

# EUGENE CITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

November 3, 2011



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## AROUND THE CITY

### Leaf Program Includes Collection and Delivery Services

The City of Eugene's annual leaf program is gearing up for another busy fall season. For both operations and outreach, the goals are to maintain the levels of street sweeping and collection services while increasing awareness of leaf delivery services.

On the collection side, the program includes enhanced service on approximately 25 miles of designated priority bike lanes, focused messaging to the community to emphasize the importance of keeping leaves out of bike lanes, and a suite of online services that allow residents to report leaves and other debris in bike lanes and get the most current information on leaf collection operations. This year's collection schedule is:

- West and central Eugene -- Nov. 7 to Nov. 16, and again from Dec. 19 to Dec. 28
- North Eugene -- Nov. 15 to Nov. 30, and again from Dec. 27 to Jan. 6
- Southeast Eugene -- Nov. 29 to Dec. 9, and again from Jan. 5 to Jan. 10
- Southwest Eugene -- Dec. 8 to Dec. 20, and again from Jan. 10 to Jan. 16



Leaves are picked up on unimproved streets only during the second round of collections. Residents and yard services are asked to not place leaves in the streets until the weekend before collection is scheduled in the neighborhood. This is a particularly important message early in the season when rain, wind and sudden drops in temperatures can accelerate the fall of leaves well before the start of scheduled collections. Keeping leaves out of catch-basins prevents flooding and protects the water quality in local streams – two of the main objectives of the stormwater-funded leaf program.

As in 2010, when the City collected nearly 16,000 cubic yards of leaves, a key message is that leaves are a sustainable natural resource that can be used as mulch or compost material. In keeping with this value, none of the leaves collected by the City wind up in the landfill. Instead, 65 percent of the leaves collected in 2010 were delivered to local residents – an all-time high. The rest were used in community gardens and parks. A handy online form makes it easy to request leaf deliveries, and a short online video helps people understand how many leaves are in a dump truck load.

Leaf program postcards have been mailed to approximately 1,700 property owners along priority bike routes, and Eugene and Lane County have partnered with Rexius and Lane Forest Products to distribute information to landscaping companies, reminding them, "It's your business to dispose of leaves responsibly." Public Works Maintenance staff will be meeting with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, information to neighborhoods will be going out this week, and Eugene, Springfield and Lane County are working together to provide weekly updates to local media.

For more information about the leaf program, including detailed collection schedules and links to online services, go to [www.eugene-or.gov/leaf](http://www.eugene-or.gov/leaf) or call Surface Maintenance Supervisor Damon Joyner at 541-682-4835.

### **(sub)Urban Projections Launches First Digital Arts Projection Festival**

(sub)Urban Projections, the City of Eugene Public Art Program and the University of Oregon's School of Architecture and Allied Arts come together on three consecutive Wednesday evenings in November to illuminate the streets of downtown Eugene with a first digital art and media projection festival. This free, public event is held in partnership with downtown businesses.



(sub)Urban Projections is a concept developed by graduate students in the University of Oregon's Cultural Administration course. The City of Eugene's Public Art Program invited the students into a partnership to help breathe life into the festival. Together, these organizations are championing emerging artists, cultivating community, and celebrating the spirit of Eugene through a digital art and media festival that is accessible and affordable to everyone. The festival aims to transform downtown Eugene by expanding the possibilities for public art.

The festival will include projections from 6 - 9 p.m. at the top of the Hult Center Parking Garage on Nov. 9; in an alley at Willamette and 5th Avenue, next to the south wall of Red Agave Restaurant, on Nov. 16; and in Oak Alley, adjacent to the Overpark Parking Garage, between Broadway and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, on Nov. 23.

In addition, winning selections from an open call to artists will be projected all three nights of the festival. Entries include videos from Eugene, Portland, and Seattle, as well as from Arizona, Connecticut, New York, Canada, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

A free, public artist talk and reception with all featured artists and the festival's Eugene video submission artists will be held Thursday, Nov. 17, 6 - 8 p.m., at the Downtown Initiative for the Visual Arts (DIVA), 280 West Broadway in Eugene.

For more information about (sub)Urban Projections, go to <http://suburbanprojections.wordpress.com>.

### **Grantwriting and Homeschooling Workshops at Eugene Public Library**

The Downtown Eugene Public Library will host a free workshop on Finding Grants for Non-Profits on Saturday, Nov. 5, at 3 p.m. Lori Bumgardner, a professional grantwriter and consultant to non-profits, and librarian Scott Herron will share ways to find funding sources to fit specific projects. Participants will learn how to use valuable resources, including the Foundation Center's online database of thousands of funders, available free through the Eugene Public Library. This workshop is co-sponsored by the Library and Women's Opportunity Worldwide.



Parents who are thinking about homeschooling, and parents who are already involved in homeschooling, will find ideas and support at a free workshop on Homeschooling in Oregon on Tuesday, Nov. 8, at 6 p.m., at the Downtown Library. The experts of Oregon Home Education Network (OHEN) will share information on local resources, legal requirements, learning styles, homeschooling methods, and more.

For more information, contact the Eugene Public Library at 541-682-5450 or [www.eugene-or.gov/library](http://www.eugene-or.gov/library).

### **Holiday Bazaar at Campbell Center on November 5**

A great kickoff to the holiday season, the annual Holiday Bazaar at Campbell Community Center features many items made by patrons, including crafts, quilts, wooden items, preserves, pies, and baked goods. This fund-raising event for the Adult Services Program also includes a book sale, raffle, silent auction, breakfast snacks, and lunch, and, no one will want to leave without purchasing a jar of Campbell's famous sweet hot mustard.



The bazaar will be held at Campbell Center on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. The event is open to the public and admission is free. It's a wonderful holiday shopping location with great gifts for all. For more information, call Mel Mann at 541-682-5318.

### **LCOG Launches University of Oregon Campus Travel Survey**

The Lane Council of Governments (LCOG), in conjunction with the University of Oregon (UO), City of Eugene and Lane Transit District, has launched a survey of the travel habits of the UO population. For the month of November 2011, all 28,000 students, faculty and staff at the university will be asked to report the when, where, how and why of all trips they made on a randomly selected day. A broader understanding of UO community travel patterns will help local government transportation staff better plan roadway, bicycle and transit projects near the campus. It will also help staff plan for connections from the campus to places where members of the UO community live, work and shop.

The University of Oregon Campus Travel Survey will collect information on all travel modes, and is focused on the travel behavior of the UO population. For more information about the project, go to [www.lcog.org/uotravelssurvey](http://www.lcog.org/uotravelssurvey) or contact Transportation Planning Manager Rob Inerfeld at 541-682-5343 ([rob.inerfeld@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:rob.inerfeld@ci.eugene.or.us)) or LCOG Senior Transportation Planner Michael Greenwald at 541-682-6595 ([mgreenwald@lcog.org](mailto:mgreenwald@lcog.org)).

### **Envision Eugene Launches On-Line Open House**

To reach more people about the Envision Eugene project, planners recently launched an on-line open house at [www.envisioneugene.org](http://www.envisioneugene.org). The first featured topic is single-family housing. Public land information will be uploaded next, followed by industrial, commercial, and multi-family information later in November.



The on-line open house features videos, posters, maps, and comment forms intended to simulate the experience of coming to an in-person event. By posting all of the information on-line, it can be accessed from the comfort of the home, office or public library.

It is anticipated that this new method of public involvement will reach a wider audience, including those who are not typically able to attend a regular open house. The on-line format is likely to appeal to those who prefer on-line information gathering to physically attending events, and enables the City to receive their input.

Be sure to check out the videos and leave comments for City staff using this innovative public engagement tool. For more information, contact Envision Eugene Public Involvement Manager Terri Harding at

[terri.l.harding@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:terri.l.harding@ci.eugene.or.us) or 541-682-5635.

### **Ribbon-Cutting Celebrates Innovative, Affordable Housing for Returning Veterans**

On Veterans Day, local private, public and non-profit partners will celebrate the completion of the first home remodeled for military veterans and their families through the "Vets' Housing Project: Serving Those Who Have Served Our Country." The ribbon-cutting will take place on Veteran's Day, Friday, Nov. 11, at 9 a.m., at the home located at 2895 Garfield Street. Lane County Commission Chair Faye Stewart, John Brown, Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) Board, National Guard representatives and other public officials will speak, and the public is invited to attend.

The Vets' Housing Project (VHP) is an innovative new partnership that is piloting a Habitat for Humanity-type project to provide affordable rental housing for veterans returning from overseas deployments from all branches of the service.

The original partnership included Eugene City Manager Jon Ruiz, St. Vincent DePaul Executive Director Terry McDonald, EWEB Director Roger Gray, June Chaida of Senator Ron Wyden's office, Vice-President of the Home Builders Association Ed McMahon, President and Chief Executive Officer of VOX Communications Pat Walsh, Chief Financial Officer of Ehlers Construction Randy Lodge, and City of Eugene Intergovernmental Relations Manager Brenda Wilson.



Instead of building new homes, St. Vincent DePaul acquired two houses through foreclosure that needed rehabilitation - the Garfield house, plus another house on East 39th Avenue in southeast Eugene. The veteran's family that is selected will pay \$500 monthly for two years, before moving to more permanent housing and giving another veteran's family an affordable place to live. It is hoped the second house to be remodeled will be ready for occupancy before the winter holidays. The partnership is working on bringing several more homes into the inventory to be rehabilitated for additional families.

An estimated 900 local National Guard members have returned home from deployment overseas in the past several years. Many returning veterans and their families need help with safe, secure and affordable housing so they can start or resume college, find a job, or take other steps to build a career.

The project has received the support of many local businesses, service agencies, youth and sports groups and hundreds of volunteers. Several companies have donated materials, paint, and labor, including Forrest Paint, Bonn Roof Care, Builders Electric and Ehlers Construction.

For more information, contact Brenda Wilson at 541-682-8441.