

City News

June 2021

Fire Prevention in Drought Conditions

High grass enforcement is back from June 1 to September 30. While controlling vegetation and keeping it below 10 inches high helps prevent health and traffic hazards, Lane Fire Authority wants you to know that it may also save your house in the event of a fire. Dean Chappell, Fire Marshall with Lane Fire Authority, says that controlling vegetation contributes to building defensible space around your home. "It's for if we can't get there," Chappell said, remembering how chaotic conditions in last year's Holiday Farm

Fire prevented firefighters from saving many homes. "We live in Veneta, but we are still in the urban-wildland interface."

The urban-wildland interface is, as its name would suggest, the melding of urban/residential areas with forest, desert, and other natural biomes. Veneta is surrounded by dense forest and should be prepared for Lane County summer drought conditions that are already at severe to extreme levels. "Summer winds

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Citywide Clean-up Yields 120 tons of Yard Debris

May 1 saw the return of a very popular Veneta event, the Citywide Clean-Up. Veneta Public Works Director Kyle Schauer lead the event, saying "The event was very well received by the people that attended and many voiced their appreciation that we were putting it on." The 2021 event came after a year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic shutting down the 2020 event. Schauer explained that due to the pandemic this year's event was a bit smaller than the 2019 Clean-Up. A smaller event, however, did not mean that there was only a little waste to deal

with this year.

Sanipac volunteers and the Veneta Public Works crew disposed of 149 tires, 22 appliances, 4.58 tons of metal, 90 yards of wood, 120 yards of yard debris, 16 pieces of electronic waste, 120 pounds of cardboard, and 16.46 tons of trash. This all came from over 240 vehicle loads and 9 full rolling carts of shredding material.

The 12-person Sanipac crew handled the unloading and sorting of loads as they came in while the Ve-

(See "Citywide Clean-up" on page 2)

Veneta Community Pool To Open

After a year unlike any other, a light of normalcy has begun to shine: the Veneta Community Pool is expected to open on schedule. The Pool opens this year on June 19. Prices did not increase this year and staff are training to make sure the opening goes off without a hitch.

COVID-19 has ensured that some changes are inevitable. Masks will be required at all times, except while in the pool when they can be off. "As the Oregon Health Authority changes their guidelines, we have to adapt," Pool Manager Stacy Cornelius says of the current situation. Because of the ever-changing guidelines, the Pool will start the season with a solid 3-week schedule that will be updated throughout the summer.

Family Swim, Lap Swim, Aerobics Classes, and Swim Lessons will all be open those first 3 weeks. Interested swimmers must pre-register in advance at the Pool facility, starting June 14. Family Swim will function on a lottery system while all other programming will have spots to register for. Please visit the City of Veneta website or Facebook page for updates.



CIVIC CALENDAR June 2021

All meetings held at City Hall unless otherwise noted

1	Budget Committee Meeting Community Center, E. Broadway Ave	5:30 p.m.
1	Planning Commission Meeting	6:30 p.m.
2	Park Board Meeting	4:30 p.m.
3	Budget Committee Meeting, as needed, Community Center, E. Broadway Ave	5:30 p.m.
9	Economic Development Committee Meeting - Virtual	2:00 p.m.
14	City Council Meeting includes reviewing the approved Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 City Budget	6:30 p.m.
17	Municipal Court	8:30 a.m.
20	Happy Father's Day HAPPY FATHERS DAY	
	City Council Meeting includes adopting FY 2021-22 City Budget	
28	Urban Renewal Agency Meeting immediately following includes reviewing and adopting the FY 2021-22 Urban Renewal Budget	6:30 p.m.



Orchid Health - Fern Ridge Clinic

Opening June 21, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday on the campus of Elmira High School.

Orchid Health accepts Medicare, Medicaid, OHP and most other insurances.

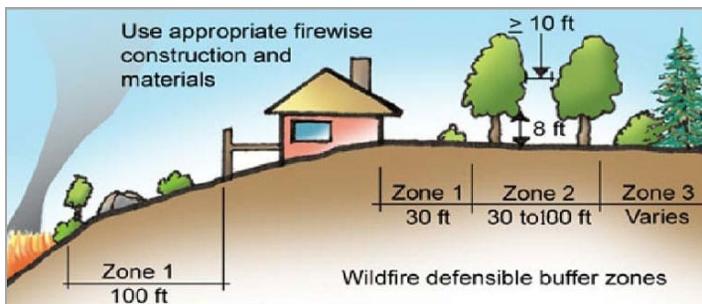
Follow <https://www.orchidhealth.org/fernridge.html> for updates and clinic information.



Fire Prevention

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come from the north hot and fast," Chappell said. He provided the following tips for building defensible space around your home: Mow your lawn, clear your ditches, have a healthy green space, remove flammable debris such as leaves and needles from your roof and gutters, and keep wood or mulch piles at least 1 foot away from your house. Chappell also recommends taking pictures of your house and putting them



on a secure USB to make potential insurance claims easier. These steps are the most proactive a homeowner can take to help prevent the loss of their home to fire.

Chappell also wants Veneta to be ready for fire by remembering the Ready, Set, Go system this summer. These levels are used to communicate how prepared folks should be during fire conditions. "Ready" means having bags packed and supplies ready, monitoring news and phones in case of an evacuation. "Set" means that there is significant danger in your area and you should be set to leave at a moment's notice if you have not left already. "Go" is the full evacuation order, as authorities now believe you are in immediate danger. Know this system, build defensible space, and continue being informed this summer to stay ahead of fire season. Visit the wildfire mitigation page on the City website at www.venetaoregon.gov

Citywide Clean-up

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veneta Public works crew operated two backhoes and directed vehicles to the proper locations for off-loading. For making the 2021 Veneta Citywide Clean-Up possible, the City and its citizens

THANK YOU

would like to extend a huge thank-you to Veneta's hardworking Public Works crew and amazing Sanipac volunteers who took several hours out of their Saturday to help Veneta stay clean. Thank you!

The Shoppes at Veneta Square

The Pop-Up Retail District that delighted Veneta residents in August and September of 2020 is enjoying a new name while delivering the same novel idea: The Shoppes at Veneta Square are coming this summer to bring some outdoor shopping opportunities for 2021. Opening in mid-June, The Shoppes at Veneta Square will be open alongside Veneta's Downtown Farmers Market on Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. and will run through September.

Heather Blake, the City's coordinator for The Shoppes, says that these physical spaces "Create opportunities for vendors to have a retail store on a trial basis." If a small store is ready to take the next step from online or out-of-home to a physical retail space, The Shoppes at Veneta Square are a great place to start. Shoppers should expect a rotating cast



of vendors depending on their availability, meaning that return customers will be able to see a variety of options throughout the summer.

While Heather could not offer any sneak peaks into which vendors we might expect, she did hint there may also be Wednesday night events. These would potentially include live music, food trucks, and possibly beer or cider. Follow the Veneta-Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce on Facebook to keep up with updates.

The Shoppes at Veneta Square still have open spots! Interested vendors are encouraged to contact the Veneta-Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce (venetafernridgechamber.com) or Veneta-Works (venetaworks.org) in order to secure a spot.