



GRESHAM



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WINTER 2024

A NEWSLETTER FOR RESIDENTS

Spreading cheer throughout the year

Sometimes a moment is all it takes to make someone's day brighter. A laugh together. A helping hand.

A sense of belonging. We live for these moments every day while serving our community.

Gresham has much to cheer about and we're lucky to share so many meaningful moments with you!

Soaks and smiles

Our police and firefighters are still grinning after having a blast at the Community Splash Day hosted by SDF Collective and local businesses.

Along with all the kids, we got to be kids-at-heart for a moment in time, when the only emergency was an empty squirt gun.

Adding to the fun, City Manager Nina Vetter challenged Police Chief Travis Gullberg and Fire Chief Scott Lewis to meet at Splash Day for an epic water battle. We learned that when Fire shows up to a water battle with two water trucks, there is only one option. Dunking. And a draw. Until next year...

Jumping right in

On a hot July day, Mayor Travis Stovall was filming a community update on the Gresham Arts Plaza when young Ezra approached him with an important question: "Will you try my hopscotch course?"

Suit, shiny shoes and all, Mayor Stovall jumped right in and hipped, hopped and scotched with Ezra clapping away.

A second chance

A store manager noticed his employee on the verge of homelessness and living out of his car. Our Homeless Services team offers many kinds of help. By placing the employee in an apartment with rent covered for six months, he could figure out the next steps.

He was able to save money, stabilize his financial situation, and move into an apartment of his own. The employee is in a much better place mentally and emotionally now, the store manager said.

Growing goodwill

One day, a Spanish-speaking community gardener came into City Hall looking for help with his application. Eduardo (Ed) on our Facilities team was nearby and jumped in to help. Not only did Ed translate for him, but he helped complete his application with a smile.

Coming up roses

The Parks Operations team continues to add to the beauty of Main City Park by using what they have. They built a split-rail fence by reusing material from old wood benches and planted a rose garden.



ABOVE: Gresham Police and Gresham Fire had a blast getting soaked at Community Splash Day in August.



FAR LEFT: Mayor Travis Stovall happily hopscotches at the Gresham Arts Plaza.



LEFT: Eduardo Yanez, left, Facilities, helps a resident fill out paperwork for a community garden plot.

- GreshamOregon.gov
- Facebook.com/CityofGresham
- Instagram.com/CityofGresham
- Twitter.com/CityofGresham
- Youtube.com/CityofGreshamOregon

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INSIDE THIS EDITION

Sign up for the 2024 Gresham Lilac Run presented by Unitus Community Credit Union. **Page 2**



INSIDE CITY HALL

Mayor
Travis Stovall 503-618-2584

City Council Office 503-618-2871

City Council
Sue Piazza, Council President
Dina DiNucci
Janine Gladfelter
Jerry Hinton
Vince Jones-Dixon
Eddy Morales

Abandoned Vehicle Reporting 503-618-2248

Animal Services (Multnomah County) 503-988-7387

Building Permits 503-618-2845

Business Licenses 503-618-2370

Code Compliance 503-618-2248

East County Resolutions 503-618-3247

Fire/Police Non-Emergency 503-823-3333

Garbage/Recycling 503-618-2525

Housing Resources Coordinator 503-618-2721

Parks 503-618-2626

Planner on Duty 503-618-2780

Small Business Center 503-618-2640

Utility Billing 503-618-2373

City of Gresham 503-618-3000
1333 NW Eastman Parkway
Gresham, OR 97030

Pay a City bill online
GreshamOregon.gov/Pay-Your-Bill-Online

In-person customer service hours

Building on Duty
8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Thursday

Business Licenses
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday

Permit Services
8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Thursday

Planner on Duty (closed noon-1 p.m.)
8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Thursday

Utility Billing
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday

City Hall is virtually open for all services, online or by phone, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

GRESHAM is produced quarterly by the City of Gresham for its residents.

Questions, comments and suggestions should be directed to Sarah Cagann at 503-793-4167, or Sarah.Cagann@GreshamOregon.gov.

Issues are available for viewing at GreshamOregon.gov/City-Publications

The information in this newsletter is current as of the publication date. Call the City at 503-618-3000 to verify meeting dates and status of events, or visit GreshamOregon.gov/Events

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A NOTE FROM NINA 'What I'm excited for in 2024'

1. Pickleball courts
2. Gradin Sports Park improvements
3. Community safety progress



With so many incredible things on the horizon for Gresham in 2024, it's hard to narrow down what I'm most excited about to three!

But a few plans definitely at the top of my list include bringing the first pickleball courts to Gresham. This is a resource our community has been asking for, and I am excited we will be able to make this happen in 2024.

Along with that, I'm thrilled that the extra state funding Gresham recently received will allow us to continue to develop Gradin Community Sports Park. By bringing more

fields, dog parks, restrooms, and other amenities, Gradin is on its way to becoming a world-class facility for not only our community to enjoy but the region as well.

Beyond that, I am so pleased with our Police Department's efforts on the Safe Gresham initiative. Police are improving our response to illegal drug activity and related livability issues in Gresham by renewing our relationship with

the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office and working with the Special Investigation Unit. I can't wait to see all the accomplishments that come from this Strategic Plan work throughout 2024!

Nina – City Manager Nina Vetter

Contact the City Manager at Nina.Vetter@GreshamOregon.gov or call the City Manager's Office at 503-618-2346.

NEWS BRIEFS

Gresham Safety Levy update

On the May 2024 ballot, we're going to ask our community to give the Gresham Safety Levy a second consideration.

At press time, the City Council directed staff on Dec. 5 to pursue a less-expensive levy to keep the community safe, address homelessness, mental health, crime and 911 response. Details on related benefits and costs will be forthcoming this winter.

Gresham is no longer a small town, and its safety needs are urgent. Investing in public safety will address Gresham's size and the issues that come with protecting a growing city. Let's work together to create a vibrant community now and for future generations.

Watch the City Council meeting at GreshamOregon.gov/Agendas-and-Videos. Read the ballot measure text at GreshamOregon.gov/Safety-Levy.

Gresham Lilac Run

Give the gift of health! The City's Gresham Lilac Run, presented by Unitus Community Credit Union, returns April 27, 2024.

The event's 5K run/walk, 10K and half marathon courses begin and end at Main City Park. Cruise along the Springwater Corridor and visit at least one of Gresham's scenic trails.

You'll be running for a great cause. All registration fees benefit Shooting Star Adventures. Register for early bird rates at GreshamOregon.gov/Lilac-Run.

Make it a family affair and sign up children ages 12 and younger for the free 800-meter Little Lilac Run. Everyone receives a running bib and medal.

Register by email at LilacRun@GreshamOregon.gov or call 971-438-6478. Include child's name, age, and guardian's name.

Winter recreation classes

Gresham Parks and Recreation partners with PlayEast! to offer youth recreation in Gresham for a fee.

- ▶ Lego classes for ages 6-12.
- ▶ Baseball classes for ages 3-6.
- ▶ Baseball instructional league for ages 7-8.
- ▶ Basketball instructional league for ages 7-8.
- ▶ Just 4 Kicks soccer classes for ages 2-12.
- ▶ Parkour youth and adult classes.

Gresham residents may register for any class or activity.

Classes are fee-based, but scholarships are available for those in need. Call PlayEast! at 503-674-6202.

For a complete list of activities, classes, descriptions, and updates, visit playeast.org.

Register online or scan the QR code with your phone's camera.



Winter weather tips

Winter means wind, rain and snow. Stay safe, warm and dry with these local resources. Save 911 for life-threatening emergencies only.

Flooding



To report broken City mains, a rain hazard or flooding in the public right-of-way, call the Operations Center at 503-618-2626 between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. After hours or weekends, call 503-661-3906. The Operations Center, located at 2123 SE Hogan Road, features a fill-your-own sandbag station for residents. Bring a shovel. Bags provided.

Winter road operations



The City's winter response route consists of three categories: Priority 1 (hospital and emergency routes, arterial streets and bridges); Priority 2 (steep grades, through and collector streets); and Priority 3 (residential streets, cul-de-sacs and dead ends).



If bad weather persists, crews may be required to stay on Priority 1 and 2 streets until weather improves.

Use the City's interactive plow map to see if your street is a Priority 1, 2, or residential street at GreshamOregon.gov/Severe-Weather/#RoadOperations.

Fire safety reminders



Do not use indoors: generators, barbecues, gas-supplied heaters, propane, or any type of appliances that produce carbon monoxide. Using a space heater? Let your space heater have its space. A minimum of 3 feet between heater and combustibles. Plug space heaters directly into the wall, not an extension cord.

Recycling tips for wind



Place carts out in the morning by 6 a.m. instead of the night before. Fill recycling cart only 1/2 or 3/4 full, and place heavier items on top to prevent loose recycling from blowing out. Do not strap down lids or place rocks on top; carts cannot be serviced with our automated collection vehicles.

Car theft prevention tip



Never leave your car running unattended. Vehicles left running to warm up are especially obvious in cold weather.

Safety

- Severe weather information GreshamOregon.gov/Severe-Weather
- Smoke alarm assistance Gresham Fire Department, 503-618-2355
- Power outages or downed lines PortlandGeneral.com/Outages or 503-464-7777
- Cell phone emergency and service alerts Register at PublicAlerts.org/Signup
- Preparedness information GreshamOregon.gov/Emergency-Preparedness
- Food and emergency shelter information, call 211.
- Frozen water pipes at home, call a plumber.
- Weather tips and alerts, follow the City on social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram).

Deicing tips for home

Plan ahead for safety and success to protect yourself, your pets and our water

Before the storm

- Have a bucket of sand and gravel, plus a shovel, on hand.
- Use traction cleats on your shoes or boots.
- Apply sand and gravel for traction.
- Avoid using salt. It corrodes concrete and is toxic to soil, plants and streams.
- Use deicing products with magnesium, potassium or calcium sparingly. Mix with sand for the best results.
- Use a tarp or sheet on your car's windshield. Or apply a 3:1 vinegar-water solution.



After the storm

- Sweep up all products and put in the trash.
- Shovel snow into your yard, not into the street.

Learn more at GreshamOregon.gov/Severe-Weather or call 503-618-2525.

'Tis the season to recycle right: Clean recycling tips for the holidays



Holiday waste prevention tip

The greater Portland area generates millions of tons of waste during the holidays. This year, you can start a new tradition of throwing away less and reusing and recycling more.

Quality over quantity: A gift exchange with a family or group of friends – where you draw a single name – could allow you to purchase a nicer item with more staying power.

From gift-giving to clean-up, small changes can have a big impact. Visit oregonmetro.com/holidays to learn more.

Holiday garbage service schedule

Both Christmas and New Year's Day fall on Monday. Garbage, recycling and yard debris service both weeks will be delayed by one day.

REGULAR PICK-UP DAY	HOLIDAY SCHEDULE
Monday	Tuesday
Tuesday	Wednesday
Wednesday	Thursday
Thursday	Friday
Friday	Saturday



Tips for tree recycling

Apartments and businesses: Call your hauler or Metro at 503-234-3000 for tree disposal options.

Houses: Cut trees to fit inside the yard debris cart for no charge. The lid must close. No flocked trees, ornaments, tinsel, wires, etc.

Whole, natural trees less than 6 feet may be set at the curb for an extra \$4.18 fee.

Trees over 6 feet tall must be cut into sections less than 6-feet in length. Each section at the curb is a \$4.18 fee.

Set flocked trees, less than 6-feet, out for garbage for a \$5.86 fee.

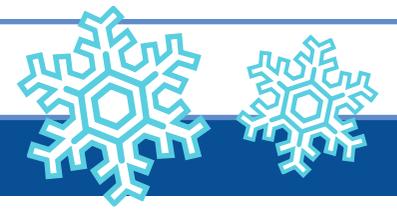
Have garbage bill questions? Contact your haulers at GreshamOregon.gov/Haulers-and-Rates.

More holiday recycling tips at GreshamOregon.gov/Holiday-Recycling.



Questions? Call 503-618-2525 or visit GreshamOregon.gov/Holiday-Recycling.

GET INVOLVED IN GRESHAM CITY CALENDAR



DECEMBER

- 16 Teen Climbing Night**, 7-10 p.m., Rock Haven Climbing Gym, GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation
- 16 Saturday Night Basketball**, Grades 6-8, 8-10 p.m.; Grades 9-12, 10 p.m.-midnight; Friends of the Children, GreshamOregon.gov/Basketball
- 17, Rockwood Market Hall Music Series**, 4-7 p.m., Downtown Rockwood, rockwoodmarkethall.com
- 19 Reindeer in Rockwood**, 3-6 p.m., Rockwood Market Hall, rockwoodmarkethall.com
- 21 Third Thursday**, 5:30-8:30 p.m., activities, historicdowntowngresham.org
- 26 Christmas observed**, City Hall closed

JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day observed**, City Hall closed
- 3 Community Climbing Day**, 6 a.m.-10 p.m., Rock Haven Climbing Gym, GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation
- 6 Teen Climbing Night**, 7-10 p.m., Rock Haven Climbing Gym, GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation
- 10 Wag 'n Walk**, Main City Park, 4 p.m., GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation
- 12 Friday Night Basketball**, Grades 6-8, 6-8 p.m.; Grades 9-12, 8-10 p.m.; H.B. Lee Middle School, GreshamOregon.gov/Basketball
- 13 Saturday Night Basketball**, Grades 6-8, 8-10 p.m.; Grades 9-12, 10 p.m.-midnight; Friends of the Children, GreshamOregon.gov/Basketball
- 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day**, City Hall closed

- 19 Friday Night Basketball**, Grades 6-8, 6-8 p.m.; Grades 9-12, 8-10 p.m.; H.B. Lee Middle School, GreshamOregon.gov/Basketball

- 20 Wag 'n Walk**, Bella Vista Park, 10 a.m., GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation

- 20 Teen Climbing Night**, 7-10 p.m., Rock Haven Climbing Gym, GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation

FEBRUARY

- 3 Teen Climbing Night**, 7-10 p.m., Rock Haven Climbing Gym, GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation

- 7 Community Climbing Day**, 6 a.m.-10 p.m., Rock Haven Climbing Gym, GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation

- 7 Wag 'n Walk**, Red Sunset Park, 4 p.m., GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation

- 9 Friday Night Basketball**, Grades 6-8, 6-8 p.m.; Grades 9-12, 8-10 p.m.; H.B. Lee Middle School, GreshamOregon.gov/Basketball

- 10 Saturday Night Basketball**, Grades 6-8, 8-10 p.m.; Grades 9-12, 10 p.m.-midnight; Friends of the Children, GreshamOregon.gov/Basketball

- 17 Wag 'n Walk, Pat Pfeifer Park**, 10 a.m., GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation

- 17 Teen Climbing Night**, 7-10 p.m., Rock Haven Climbing Gym, GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation

- 19 Presidents Day**, City Hall closed

MARCH

- 2 Teen Climbing Night**, 7-10 p.m., Rock Haven Climbing Gym, GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation

- 6 Community Climbing Day**, 6 a.m.-10 p.m., Rock Haven Climbing Gym, GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation

- 6 Wag 'n Walk**, Nadaka Nature Park, 4 p.m., GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation

- 16 Wag 'n Walk**, Main City Park, 10 a.m., GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation

- 16 Teen Climbing Night**, 7-10 p.m., Rock Haven Climbing Gym, GreshamOregon.gov/Recreation

- 13 Evening of Jazz Concert**, MHCC Theatre, 7 p.m., mhcc.edu/PerformingArtsEvents

For a complete list visit GreshamOregon.gov/Events.

Bring the world to Gresham



This winter, we're awarding grant money to bring inspiring cultural events into the community for everyone to enjoy.

"We're proud to support meaningful ways to bring us together through cultural events and activities, which we've identified in the Strategic Plan as a priority based on the community's input," said Michael Gonzales, Neighborhood Services Manager.

CULTURAL EVENTS GRANT PROGRAM

Grants provide funding for Gresham-based activities and events that nurture community pride and celebrate diversity and culture.



Categories

- Performing arts: community and professional theater, instrumental and vocal music, dance
- Festivals or parades
- Educational events



The grants support holding activities for the community to take part in. This includes events and festivals in underserved communities rich in culture, education and heritage.

Who may apply

Nonprofit organizations within Gresham city limits. Or Gresham residents who partner with a qualifying nonprofit.

How to apply

The grant application period will start in January 2024. You can download an application online at GreshamOregon.gov/Cultural-Grants.

For more information, contact Michael.Gonzales@GreshamOregon.gov or 503-618-2482.



Gresham Historical Society Director Silvie Andrews holds a Gresham Folklife Heritage Exhibit item. The exhibit opens on Jan. 27, 2024.

Neighborhood Association Information

Meetings may be virtual or in-person. See neighborhood meeting agendas posted at GreshamOregon.gov/Neighborhoods.

CENTENNIAL

Mary Edmeades, President
centennialhood@gmail.com

CENTRAL CITY

For more information:
Michael Gonzales, 503-618-2482
Michael.Gonzales@GreshamOregon.gov

GRESHAM BUTTE

Stephen Estes, President
408-406-7443 or greshambutte@gmail.com
Second Wednesday of the month
September through May, 7 p.m.

GRESHAM PLEASANT VALLEY

Richard Barker, President
714-264-1752

HISTORIC SOUTHEAST

For more information:
Michael Gonzales, 503-618-2482

HOLLYBROOK

Mark Cage, President
Cagefam97080@gmail.com

HOGAN CEDARS

For more information:
Michael Gonzales, 503-618-2482

KELLY CREEK

Charles Teem, President
503-663-5066 or KellyCreekNA@gmail.com
Feb. 7, 7 p.m.

NORTH CENTRAL

Mary Gossett, Interim President
503-314-3167 or
gossettmmary@hotmail.com

NORTHEAST

For more information:
Michael Gonzales, 503-618-2482

NORTH GRESHAM

For more information:
Michael Gonzales, 503-618-2482

NORTHWEST

Kat Todd, President
trekvat@hotmail.com or President@nwnaGresham.org
Feb. 5, 7 p.m., Zoom and a hybrid meeting
Kyoudou Center, Gresham Japanese Garden
Main City Park, 219 S. Main Ave.

POWELL VALLEY

Nancy Inglehart, President
powellvalleynga@gmail.com

ROCKWOOD

Catherine Nicewood, President
503-285-6587 or rockwoodpresident@gmail.com
Third Mondays of March, June, November, 6 p.m.
March 18, 6 p.m.
Rockwood Village Community Center
783 SE 185th Ave.

SOUTHWEST

Kathy Gardenhire, President
503-661-6554 or kg6554@frontier.com
Jan. 18, 7 p.m.
Kyoudou Center, Gresham Japanese Garden
Main City Park, 219 S. Main Ave.

WILKES EAST

Kris Freiermuth, President
503-709-9564 or lkfreiermuth@gmail.com
www.wilkeseastna.org

Second Mondays of March, Aug, and Nov., 7 p.m.
Moose Lodge, 16411 NE Halsey St.

COALITION OF GRESHAM NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

Carol Rulla, Co-President, 503-663-1466
Jim Buck, Co-President, 503-830-2344
GreshamNeighborhoodCoalition@gmail.com
Monthly, every second Tuesday, 7 p.m.

Interested in what's happening in your neighborhood? Call the Neighborhoods office at 503-618-2482 or visit GreshamOregon.gov/Neighborhoods.