

The Newsletter of the
City of Veneta

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City News

Third National Drug Take Back Day

Following an outstanding response to two nationwide prescription drug take-back events sponsored by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), the DEA, law enforcement agencies and municipal governments are once again partnering to help citizens dispose of unused, potentially harmful pharmaceutical products.

The City of Veneta is sponsoring the local event, which takes place on Saturday, Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Area residents can bring old, out of date and unused medicines to the Veneta Community Center at 25192 E. Broadway for proper disposal.

Controlled, non-controlled and over-the-counter substance will be accepted at this anonymous event. No questions will be asked and no identification is necessary for participation. For safety reasons, intravenous solutions, injectables, syringes and medical waste cannot be accepted.

Participants disposing of medications in their original containers should take all identifying information off of the packages. Liquid products such as cough syrup should remain sealed in their original containers.

Because the city's waste water treatment system is based on the biological

cycle, anything toxic, including medicines can kill off good bacteria and effect sewage treatment.

An Associated Press study on the nation's water supply found that the municipal water supplies of over 40 million Americans across the country had some level of pharmaceutical contamination. In Oregon, according to the DEQ, over a million prescriptions go unused every year, based on industry estimates.

During the second National Drug Take-Back Day, according to officials, communities turned in over 24,000 pounds of prescription drugs at 175 regional collection sites.

Illegal parking creates community safety hazard

More and more vehicles are illegally parked on City sidewalks or facing oncoming traffic.

"The sidewalk is for pedestrians," says Teresa Warrick, the City's code enforcement officer. "The handicapped, elderly, children, people with strollers, and dog walkers are especially endangered when they can't walk on the sidewalk and have to detour into the street."

The Veneta Municipal Code, Chapter 10 Section 10.05.120 (1) states: No person shall stand or park

a vehicle in a street other than parallel with the edge of the road-way, headed in the direction of lawful traffic movement, and with the curbside wheels of the vehicle within 12 inches of the edge of the curb, except where the street is marked or signed for angled parking. Parking on any portion of any sidewalk, or with the body of the vehicle extending over any portion of the sidewalk is in violation of the Veneta Municipal Code.

The City's policy on responding to a complaint

regarding a blocked sidewalk or illegally parked vehicles is to dispatch a Lane County Sheriff Deputy, who will ticket or post a warning on the specific vehicle cited in the complaint as well as all other vehicles illegally parked in the surrounding area. A citation for illegal parking can range between \$50 and \$250.

The City's primary goal in enforcing the parking ordinance is pedestrian safety. Please do your part to help keep our sidewalks safe for everyone.

City leaf pick up time

Wet fall weather is here, and City officials would like to remind residents that now is the time to bag up leaves and clean drainage ditches.

The City will begin curbside pick up of bagged leaves starting Oct. 3, 2011. Leaves will be picked up on Tuesday and Thursday of each week through the end of Jan. 2012. Bags are to contain leaves only, no garbage or other yard debris. Bags must be tied shut.

As an alternative, you may place leaves in your Sanipac Yard Debris Roll Cart or use them for mulch or compost for gardens and flowerbeds.

The City asks residents to help reduce flooding by not raking leaves into streets, gutters or storm drains. Depositing leaves or other debris in a street or drainage way is a violation of Veneta Municipal Code Chapter 13.15.40.

According to the code, city residents must keep drainage ditches and waterways on their land free of any flow-blocking debris or plant growth. Maintenance should ensure that water flows through ditches, so residents should never plug ditches and drainages or allow brush to inhibit them.

The City reminds residents to properly park their RVs.

With summer coming to a close, the City would like to remind residents about ordinances that apply to parking and storing recreational vehicles, travel trailers and boats.

The City of Veneta's Land Development Ordinance 493, Article 5, Section 5.01(6) allows residents to park and store motor homes, travel trailers, fifth-wheel trailers and other recreational vehicles on private property as long as they are not being used for human habitation, and not being stored in the front of a resident's property.

As defined by the City of Veneta's Land Development 493, Article 13, a "front yard" is defined as being adjacent to a street and to the front entrance of a building. This includes widened driveways and side yards that are between the plane of the front door and the street.

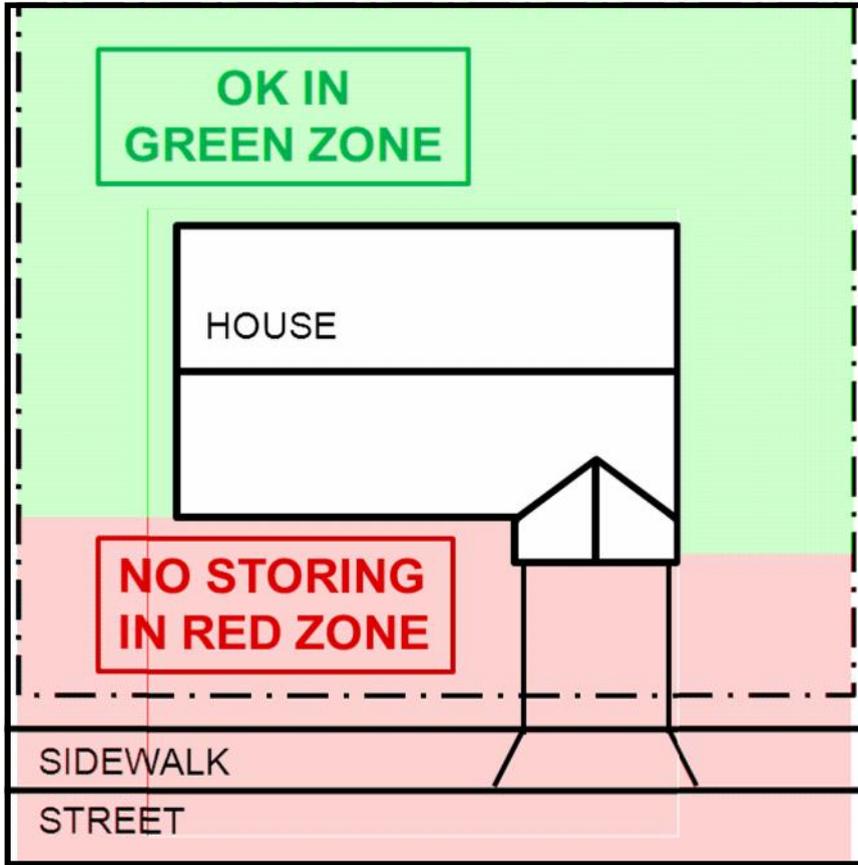
Parking on a city street, right-of-way or alley for the principal purpose of storing the vehicle is prohibited. Un-

be parked on any public property, street, right-of-way or alley for a period longer than 72 hours unless a permit is obtained from the City Administrator.

Vehicle owners found in violation of this code can be subject to a fine of \$50 - \$250. Vehicles may also be tagged as an abandoned vehicle and may be towed and impounded at the owner's expense.

The City of Veneta has established these ordinances and codes to ensure public safety. When large vehicles are stored improperly they can become a hazard by blocking drivers' views and making it difficult for emergency vehicles to get down streets quickly.

If you have any questions on parking ordinances, please contact Code Enforcement Officer Teresa Warrick at (541) 935-2191.



This diagram clearly shows areas where recreational vehicle parking is not permitted.

der the City's Municipal Code, Chapter 10.05.130 (1)(c) recreational vehicles, travel trailers and boats cannot

ODOT invites community to participate in Hwy. 126 forum



Save the Date! Fern Ridge area residents mark your calendars for October 6, between 6 and 8 p.m. at Elmira High School.

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) invites you to participate in an open house forum for developing the Highway 126: Fern Ridge Corridor Plan.

The plan will evaluate and identify improvements to the safety and function of Highway 126 between the cities of Veneta and Eugene.

At the meeting, ODOT representatives will share what they have learned so far and the project team needs your help to get all the options on the table. Refreshments will be

provided.

Please RSVP by sending an email to info@highway126.com or by calling 541-345-5091.

For a full project description, visit: ODOT's website: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION4/OR126-Corridor-Plan/OR-126-CorridorPlan.shtml>