30, 2009, the Transportation Policy Alternatives Committee (TPAC), which provides technical advice to the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT), will release a draft final recommendation for Metro's 2010-13 regional flexible funding allocation. Release of the draft recommendation will kick off an informal public comment opportunity that ends with a formal joint JPACT/Metro Council public hearing at 4:00 p.m. on February 12, 2009.

The public is urged to first review the proposed programs, projects and recommendations by visiting the project web site at www.oregonmetro.gov/regionalflexiblefund and then submit comments in one of the following ways:

- online through the project web site
- email trans@oregonmetro.gov (regional flexible funding in the subject line)
- fax 503-797-1930 (regional flexible funding in the subject line)
- mail to Regional flexible funding allocation, Metro Planning and Development Center, 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland, OR 97232
- in person at the public hearing on February 12, 2009. **To ensure the accuracy of the public record, please also submit a written version of your testimony. Make sure your name is on all written material.**

The hearing is scheduled to begin at 4:00 p.m. in the Metro Council Chamber, 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland. Oral testimony is limited to three minutes.

To request special services, call Pat Emmerson at 503-797-1551 or T.D.D. (503) 797-1804.

LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Casefile	Applicant/location	Proposed action	Status
08-349 Type II EFU/RIND	Farm Place LLC 21520 NW Farm Park Rd.	Development review for a master plan within the R-ind & misc. review for landscaping offices within the EFU	Application received. Status is pending.
08-351 Type II EFU	Kolbjorn & Sorenson 13965 NW Pumpkin Ridge Rd	Home occupation renewal for a bakery.	Application received. Status is pending.
08-369 Type II EFC	Denali Construction 21440 NW Dixie Mountain Rd.	Non conforming use – replacement of a dwelling destroyed by fire.	Approved.
08-453 Type II EFC	Joel Birkeland South side of NW Burgdorfer Rd.	Review for a template-based dwelling in the EFC district.	Application received. Status is pending.
09-025 Type II EFC	Merlin & Karen Funk (deed) 31940 NW Shipley Rd.	Dwelling in the EFC district (template test); modification or removal of conditions to casefile 06-519 and a property line adjustment (equal area exchange).	Application received. Awaiting public notice.

Type II land use applications have a 14 day public comment period. No public hearing is held unless decision is appealed. All Type III land use hearings are held at the Washington County 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

Oregon Small Farm News

Oregon State University Extension Faculty invite you to subscribe to the free online newsletter that concentrates on both commercial small farm entrepreneurs as well as non-commercial small acreage landowners. The focus embraces organic/biological and conventional farming systems and emphasizes three areas:

1. Small acreage stewardship – addressing enterprises, land management and soil and water quality
2. Commercial small farms- high value horticulture, livestock, poultry, and alternative crop production emphasizing organic and niche production
3. Community food systems – alternative and specialty marketing and farm direct marketing channels

The current issue covers the following topics:

- 2009 Small Farms Conference
- Farm Profile: Rainshadow Organics
- The Need for New Farmers
- Growing Farms: Successful Whole Farm Management Series
- Agricultural Labor Management Series offered in Southern Oregon
- Sustainable Livestock Production part 2
- Making Sense of Food Labeling
- USDA Funds New Organic Cropping Research at OSU
- Willamette Valley Pesticide Collection Event
- USDA Seeks Public Comment
- Calendar



Look over the newsletters at <http://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu/newsletter/> and consider subscribing to this free and interesting publication.

Managing and Maintaining Wells and Septic Systems

Have your well (or spring) tested for: Coliform bacteria.

Pick up sample bottles and instructions between February 13 and testing dates of March 17 or 19 at one of the designated collections sites below.*

Payment of \$23.00 must be made when picking up the bottles.

Make checks payable to: **OSU Extension Service**

In the morning, collect a water sample and drop off your water test bottle before **10:00 am on March 17 or 19, 2009** for transport to the lab.

Results will be returned to the Washington County office of OSU Extension Service for distribution at the free, April 4, 2009 "Managing and Maintaining Wells and Septic Systems," class. If you are unable to attend, your results will be mailed to you.

For more information contact OSU Extension Service at: 503-821-1150

*Collection sites:

-Ace Hardware, Forest Grove

-North Plains Hardware

-OSU Extension Service, 185th/Walker Roads

-Jim's Thriftway, Banks

-Petrich General Store, Scholls



Free community education program

Mike Gamroth, OSU Extension Service Water Quality Program will give basic information on how to care for your drinking water well and septic system. Learn to protect your family's health, your investment in your home and the safety of water resources. Free nitrate tests included. Bring a sample of water.

Saturday, April 4, 2009 10:00 - noon

Washington County Extension Office- 18640 NW Walker Road, Beaverton

Take 185th Ave. exit from Highway 26. Go 1 mile South

Corner of 185th and Walker Roads. Entrance D-1

Please pre-register so that we can prepare materials. Walk-ins are welcome. For more information and to pre-register, call OSU Extension Serviced, 503-821-1150.

Hillsboro News

- Arts & Culture Book Club—the Walters Cultural Arts Center's new book club starts this winter and will meet at the CAC on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 6:30 – 7:00 pm. For more information, call 503-615-3485 or e-mail beths@ci.hillsboro.or.us.
- If getting more exercise is part of your New Year's resolution, check out SHARC, 953 SE Maple Street, with its swimming pools and fully equipped fitness center including cardio & weight room equipment. For more information, call 503.681.6127 or go to <http://www.ci.hillsboro.or.us/ParksRec/>
- Open Poetry Readings in the Gallery; Cultural Arts Center; 7:00 pm; beginning January 13 and continuing every second Tuesday evening through 2009 (except April 14); free. Poets and lovers of poetry alike will enjoy these evenings of readings in our gallery. Now, every second Tuesday of the month, readers and listeners are welcome to enjoy works by established or yet to be discovered talent. A sign-up sheet is available prior to the event, so come early and get in the queue. For more information, call 503-615- 3485.

SIGN UP FOR THE EARLY EDITION! READ CPO NEWSLETTER ONLINE!

You can receive this CPO newsletter earlier by signing up for CPO NewsAlert. When you do, we will send you an email advising when your CPO newsletter is posted online.

It's simple to switch to CPO NewsAlert. Just send an email to Sally Yackley cpo.wash.co@oregonstate.edu with your name, street address, zipcode and email address. We'll do the rest.

Public Affairs Forum Topics for February 2009



February 9, 2008

Topic: Vision Action Network, "Collaborative problem solving through relationship building".

Speaker: Douglas Tsoi.

February 16, 2008

Topic: Washington County Historical Society, President's day program.

Speaker: Samuel Shogren, Acting Director Historical Museum.

February 23, 2008

Topic: Gambling: When It's No Longer A Game.

Speaker: Andy Cartmill, CPS, Sr. Program Educator, Addictions Washington County Department of Health and Human Services.

Time: Mondays 11:15 am - 1 pm except on major holidays.

Location: Beaverton Elks Club, 3500 SW 104th Ave, Beaverton. 503-646-6116 (North of Canyon Rd. Enter through back of building)

For last minute updates and additional information about the forum, visit: www.washingtoncountyforum.org

County Boards Seek Candidates

Groups to study issues and make recommendations

The following boards are currently seeking applications for new members:

Enhanced Sheriff Patrol District Budget Committee

Description: Reviews the proposed budget developed for the Enhanced Sheriff's Patrol District in unincorporated Washington County.

Membership: Board of Commissioners plus five residents of the county. Each County Commissioner appoints one member. The five residents must live in the ESPD.

Time Commitment: 2 meetings in May

Length of Term: 3 years

Urban Road Maintenance District Budget Committee

Description: Reviews the proposed budget developed for the Urban Roads Maintenance District in unincorporated Washington County.

Membership: Board of Commissioners plus five residents of the county. Each County Commissioner appoints one member. The five residents must live in the URMD.

Time Commitment: 2 meetings in May

Length of Term: 3 years

The application deadline is March 3, 2009 or when all vacancies are filled. Applications may be obtained by visiting the website or by calling (503) 846-8685. Descriptions of all the boards can also be found on the website:

<http://www.co.washington.or.us/cgi/boards/commis.pl>

Boards, committees, and commissions advise the Board of Commissioners on matters of interest to people who live and work in Washington County. Committees themselves do not pass ordinances or establish policy; their purpose is to study issues and make recommendations.

Commission members are volunteers appointed by the County Board of Commissioners. Members must be residents of Washington County.

Serving on an appointed board or commission is a great way for Washington County residents to participate in decisions that affect them and to learn more about how local government works.

Soil Quality Test Available For Willamette Valley Farmers and Gardeners

Based on observation and simple tests, Willamette Valley gardeners and farmers can use a soil quality scorecard to do their own soil analysis and get results that are more thorough than traditional soil nutrient tests.

"The Soil Quality Card measures all three aspects of soil fertility – chemical, biological and physical," said Dan McGrath, Oregon State University Extension Service agent in Linn County and one of the developers of the card.

Willamette Valley farmers and a team of scientists from the OSU Extension Service and Agricultural Experiment Station and the Natural Resources Conservation Service developed the scorecard to measure the effectiveness of new soil conservation methods growers are using in their fields.

The scorecard is a checklist of 10 characteristics farmers identified as the most important indicators of long-term soil productivity. "It condenses years of experience and education into a concise primer on soil quality for the Willamette Valley," McGrath said.

Gardeners can use the same checklist to test the soil quality in their yards and gardens. A Soil Quality Guide also is available to help users understand their observations and score the quality of their soil.

For example, one indicator measures soil compaction. Repeated passes with heavy equipment or a garden rototiller can compact soil. To test compaction, simply push a wire flag into the soil. Does it hit hardpan and stop? Or does it pass easily below the level you have tilled? The wire flag represents the roots of your plants, and the Soil Quality Guide explains the journey roots make through the soil.

Another indicator measures soil structure. Soil that has been tilled too much can develop clods that are cemented together. When broken apart, the clods disintegrate into powder. Healthy soil has tiny pockets of air and a crumbly texture. The Soil Quality Guide helps assess if your soil is crumbly or cloddy and what difference it makes to water retention and plant growth.

Other indicators measure the abundance of soil organisms, water infiltration rate and condition of growing plants. Observations are scored and recorded on a card that can be purchased in sets of 25; results can be compared in different plots and as improvements are made.

The companion Soil Quality Card Guide explains the importance of each indicator, instructions for testing each indicator and how to improve the quality of the soil. It also outlines more in-depth tests that can be done with simple household materials.

The Willamette Valley Soil Quality Card (EM 8711) can be downloaded at no cost at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/abstract.php?seriesno=EM+8711> or ordered in sets of 25 for \$8 (plus shipping and handling).

The Guide (EM 8710) can be ordered for \$3 (plus shipping and handling) at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/abstract.php?seriesno=EM+8710> . Or, call 1-800-561-6719.



New OSU Washington County Extension Website

The new OSU Extension Service Washington County website is now live. The link to the CPO page is <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/washington/cpo> . This web address is slightly different from the previous address so if you have us bookmarked, you'll need to check it.

This should have everything the old website had plus more. Please keep in mind it's a work in progress. If you see anything that is incorrect or you can't find something you need, please email Sally Yackley at sally.yackley@oregonstate.edu .



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**CPO 8 NEWSLETTER
TIME SENSITIVE**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Are You Interested in Safe Travel and Community Connections For Walking and Bicycling?

Please join us at a community workshop to learn about current and future national and regional transportation policies that include opportunities for building infrastructure for biking and walking. Take time to network with other community members, and learn about current opportunities to develop sidewalks, trails and community connections.

Wednesday, February 11th, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
OSU Extension Service
18640 NW Walker Road, Room 1411 E
Beaverton, OR 97006



This workshop will explore various approaches to providing safe bicycle and pedestrian transportation. Commissioner Dick Schouten, an avid cyclist will provide the keynote to this workshop describing the findings of the Metro Blue Ribbon Committee for Trails. You will have an opportunity to ask questions, and share ideas and concerns.

The workshop will provide participants with:

1. Information on some non-motorized transportation models in the United States and several European countries.
2. An overview of Federal, state and local policies and funding mechanisms for bicycle and pedestrian transportation
3. A chance to network with local organizations addressing safe non-motorized transportation, and local opportunities to develop sidewalks, trails and community connections.

Please contact Sally.Yackley@oregonstate.edu to confirm your attendance or phone 503-821-1128 by Wednesday February 4th, so that we may be sure to have adequate materials for the workshop.