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EUGENE CITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

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AROUND THE CITY

2013 BRING Home & Garden Tour, September 8th



Tickets are on sale for the fifth annual BRING Home and Garden Tour set for Sunday, September 8 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Co-hosted by the City and EWEB, the tour is designed to inspire and educate the community on sustainable living strategies. The 12 homes and gardens featured on the self-guided tour showcase new, cutting-edge sustainable construction, creative remodels and bountiful gardens. Tour sites include a time-tested straw bale house, the area's first net zero energy home, two deep energy retrofits (one led by students), and a LEED Gold home with a wind turbine.

This year's theme is "shared spaces," highlighting how people can share space and expertise to save resources and build community. In addition to learning about sustainable building practices, tour goers can visit a housing co-op, a shared garden built on a city right-of-way, the new LUCiA mixed-use development with communal gardens, and a redeveloped downtown lot shared by two couples.

Tour goers can pick up ideas for their own projects by chatting with contractors, designers and do-it-yourselfers about cutting-edge energy and water conservation approaches, active and passive solar, sustainable and reused building materials, rainwater harvesting, food production and much more.

Tickets are on sale online and at a variety of locations. Volunteers are needed for two-hour shifts on the day of the event and will receive a free ticket to the tour. To buy tickets, volunteer, or see a preview of the tour sites, visit BRING's website at www.bringrecycling.org/home/brg/listitems_90 or contact the tour organizer at tour@bringrecycling.org.

For more information about the tour, contact Jenna Garmon at jenna.r.garmon@ci.eugene.or.us or 541-682-5541.



SmartTrips Video Shows How People Can Reconnect with Their Neighborhoods



The latest episode of Working City features SmartTrips Eugene, a fun and interactive way for target neighborhoods to reduce their drive-alone trips and increase the number of trips taken by walking, bicycling, using transit and carpooling or sharing rides.

SmartTrips 2013 focuses on the east Bethel neighborhood. This neighborhood – west of Highway 99, north of Roosevelt Boulevard and east of Beltline – offers easy access to several shopping centers and half a dozen parks and community centers. As the 4½-minute Working City video explains, maps, newsletters, travel tips, bus passes, and other trip tools show residents how they can get around in their neighborhood without having to rely on a

car. This summer in the Bethel neighborhood the SmartTrips Eugene program has delivered, by bike, more than 350 transportation toolkits and has given away more than 100 helmets to children and adults. The program also has hosted about a dozen community events in the east Bethel neighborhood that help introduce residents to new travel options and safety information.

Working City is financed with Eugene's telecom funds and is produced as a public service through a joint effort involving City staff and Metro Television. The SmartTrips video can be viewed on the City's [video web page](#) or by going directly to <http://vimeo.com/71378175>. It also airs on Comcast Cable channel 21 (check the [Metro TV schedule](#) for times). For more information about SmartTrips, contact Transportation Options Coordinator Lindsay Selser at 541-682-5094 or email Lindsay.R.Selser@ci.eugene.or.us.

Recreation Gives You More For Your Free Time

City of Eugene Recreation offers more than 400 opportunities this fall to tap into activities that empirical, theoretical, and anecdotal evidence demonstrates positively affects blood pressure, cholesterol, outlook on life, stress reduction, and behavior problems of children - and is fun, to boot!

The new, 76-page Recreation Guide includes activities for all ages and abilities. It is available "virtually" at GetRec.org and in hard copy at all City community centers, pools, and libraries, and at many other public offices around town. A paper guide is also available by mail for those who request a free subscription.

Activities from September to December listed in the new guide range from the acoustic music jam for adults, featured on the guide's cover, to Hip Hop & Bop for Tots, a high-energy dance class for kids ages 3-5. This guide also cites several research-based benefits of recreation, such as strengthening family ties. Opportunities to reap those benefits this fall include the free, First Saturday Park Walks, Family Fun with Clay and Pipe Dream Productions. Don't miss the No-school Swim Days on the kids' days off from school this fall, or breakfast with Santa in December.

To register for most activities, access the virtual Recreation Guide, sign up for a free subscription, or, for a complete list of Rec Guide distribution locations, go to: www.GetRec.org. For more information, contact Craig Smith at 541-682-5334.



Summer in the City—Downtown: Sidewalk to Catwalk and Artwork Downtown

The 5th annual Summer in the City-Downtown Fashion Show moved from Kesey Square to the east Park Blocks this year, and from all accounts it proved to be a terrific setting and success. True to the billing of Sidewalk to Catwalk, the Park Blocks filled with over 500 people who enjoyed the warm summer evening and incredible talents of our new up-and-coming designers and models. A wonderful addition, inspiration and crowd favorite came with the partnership of Mobility International USA and its Women's Institute on Leadership and Disability (WILD). The City of Eugene proudly hosted guest models from sidewalks around the world to this year's catwalk in their traditional artisan-made clothing.

“We were excited to bring international flair to the City of Eugene’s downtown fashion show this year. Our international models break down barriers of what defines beauty by showcasing women with disabilities from around the world who are loud, proud and passionate about who they are and what they represent. Wearing magnificent cultural textiles and fabrics, these women rolled and walked the catwalk like we have never seen before in Eugene!”—Cerise Roth-Vinson, Chief Operating Officer, Mobility International USA



Mobility International USA delegate rolls the catwalk



Delegates with Mobility International USA, Women’s Institute on Leadership and Disability (WILD)

The final event of this year’s Summer in the City--Downtown season took place on Wednesday, August 21, with the Art Alfresco and Plein Air Show. This festive evening, a partnership between the City of Eugene, the Arts and Business Alliance of Eugene and Create! Eugene, brought a crowd of 200 to Kesey Square. Displays of finished art from the Paint Out competition and artists at work provided the backdrop for browsing. Soul Jazz, a wine bar, and a Do-It-Yourself Kids Art Station added creative flair to the downtown event. Juror and Plein Air artist Eric Jacobsen awarded prizes to paintings competing in the adult and kid categories. The Plein Air show is on exhibit at DIVA Gallery through August 31.



SITC-Downtown Art Alfresco and Plein Air show



SITC-Downtown Art Alfresco, Do-It-Yourself Kids Art Station

For Summer in the City information, contact Marketing & Public Relations Manager Libby Tower, Cultural Services and Hult Center for the Performing Arts, at 541-682-8380.