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## AROUND THE CITY

### **2011 Eugene Green Home and Garden Tour A Success**

On Saturday, Sept. 18, a beautiful late summer day greeted participants of the third annual BRING Home and Garden Tour. This was also the first year of a new partnership between the City of Eugene, Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) and BRING to combine annual tours focusing on green homes. The purpose of the tour was to inspire people to rethink their use of resources, encourage the exchange of ideas, foster individual action, and ultimately reduce the community's collective carbon footprint.

The tour highlighted:

- Green building;
- Energy efficiency;
- Active and passive solar energy use;
- Urban food production;
- Creative reuse of materials; and
- Urban density solutions.

Hundreds of attendees were able to visit the 14 homes and gardens on the tour. They also had the opportunity to learn more about energy efficiency and renewable energy at workshops held on ductless heat pumps, solar hot water, and solar electricity. The tour was the public debut of the WaterWise Landscape Demonstration Garden at Alton Baker Park, a collaboration of the City, EWEB, Nearby Nature, Landcurrent, Schirmer Satre Group, and other partners.



Please contact Jenna Garmon at [jenna.r.garmon@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:jenna.r.garmon@ci.eugene.or.us) or 541-682-5541 with ideas for homes to feature on next year's tour.

### **Adaptive Recreation Offers Activities for People with Specific Disabilities**

Adaptive Recreation is adjusting its classes and activities to better serve those with "invisible" disabilities such as traumatic brain injury (TBI), psychological disabilities, and other emotional/behavioral issues. The effort is intended to reach out to groups of individuals to broaden understanding of community integration and to improve opportunities for people with psychiatric disabilities and traumatic brain injuries to participate more fully in community life.

The Fall Recreation Guide includes activities for people with specific types of disabilities. For instance, TBI Alive! is a new social and recreational group for people ages 18 and older with traumatic brain injuries. Activities include community outings, money management skills, self-advocacy and daily living skills.

Adaptive Recreation offers several excursions and trips this fall to the beach, Wildlife Safari, a pumpkin patch, holiday shopping and to tour holiday lights. All activities are specifically designed for individuals with either TBI or psychiatric disabilities.

For more information, contact Patty Prather at 541-682-5311.

### **Eugene Sunday Streets Attracts Thousands**

Eugene Sunday Streets was a great success. The City of Eugene Transportation Planning team received many positive comments from the community on how fun the first Eugene Sunday Streets was for all. Approximately 1,850 community members participated as people of all ages walked, rolled, skated and danced along the three-mile route, including Mayor Kitty Piercy, City Manager Jon Ruiz and Slug Queen Holly GoSlugly. Activity centers at the Washington-Jefferson Park, Skinner Butte Park and the Campbell Community Center were bursting with live music, fitness classes, dancing and fun.



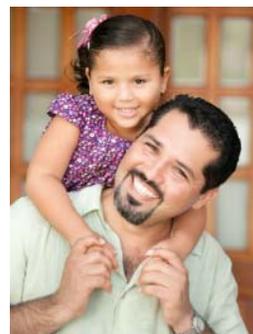
Because of all the smiles and positive comments, the Transportation Planning team will be seeking grant funding to hold one or two Eugene Sunday Streets next summer. City staff is in the process of collecting feedback from participants, businesses, residents along the event route, and 200 volunteers who helped put on the event.

For more information, contact Lindsay Selser at 541-682-5094, email [sundaystreets@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:sundaystreets@ci.eugene.or.us) or visit [www.eugenesundaystreets.org](http://www.eugenesundaystreets.org).

### **Cuentos y Canciones: New Storytime in Spanish at Eugene Public Library**

The Bethel Branch of the Eugene Public Library will host Cuentos y Canciones (Stories and Songs), a fun new storytime in Spanish for children and families every Saturday in October and November, at 11 a.m. Admission is free. The Bethel Branch is located at 1990 Echo Hollow Road. For more information, contact the Eugene Public Library at 541-682-8316 (English) or 541-682-5450 (press 5 for Spanish).

La Biblioteca Pública de Eugene tiene el placer de anunciar un nuevo programa infantil, ubicado en la Sucursal de Bethel. Cuentos y Canciones, para familias y niños pequeños, se presenta solamente en español y es gratis, no hace falta registrarse. Tendrá lugar cada sábado en octubre y noviembre. Los programas empiezan a las 11 a.m. en la Sucursal de Bethel, 1990 Echo Hollow Road, en Eugene. Gratis. Información: 541-682-5450 (marque el 5).



### **Parks and Open Space Hosts Second Public Workshop on Bethel YMCA Proposal**

On Wednesday, Sept. 21, City of Eugene Parks and Open Space (POS) staff hosted the second in a series of public workshops to discuss the YMCA's proposal for a new 60,000-square-foot facility in the Bethel Community Park.



Approximately 40 neighbors and community members were in attendance to hear staff report back on the results of the first web-based survey and discuss site plan options generated from the comments.

Two options have been posted for review and discussion on the project website along with a "no-change" option. To date, community members have expressed several concerns about the project, including the impact of additional traffic to and from the park, addition of significant amounts of on-site parking, pedestrian and bike safety, public safety, and overall building size and scale. Participants have also expressed enthusiasm for the possibility of the Y bringing much needed community and recreation services to the Bethel area.

***Bethel YMCA public workshop at Meadow View School***

Please visit [www.eugene-or.gov/bethelpark](http://www.eugene-or.gov/bethelpark) to view the presentation materials, review the site plan options, and to communicate with POS by clicking the link to the second web-based survey. Contact Emily Proudfoot at [emily.a.proudfoot@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:emily.a.proudfoot@ci.eugene.or.us) or 541-682-4915 with questions.

### **Disc Golf Approved in West Alton Baker Park**

After an 18-month planning process led by staff from the Parks and Open Space and Recreation divisions, a disc golf course in West Alton Baker Park has been approved. Due to ongoing stakeholder concerns about a course that



would enclose a portion of Pre's Running Trail on both sides, a modified area for disc golf that will not cross to the north side of Pre's Trail has been approved. The course will be less than the originally desired 18 holes. The original proposal was close to 22 acres and the approved area is just under 15 acres. Although the size has been reduced, the course is expected to provide a fun and popular recreational amenity that is currently not available in the community.

In order for the City to incur no additional maintenance costs, the course will be built, maintained and managed by a vendor under contract with the City. The course will be temporarily permitted for a period of up to five years, with annual permit review, and renewal based on specific conditions being met.

The public planning process for the project included two public meetings that were attended by more than 100 community members and two surveys that

solicited several hundred responses. In addition, a temporary course was set up in the park for three trial days during which over 1,300 rounds of disc golf were played.

For more information on the project, please contact Parks Planning Manager Neil Bjorklund at 541-682-4909 or [neil.h.bjorklund@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:neil.h.bjorklund@ci.eugene.or.us), or visit [www.eugene-or.gov/discgolf](http://www.eugene-or.gov/discgolf).