

**CITY OF SALEM**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD (SPRAB)**  
**ON-LINE MEETING AGENDA**

Si necesita ayuda para comprender esta información, por favor llame 503-588-6003.

Individuals needing special accommodations such as sign language, foreign language interpreters or equipment for the hearing impaired must request such services at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. To request accommodations or services, please call 503-588-6211 or 503-588-6003 (TTD/TTY 503-588-6439), or by e-mail at: [twhitler@cityofsalem.net](mailto:twhitler@cityofsalem.net) at least two business days in advance.

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This regular meeting of the Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will take place online. This page will tell you how to participate in this digital format. The agenda for the meeting is on page two.

**DIGITAL MEETING INFORMATION**

The City will be using ZOOM software to host this meeting. If you are new to ZOOM, you will be able to access the meeting without downloading the application. If you wish to download the software, that option will be provided when you click on the link to the meeting.

**To access the May 13, 2021, 5:30 p.m. Zoom meeting from computer, tablet, or smartphone click on the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89882514972>**

**You can also view the meeting on YouTube at the following link: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQLj9RKZNHu4wfYcs\\_TC0TA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQLj9RKZNHu4wfYcs_TC0TA)**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Contact Toni Whitler, Parks Planner, at [twhitler@cityofsalem.net](mailto:twhitler@cityofsalem.net) if you wish to provide public comment on any agenda or non-agenda item.**

Email comments: Please provide email comments no later than 3:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.

Live, public comment: Please contact Toni Whitler no later than 3:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.

Public comments will only be addressed during the public comment period as noted on the agenda (see Agenda on page 2) and will include comment on agenda and non-agenda items. Email comments submitted will be addressed during the comment period.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

The City of Salem and the Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board thank you for your support by using the digital format. For any questions or concerns about the above information, please contact Toni Whitler, at [twhitler@cityofsalem.net](mailto:twhitler@cityofsalem.net) or 503-588-6211.

It is the City of Salem's policy to assure that no person shall be discriminated against on the grounds of race, religion, color, sex, marital status, familial status, national origin, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and source of income, as provided by Salem Revised Code 97. The City of Salem also fully complies with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and related statutes and regulations, in all programs and activities.

Es la política de la Ciudad de Salem asegurar que ninguna persona será discriminada por motivos de raza, religión, color, sexo, estado civil, situación familiar, origen nacional, edad, discapacidad mental o física, orientación sexual, identidad de género, ni fuente de ingresos, de acuerdo con el Salem Revised Code Chapter 97. La Ciudad de Salem también cumple plenamente con el Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, y los estatutos y reglamentos relacionados, en todos los programas y actividades.

**CITY OF SALEM**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**DIGITAL AGENDA**  
**May 13, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.**

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**BOARD MEMBERS, CITY STAFF &  
UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Dylan McDowell, Chair  
Micki Varney, Vice Chair  
Alan Alexander  
Tony Caito  
Woody Dukes  
Dave Fridenmaker  
Rick Hartwig  
Keith Norris  
Paul Rice

**CITY STAFF**

Robert Chandler, Assistant Public  
Works Director  
Mark Becktel, Operations Division  
Manager  
Patricia Farrell, Parks and Natural  
Resources Planning Manager  
Jennifer Kellar, Parks and Recreation  
Services Manager  
Becky George, Recreation Supervisor  
Milan Davis, City Urban Forester  
Toni Whitler, Parks Planner & Board  
Liaison

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- City Council – May 10, 6:00 p.m. –  
Woodmansee Park Master Plan  
Adoption
- City Council – May 24, 6:00 p.m.  
Geer Park Master Plan Update Adoption

**LINKS**

BOARD WEB PAGE:

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/parks-and-recreation-advisory-board.aspx>

**AGENDA**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** (5:30 p.m.)
- 2. ROLL CALL** - New Board Member Introduction
- 3. MINUTES** (5:40 p.m.)
  - a. April 8, 2021
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT** (*Public Comment for agenda and non-agenda items.*) (5:45 – 5:55 p.m.)
- 5. BOARD ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS**
  - a. Parks Operations and Planning Budget – *Jennifer Kellar and Patricia Farrell*
- 6. INFORMATION REPORTS – WRITTEN** (6:40 – 6:50 p.m.)
  - a. Urban Forestry Update
  - b. Parks & Natural Resources Planning Update
  - c. Parks Operations Update
  - d. Recreation Services Update
- 7. NEW BUSINESS** (6:50 – 7:00 p.m.)
- 8. NEXT MEETING**
  - a. June 9, 2020
- 9. ADJOURN**



**SALEM PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
DIGITAL MEETING  
April 8, 2021  
MINUTES**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Alan Alexander  
Woody Dukes  
Dylan McDowell  
Micki Varney  
Keith Norris  
David Fridenmaker  
Paul Rice  
Tony Caito  
Rick Hartwig

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

**STAFF PRESENT**

Patricia Farrell  
Jennifer Kellar  
Milan Davis  
Becky George  
Michelle Starbuck  
  
Tracy Johnson, ESA  
(consultant)

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**1. ROLL**

Chair McDowell introduced Member Rick Hartwig. Member Hartwig shared some background about himself.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Member Fridenmaker noted that the second line about Geer Park Draft Master Plan should be 'to the park' not 'through the park', and the next two paragraphs were not him speaking, they were the answer to his question.

**Micki Varney moved to accept minutes from previous meeting with amendments. Alan Alexander seconded. Minutes approved with amendments.**

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Susan Powers submitted a public comment that the flood lights at Pioneer Cemetery are too bright in her home. Jennifer Kellar advised that the City is collaborating with PGE to modify the flood lights. The City will be meeting with PGE on 4/9/2021 to examine and address the requested changes. Chair McDowell expressed he was impressed that the City and PGE have such a good working relationship and thanked Ms. Powers for bringing this to the Board's attention. There were some clarifying questions from Board members regarding ownership of lights city-wide and cost efficiencies. Ms. Kellar noted that some lights are owned by Salem Electric, some PGE, and some are owned by the City depending on the area of town and type of lighting. She noted that replacement with LED lighting has been a focus for the last four years and there are still some left to replace.

Chair McDowell mentioned that Erin Donnithorne (citizen) and Member David Fridenmaker (on behalf of the School District) shared written comments for the Woodmansee Park Draft

Master Plan. Member Fridenmaker said we can wait to go over those during the Woodmansee Park Master Plan Update.

#### **4. BOARD ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS**

##### **a. Status of Unsheltered Individuals in Parks**

Gretchen Bennett shared an update on the status of unsheltered individuals in Parks. Member Rice asked considering the number of people at Wallace, any thoughts on how effective prohibiting camping on the parks will be starting June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Ms. Bennett stated about three weeks ago they got an estimate of about 150 tents at Wallace. She believes it will really vary on situations and types of people. She is hoping with this new infusion of rapid rehousing resources there will be some success. There is also an increase in shelter beds at the Union Gospel Mission which will help. They are talking with behavioral health partners about infusing their expertise, for example their theory of change model that can be built into conversations to help with progress on areas of substance abuse. She stated she is aware there are hundreds of people and some may not want to find a place, but they will make it clear the parks are no longer an option for shelter and provide the options.

Member Alexander stated some days it seems to be getting worse instead of better and he is concerned about the acts of violence that have occurred and curious what actions the Mayor's office is taking to protect the public, City workers, and other unsheltered persons. Ms. Bennett confirmed when a crime justifies it, to hold someone in jail for accountability and public safety. Jails are not operated by the City; those decisions are made at a County level. They have a matrix on what crimes and levels of crimes result in incarceration, some of that is influenced by COVID and the need to keep numbers low while some of it is budget driven. She clarified this is not to criminalize being unsheltered, but in reference to the acts of criminality – assaults and abuse. They have been discussing solutions with the County regarding this issue.

Ms. Bennett noted that she appreciates Jennifer Kellar and others at Public Works who have worked closely with the City's Human Resources department on improving safety. The goal is for every employee and park patron to be safe. That includes strategies for staff such as working in pairs, communicating through de-escalation, avoiding confrontations, putting safety above the work, and staff avoiding certain locations/jobs unless accompanied by law enforcement as necessary. Police officers have been present at the deep cleanings of Wallace and Cascade to ensure safety.

Member Hartwig asked if any of the federal money they are receiving is going to mental health consultations. Ms. Bennett stated she will get back to him on that, she is not sure. There are seven agencies receiving funding from the allocation in the Salem area, ten over all, because it is a regional allocation.

Member Fridenmaker asked if any of the funding was targeted in mitigating some of the reasons people end up homeless to help them stay in their homes. Ms. Bennett stated she

knows there are prevention strategies that the community action agency works on to prevent homelessness.

Member Fridenmaker asked if she knows if Council is looking at any changes to ordinances or policies of the City that might help. She said she will also try to find that out.

Chair McDowell asked Ms. Bennett to clarify what she meant by a regional allocation, and wondered if Portland is included in that, and to please define the region. She clarified Portland is not included.. A strong step in our Region was to form a separate entity which allowed funding to come to Salem as opposed to funding going to the balance of State, where we were mixed in with a much larger area. Now, Marion and Polk counties are a distinct region for this allocation as a result of the recent work to build the homeless alliance. The \$5.5 Million is going directly to 10 agencies in Marion and Polk county for a total of 37 strategies.

Chair McDowell asked Ms. Bennett if she has a sense of how many beds will be available at the Gospel Mission on June 1 based on the rough estimates they have. She stated she does not have an estimate of people at Cascade, but she has requested it and hopes to have it soon. She is focused on looking at other parcels and strategies to close the gap of beds that will be available.

Vice Chair Varney asked after the closure of the women's shelter, what kind of strategies are in place to protect more vulnerable unsheltered people. Ms. Bennett stated she has been impressed with some of the creative approaches she's seen from the non-profits and advocates. From a City standpoint, they always encourage reporting incidents to Police, and taking all safety precautions possible. Nonprofits and individual donors have handed out personal safety devices and provided information on locations. She also hopes the signs will help with communications in the parks.

Chair McDowell asked if there will be a public outreach about the signs in larger context. She was unsure, but she will make a note to check on that.

**No other questions or comments. No motion required during this meeting.**

**b. Woodmansee Park Master Plan Update**

Tracy Johnson, landscape architecture consultant from ESA, presented the Woodmansee Park Master Plan Update. Member Fridenmaker addressed his submitted written comments and stated he will vote no on the masterplan tonight because he doesn't believe the issues the School District brought up have been adequately addressed. Patricia Farrell responded that they did move the trail that was located by the creek away from the property line and the other trail in the middle of the master plan is stubbed out to the existing water easement, but there is not an access agreement. Because it is a 20-year plan staff felt it was important to leave that option open for the future as a potential trail, knowing they would need to negotiate with the School District for that process. If this option isn't included the

City would potentially have to revise the master plan at a later date. The report includes the detail of the reasoning of including a future potential trail.

Member Fridenmaker explained their main concern is the safety and security of the school during the school day and when the school is being used by students, so having public access is an issue for them to address. Patricia responded that they did meet with the School District and the Principal of Judson did not seem concerned about the access, the kids use the access points more than anyone. The Principal seemed more concerned about people going through the middle of the School, and these paths are on the boundary edges.

Chair McDowell asked if there is more that Member Fridenmaker or the School District would like to see or if that is a larger conversation that needs to happen. Member Fridenmaker said he thinks the paved connection at the North of the School would need to move, because that would imply public access is coming across the School grounds to the park. Ms. Johnson confirmed the north trail is entirely within the park property and the right-of-way out to Idlewood and completely allowable. Member Fridenmaker confirmed he is talking about the NE corner the Judson property, about the middle of the park property labeled as "Potential Trail Connection".

Member Rice added he recently went to the park because he was unfamiliar with it and his notes were that it was not easily identifiable from the road, but once you get inside it is a real gem of an area. He also noted that everything felt very dated. Out of all the options presented by Ms. Johnson in his viewpoint, the Draft Master Plan is the best.

Member Norris agreed with Member Rice's assessment on the park as well and asked in terms of the survey numbers how does that compare to what they typically see for in-person engagement for park master plans. Ms. Johnson stated the most recent park she did in Salem was Fairview Park in 2016, which is also a community park and outreach was entirely in-person. The public meetings typically had about 25-30 attendees in person and there were three online surveys included in the outreach. In general, there was a standard level of engagement.

Member Norris suggested keeping a robust online presence when in-person meetings are possible again. This will encourage more engagement. He asked if the natural area restoration is redefining the trails and getting rid of "social" trails and doing some vegetation restoration. Ms. Johnson agreed and noted that conditions of trails vary in different locations throughout the park. The areas that are darker green on the Draft Master Plan are the predominately natural areas and most of those areas are identified in the Sensitive Area Management Handbook developed for Salem Parks around 2001 and used as a management guide.

Member Norris asked about funding the improvements. Ms. Farrell confirmed the money for the tennis courts is coming from the ASR project and there is \$500,000 set aside for park improvements with the tennis courts being the first improvement made.

Member Hartwig noted that building another restroom is very important. He also noted that a lot of kids at Judson need a good path between the school and the park, but he understands the need for security. He asked if the new tennis courts will have benches inside the court, and what the current timeline is for starting and completing the tennis court project. Ms. Farrell said once the master plan is adopted the plan is to go into design phase for the tennis court reconstruction with an anticipated start in 2022.

Chair McDowell asked what the vision is for the outdoor classroom and who would use it. Ms. Johnson replied that during the concept they had a couple of potential locations, but they wanted it to be associated with Pringle Creek. They did not get strong feedback from Judson that they would use it all the time and they did get some input from Buttercup that they would use it. The location is close to the playground and could change slightly depending on how the rest of the park development goes.

Chair McDowell commented that he was excited to see the community garden on the plan.

Member Dukes stated his concern on the impacts to the rootzones of trees during reconstruction and construction of trails. Ms. Johnson acknowledged his concern and that impacts will be considered in the planning and design phase.

Member Norris asked if tree removals/planting should be included in this or would be captured in another planning document. Ms. Farrell noted that a master plan document doesn't always get in to the specific locations of tree plantings.

Vice Chair Varney noted that she loves the master plan.

Chair McDowell asked Member Dukes if he thinks they should approve it with a motion to amend based on adding a comment regarding the trees. Member Dukes stated just being aware of the situation is enough.

**Keith Norris moves to accept the Woodmansee Park Masterplan as presented. Paul Rice seconded.**

**Vote:**

**Motion carried with 8 in favor; 1 opposed, Member Fridenmaker (Salem-Keizer School District representative).**

## **5. INFORMATION REPORTS**

### **a. Mission Street Parks Conservancy Quarterly Report**

Christine Chute presented the Mission Street Parks Conservancy Quarterly Report. Chair McDowell noted he was excited about the program for White Oaks and encouraged her to continue sharing similar information when she has it.

No other questions or comments.

**b. Urban Forestry Update**

Milan Davis presented the Urban Forestry update. Chair McDowell acknowledged the staggering 18,500 tons of storm debris. Milan confirmed Public Works staff and nine contractors hired Feb 9 conducted the cleanup effort from the ice storm. This number does not include the debris collected from the public drop-off sites.

No other questions or comments.

**c. Parks & Natural Resources Planning Update**

Patricia Farrell presented the Parks & Natural Resources Planning update. Chair McDowell also presented some updates for the Climate Action Committee. Member Rice suggested Narrowing down the project list. Ms. Farrell confirmed they are focusing on projects that fall under the City's responsibility.

Member Norris asked about an update on the Urban Beaver strategy. Patricia stated they have hired a consultant, Pacific Habitat Services, to help them come up with a strategy of what to do in different situations with dams building. They have had a great deal of increase in the beaver population in Salem which is good and bad, dependent upon where the dam is. They will be coordinating with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and working with Stormwater Operations and Parks Operations staffs to come up with a decision tree to mitigate the problem areas.

Member Norris asked if it's been raised as an issue because people's homes and yards have been flooded and if they have a sense of how many beavers are in the City. Ms. Farrell stated she does not have a sense of how many beavers are in the City, but they can track the number of complaints. People get concerned when they see water coming up in their yard or getting too close to their building or outdoor structures.

No other questions or comments.

**d. Parks Operations Update**

Jennifer Kellar presented the Parks Operations update.

No other questions or comments.

**e. Recreation Services Update**

Becky George presented the Recreation Services update.

No other questions or comments.

**6. New Business**

Chair McDowell brought up the opportunity for one member of SPRAB to be a part of the Library Strategic planning process, it should be relatively short term and you will participate virtually. Ms. Farrell responded she thought that in addition to Chair McDowell's interest,



only Member Norris showed interest. Chair McDowell appointed Member Norris to be a part of the Library Strategic planning process.

**7. NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is May 13, 2021.

**8. ADJOURN**

7:50 PM

Minutes: Michelle Starbuck

Information Reports Packet  
For SPRAB Meeting May 13, 2021

1. Urban Forestry Report – Milan Davis, Urban Forester
2. Parks and Natural Resources Planning Report - Patricia Farrell, Parks and Natural Resources Planning Manager
  - Tree City USA event poster
3. Parks Operations Report – Jennifer Kellar, Parks Operations and Recreation Services Manager
4. Recreation Service Report– Becky George, Recreation Services Supervisor
  - Facility Use COVID-19 Addendum
  - Recreation pamphlet
5. Park Damage Report – March 2021

May 2021 SPRAB Monthly Meeting

Parks Operations, Urban Forestry Division

## URBAN FORESTRY REPORT

Milan Davis

I can report that we are still spending the majority of our time working to mitigate damage caused by the Feb 12<sup>th</sup> Ice storm. Since the third week in February we have completed 4286 hazardous tree assessments, inspected over 1790 service requests, resolved 1725 service requests, completed 2802 work orders using the Workforce GIS app and Survey 123 ESRI GIS.

We have currently planted 484 street trees since May 2020. We have almost completed our planting schedule for the season and still have over 70 trees to plant, once completed we will have planted over 550 trees this year with parks staff. We are about to begin our watering schedule for trees that were planted in Spring 2019-spring 2021 which total 867 trees. We will utilize two water trucks, one 500 gallon and one 300 hundred gallon truck utilizing seasonal and full time staff and try to get to each of the trees at least 5 times this summer applying approx. 10 gallons of water each visit.

We have recently advertised for our Tree Trimmer opening and had two very strong applicants and were able to offer the position to Evan Doner and he will be starting on May 24<sup>th</sup>. He has over four years climbing experience, excels in technical roping and rigging and has over four years of aerial bucket work experience. Evan has his class A cdl license and pesticide applicator license. We are looking forward to Evan starting and know he will be an asset from day 1.



Left image Jake Downer & Sam Welsh clean up after the ice storm, right image Dan Silberstein using a porter wrap to rig branches down overhanging a residence.

## **Parks and Natural Resources Planning Update – May 2021**

**Woodmansee Park - Master Plan Update** - The draft master plan will go to Council May 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Geer Park Master Plan Update** - Draft master plan to City Council May 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Bush Pasture Park and Deepwood - Cultural Landscape Management Plan** - Draft report will be posted mid-May and open for public comment for two weeks. Historic Landmarks Commission will get presentation in May, followed by MSPC, SPRAB and SCAN in July, then Council at end of July.

**Climate Action Plan** - The fifth Task Force workshop will be June 23 and will focus on implementation of the plan. All meetings are livestreamed and recorded. Staff is developing their outreach strategy for the summer/fall to ensure minority and under-represented residents of Salem are aware of the plan and process.

**D Street Park** – Construction of the D Street Park Frontage Improvements Project is expected to begin in late June. This work will add sidewalks and other improvements on the edges of the new park property. As we build sidewalks on D and 23rd Streets, we are working with archaeological experts to monitor the site. The City has already put in a new sewer line to serve the future park. The sewer line location will not preclude future activities at the park, which will be established through the park master plan process with community input in 2025 and 2026. The health of mature walnut trees adjacent to the park and along the south side of D Street is in decline. The City Urban Forester is closely monitoring these trees as the project seeks to avoid impacts. Park system development charges were used to acquire the property and improve the park street frontage.

**Parks and Recreation Frequently Asked Questions** – Work on an on-line platform is being developed to the community and provide park, natural resource, and recreation facts and general information. The information originally presented to SPRAB is now on one web page called Parks & Activities. The site can be found here: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/activities> .

Within this site are six areas that encompass parks, recreation, volunteering, reservations, Salem Park Improvement Fund, and benefits of trees. There is some updating to be done to include recent park acquisitions. At this time, the City is moving forward with an RFP to contract with a website developer to rework the City web page next year. At that time, changes will be incorporated to better highlight and inform the public on these six broad areas of Parks and Recreation.

**Tree City USA 45<sup>th</sup> Year** – Staff has been planning quarterly events to celebrate our 45<sup>th</sup> year as TCUSA. First event will be a poster contest beginning in April (Arbor Month). Entries are due May 28. See flier for more information (attached). Other events will include “poetree” writing and tree trivia contests. We are also looking at opportunities for posting TCUSA signs at major entrances (ODOT jurisdiction) to the City.

# IF I WERE A TREE

CELEBRATING 45 YEARS AS A TREE CITY USA

## Art Poster Contest

The City of Salem is celebrating its 45th year as a Tree City USA and wants you to celebrate with us! The contest's theme is "If I Were a Tree" The theme is designed to provide wonder and inspire a greater appreciation of the beautiful assortment of trees that make up Salem's community forest. There will be four winning entries, one from each of the following categories: elementary school, middle school, high school, and adult. Entries may be used for outreach and education for the Urban Forestry and other tree-related programs and events.

**First and second place winners for each category will receive a prize package.**

### About Tree City USA

The Tree City USA program has been helping to plant trees in cities and towns across America since 1976. It is a nationwide movement that helps communities care for their public trees.

### Contest Guidelines

- All Salem residents are eligible.
- Incorporate "If I Were a Tree" into your artwork.
- Any media may be used to create the poster (crayon, pencils, charcoal). We are looking for eye-catching artwork.
- Please provide original artwork with dimensions of 8.5" X 11" and in portrait orientation. Artwork will become property of the City.
- Each poster must be created by an individual. No group entries, please.
- The poster must reference Salem's 45th year as a Tree City USA.
- Please provide the artist's first and last name with the entry. See attached entry form.
- Grammar and spelling must be correct.
- One entry allowed per artist.

#### Poster Evaluation Criteria:

- Theme relevance and significance
- Visual impact/appeal
- Originality and creativity
- **All posters are due to the City of Salem by May 28, 2021.**

# If I Were a Tree, Art Poster Contest Entry Form

## Student Contestant Information

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
School Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Poster Title (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

## Adult Contestant Information

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Poster Title (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

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**All posters are due to the City of Salem by May 28, 2021.**

Posters can be mailed to us at the following location:

City of Salem  
Salem Tree City USA Poster Contest  
1410 20th Street, Building 2  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Or send us a jpg or gif file, **not to exceed 5 megabytes**, to: [stormwateroutreach@cityofsalem.net](mailto:stormwateroutreach@cityofsalem.net)

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## Need ideas? Explore these questions:

If I were a tree, what would I need to be healthy and strong?

If I were a tree, what kind would I be?

If I were a tree, what might I see?

If I were a tree, how would others see me?

If I were a tree, what kinds of critters might visit me?

If I were a tree, who would appreciate me?



## Parks Operations Update – May 2021

### COVID-19 Pandemic – Phase II

- 1) A Willamette Slough unsheltered campsite cleanup was held on April 15, 2021. Focus of the clean-up was the abandoned campsites along the Willamette Slough and west of the Portland & Western Railroad. The clean-up started a little south of the railroad trestle and then continuing to move southward. The volume of garbage and debris was extremely large and carpeted the riverbank from the water's edge all the up to the railroad tracks (photos attached reflecting the volume of garbage and the size of the area impacted). The terrain and narrow railroad bed made it difficult to get Park's ATVs and trucks close to the site, forcing the cleaners to carry everything out by hand. There were approximately 45 cubic yards of garbage (uncompacted) and 8 cubic yards of recyclable metal removed. Given the excess amount of garbage and debris, only a dent was made in the overall volume of garbage. The Slough will be added in the regular locations for large clean-ups.











- 2) A clean-up was held in Cascade Gateway Park on April 29, 2021. The clean-up area was south of the park road and the area west of Walter Wirth Lake to the west property line, down and around the south boundary of the park. Three abandoned campsites were cleaned up in those areas. In the area east of Walter Wirth Lake garbage removal from abandoned campsites along the west bank of Mill Creek and the east bank of Wirth Lake were undertaken. In all, about 1/3 of a mile of creek bank was cleaned up. In total for the day, the clean-up consisted of about 30 cubic yards of garbage (uncompacted) being removed from the clean-up areas. The next scheduled clean-up for Cascade Gateway is scheduled for May 6, 2021.
  
- 3) Homeless clean-ups supported by Parks Operations staff are scheduled to occur on a weekly basis. While circumstances may dictate a change in clean-up locations and dates, the clean-up schedule as of today is as follows:
  - a. May 13<sup>th</sup> Wallace Marine Park, Fir Grove Clean-up and general garbage clean-up;
  - b. May 20<sup>th</sup> Wallace Marine Park, Softball overflow parking area and soccer field and top of berm area.

“This Area of Park Closed for Maintenance” signs will be posted prior to the clean-ups transpiring in the areas identified. The signs will be placed on barricades and will be placed around the area that is going to be cleared and cleaned, three days prior to the

cleaning date. The cleaning date will be posted on the sign in the identifying Date section of the sign itself.

- 4) Due to high stress levels and escalation of negative encounters in the parks, Situational Awareness training was held on April 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> with all Parks Operations staff. The training was conducted by Sgt. Johnson of the Salem Police Department. The next scheduled training for Parks Operations staff as a component of the homeless clean-up efforts is Blood Borne Pathogen training to be held on May 10, 2021. Training will be conducted by the American Red Cross.

### **Ice Storm Emergency Clean-Up Efforts**

The majority of the tree and clean-up efforts within the parks system developed areas has been completed. Locations, such as Bush's Pasture Park, are continuing clean-up efforts utilizing Marion County adult-in-custody crews. The City now has a FEMA declaration as well as insurance damage coverage to cover the majority of the expenses from the ice storm event.

**Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting**  
**Recreation Update – May 2021**

1. Events/Facility Use

- The Public Works Office, Room #325 of City Hall, continues to be closed. Permit Specialist staff in the front office are working remotely, including answering phones (M-F, 8 am to 5 pm) and assisting customers via email and our online payment system.
- On April 7 City leadership decided permits for City property could be issued for special events occurring on Memorial Day, Monday, May 31 or after. Parks and Recreation management have worked with City representatives in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and Legal to develop a Facility Use COVID-19 Addendum (see attached). Any event requesting use of City of Salem property in 2021 must complete and submit this document as part of the permit process. In addition, any event open to the public is required to submit a safety plan (reviewed by Recreation, EOC, and Legal staff) addressing what steps they will take to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and meet all mandates in place by the State of Oregon, including coordination of social distancing monitors.
- The most recent (April 26) State of Oregon COVID-19 Outdoor Recreation Guidance allows for some running events to occur as long as specific protocols are in place. Recreation staff are working closely with EOC representatives and Legal staff to determine the feasibility of allowing the annual Willamette Valley Half Marathon to occur on Sunday, May 23. Event organizers have submitted a safety plan outlining a limit on the number of participants, no contact registration, operating with waved starts, not having an end of event celebration, and other social distancing and mask protocols. City staff are currently reviewing this safety plan.
- There was an unpermitted event planned at Riverfront Park on Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. A group of about 200 attendees exercised their 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment right to assemble. The City of Salem has received considerable public comment and news media inquiries.
- Travel Salem and Ironman Triathlons are working with City staff to offer a July 25, 2021 event centered at Riverfront Park. Weekly meetings will continue for the next three months. A COVID-19 safety plan from Ironman is expected in the coming weeks.

2. Youth Recreation Programs

- The new Recreation pamphlet has been completed and released (see attached). We are now accepting registrations for spring and summer programs.
- Newly offered spring golf lessons are a hit! There are currently two classes being conducted – one for youth and one for adults. Both classes end next Wednesday, May 12.
- Due to the concern of COVID-19, Recreation staff decided to start the STRIDE run/walk series in June. This event will continue once a month on Saturday mornings through October.
- Natural grass ballfields opened on April 9. The Geer baseball fields have baseball tournaments (mostly weekends) scheduled through October.

3. Softball and Kickball Leagues/Tournaments

- Spring league started on Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup> and as of last Friday we have completed every night of scheduled games for 3 weeks (no rain outs).
- We currently have 10 staff hired and will be reopening the position in the coming weeks with the hope to hire an additional 5-8 individuals.
- Since opening the complex on April 9<sup>th</sup>, we have had three weekend rental tournaments (youth fastpitch, youth baseball and adult slow pitch) serving a total of 75 teams.
- Due to safety concerns for participants, spectators, and staff we have hired security to be at the park on Friday and Saturday evenings at the end of league play. This allows staff to safely prep the fields for the next day's tournaments.
- Softball staff continue to work with Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Recreation and Parks Association, and other government officials to ensure we remain in compliance with the constantly changing polices regarding COVID-19.

# City of Salem Facility Use COVID-19 Addendum

## RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:

City of Salem, Public Works Department  
555 Liberty Street SE Room 325  
Salem OR 97301-3513  
503-588-6261 (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.) • Fax: 503-588-6025  
parksandrecreation@cityofsalem.net • **After hours/weekend contact: 503-588-6311**

**INSTRUCTIONS: Return completed form with Facility Use Permit.** All applicable documents must be received and approved, prior to reservation being processed and finalized.

Communicable Diseases Including COVID-19. The novel coronavirus ("COVID-19"), has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. While rules, guidance, and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious illness and death does exist. City of Salem cannot completely mitigate the transfer of communicable diseases like COVID-19 and understands there is some risk associated with using City facilities and assumes said risk. Use of City facilities includes possible exposure to and illness, injury, or death from infectious diseases including COVID-19. Permittee understands the hazards of COVID-19 and is familiar with the Centers for Disease Control Prevention ("CDC") guidelines; and federal, state, and local orders regarding COVID-19. Permittee acknowledges that it understands the circumstances regarding COVID-19 and will take all necessary precautions as provided by the CDC and federal, state, and local governments.

Private Gatherings (for events not open to the public). I agree as the Permittee and On-site Contact that all attendees will follow all applicable CDC, federal, state, county(ies) or City regulations, orders and guidance regarding COVID-19 on the date the permitted event takes places.

Public Gatherings. For events open to the public, as the Permittee and On-Site Contact, Permittee will produce a written safety plan consistent with all applicable CDC, federal, state, county(ies), or City COVID-19 regulations, orders or guidance, no less than 30 days prior to the event. The written safety plan must include how crowd control will be addressed, the number of event staff attending the event and identify staff training on applicable CDC, federal, state, and local regulations, guidelines or orders regarding COVID-19. Permittee is responsible to supply their staff, materials, supplies, and equipment to manage or support their written safety plan.

COVID-19 Termination. City of Salem reserves the right to terminate this Agreement immediately and without notice if it is found that Permittee has failed to follow any regulations, orders, or guidance as provided by the CDC and federal, state, county(ies) and City. Either the City or Permittee may cancel this Facility Use Permit for any COVID-19 related reason or if the event would conflict with any COVID-19 regulations, orders or guidance. Please refer to Page 3 of the Facility Use Permit regarding cancellations and refunds. Should Permittee violate any terms of this Addendum, Permittee will forfeit the right to reserve a City of Salem facility for one year.

Indemnification. In consideration for use of the City of Salem property, Permittee agrees to waive and discharge any and all claims against the City and release it from liability for any loss regardless of cause, including claims for any negligent actions of the City, its employees, officers, volunteers or agents and any and all claims, demands, lawsuits, judgments, losses, or expenses of any nature arising out of Permittee's failure to follow the CDC, federal, state, county(ies) or City regulations, orders or guidance regarding COVID-19 and that leads to, directly or indirectly, the infection of COVID-19 or any other illness or injury related to COVID-19, to the fullest extent allowed by law, for Permittee, its members, employees, agents, contractors, suppliers, or guests. Permittee also agrees to release, exonerate, discharge and hold harmless the City, its employees, officers, volunteers or agents from all liability, claims, causes of action, or demands arising out of injuries of any kind to which may result from or in connection with the use of City facilities. Permittee certifies and represents that it has the legal authority to waive, discharge, release, and hold harmless the released parties on behalf of itself and its members, employees, agents, contractors, suppliers or guest.

**Permittee certifies to have read this document and fully understand its contents.**

**Signature of Permittee's Authorized Representative:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name of Permittee's Authorized Representative:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Permitted or Business Group User:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Event Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Public Event:** \_\_\_\_\_ **or Private Event:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date(s) of event:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Event location:** \_\_\_\_\_

Si necesita ayuda para comprender esta información, por favor llame 503-588-6311. Servicios razonables de alojamiento y accesibilidad se facilitarán por petición. If you need help understanding this information, please call 503-588-6311. Reasonable accommodation and accessibility services will be provided upon request.



### Pickleball

During the summer, players of all ages are encouraged to join us on the new courts at Orchard Heights Park! Recreation staff will be onsite to help teach participants how to play the game plus keep the flow going with friendly games, round robin style. *Wear non-marking shoes, bring a bottle of water, and a pickleball racquet if you have one.*



### Tennis Camps

Camps for ages 17 & younger, with age appropriate court sizes and tennis balls to increase the level of success for your player. Each level works on tennis strokes, player coordination, and match play. *Wear non-marking shoes, bring a bottle of water, and a tennis racquet if you have one. 50-percent fee waivers available for eligible Salem residents.*



### Mini Soccer

Learn to dribble, pass, trap, shoot, and more! Participants play games and fun activities as they develop soccer skills. Meets one day per week. *Wear shinguards, bring a bottle of water and if able, a soccer ball. 50-percent fee waivers available for eligible Salem residents.*



### Softball and Kickball Leagues

Youth and adult leagues available spring, summer, and fall at the Wallace Marine Park Sports Complex. Season information and more can be found at [SoftballCityUSA.com](http://SoftballCityUSA.com)



### STRIDE 5k/10k Run/Walk Events

Participate in one or all of the STRIDE run/walk events! Taking place in some of Salem's most loved parks and held once a month on a Saturday morning, May-October, all events begin at 9 a.m. Registration is \$5/5k or \$10/10k per participant per event.

Presorted Standard US Postage PAID Salem, OR Permit No. 102

CITY OF Salem AT YOUR SERVICE Parks and Recreation 555 Liberty Street SE RM 325 Salem, OR 97301-3513



[facebook.com/COSRecreationServices](https://facebook.com/COSRecreationServices)



[ComeOutAndPlaySalemOr](https://ComeOutAndPlaySalemOr)



Register Online for this Year's Recreation Fun!



# 2021 RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Come Out and Play

CITY OF Salem AT YOUR SERVICE Parks and Recreation



## Preregistration Currently Required

Under COVID-19 guidelines, we are only accepting registrations online at this time. Guidelines require all participants be preregistered. Some programs are subject to a limited number of registrations. Registrations are finalized when full payment has been received. Our offices may be closed for public safety. **If registering online is difficult, call and ask about other available options, 503-588-6261.**

### To Register

#### New Family/Participant:

1. Visit [egov.cityofsalem.net/ParksRec](http://egov.cityofsalem.net/ParksRec)
2. Select "New User" in the upper right-hand corner of the page.
3. Follow the prompts to create a user account.
4. Agree to the Terms and Conditions at the bottom of the page by selecting the box.
5. Click on the blue "Register" button.
6. Assign the participant under the user account created.
7. Register for programs by selecting the participant and adding the program to your cart.

#### Existing or Previous Family/Participant:

1. Visit [egov.cityofsalem.net/ParksRec](http://egov.cityofsalem.net/ParksRec)
2. Select "Log In" found on the upper right-hand corner of the page.
3. Enter your "Username" and "Password". (For assistance with your username and password, call 503-588-6261.)
4. Select the participant you would like to register and then add the program to your cart.



## Fee Waivers

For fee waiver eligibility, add the program to your cart, then contact 503-588-6261 for further registration assistance.

The City of Salem provides programs taught by City Recreation Leaders and through partnerships taught by contracted instructors. Programs led by City staff offer fee waivers to qualified Salem residents. To be eligible for a fee waiver, the parent/guardian must live within Salem city limits and provide proof of one of the following:

1. Oregon Trail Card
2. Oregon Health Plan
3. WIC Card
4. Letter of free/reduced lunch program

## Refunds/Cancellations

The City of Salem reserves the right to cancel scheduled programs when minimum enrollment is not met, for unforeseen circumstances, and/or emergency situations. Full refunds are issued when programs are canceled. Refunds requested before the first day of program will be reimbursed half the registration fee. Refunds requested after the first day of programs will not be granted. Refunds can be requested by calling 503-588-6261.

## ADA and Language Accommodations

Accommodations may be available upon request for languages other than spoken English and for ADA participation when made at least 3 business days prior to the start of programs. Requests may be made one of two ways:

1. Call 503-588-6261 to speak with a front office staff person about the request for accommodation.
2. When registering, note the request in the "Accommodation" section.

Some details may have changed after this information went to print. Updated information, along with activity dates and times, can be found at [egov.cityofsalem.net/ParksRec](http://egov.cityofsalem.net/ParksRec)



## Flag Football

We are bringing back our summer league! Available for all youth, grades 3-8, teams are limited to two practices per week and coordinated by the volunteer coach. COVID-19 guidelines will be in place; weekly games held at Geer Community Park. **50-percent fee waivers available for eligible Salem residents.**



## Youth Sports Camps

Summer brings one-week camps for volleyball, baseball, softball, soccer, and basketball. Participants work on core skills gaining confidence in knowledge and ability to play the sport. *Bring a water bottle, and if able, bring or wear sport specific gear like shinguards, a ball, or glove. 50-percent fee waivers available for eligible Salem residents.*



## Summer Parks Program

A summer full of supervised playing outdoors! For youth ages 5-12, each week boasts a theme for the activities, games, and crafts. Choose one of 4 parks, Englewood, Highland, Sumpter, or Sunnyslope. *Wear clothes for getting dirty and being active, bring a snack, and a water bottle. 100-percent fee waivers available for eligible Salem residents.*



## Junior Ranger Camp

For youth 9-12, our summer activity-based program includes daily guided hikes, teaches kids to explore nature, and how to protect our parks and natural areas through stewardship and environmental awareness. *Bring a bottle of water, lunch, and appropriate attire for spending the day walking. 100-percent fee waivers available for eligible Salem residents.*



## Owl Prowl

Youth ages 9-12 will spend a fall evening with the park ranger dissecting owl pellets to see what owls eat before going on a night hike through Minto-Brown Island Park listening and looking for our resident owls. *Bring a flashlight, and dress for the weather plus a 2-mile walkabout.*



## Coyle Outside Camps

Learn the art of spending time outdoors! Camps provide lessons in various areas increasing knowledge in foraging and critical survival skills, with activities ranging from fishing to archery, knife safety, primitive navigation skills, and more. *Dress to be in the elements, bring a lunch, snack, and water bottle.*



## Golf

Classes for beginning and intermediate youth and adult golfers, covering game essentials, rules, and etiquette. Classes meet for five 1-hour sessions of professional, FUNDamental instruction. Range balls and a complimentary green fee included. *Please specify if you will need clubs.*



## Martial Arts

This summer try a basic class on self-defense and safety or participate in a Ninja Training Camp! Martial Arts improves mental and physical composure, and increases coordination and movement. Participants will leave class with improved self-confidence, while learning correct usage of physical self-defense techniques.



## Skyhawks Sports Camps

A great introduction to youth sports, for ages 5-12, in a low-pressure, high fun atmosphere! Register for summer activities such as Cheer, Volleyball, and Multi-Sport camps. A shirt is included in the price of the camp. *All participants need to wear appropriate athletic shoes, bring a bottle of water, lunch, and a snack.*



## Play-Well Teknologies


LEGO®-inspired engineering camps get youth, ages 5-12, exploring real-world concepts in the areas of physics, engineering, and architecture in an encouraging environment. Camps are offered throughout the year, with after-school options, summer camps, in-person, and Zoom options. No experience necessary


Attached is the Parks and Open Space damage report. If you would like to be removed from this list or know if someone who should be added to the list, please let us know.



# MEMO

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**TO:** Jennifer Kellar, Parks and Recreation Services Manager   
Public Works Department

**FROM:** Marlene Cisneros-Villalovos, Staff Assistant   
Public Works Department

**DATE:** April 6, 2021

**SUBJECT:** **Damage to City of Salem Parks and Open Space**

Damage to the City of Salem's parks and landscape maintenance areas caused by malicious mischief, theft, and reckless action is reported by the appropriate law enforcement agency, citizens and maintenance personnel. The following is a total of these incidents during March 2021. The dollar amount shown represents the estimated repair/replacement cost for the damage sustained.

A total of \$502.77 occurred from 1 incident. In comparison, the total from March 2020 was \$2,813.93 from 6 incidents.

CC: Steve Powers, City Manager  
Trevor Womack, Chief of Police  
Chuck Bennett, City Mayor  
Lt. Ben Bales, Commander, SPD  
Irma Dowd, Neighborhood Services Specialist  
Reed Godfrey, SFD, Battalion Chief  
Tye Godfrey, Facilities Services Division Manager  
Jennifer Hingston, SPD, Graffiti Abatement / Volunteer Unit  
Marcus Pitts, Risk Manager  
Lt. Treven Upkes, SPD, Community Response Section  
Peter Fernandez, PE, Public Works Director  
Robert D. Chandler, PhD, PE, Assistant Public Works Director  
Mark Bechtel, AICP, Operations Division Manager  
Patricia Farrell, Parks and Natural Resources Planning Manager  
Becky George, Recreation Supervisor  
Toni Whitler, Planner  
Skip Miller, Deputy Police Chief, SPD



**DAMAGE TO CITY OF SALEM PARKS AND OPEN SPACE**  
**March-21**

Date Occurred	Cost	Location / Neighborhood Association	Description
03/21/21	\$502.77	Northgate Park	Graffiti reported and removed

<u>1</u>	<u>\$502.77</u>		
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**Total**      **Total**  
**Number of** **Dollar**  
**Incidents**   **Damage**

\*CAN-DO, Croisan-Illahe, SCAN, South Salem & West Salem\*