

City News

April 2023

Curbside Composting Program

Beginning April 1st Veneta residents using Sanipac's residential garbage service have the option of placing their food waste into their yard debris bin instead of their garbage bin.

Did you know that over half of the 40 million pounds of food waste going into the landfill each year comes from homes? Eugene piloted the Sanipac curbside composting program starting in 2016, and due to its success the program is now expanding into other parts of Lane County, including Veneta. "Composting food waste allows us to make use of the material while also reducing greenhouse gas emis-

sions," said Aaron Donley of Sanipac, who explained that the food waste will be turned into compost or a soil amendment.

Beginning April 1st residents may collect their food scraps (no liquids or compostable wares) and place them in their yard debris bin. Layering yard debris and food scraps is recommended, though not required. Sanipac will then collect the bin and sort through it before placing the debris and food scraps into a machine that will ground the organic material into smaller pieces. Finally it will go to a local processor to

(See "Compost" on page 2)

Annual Veneta Community Pool Update

Reflecting on the 2022 Veneta Community Pool season, Public Works Director Kyle Schauer had this to say, "2022 was a very successful pool season. People are coming back in earnest, compared with the previous year, which is great."

Schauer pointed to a 79% increase in pool usage and an uptick in users from outside of Veneta. There was a 5% increase in pool users residing outside the city—now accounting for 20% of overall pool users.

"We are looking forward to another successful season," said Schauer.

A 2022 Red Cross audit concluded that the Veneta Community Pool is a well-run facility with a thoroughly trained staff. Schauer said the positive



ranking would not have been achieved without a tremendous program put together by an incredible staff, including senior and head lifeguards.

The pool is now actively recruiting for lifeguards and swim instructors for the 2023 season. Pool Manager Stacy Cornelius said that they have ten returning employees and are looking to recruit ten new employees.

"Candidates should have a love for swimming, like to be in the sun, are social, active, and engaged," Cornelius said. Anyone who fits the criteria is encouraged to apply. Cornelius explained that there are still lifeguard shortages affecting the region and that the pool schedule is dependent on sufficient staffing. If

(See "Pool" on page 2)

Celebrating Arbor Day in a Tree City

On Friday, April 28th cities around the globe will recognize Arbor Day, a day of observance celebrating nature and, specifically, trees! The day is intended to encourage communities to organize tree plantings and celebrate the trees in their region.

In 2009, at the recommendation of many tree-loving residents, including former mayor Sandra Larson, Veneta was established as an official Tree City and has received the designation for the past 14 years. Each year Veneta must get recertified in order to maintain its status as a Tree City.

Community Development Director Matt Laird explained that being a Tree City requires much more than a once per year proclamation. In addition to the mayor's annual proclamation and annual tree plantings, developers in Veneta must comply with municipal code title 8.10 which reflects the City's commitment to tree protection. The code states, "The City

(See "Tree City" on page 2)

CIVIC CALENDAR April 2023

All meetings held at City Hall unless otherwise noted



4	Planning Commission Meeting	6:30 p.m.
5	Park Board Meeting	4:30 p.m.
8	Easter Egg Hunt - Veneta Elementary	11:00 a.m. 
10	City Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.
12	Economic Development Committee Meeting	2:00 p.m.
20	Municipal Court	8:30 a.m.
24	City Council Work Session	5:00 p.m.
27	Veneta Eats - Fern Ridge Service Center	6:00 p.m. 
28	Business Assistance Committee Meeting	9:00 a.m.

Compost continued

be turned into usable compost or soil amendment.

Tips for Composting Food Waste

- Place a sealable container or kitchen pail in a convenient location in your kitchen
- Toss all food scraps and plate scrapings into your composting container
- There will be no changes to your pickup schedule; Food scraps go into the yard debris bin, so your pick-up day will remain the same
- Empty your kitchen pail into your yard debris bin, along with your yard debris

- You can watch a Curbside Composting video with Eugene Emerald's Sluggo for tips on how to integrate composting into your home and lifestyle by visiting the City of Veneta website www.venetaoregon.gov The link will be on the main page under "News"
- Download the Waste Wizard app on the Sanipac website for more guidance



Pool continued

there is not sufficient staffing, that will affect whether the pool is able to operate 7 days per week, or not.

The 2023 pool season feels more optimistic than previous years though, with COVID restrictions lifted and general anxiety reduced. Cornelius said it will be a lot of work getting the new recruits trained and

ready by mid-June—but it is always worth it come opening day.

The Veneta Community Pool is scheduled to open for the season on Saturday, June 17th. For more information please visit www.venetaoregon.gov.

Tree City continued

has chosen to regulate noncommercial cutting, destruction, and removal of trees...to preserve and enhance the urban forest within the City of Veneta through the prudent management of existing trees, and the continual replacement and establishment of new trees."

Another Arbor Day goal is highlighting the many benefits of trees. "We want to spread information about the value of having trees around," said Laird. "Some of the benefits of trees include cleaner air, removal of pollution from the atmosphere, a contribution to overall health and well being, cooling of the earth's



TREE CITY USA

surface temperature, storing carbon, and saving energy by shading our homes. There are also benefits for wildlife habitat and even an increase in property values."

The community is invited to the planting of a memorial tree on Friday, April 28th at 3:00 p.m. at Fern Park in Veneta. The tree planting event, organized by the Park Board, honors longtime Park Board member Cathy Coulson-Keegan.

For more information contact Community Development Director Matt Laird at mlaird@ci.veneta.or.us or call City Hall at 541-935-2191.

Code Enforcement: Listening Sessions

A special thank you to those who participated in the recent Code Enforcement Survey! The survey wrapped up on March 31st, but there is another opportunity for the public to provide their input at one of our upcoming listening sessions.

As a refresher, the City is currently evaluating the protocol for municipal code enforcement. The City is considering a transition from the current complaint-based model to a proactive model, or perhaps a hybrid of the two. We want to know: What do you think of the current complaint-based code enforcement system? Is it effective? How can it be improved upon? Resident knowledge is a valuable part of the decision-making process and we want to engage the community as much as possible in this important topic.

As a result, two listening sessions will be held at the Fern Ridge Service Center. There will be a

lunchtime session and an evening session. The first session will be held April 18th at 6:00 PM. The second session will be held April 27th at 12:00 PM. The City will be presenting various options as they relate to municipal code enforcement. This is an opportunity for more residents to participate and have their voices be heard. The Code Enforcement survey results, as well as the information gathered at the Fern Ridge Service Center listening sessions, will be presented before City Council at their May 8th meeting.

"We want to provide people an opportunity to share their comments on future adjustments to municipal code enforcement in the City," said Cole Haselip.

The listening sessions are open to all Veneta residents and are intended to be conversational. For more information, please contact Cole at chaselip@ci.veneta.or.us or call 541-935-2191.

Join us for the 37th Annual

Veneta Egg-cellent Hunt

Saturday, April 8, 2023
Veneta Elementary School
11:00 a.m.

- Bring a Basket
- Ages 1 to 10
- Each Egg Contains a Treat
- ADA Accessible Event
- Rain or Shine



For questions call
the City of Veneta at
541-935-2191



**City of Veneta
PARK BOARD**

Sanipac

FREE FOOD

LIVE MUSIC



The City of Veneta presents...

VENETA EATS

**April 27th 6:00-8:00pm
Fern Ridge Service Center**

25035 W Broadway Ave, Veneta, OR 97487

Join us for a fun, informative, and delicious night with food from:

**The E-Bar and Grill
Luava's Place
Our Daily Bread Bakery**

Email apowell@ci.veneta.or.us with any questions



Veneta Citywide Clean-Up

Saturday May 6, 2022

8 a.m. to 4 p.m. ♦ 5th St & Bolton Hill

The City Wide Clean-Up is **FREE OF CHARGE** and limited to residents within the City of Veneta (proof of residency required)

Take this time to clean up your home, yard, and neighborhood

These items will **NOT** be accepted: Hazardous materials, propane tanks, household trash and household items.

Following are some of the items that will be accepted:

- **Yard debris, limbs, weeds and grass clippings**
- **Tires - MUST be off rims (limit 4)**
- **Personal documents for shredding**
- **Wood**
- **Metal**
- **Appliances**
- **Recyclables**

For more information contact the City of Veneta 541-935-2191 or visit www.venetaoregon.gov



Sanipac

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