



# THE TROUTDALE CHAMPION

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## Working Together We Will Create a Stronger Sense of Belonging

by Mayor Casey Ryan

“Technology has given us more “friends” than we have ever had before through social media sites. Yet we are lonelier than we have ever been.”

Hello Troutdale! I hope your holiday season has been spent with friends and loved ones. The holidays for many people are a wonderful time of year to spend with family and friends who live near or travel from far away. But to many, the holidays are not as joyous and can be filled with loneliness and sadness. I am currently reading a book, “Them: Why We Hate Each Other-and How to Heal”, by Senator Ben Sasse of Nebraska. It has been a powerful and insightful book to read on the current state of culture in our country.

Do you know “there is a growing consensus” by leading health officials that loneliness-not obesity, cancer, or heart disease-is the nation’s “number one health crisis”? When I read this I was in absolute shock and disbelief.

Research demonstrates that loneliness is as *physically* dangerous as smoking 15 cigarettes a day and contributes to cognitive decline, including more rapid advance of Alzheimer’s disease. As Senator Sasse says, “We’re literally dying of despair”. One of the main reasons of this increase in loneliness is the loss of community, social and service groups.

Technology has given us more “friends” than we have ever had before through social media sites. Yet we are lonelier than we have ever been. People need family, community, face-to-face interactions, service groups, friends, and warm and friendly neighborhoods.

I write this to help encourage all of us to come together and be part of keeping Troutdale a warm and welcoming community. Let’s come together and make Troutdale the city with the least lonely people. Let’s make Troutdale known as the friendliest city in all the United States.

There are many ways of becoming a city that is not lonely but filled with friendly and community-minded people. Start by waving at your neighbors, introducing yourself to everyone in your neighborhood, join a city committee, join a service group (Kiwanis, Rotary, etc.), attend high school sporting events, the list can go on and on.

I hope that each of us who reads this can think of a way to reach out to a fellow citizen and introduce yourself and make a friend. Troutdale is a wonderful community and we as citizens need to work to keep it that way.

## When the weather is frightful, stay connected

Here are three excellent resources for emergency and weather notifications



FlashAlert

Visit [www.flashalert.net](http://www.flashalert.net) and subscribe to receive emergency messages, breaking news, and weather related closure/delay information from the City of Troutdale and other Cities in the region.



PublicAlerts

Visit [www.publicalerts.org/signup](http://www.publicalerts.org/signup) if you’d like to receive County wide notifications for emergency, weather, or service disruption notification. This service can provide you with alerts via phone, text message, or email depending on what you choose upon signing up.



Twitter

## Multnomah County Sheriff’s Office

Follow on Twitter @MultCoSO for news, emergency, and local weather related notifications. If you don’t have Twitter, you can also find all of these updates on their website [www.mcso.us/site/](http://www.mcso.us/site/) under the “Latest News” feed on the right hand side of the page.

## Reservoir No. 4 Interior Recoating Project

Major Public Works Project Gets Underway Soon

Also known as the Strebin Road Reservoir, Reservoir 4 is a two-million gallon steel water reservoir with a total interior surface area of approximately 27,000 square feet.

### Project:

A functioning potable water system has many different subsystem and components that require inspection, recurring maintenance, and timely repair. Keeping the different parts of a potable water storage tank sufficiently maintained protects the integrity and dependability of the entire structure and will help to improve water quality. The inside of the tank is currently lined with a bituminous coal tar coating system from the 1980s that has been found to be deteriorated, in poor condition, and in need of replacement. Once the existing coating system has been completely removed, the interior surface will be recoated by a professional certified contractor with a primer and epoxy coating.

**Estimated Start Date:** Early 2019

**Estimated Duration:** 3.5 – 4 months

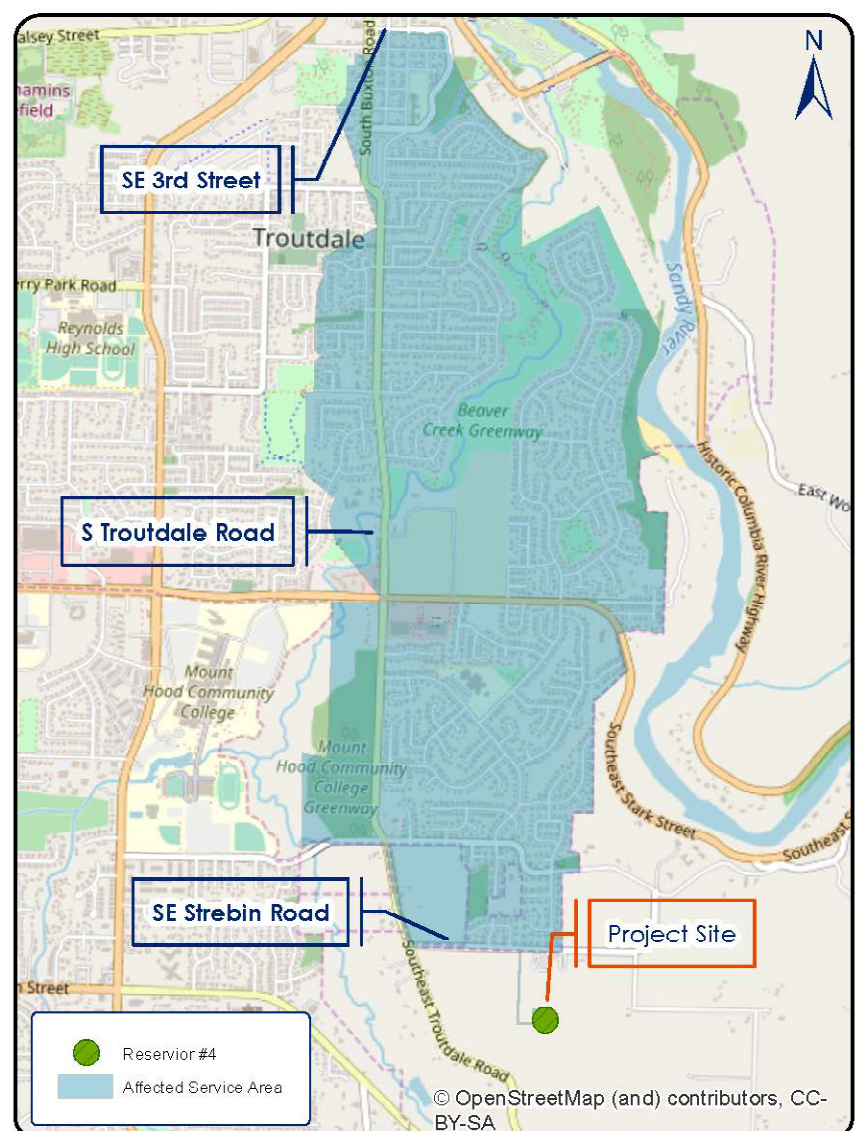
### What to expect:

Water crews will be removing the reservoir from service prior to the start of the project. This will require use of a different water reservoir and water source to maintain capacity in the areas: East of Troutdale Road from Strebin Road, north to Cherry Park Road (as shown in the map). There is a potential to notice the change of the water quality, taste, discoloration, and pressure during and after the switch.

Please call the Water Department at 503-674-3300 if you have prolonged difficulty with any of the above or if you have questions. The City apologizes for the inconvenience it may cause and looks forward to completion of the project.

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# When trees fall in the City, who is responsible for the removal?:

David Schaffer and Tim Seery, our Public Works and Parks supervisors, answer your questions here:

## What if a tree falls from a homeowners private property onto (partially) a City street or sidewalk?

The Public Works Streets division will remove any privately-owned tree that has fallen into the right-of-way if it poses an immediate safety issue to traffic or pedestrians. Materials are typically left for the property owner of the tree to finish clean-up. Only in rare cases will the Department remove the tree completely if it is privately-owned or a street tree. Call 503-674-3300 to report.

## What if the tree falls from private property onto a County road (257th Avenue, Cherry Park Road, Troutdale/ Buxton, Stark Street, Halsey Street and Columbia River Highway)?

These arterial streets serve the greatest number of users and are crucial in moving people through the City efficiently. If a tree has fallen into the right-of-way and poses an immediate safety issue to traffic or pedestrians, call 9-1-1. If the fallen tree does not hinder vehicle traffic, call the Non-Emergency

Dispatch at 503-823-3333. In both instances, Multnomah County will be called to remove any privately owned tree (materials are typically left for the property owner of the tree to finish clean-up).

## What about downed trees on private property?

If the tree falls on private property, all tree removal and cleanup is the responsibility of the property owner or homeowner.

## What if the downed tree is on City property?

The Parks Department will tend to the tree, whether it's in a City park, greenway, or lift stations and well houses located throughout the City. Call 503-665-5175 to report.

## What if the tree is on the property of a foreclosed home?

In this case, the responsibility lies with either the homeowner or bank. If you know the house is unoccupied, call the City's Code Enforcement Officer at 503-491-4009, or 503-665-5175.



Responders will act as quickly as possible, and most commonly the same day unless there are widespread problems throughout the City. If a tree on private property is not causing any of the above concerns it will be left for the property owner to take care of.

When it comes to trees on your property, be sure to practice preventative maintenance: Have your trees checked regularly by a professional, be prepared to assist if/when needed, and call a professional if you have a concern **prior** to creating an emergency response.

## Out in the Parks with Tim Seery

# Is it time for a Troutdale Skate “Spot”?



As the fall season slowly turns to winter and all of our parks are ready for a much needed rest, it is now time to plan for next year's big projects.

Over the past two years I have had the pleasure of working with Troutdale resident Tyler Cole, who has a vision of a Troutdale Skate “Spot”. Skate Spots are approximately 1,500 to 5,000 square feet and are a smaller version of the full-size skatepark, which generally runs from 8,000 to 12,000 square feet. The potential location for the Spot, on the northeast corner of Columbia Park, is highly visible.

After several meetings with the Parks Advisory Committee the committee decided to move this very interesting and unique project to the next level, which

is for Tyler to create and channel interest for the Park from the surrounding neighbors, then attending the Troutdale City budget meetings in April to make a funding request for the Skate Spot. If all goes well we could possibly see construction start as soon as 2020.

On a winter's note, it is time to bring your roses down and remove all spent flowers, and a great time to put mulch over all your perennials so the cold air doesn't burn their tops.

Until next time get out and enjoy your Parks. They do make life better. If you would like to discuss these topics, or others, please feel free to call me at 503-674-7271. Tim Seery, Parks & Facilities Superintendent.

# Imagination Station Opens

*And we have a lot of people to thank for it*

Imagination Station is the beloved gathering place for children and families of the City of Troutdale, as well as many families from our surrounding communities of Wood Village, Fairview, Gresham and beyond!

We were able to enjoy the original Imagination Station for almost 25 years, and many memories were made there. We all felt a pang of sadness when it was partially burned in 2016, changing the structure forever. After much anticipation the new play structure was built, and with it comes a new special place to make memories, enjoy playing with friends and simply bring a smile to everyone who comes to enjoy it.

Thank you to Leathers and Associates and the Parks Advisory Committee for the new design and build that makes the play structure accessible for the enjoyment of ALL children! So many new and exciting



Photos courtesy of 'At Home Plate Photography'

Above, the already-popular “Pentatonic Metallophone” is a musical instrument that promotes sensory and social integration. Above right is Inclusive Orbit, a merry-go-round installed flush with the safety surfacing, allowing direct wheelchair access.

things for the children to explore! And we can't say enough about the many volunteers who came week after week to help us build a new and safe play structure for the children to delight in year after year. Volunteers are our most valuable asset!

We were excited to partner with each of them to revitalize one of the most popular playgrounds in East County. Thank you to the

individuals, businesses and organizations that donated food and supplies: Reynolds Little League, Olive Garden, Ameresco, Sugar Cubed Cakes & Bakery, Home Depot, Lowe's Hero Project, and the many individuals who brought food for the volunteers and build team.

We'd also like to give a big shout out to 'At Home Plate Photography' owner Diane Carbone for recording



the journey, picture by picture, from start to finish.

Our grand opening on November 17<sup>th</sup> was a great success, and it was inspiring to see so many from our Troutdale community there to celebrate the new play structure alongside us. Special thanks to Mayor Casey Ryan, past Mayor Doug Daoust, Leslie Daoust, City Manager Ray Young and the Parks Department for the their heart and vision for the project, and for dedicating it to the community. Additional thanks go to Sara's Cakes, Cha Cha the Clown, Dog & Fries food truck, and Co-Pilot Audio for the public address system, podium, and outstanding music. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time, talents and services.





# CHIEF'S CORNER

by Commander Monte Reiser  
Chief of Police – City of Troutdale  
Multnomah County Sheriff's Office



Recently, at a community meeting, I was asked what is the difference between a police department and a sheriff's office? This was a terrific question that, though having a reasonably well-educated response, I felt compelled to conduct research in order to provide a more thorough response in the future.

Initially, I believe the traditional word "Sheriff" may inspire many to first think of old western movies such as the iconic "High Noon" or "Stagecoach" (starring John Wayne). For many years, these classics have provided viewers with an image of a Sheriff as the "protector of the West", bringing justice to would-be train robbers and cattle thieves.

According to an article in the Oregon State Sheriff's Association website ([oregonsheriffs.org](http://oregonsheriffs.org)), the word "Sheriff" has a much broader historical background. In fact, the "office" of sheriff has historical roots dating back many centuries. In 9<sup>th</sup> century England, the sheriff came into existence as a result of kings dividing land into geographic areas called "shires". Within each shire, the king appointed a representative of its residents that were called "reeves" which means "guardian". Over time, this government structure gained popularity and the usage of the terms merged to become "Sheriff".

The evolution of the 9<sup>th</sup> century sheriff underwent many role changes to include tax

collector. By 1066, these duties included keeping the peace, maintaining jails, arresting fugitives, maintaining a list of wanted criminals and serving orders and writs for the court. These early responsibilities were the platform for present-day sheriff duties.

Each of Oregon's 36 counties have a Sheriff who serves under qualifications established by state law to include requirements of being at least 21 years of age, and having at least four years' experience in law enforcement or two years post high school education, or any combination of experience and education for at least four years.

In Multnomah County, the Sheriff's Office was established in 1854 with William L. McMillen as the first elected Sheriff. Current Sheriff

Mike Reese is the 40<sup>th</sup> elected Sheriff to serve our community. Thomas Jefferson is quoted in his work "The Values of Constitution" that "the Sheriff's power and authority are from the people who elect him".

The uniqueness of the "office" of Sheriff is provided within this quote from Jefferson. By election, the Sheriff is a position which has direct accountability to the citizens. That accountability permeates from the Sheriff on to those who serve the "office".

Therefore members of the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office are each accountable to the citizens we serve. As such, we have created within our mission statement the phrase "exemplary service for a safe, livable community". Feedback from the community is important for us to provide a high level of public safety services. Please contact me or any member of the Sheriff's Office if you would like to share your feedback on our performance. You can follow us at [twitter.com/MultCoSo](https://twitter.com/MultCoSo) to receive important updates and information on upcoming opportunities to meet members of MCSO and learn more about our public safety programs.

It's an honor to serve you.  
Happy New Year.

Monte



Commander Monte Reiser • Chief of Police, City of Troutdale • Multnomah County Sheriff's Office • Email: [monte.reiser@mcsos.org](mailto:monte.reiser@mcsos.org) • Phone: 503-988-0352



## Dozens turn out to discuss rent burdens



Troutdale renters and property owners held a constructive dialogue on December 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss the causes and effects of rent burdens. Potential ideas at improving the situation and reducing rent burdens were also discussed as part of a long-term commitment to better understand and pay attention to the issue.

In 2019, the City will hope to explore the issue of housing (and housing affordability) by conducting a Housing Needs Analysis (HNA), which will provide updated information on housing statistics, available buildable land in the city, and policy considerations for future decision-making.

Didn't get a chance to make it but still want to share your thoughts? Please take a short 3 minute survey using the link below. You can remain anonymous. Go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/troutdale Rent Burden>. You can also email your comments/thoughts to [planning@troutdaleoregon.gov](mailto:planning@troutdaleoregon.gov)

## Troutdale Hires Fred Ostler, Troutdale Public Works Director

by Steve Gaschler, former Public Works Director

It's time for me to say farewell. I retired from my position as Public Works Director November 13, 2018, but am working until the end of the year helping my replacement with the transition and completing a few projects. It has been my honor to serve this community over the past five years. As well, I was given the opportunity to work with some exceptional people – and my hope is that I have left this City a little better than when I arrived. As my working career comes to its conclusion I'm looking forward to spending time playing with my grandchildren and doing volunteer work.

It is with great pleasure that I introduce Fred Ostler as the City of Troutdale's new

Public Works Director. Fred's first day with the City was Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. Fred brings some exceptional skills and experience to this position. Fred is a Professional Civil Engineer and brings 30 years of experience in civil engineering and public works management. Fred most recently served as the General Manager and CEO of the Rock Springs/Green River Joint Powers Water Board in Wyoming. He has also served as a city engineer and a public works director in several Idaho cities beginning with the City of Pocatello, Idaho in 1993.

Fred graduated from the University of Nevada – Las Vegas in 1989 with a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering. Fred has worked professionally in Idaho, Oregon, Utah, Nevada, and Wyoming.



Fred Ostler

He is a former Vice President of a multi-state civil engineering consulting firm. From his office in the Boise, Idaho area, he assisted many communities in the Pacific Northwest, including eastern and central Oregon, with a variety of civil engineering projects including trenchless and no-dig pipeline construction, traffic control systems, storm water management, road construction, pavement management databases, pipeline condition



Steve Gaschler

assessments, airports, and land development.

Fred also brings expertise in improving the investment value in public infrastructure by using materials with an extended service life and construction techniques that lower the overall cost of pipeline construction. Fred has been very active in professional civil engineering and public works organizations and served on many state

and local policy and rulemaking committees. Fred's interest extends to national service as well. He was elected to the National Board of Directors for the American Water Works Association (AWWA), representing Idaho and Utah, and served for ten years as the Public Relations Chair for the Plastic Pipes Institute's Municipal Advisory Board.

Most recently, Fred has been involved with the Colorado River Water Users Association in the attempt to find solutions to the water shortage problems within the Lower Colorado River Basin, and has represented Western Wyoming as the Colorado River water shortages problems are resolved through extensive cooperative agreements and efforts.

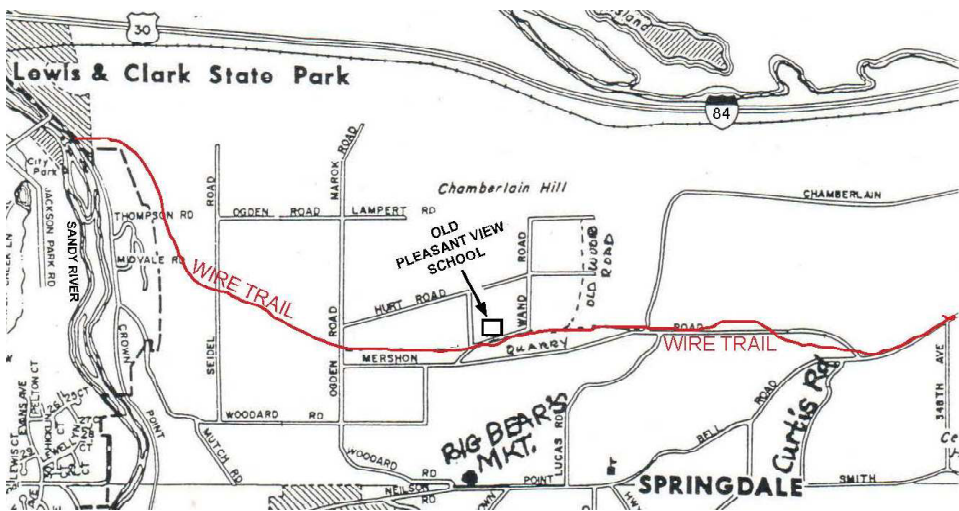
I wish Fred many happy, productive years as the new Public Works Director for the City of Troutdale. I am confident you will treat him as well as you have treated me.



Troutdale Historical Society presents...

## The Finding of the Wire Trail

January 20 at 2 p.m.  
Glenn Otto Community Park – Sam Cox Building  
1102 East Historic Columbia River Highway  
Troutdale, Oregon



Local path finders have been at work tracing one of the oldest trails in the area. Dave Wand, an Electronic Engineer grew up in the Pleasant View area. He spent his entire career in communications as a cell phone tower consultant; locating, building, and maintaining towers. Larry McGinnis hails from Corbett-Troutdale with credentials in surveying. They combined their skills working for some years to trace the path of what was known as the Wire Trail, from Troutdale up the Columbia River Gorge.

They will talk and show photos of their study and bushwhacking adventures at Troutdale Historical Society's first quarterly meeting of 2019.

The event will be held Sunday, January 20, at 2 p.m. in the Sam Cox Building at Glenn Otto Community Park in Troutdale.

Wand and McGinnis have been at work for several years finding traces of the original Native American Trail that ascended from the Sandy River and continued upriver. We know from our own records that many of the Pleasant View residents used the Wire Trail to commute to work at the slaughter house in Troutdale. The notes of Captain John Harlow say that he delivered The Oregonian newspaper over the Wire Trail, so named because the first telegraph wire to The Dalles was laid over this route.

All Troutdale Historical Society meetings are free and open to the public.

### TROUTDALE RECREATION

## Scholarships are Available for Your Troutdale Recreation Winter Fun!

The new Winter Recreation Guide comes out and registration begins on Wednesday, January 9, 2019. All Troutdale addresses will receive a paper guide, plus the information will be available online.

Are you interested in signing up for a Troutdale Recreation program but cannot afford the entire cost of tuition? Scholarships (financial assistance) are available for Troutdale residents.

Find out more and register online at [www.troutdaleoregon.gov](http://www.troutdaleoregon.gov). You can also find us on [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com).

Contact: Mollie King, Recreation Manager at 503-674-7206, or email her at [mollie.king@troutdaleoregon.gov](mailto:mollie.king@troutdaleoregon.gov), if you need assistance with online registration, are interested in a scholarship or have any other questions or comments.

### Scholarships

For many years, our recreation department has provided scholarships to our local Troutdale residents. If you'd like to make a donation to the scholarship fund, please call Mollie King at 503-674-7206. All monies donated are used solely to pay for recreation programs.

### In the next issue:

Meet our new City Council members, Jamie Kranz and Nick Moon. Also, get full details about the big Spring Cleanup Event coming in May!

### City Meetings

#### City Council Regular Meetings

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.  
January 8, January 22  
February 12, February 26

View Council meetings live on Comcast Channel 30 or Frontier Channel 38 at 7 p.m.; rebroadcasts are Fridays at 4 p.m. and Sunday at 9 p.m.

#### Town Center Committee

Police Facility Kellogg Room  
January 23 – Regular Meeting – 7 P.M.  
February 27 - Regular Meeting – 7 P.M.

#### Planning Commission

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.  
January 16, February 20

#### Parks Advisory Committee

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.  
January 19, February 13

#### Citizens Advisory Committee

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.  
January 2, February 6

#### Historic Landmarks Commission

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.  
TBA - Please check our website calendar or call 503-674-7230

#### Urban Renewal Agency

Police Facility Kellogg Room – 7 P.M.  
January 15, February 19 (if needed)

Find meeting agendas, Council packets and audio/video of Council meetings at [www.troutdaleoregon.gov](http://www.troutdaleoregon.gov)

### City Offices

|                                          |              |
|------------------------------------------|--------------|
| City Hall Main Number                    | 503-665-5175 |
| Building Permits                         | 503-674-7229 |
| Building/Parks Rentals                   | 503-674-7297 |
| Business Licensing                       | 503-665-5175 |
| Code Enforcement                         | 503-491-4009 |
| Fire Department (Gresham)                | 503-618-2355 |
| Mayor & Council                          | 503-674-7258 |
| Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) |              |
| MCSO Business Office                     | 503-988-7300 |
| MCSO Records                             | 503-988-7300 |
| (press '0' for Police Records)           |              |
| Municipal Court                          | 503-665-5175 |
| Police & Fire                            |              |
| Non-Emergency Dispatch                   | 503-823-3333 |
| Parks Department                         | 503-674-7271 |
| Planning/Zoning                          | 503-674-7229 |
| Public Works (Wastewater)                | 503-666-8377 |
| Public Works (Water & Streets)           | 503-674-3300 |
| Recreation Program                       | 503-674-7206 |
| Water/Sewer - Billing Questions          | 503-674-7232 |
| Water/Sewer - Open/Close Acct.           | 503-674-7225 |

## Mediation, Conflict Training Available

Have you thought about becoming a mediator? Or maybe you could use conflict resolution skills but don't have the time to commit to the full Basic Mediation Training? Then sign-up for one of our upcoming conflict management or basic mediation skills trainings!

To sign up or find out more about either training, call 503-618-3247 or go to [greshamoregon.gov/mediation-training](http://greshamoregon.gov/mediation-training)



EAST METRO  
MEDIATION

**Basic Mediation Training,**  
March 6-23 (days and times vary)

**Conflict Management Training**  
March 6, 7 and 8 (times vary)

## CITY CALENDAR

### JANUARY

1

#### New Years' Day, City Hall Offices Closed

Police/Fire emergency, call 9-1-1  
Water/Sewer emergency, call 503-251-4163

4

#### No First Friday Art Walk in January! 503-491-8407

20

"The Finding of the Wire Trail", Presented by Troutdale Historical Society, 2 p.m., Sam Cox Building at Glenn Otto Park, 1102 East Historic Columbia River Highway in Troutdale, call 503-661-2164 for information. Free and open to the public. See details this page.

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#### Martin Luther King Day, City Hall Offices Closed

Police/Fire emergency, call 9-1-1  
Water/Sewer emergency, call 503-251-4163

29

**McMenamins Edgefield & Troutdale Historical Society History Night - The Dynamic Terroir of the Willamette Valley: The Relationship between Geology, Soil, Climate and Wine,** Presented by Scott Burns, Professor of Geology, Portland State University, Blackberry Hall, Edgefield, 2126 SW Halsey, Doors open at 5 p.m., Program at 6:30 p.m. – arrive early! FREE. Free wine tasting at this event.

### FEBRUARY

1

#### First Friday Art Walk, 5-8 p.m.

Downtown, Historic Columbia River Highway, 503-491-8407

18

#### Presidents Day, City Hall Offices Closed

Police/Fire emergency, call 9-1-1  
Water/Sewer emergency, call 503-251-4163

26

**McMenamins Edgefield & Troutdale Historical Society History Night: Crown Point Vista House, presented by Miranda Mendoza,** Blackberry Hall, Edgefield, 2126 SW Halsey, Doors open 5 p.m., Program at 6:30 p.m, arrive early! FREE