

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: April 9, 2021

Two Week Warning

Let's not slide backwards. Get out enjoy the weather, visit the park, visit with friends, eat out – but practice extra efforts at washing/sanitizing hands, wear masks, sanitize after handling your mask and don't touch your face. Let's redouble efforts to sanitize touched surfaces. When visiting with friends outdoors keep some distance. Currently the numbers for Lane County indicate that we will be moving back up to a higher risk category with the accompanying restrictions if we don't get our numbers back down.

Yard Sales Signs of Spring

The warm beautiful Spring weather is a welcome respite from the cold, dark drizzly Winter weather. With the return of the pleasant weather will come the return of yard or garage sale signs. Please remember that yard/garage sale signs are not allowed within the City right of ways, on traffic signal, street light, street sign or utility poles – but don't fret there are ways to help promote your yard/garage sales.

Just follow the Community Resources menu on the City webpage and go to the Yard Sales link and you can enter in your yard sale information and we will post the list on the page of all yard or garage sales by Friday morning each week.

Anyone wishing to take a tour of the Yard sales in town can access the site on their device or print out a list and then shop till they drop.

Yard Sale signs in the right of way can be a distraction to drivers, pedestrians or cyclists. Please do not place them in the right of way. They can be placed on private property, but please not within the right of way.

Beeper

The City Manager will be on KNND's Beeper Show on Monday, April 12th from 9:00 to 10:00 am.

Lions Club Meets

The Cottage Grove Lions Club met on Thursday and had the City Manager as their guest speaker. The Manager answered questions about City projects and discussed the upcoming Council decisions.

National Safe Digging Month

In recognition of April's National Safe Digging Month, The City of Cottage Grove and NW Natural want to remind residents, contractors, and landscapers to call 811 before you dig. If you're planning a spring planting or an outdoor project that involves digging, please call 811 at least two business days ahead to have underground utility lines located. It's free, and it's the law. It can also prevent service interruption, thousands of dollars in damages and the risk of injuries. "Whether you're a homeowner building a fence, a real estate agent posting a for-sale sign, or a contractor doing excavation, you must call 811 or use the free NW Natural safety app to have utility lines located," said Jaimie Lemke, NW Natural's damage prevention supervisor. The most common cause nationwide of a natural gas pipeline damage is when someone accidentally digs into the pipe. Accidentally hitting an underground utility line can interrupt service to entire neighborhoods and lead to serious injuries, fines and costly repairs. Here are some planning guidelines:

- Regardless of digging depth or familiarity with the property, make your request at least two business days before you plan to dig.
- Call 811 or use the free NW Natural Safety App.
- When you call 811, the Oregon Utility Notification Center notifies local utility companies of the intent to dig. Then a professional locator visits the site to mark the location of underground utility lines. The OUNC says the contractors who come out to mark buried lines will follow COVID-19 safety precautions.
- Confirm with 811 that all lines have been marked.
- Consider moving your project location if it's near utility line markings.
- If working with a contractor, confirm a call to 811 has been made. Don't allow work to begin if lines aren't marked.

If while digging, you accidentally hit a gas line, report it immediately by calling 911 or NW Natural's 24-hour emergency line at 800-882-3377. No damage is too small to report, even a small dent could weaken a natural gas line.

Always remember: Smell. Go. Let us know. If you smell natural gas, leave the area immediately, and then call us at 800-882-3377 and NW Natural will come over to check things out. During COVID-19, NW Natural's crews are following Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and state health guidelines regarding face coverings, social distancing, and sanitizing protocols.

For more information, visit <https://www.nwnatural.com/safety/call-before-you-dig>.

If you accidentally hit a City water or sewer line during working hours call (541) 942-3349 or after hours and weekends call Cottage Grove Police Department non-emergency number (541) 942-9145.

Library in the Park

Tuesday, April 6th was an exciting day for the library staff to celebrate National Library Week, by starting the Library in the Park outreach program. Natasha and Becky loaded up the van with totes full of new books, handouts about library and community center services, and a Storywalk^(R) set on stakes. As they arrived at Bohemia Park, a patron was already waiting, eager

to browse books in person again. Within minutes, stations were set up with books, sanitizer, disposable masks and gloves. The patron found a few books, presented their library card and cheerfully walked off to read their new finds. A few minutes later, a family of three came up and signed up for a library card. They had just moved to town and eagerly picked out some books for their child.

Meanwhile, Becky was putting up the Storywalk^(R) along the path near the playground. Preschoolers and tweens came up to her, asking about the display and what she was doing. After asking about the Storywalk, a community member was on the phone, excitedly explaining the Storywalk to the other person on the line. Many more walkers stopped Becky to ask what she was doing or to tell her how much they loved the library and how excited they were to see the library in the park.

The Storywalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Storywalk® is a registered service mark owned by Anne Ferguson.

Cottage Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant Summer Operating Restrictions in Effect

Starting April 1st the Wastewater Treatment Plant went into the summer thermal limits required by the Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The April 1st through May 15th limits are 13 million Kcals/day. This is the allowed increase in Coast Fork River water temperature caused by treated water being released into the river by the treatment plant. Due to the restriction the City is unable to discharge all its treated effluent into the river. The reason for this is to keep the river cooler for fish migration. The limits are usually attainable until May 15th when the limits are again reduced to accommodate the fish spawning season. The restriction is reduced again to a limit of 9 million Kcals/day. On May 1st the summer permit starts which increases the testing requirements for Phosphorus, Nitrite, Nitrate, and Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen. The increased testing runs through the end of October. From June 15th through September 15th the NPDES permit has a very strict Orthophosphate limit. Our limit to achieve is under one pound per day. With the new pond project we will have more treated water storage which will help us to stay in compliance with DEQ according to our permit.

Downtown Cottage Grove Looking for Flower Basket Waterer

Downtown Cottage Grove is looking for a person(s) to water the hanging flower baskets on Main Street from S. River Road to Gateway Boulevard daily from mid-May to mid-September. A golf cart with water and fertilizer is provided. We are offering \$3600. If interested, contact Molly Murai at downtowncottagegrove@gmail.com ASAP.

Weekly Updates #25 Southmayd Family (by Jason Bush)

We wanted to specify that on any invoices we should have the dollar amount on it, but zeroed out as an “in-kind” donation. If it is a discount or combination of labor & materials, simply break it down to clearly show what is billed and what is donated, so that you receive accurate tax credit deductions.

The persistence has indeed paid off! I am extremely pleased and excited to announce that we have Boyd Rinck and Coast Fork Construction on board to frame up the Southmayd house. Boyd indicated he could start pretty much right away, in fact, he met with Shad of L&L Foundations, Rich of Brother's Plumbing, Marty with Superior Electric, Ken with McKenzie Excavation, Kevin of R&H Contractors, Chris Smith of Dorman Construction, the Southmayd family, and myself at the site on Wednesday to coordinate and discuss the elevations of the top of foundation in conjunction with the septic tank, sewer connection, and ADA aspects of the home. The meeting went off like a bunch of old hunting partners that haven't seen each other in a year or two; lots of backslapping, handshaking, but all business. We have a very good team of experienced contractors, who are all excited to help this family get set up the right way! Thanks to you all.

Shad is staking out the foundation today, I am having Parr deliver foundation materials on Monday, and the whole L&L crew will be starting the foundation on Monday. It may take the biggest part of two weeks to include inspections, the pour, and a week to cure. Boyd is ready and will start right away. Ken and the McKenzie Excavation crew may start on the septic tank and drain field this week or next, and it should take about 2-3 days to finish it up. Things are coming together.

I stopped off at ANCO Fasteners in Eugene on Thursday to see about getting Boyd the 14 boxes of nails for his guns, and to my surprise, the owner darn near had my truck bed full before I learned his name. I received about \$1,500 worth of various nails for \$383.50. A big thanks to Steve Milosevich and his crew. He did say he would bill Boyd's account, if I forget to square up with him!

I discussed our project with Karl Mueller of Home Insulation on Wednesday to start the process of obtaining insulation. I have also been playing phone tag with Lee Brohel, Vice President of Discount Windows, and will get back with him next week. Lastly, I will now be able to concentrate on obtaining roofing materials, plumbing fixtures, sheetrock and a tape & texture crew, and many other interior finish materials. Mike Blankenship, Owner of Blankenship Corporation, is continuing to work on the siding, Tyvek, and flashing materials. We're in good shape....

Yours in Building Safety, "and" Guarding Our Veterans. Jason Bush, CBO

Quote of the Week

"April Showers Bring May Flowers."