

focus on redmond

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From the Mayor

A few days ago, the nation remembered the 10th anniversary of the tragic events of September 11, 2001. It was a time to reflect on that day and also on the many days we've had since.

The City has a close tie to that tragedy of which many of you may be unaware. Four of our own firefighters, trained in urban search and rescue, travelled to New York City shortly after the event to assist with rescue and recovery. As we did then, I salute them now for their dedication to helping others in times of great distress.

While it is difficult to prepare for such events, most disasters we might face are those for which we can get ready with a few simple steps. September is National Preparedness Month and a good reminder for us all to update our disaster preparations for the coming winter months. The City has some useful resources on our website (www.redmond.gov/disasterprep) with links to other informative sites as well.

On a similar public safety theme, I am pleased to report that Fire Station 17 is well under construction and is scheduled to open next spring. It will house a team of firefighters/emergency medical technicians with an aid car on call 24/7. The addition of this aid car in North Redmond will decrease response times in the area by up to three minutes, considerably improving the chances for positive health outcomes for those who call 911.

In August, I had the pleasure of meeting many of you at one of the 46 block parties organized for National Night Out. This was our largest participation to date and improves the safety of our residents by simply letting them

get to know one another and learning more about the resources available to help neighborhoods on a wide variety of safety issues.

While Redmond enjoys a very low crime rate, it is important to note that vehicle prowls have been increasing over the last several years and it is critical residents follow precautions to secure their vehicles. Large parking areas are prime targets for prowlers because they can enter several vehicles in a short period of time. Remember always to remove all valuables and lock your car before leaving it.

To further help with your personal and family safety efforts, a new addition to the City's website is an interactive crime statistics map at www.redmond.gov/crimemap where it is possible to track incidents in your neighborhood or the city as a whole. We provide this information in order for you to be prepared and informed on possible concerns in your neighborhood.

In closing, as the days get shorter and winter approaches, remember to be prepared in your home, car and at work. I hope you had a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing you around town this fall.

Sincerely,



John Marchione



ImpactRedmond.com

**what's your
impact?**

Inside

Council Notes	P2
Abandoned Wells Risks	P2
City News	P3
Environews	P4
Savvy Seniors	P6
View From History	P7
Redmond Lights	P8
Events at Senior Center	P8

Council Notes

DOWNTOWN REDMOND — THE PIECES OF THE PLAN FALL INTO PLACE

As promised, there has been a lot of activity in Downtown Redmond lately. The City's acquisition earlier this year of Redmond's portion of the BNSF rail corridor really set a domino effect of improvements in motion.

With ownership of the corridor, the City quickly set about putting planned projects into action. We installed a regional stormwater trunk pipeline to support future growth in Downtown Redmond. We opened the innovatively designed 161st Avenue NE extension; the first step in connecting the street grid in Redmond across the rail corridor. And, plans are now underway to get the 164th Avenue crossing done next.

We have a portion of the new Downtown Central Park cleared and seeded. So, it won't be long before you see Redmond residents and visitors enjoying a bit of respite outside on the green. In the future, park visitors will watch traffic flowing in two directions on Redmond Way and Cleveland Street. Downtown Redmond is now more accessible and pedestrian friendly, and there is still more to come.

Plans for the Redmond Central Connector, a

park and cultural corridor connecting Downtown Redmond from east to west, and the future home of light-rail service into Redmond have coalesced with a great deal of community involvement. Removal of the existing tracks is complete and building an interim trail is imminent.

Our plans for Downtown Redmond have so impressed the State of Washington and the Puget Sound Regional Council that combined they have agreed to provide over \$4 million in funding for these improvements.

So next time you pass through the downtown core, take a look around. You will see new connections; a new park; and the makings of a new, vibrant, and engaging Downtown Redmond. And if you have a moment more, please share your thoughts on these improvements with us at council@redmond.gov.



PROTECT KIDS, PETS AND OUR DRINKING WATER FROM THE RISK OF ABANDON WELLS

Many wells are abandoned when new wells are drilled or homes are connected to municipal water systems. You may be surprised to learn that in the Critical Aquifer Recharge Area (an approximate 6.5 square mile area extending from downtown to Education Hill) there are approximately 300 water supply wells. Old abandoned water wells are common, and are a safety and environmental risk.

When wells are abandoned, children, animals or even adults can fall into them causing injury or death. To prevent these accidents, all wells no longer in use must be properly closed or "decommissioned". Under state law, abandoned wells are required to be decommissioned as soon as possible after use stops. The law holds current landowners responsible for decommissioning abandoned wells, as well as responsible for any injury or contamination caused by an abandoned well not properly decommissioned.

Washington law requires the use of a licensed well driller to decommission a well. A licensed driller will have experience with well construction and decommissioning materials and methods. They will also be knowledgeable about local geology. The law prohibits filling an abandoned well with "dirt" or any other unapproved material.

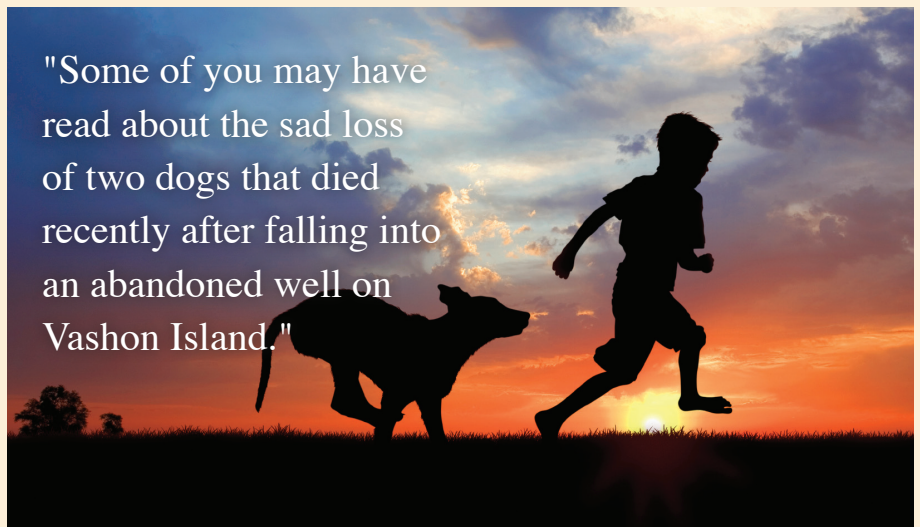
Some of you may have read about the sad loss of two dogs that died recently after falling into an abandoned well on Vashon Island. And most of us remember the story of Baby Jessica, an 18-month-old toddler who was trapped in an abandoned well in Texas for 2½ days in 1987. That well was only 8-inches in diameter and about 22-feet deep. Her rescue was followed worldwide. She survived, but went through many surgeries.

An abandoned well can also serve as a route for contaminating groundwater and drinking water. Contaminated surface water, agricultural runoff and effluent from private sewage disposal systems can enter the groundwater

through abandoned wells and cause pollution of nearby drinking water wells. The City of Redmond gets approximately 40% of its drinking water from groundwater in the Critical Aquifer Recharge Area.

If you suspect you have an abandoned well on your property you can contact the Department of Ecology directly at 360-407-6648. You may also contact City of Redmond Wellhead Protection Staff at 425-556-2753 to search well log records for a specific address or parcel.

"Some of you may have read about the sad loss of two dogs that died recently after falling into an abandoned well on Vashon Island."



City News

GREEN REDMOND PARTNERSHIP

By Teresa Kluver,
Parks Operations Supervisor

It has been just over three years since the implementation of the Green Redmond Partnership and only two years of on-the-ground work. This program, a partnership between the City of Redmond and Cascade Land Conservancy has a goal of bringing 1035 acres of forested parkland into active management. The effort to accomplish this is largely dependent on volunteers. The volunteer commitment in Redmond has been amazing and continues to impress the coordinators of the Green Redmond Partnership—Thank You!

How are we doing?

Numbers speak loud and clear

Forest Stewards are trained, committed volunteers who concentrate their efforts at one forested park site. They lead volunteer events and coordinate re-planting efforts.

- Through 2010, training was provided for 19 individuals, resulting in 13 active Forest Stewards.
- In 2011, training was provided for 9 potential Forest Stewards

As Forest Stewards, event participants or helping with outreach, volunteers are the real champions of this program. The number of volunteer hours has been astounding.

- 2,214 hrs in 2009 (Goal was 800)
- 2,926 hrs in 2010 (Goal was 1,300)
- 2,175 hrs through June, 2011 (Goal for year is 3,700)

Each year we calculate the acres of forested parkland that has been entered into active management and the number of newly planted trees and shrubs.

- 5.42 acres in 2009 (Goal was 2 acres) with 1,739 native trees and shrubs planted
- 48.36 acres in 2010 (Goal was 7 acres) with 7,833 native trees and shrubs planted
- 12.04 acres through June, 2011 (Goal for year is 15 acres) with 3,442 native trees and shrubs planted during the early part of this year

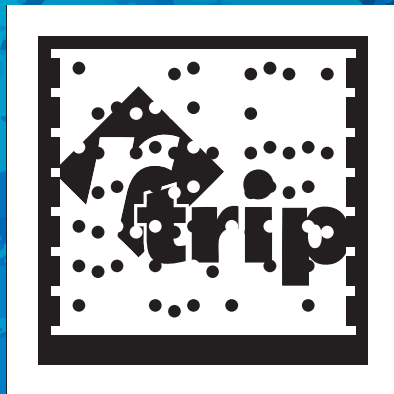
The Green Redmond Partnership is proving to be a testament to the citizens of Redmond and their commitment to environmental stewardship and community participation. This commitment is being recognized by others such as Whole Foods, Pearl Jam, and the US Forest Services through donations or grants.

If you would like to get more involved in the Green Redmond Partnership, visit www.greenredmond.org and learn how you too can help.

More information:

Ecology's website;
www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/wells/wellhome.html.

TAG YOU'RE IT!



Play "TAG" for a chance to WIN!
Redmond Staycation
Microsoft Kinect™
\$50 Think Redmond Card
Free Redmond Lunch



Scan with smartphone. Free Microsoft app at
gettag.mobi or your app store.

GOrtrip.com

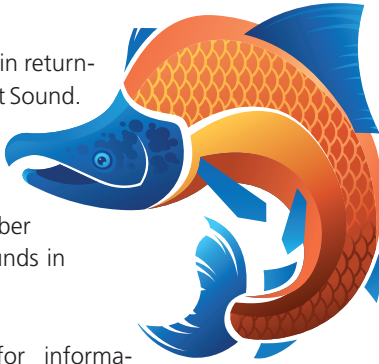


Environews

STEWARDSHIP

Salmon SeeSon

Fall is here, and salmon are once again returning to streams and rivers around Puget Sound. Watch for these natural beauties: coho, sockeye or Chinook salmon migrating up the Sammamish River in late September and through October on their way to their spawning grounds in Bear Creek.



Contact the City of Redmond for information on where the salmon may be currently visible and for times and locations where expert City staff can answer your questions and provide information about the fish on their journey. Contact Barbara Sullivan at 425-556-2845 or bsullivan@redmond.gov if you would like to learn more about these amazing wild fish or check the City's website at www.redmond.gov/environment and click on Streams and Habitat for more information.

Spot the Kokanee

A special opportunity to see a rare and declining species, the kokanee salmon, is expected in early November and late January. Kokanee are a smaller relative of the sockeye. Kokanee spend their whole lives in freshwater streams and lakes, like Lake Sammamish. Call 206-263-3661 before you go to make sure the fish are visible. To learn more about kokanee, visit: www.kingcounty.gov/environment/animalsAndPlants/salmon-and-trout/kokanee.aspx

ROSE Salmon Watching Trail

View sockeye and Chinook salmon on Bear Creek from late September to mid-November by visiting the Redmond Organization of Shared Environments (ROSE) three-eight's mile trail created and maintained by Lake Washington Environmental and Adventure School and other local students.

Located behind Redmond's Classic Nursery, the trail is self-guided. Or you may call to schedule docent-led group tours. Visit at 12526 Avondale Road NE in Redmond during business hours every day of the week. More info 425-882-1846 or email lyhussey@comcast.net

Keep Storm Drains Clear of Fallen Leaves

Our rainy season starts about the same time leaves are falling on our lawns, parking lots and streets. Properly disposing of leaves and debris helps keep storm drains clear which prevents flooding and protects fish!

All storm drains in Redmond empty directly into streams, rivers or Lake Sammamish. Leaves and branches that wash down storm drains can dam small streams and clog fish spawning beds. Decomposing leaves also reduce the amount of oxygen available to fish and other aquatic organisms.

Please never sweep piles of leaves into storm drains or onto drainage grates. Leaves and branches should always be placed in yard debris carts, or in a composting bin. For information about disposal options for large quantities of yard debris, call Redmond's Recycling Program at 425-556-2832.

If you notice leaves accumulating, please sweep them clear of the storm drain or place them in your cart as part of your yard waste collection service.

Report clogged and flooded storm drains in streets: 425-556-2800.



VOLUNTEER TO BE A SALMON WATCHER!

King County Salmon Watcher program is a unique and rewarding volunteer experience. Volunteers are trained to identify and record species and numbers of spawning salmonoids in streams in the Lake Washington-Cedar-Lake Sammamish Watershed. Last year 11 Redmond residents were part of the program and provided much needed information.

Salmon Seeson is coming real time! Look for details at www.redmond.gov/SalmonSeeson

For more information about volunteer opportunities search "Salmon Watcher Program" on Facebook or www.kingcounty.gov/en

RECYCLE

Recycle Compact Fluorescent Lights

The lifespan of a compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulb is six to fifteen times longer than that of an incandescent bulb and they use up to 75 percent less energy! CFLs reduce the need to replace bulbs as often, which results in less waste. As energy-efficient CFLs and other fluorescent lights become more popular, it is important to dispose of them safely and responsibly.

Recycling your CFLs helps the environment

Compact fluorescent light bulbs and fluorescent tubes should not be put in the garbage. Mercury is what allows CFLs to be an efficient light source. While the quantity of mercury in a single bulb is extremely small—about the amount that would cover the tip of a ballpoint pen—there is a potential risk of contaminating our environment if bulbs break in landfills. Recycled fluorescent bulbs are broken down into component materials: metal, glass and mercury phosphor powder, which are reused in other products.

Where?

Compact fluorescent lights and tubes can be recycled at a variety of locations. Visit www.pse.com/cflrecycle or www.takeitbacknetwork.org for locations, fees and details.

Bulbs and tubes can also be recycled at the following locations (no charge):

(Call to confirm quantities accepted)

Factoria Transfer Station Hazardous Waste Locker

13800 SE. 32nd Street, Bellevue
206-296-4466

Wastemobile Events

The next Redmond Wastemobile event is scheduled for September 30 through October 2nd at the Redmond Home Depot Parking lot, 17777 NE 76th Street.

For details call 206-296-4692 or visit www.lhwmp.org/home/HHW/wastemobile.aspx.

CFL bulbs only (no charge)

Bartell Drugs

8860 161st Ave NE, Redmond
425-883-4882

7370 170th Ave NE, Redmond
425-895-8323

Home Depot

17777 NE 76th St, Redmond
425-885-6358

Volunteers Need Only to Attend one Training Session

(from 7 to 9pm)

- **Thursday, September 15**, Bellevue City Hall
- **Tuesday, September 20**, Renton Community Center
- **Thursday, September 22**, Woodinville City Hall
- **Wednesday, October 5**, in Seattle at the Greenwood Senior Center

To sign up email Jennifer.vanderhoof@kingcounty.gov.

environment/animalsAndPlants/salmon-and-trout/salmon-watchers.aspx.

Natural Yard Care Workshops Start this Fall!

Sign up for one or all four natural yard care workshops! Workshops are free, but preregistration is required. All classes held at the Redmond Senior Center from 7 to 8:30pm.

Sustainable Gardening

September 22

Ladd Smith, co-owner of In Harmony Sustainable Landscapes, will teach you the steps to create a sustainable landscape and garden, reducing your carbon footprint and helping eliminate toxins in the environment. Learn about healthy soils and their contribution to the garden, as well as storm water management techniques like rain gardens and cisterns. Raising food to eat will also be covered, and we might even do some aerobic gardening.

Wonderful Native Plant Choices for Your Garden

September 29

Do you want a garden that has something going on year round? Selecting the right trees, shrubs, perennials and groundcover carefully will keep your garden looking beautiful through the use of color, blooms, cones, fragrance and berries. Instructor Susie Egan is the owner of Cottage Lake Gardens, a private display garden and plant nursery. Susie is also a veteran volunteer for the WSU Master Gardener program.

Garden Design the Natural Yard Care Way

October 6

Do you want a beautiful garden without all the work and maintenance? Natural Yard Care is a new way to garden specifically designed for the northwest. Learn the five steps of Natural Yard Care design, plus tips to create street appeal and real value for your home. Instructor Doug Rice is a landscape architect and garden designer who has taught garden design for 18 years. He also leads the Natural Yard Care Program for King County.

Worm Bin Composting – Free Worm Bins!

October 13

Worm bin composting is a great alternative to throwing food scraps in the garbage! Worm bins can decompose fruits, vegetables, eggshells, pasta, breads, coffee grounds, tea and tea bags. When the worms do their work they transform food scraps into a rich, organic fertilizer your plants will love. The class offers more information about the benefits of using a worm bin, how to use and maintain your bin and will answer your questions. Participants will have a chance to win a free three-stacking tray Worm Box Composting system (worms not included). Up to 40 Worm Boxes will be given away!

Savvy Seniors

Outdoor Exercise Equipment

The next time you walk the trail stop by and give it a try.

The RSC Senior Advisory Committee deserves credit for acquiring new outdoor exercise equipment at the RSC. Several years ago the committee brought the topic forward to Park Operations after seeing news articles about “playgrounds” for older adults. The Health and Wellness sub-committee agreed outdoor exercise equipment would be a good option since there is not room indoors.

The committee researched the options, reviewed product lines from three different vendors and made recommendations as to what should be included. Unfortunately, while the idea was sound, lack of funding was a problem. Fortunately, a vendor offered the City two “sample” machines at a greatly reduced rate. The City was happy to take the vendor up on the offer.

If you like the equipment, let us know. The committee hopes to find funding to add three or four more machines to round out the exercise options.

It May be Fall, but Please Don't

September 23, the first day of fall, is Fall Prevention Awareness Day. The RSC will acknowledge this day with an information table in our lobby. Printed information from the Senior Advisory Committee's Health and Wellness Sub-committee will be available from 10am to 1pm.

According to the Center for Disease Control, in the United States, one-out-of-three older adults fall each year. In addition, falls are the leading cause of injury, death and hospital admissions for traumatic injuries among older adults. It is estimated the total cost of fall-related injuries for older adults is over \$80 billion including more than \$19 billion in direct medical costs. It is in everyone's interest to help prevent falls.

There are many simple and easy things to do to minimize your risk. Stop by to pick up a brochure on what you can do to prevent falls and learn about other programs at the City promoting fall prevention awareness.



SUBSCRIBE TO THE RSC NEWS

Get the scoop on all the happenings at the RSC. Only \$12 for a one-year subscription. **Call 425-556-2314** and we'll sign you up now!



Looking for a Way to Supplement Your Income?

The Recreation Department is always looking for new and interesting classes to offer. If you have a hobby or skill that you would like to share with others please call Teri Burke at 425-556-2342 to discuss the possibilities and request a program proposal form. We are especially looking for individuals interested in offering programs in the evening.

Save the date

The Candlelight Dinner Dance will be back at the RSC this year with a new caterer and a slightly different format. Mark your calendar now for a lovely evening of dining and dancing on Wednesday, December 7, 2011.

Available for Rent

Looking for a good place to hold a retirement party, wedding reception, or business meeting? How about the RSC? Call our rental information line for more details, 425-556-2386.

Get Ready for the Holiday Craft Market

For the second time the RSC will hold their Holiday Craft Market in conjunction with Redmond Lights on Saturday, December 3 from 12 noon to 6 pm. We had a full house of over 40 craftspeople last year and hope for as many this December. Now is the time to start planning—either shopping or crafting!

Individuals wishing to participate as a vendor should call 425-556-2314 and ask for Karen.

HOLIDAY
CRAFT
MARKET

**Saturday, December 3, 2011
From Noon-6pm**

**Come and shop for handcrafted items and holiday gifts!
Free Admission • Door Prizes • Everyone Welcome**

Come shop before enjoying *Redmond Lights*



REDMOND SENIOR CENTER
8703 160th Ave NE, Redmond WA • 425-556-2314

VIEW FROM HISTORY



Redmond's Haunted Past

Redmond still has many of its early buildings—such as the Redmond Elementary School, Bill Brown Building, Redmond State Bank, Justice White House and Stone House. According to eye witness reports, some of the earliest inhabitants of these buildings have decided to still keep an eye on things.

Perhaps the one with the most active “hauntings” is the Bill Brown Building. Built in 1913 on the corner of Leary Way and Cleveland Street, this brick building was the site of Bill Brown’s saloon with a dance hall and upstairs bordello, a soda fountain and a mortuary... all at the same time.

Several years ago, when still housing Big Time Pizza, some employees reported some strange goings on. One evening a wine glass on the rack above the bar fell and shattered on the floor, but upon examination, the glass was too far from the edge of the rack to fall on its own. Then on at least two occasions around midnight employees saw a short, balding figure of a man climbing the stairs to the office area and disappearing through the office door. However, when employees checked it out, no one was in the office. Other strange events encountered as the restaurant was opened for the day included finding ice cubes on several of the tables just beginning to melt or pennies lined up on the floor.

The spirits never appeared malevolent but the occurrences were puzzling. Since the Matador opened, the ghostly apparitions seem to have moved on.

While it is difficult to determine if what was seen or heard is an intelligent or residual haunting, a few other buildings in Redmond have also reported unusual activity. Generally what is experienced is seen or heard in the evening or early morning.

This haunted history of Redmond has only been explored by a few people, but it should not be surprising if some of the founders and builders of this community decided to stay permanently regardless of when they passed through.



The City of Redmond
Office of the Mayor - Communications
15670 NE 85th Street
Redmond WA 98073-9710

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JR Mailing
Services Inc.

ECRWSS Postal Customer

Events at the Redmond Senior Center

8703 160th Avenue NE Info: 425-556-2314

All events take place at the RSC. More details on each event are available in the RSC News.

Afternoon Delight Concert

Wednesday, October 26

2 – 3:30pm

Multipurpose room

Sponsored by Madison House

Veteran's Celebration

Thursday, November 10

Time TBA

Multipurpose room

Walkin' Redmond 5K Mask-Parade

Friday, October 28

9:30 – 11am

Meet at RSC Multipurpose room

Thanksgiving Lunch

Wednesday, November 16

11:30am - 1pm

Multipurpose room

Advance tickets required

**Look for us on
Facebook!**
just search for Redmond Senior Center



For all community events visit redmond.gov

A publication of the City of Redmond

Redmond Lights

celebrating winter traditions

WINTER FESTIVAL

December 3, 2011

Saturday * 4-8pm

Cultural & Holiday Entertainment
Tree Lighting * Refreshments
Kids Activities * Luminary Walk
Light Displays * Holiday Craft Market

Presented by  **SWEDISH**



Microsoft

Redmond Reporter

Warm 106.9fm

www.RedmondLights.com