

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: March 1, 2019

SNOWMAGEDON EDITION

Red Cross Shelter

Tonight at 6:00 pm the Red Cross is opening a shelter at the old Harrison School at 1000 South 10th Street for anyone still without power in need of a warm place to stay invited to use the shelter. Please see the attached flyer from EPUD for more information. Thank you to South Lane School District and City staff for getting the building prepared for visitors.

Emergency Declaration

The City of Cottage Grove issued a declaration of emergency on Tuesday, February 26th at 3:30 pm because of the winter storm and in preparation of the second storm approaching and to address the cleanup from the storm. The emergency declaration was issued by the City Manager on Tuesday and then reaffirmed by the City Council at a Special meeting held Friday morning. The emergency declaration opens the doors for possible assistance with from the State or Federal Government and other agencies. The declaration will stay in effect until rescinded by the City Council.

Sand Bags for Property Protection from Melting Snow

In preparation for the melting of the accumulated snow the City has made sand bags available for Cottage Grove residents to protect homes and personal property. Bags and sand are available in the parking lot of LuLu's Dog Park off of North 12th Street. Residents will need to bring their own shovel to fill the bags and are welcome to take as many as needed to protect from water damage. Bags can be filled from dawn to dusk. Signage to the sand bag fill location will be at the corner of 12th and East Main Street.

Depending on how rapid the snow melts we may see localized flooding on City streets as a result of the storm water system being full or storm drains blocked by ice or debris. City Crews have been checking the storm drains and have cleaned drains in preparation. Residents can help by keeping snow and ice out of the gutter or away from storm drains if possible. If you see problems please contact the City's Public Works & Development Department at (541) 942-3349 to report flooding.

Property owners on or near hillsides should be aware of any water flowing from uphill neighboring property. The sand bags could be used to divert water from uphill locations out into the street to enter the storm system. Please do not divert water onto other's property. Properties immediately adjacent to streams or creeks may want to monitor the need for sand bags as the smaller sources may see increased flows.

Cottage Grove Garbage Service

Cottage Grove Garbage Service will resume residential garbage collection next week. There will be no charge for extra trash next week because of the lack of collection this week from the storm. Please place any extra trash in a plastic bag behind the can about 3 feet from the can.

Future Storm Updates

We anticipate that the impacts of this week's winter storm (affectionately referred to as snowmagedon) will be felt for several weeks and maybe well into Spring. Cleanup of tree and other debris, damaged buildings and other work may take months to be completely addressed. We will have regular reports to the City Council at Council meetings and also will be reporting progress in the Friday Update.

We hope that the winter storm will also be in everyone's mind as we plan the 2019 Emergency Preparedness Fair that will be held on August 10, 2019. We are already thinking of ideas to improve the Fair and highlight some of the lessons learned from this week's storm.

Thank You Staff

A big thank you to the City Staff members that really stepped up and put their all into meeting the needs of the community this week. From the staff that answered the constant stream of phone calls from members of the community; to the crew members making sure important operations continued to function and digging in the snow 24 hours a day and to the officers and dispatchers addressing the emergency needs in extreme conditions 24 hours a day, THANK YOU! There are countless stories of staff going beyond, pushing extra hard to help their fellow staff members or to serve the members of the community including our visitors that were stranded here because of freeway and highway closures. Thank you all. I hope you can get some much deserved sleep and a warm shower this weekend.

NASA at the Library

The NASA "Discover Exoplanets" exhibit is at the library through April 20th. Stop by to check it out.

Exoplanets Event

The Wisdom Seekers will have a special "Exoplanets" themed discussion next Thursday, March 7th at 12:00 pm at the Library. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend this fun and interesting discussion event.

Exoplanet Film Festival

The Cottage Grove Public Library is hosting an Exoplanet inspired film festival while the NASA exhibit is in town. Next week on Wednesday, March 6th from 3:00 to 5:00 pm, we screen the AMAZING and INSPIRING film, "The Iron Giant." Please come on down for some free popcorn, cool film and fun.

LEGOs for Kids and Adults

Please join us on Monday, March 4th from 5:00 to 7:00 pm for "Lego Time" at the Library. Anyone older than 13 years is welcome to attend and see they can create from Legos.

Quote of the Week

"When it snows you have two choices: shovel or make snow angels."

~Pinterest.com~