

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: May 19, 2023

May Water Conservation Tips

How to Maintain a Water-Wise Landscape

During summer months, irrigating causes water demand to spike. This pressure on our water supply is alleviated when our community conserves water. Save water and maintain a beautiful landscape by following the steps below.

Apply Mulch to Your Garden

Add bark, woodchips, or rocks to your garden to help retain soil moisture, prevent compaction, reduce erosion, and keep weeds away. You should spread mulch over the entire plant bed in a layer between 2 and 4 inches thick. It is best to apply mulch in the fall or spring.

Amend Your Garden Soil

A soil amendment improves your soil by changing its physical properties. Adding organic matter, such as compost, bio-char, or plant cover crops, will encourage root establishment.

Aerate Your Lawn Soil

Aerating the soil underneath your lawn increases water infiltration and helps the soil retain moisture. The various tools used to perforate soil and alleviate compaction may simply poke holes, while others will remove plugs of grass and soil. It's best to aerate your soil in the spring or fall when the soil is wet.

Check Your Soil Moisture

You can determine if you're watering too much or underwatering by checking your soil moisture. Use a probe or sensor or check by hand. First, dig 8 to 10 inches down where the outer leaves of a plant drip water onto the ground. Then form a ball with the soil. If you can form a ball, your soil is moist enough. If the soil is dry and crumbly, increase your irrigation time.

Street Improvement & Funding Ad Hoc Committee

May 25th, 6:00 p.m. at City Hall the first meeting of the Street Improvement & Funding Committee will hold its first meeting. The Ad Hoc Committee will be reviewing the City street fund, system, and options to increase street funding to improve City streets. The Committee will

be making a recommendation for street improvements and funding to the City Council by August 14, 2023.

Public Information Officer Training in Hillsboro

On Wednesday, May 17, Assistant to the City Manager Jake Boone attended a training for law enforcement Public Information Officers at the Washington County Public Safety Training Facility in Hillsboro. The all-day session covered a range of techniques for presenting information to the media, as well as presenting useful considerations when determining what information can and cannot be disclosed in relation to police matters.

Beeper

The Public Works and Community Development Director will be on KNND's Beeper show on Monday, May 22nd from 9:00 to 10:00 am.

Police Chief Recruitment

The official recruitment began this week for the next Cottage Grove Police Chief. The recruitment materials and information about the recruitment process is available on the City's website at: <https://www.cottagegroveor.gov/jobs>.

Yard of the Week

This week the Yard of the Week is located at 718 South 2nd Street. This beautiful yard is a great example of what can be done with limited space and a wide selection of plants. Winning the Yard of the Week brings the honor of receiving the Yard of the Week sign for a week, a month of water, a Chamber of Commerce gift certificate and a gift certificate for 13 weeks of the Cottage Grove Sentinel.

Please be sure to submit nominations for those friends and neighbors that make the extra efforts to help beautify the community. Send nominations to the Chamber of Commerce or the City Hall.

ODOT Projects Update

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) reports that next week the contractor will begin paving Highway 99 between Woodson Place to Withycombe Avenue. Use caution while traveling through the work zone as travel will shift daily during the paving operations. Once paving is complete the permanent striping, center island for the pedestrian crossing safety, lighting, railing and other finish work will be done. The project is scheduled to be finished this summer.

Work on the Cottage Grove Connector is finishing up and ODOT estimates that the Connector will be open by Tuesday. Once opened up there will still be some minor work to do, so please continue to use caution.

South Valley Athletics Nine to Five Soccer Camp

Sign up for 9 to 5 Soccer Camp, June 26-30. Registration ends June 7th. Cost: Kindergarten - 5th Grade, \$70; 6th Grade - 12th Grade, \$80. \$5 charge for all late registrations. Unleash your

passion and ignite your skills. Register at CGHS, CGHS FamilyID.com, or day of the camp
Contact Lena for information or paper registrations: 541-780-2129.

Eugene Symphony

The Eugene Symphony is coming to Cottage Grove on Monday, July 24th for their annual performance in Bohemia Park at 7:30 pm. Be sure to mark your calendars and join in the fun and amazing entertainment.

Budget Public Hearing

The City Council will be holding a public hearing during their City Council meeting on June 26, 2023 which will begin at 7:00 pm at City Hall, 400 Main for the purpose of receiving comment on the uses of State Shared Revenues, as well as a public hearing to discuss the budget as approved by the Budget Committee. It is anticipated that after the public hearings and consideration of any public comments, a budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, will be adopted.

Quote of the Week:

“Do not judge me by my success, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again.”

~Nelson Mandela~