

City News

June 2022

Creating Defensible Space

Oregon has been buffeted by wildfires in recent years that devastated entire communities living on the edges of wildlands, like Veneta's surrounding forests and rural areas. Residents of Veneta can make a difference for your family and your neighbors this summer by working to build defensible space around your home and by hardening your home to fire.

We've seen images of neighborhoods destroyed by a wildfire, only to see one house completely unharmed by the surrounding devastation. Those homes, while lucky, were hardened to fire and had defensible space built around them. Residents of Veneta should take note of this phenomena, Management Analyst Cole Haselip says. "Veneta is in close proximity to high-risk areas for wildfire and surrounded by trees," Haselip said. "With direct impacts from wildfires including greatly reduced air quality and the loss of homes, it is important for residents to protect their community, homes, and livelihoods by taking a few important steps around their homes."

The image (See Insert included with Newsletter) demonstrates the two zones that defensible space

experts recommend to keep around your home. Zone 1, approximately 30 feet from your home and closer, should be well-maintained and kept clear of potential fuels for fires. Zone 2, which extends from the Zone 1 boundary to the property line, should be kept trimmed and with low fuel loads.

There are several projects of varying difficulties and costs that you can take on around your home to harden it to fire. Removing accumulated debris from your roof is a good way to protect the most vulnerable part of your home to fire. Ensuring your address is clearly visible from the road will help fire fighters find you quicker. To learn more, navigate to www.readyforwildfire.org and look into their list of projects.

Living in the urban-wildland interface as we do in Veneta comes with the need to look out for ourselves and our community. As Management Analyst Haselip said, "Science and evidence tell us that taking these steps makes a significant difference when wildfire comes." Protecting our homes from wildfire will ensure a safe and fun summer for us all!

The Shoppes at Veneta

The Shoppes at Veneta are back for 2022! They will open on Saturday, June 11 through August 27, with the Shoppes open Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Expect fun connections to the Veneta Downtown Farmers' Market on Saturdays and the potential for additional vendors and entertainment on Wednesdays!

Management Analyst Cole Haselip explained what the Shoppes are and how they benefit the local community. "The Shoppes are a low-barrier opportunity for local entrepreneurs to market-test their products in a retail environment," Haselip said. The City of Veneta encourages entrepreneurs at the beginning of their journeys to use the Shoppes to test their products and develop successful local businesses without having to leave the area. The Shoppes serve as a 'test' to see if a full retail location is the right next step for a fledgling business and if their product is ready to compete in the marketplace.

Interested vendors can fill out the survey on the City of Veneta's website and will receive a message from staff on next steps. The rental cost is \$75, though vendors can get \$50 of that back at the end of their term if they supply information regarding

(See "The Shoppes" on page 2)

CIVIC CALENDAR

June 2022

All meetings held at City Hall unless otherwise noted

1	Park Board	4:30 p.m.
	City Budget Committee (as needed)	5:30 p.m.
7	Planning Commission	6:30 p.m.
8	Economic Development Committee	2:00 p.m.
13	City Council - Includes Public Hearings on Use of State Shared Revenue & Proposed Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget	6:30 p.m.
16	Municipal Court	8:30 a.m.
18	Community Pool Opening Day	12:00 p.m.
19	Happy Father's Day	
24	Business Assistance Committee	10:00 a.m.
27	City Council - Includes Adopting Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget	6:30 p.m.
27	Urban Renewal Agency - Includes Reviewing and Adopting the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Urban Renewal Budget	6:30 p.m.



General Election November 8, 2022

The next General Election will fall on November 8, 2022, and the City of Veneta is calling for candidates for two (2) City Council positions! We at the City encourage all eligible community-minded citizens to consider becoming a candidate. For information on what the Veneta City Council does and how to run for Council, read on!

The Veneta City Council is the policymaking and governing body for the City of Veneta. Members hold office for four-year nonpartisan terms. Each Councilor and the Mayor has one vote, with the Mayor running meetings and Councilors providing input and votes throughout. The Council sets City policy, acts as the Urban Renewal Agency, sets utility rates, and much more. Recent policy decisions made by the Council include implementing a Business Assistance Program, adjusting wages for City employees, and directing staff on the nature of a future expansion to the Community Center. If those and related topics sound of interest, a run for Council might be for you!

Running for Council is not as simple as turning in an application for a City committee. The first step for a qualified candidate is to file the candidacy initiation filing form and candidate signature sheet. Once the City Elections Official reviews both forms for completeness and eligibility, candidates will be cleared to



gather signatures for their candidacy. Candidates with enough confirmed signatures will appear on the ballot for the November 8 General Election. Potential candidates should read the City of Veneta Candidate Manual (available on the City website) and the Oregon Secretary of State's City, County, and District Candidate Manual for complete instructions on running for local office.

The first date for candidates to file with the City is June 1. The recommended date for candidates to turn in their signature sheets for verification is August 19 – pushing to or past that date lowers the likelihood that the County can confirm signatures in time to get a candidate's name on the ballot.

It is also important for all residents to remember to register to vote and get their ballots turned in for the November 8 general election on time! The deadline for voter registration will be October 18 and ballots must be postmarked on election day in order for them to be counted.

Voters should be aware that the deadline to register to vote in the General Election is October 18, 2022. You can get additional information about how to register at www.lanecounty.org. The General Election will take place on November 8 and ballots must be dropped off or postmarked by then in order to count!

The Shoppes, continued

visitors and sales at the Shoppes. Management Analyst Haselip emphasized that: "The right vendor for the Shoppes is a small-scale entrepreneur with products or services that, for one reason or another, have not had the opportunity to be tested in the retail marketplace." If that sounds like you, apply to be a

vendor at the Shoppes today!

The Shoppes at Veneta are one of the many ways the City of Veneta is working to build a robust local entrepreneurial ecosystem. To learn more, head to www.venetaoregon.gov/ed

2021 Consumer Confidence Report Now Available

Please visit our website at www.venetaoregon.gov under "What's New"

If you would like a hard copy mailed to you, please call City Hall at 541-935-2191



As temperatures rise and we move into summer, the City of Veneta wants to ensure its residents know where they can go to cool off when it is just too hot outside and inside your home! There are locations throughout Veneta that are available to the public on hot days:

The Fern Ridge Service Center is open from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. whenever temperatures hit 100 degrees.

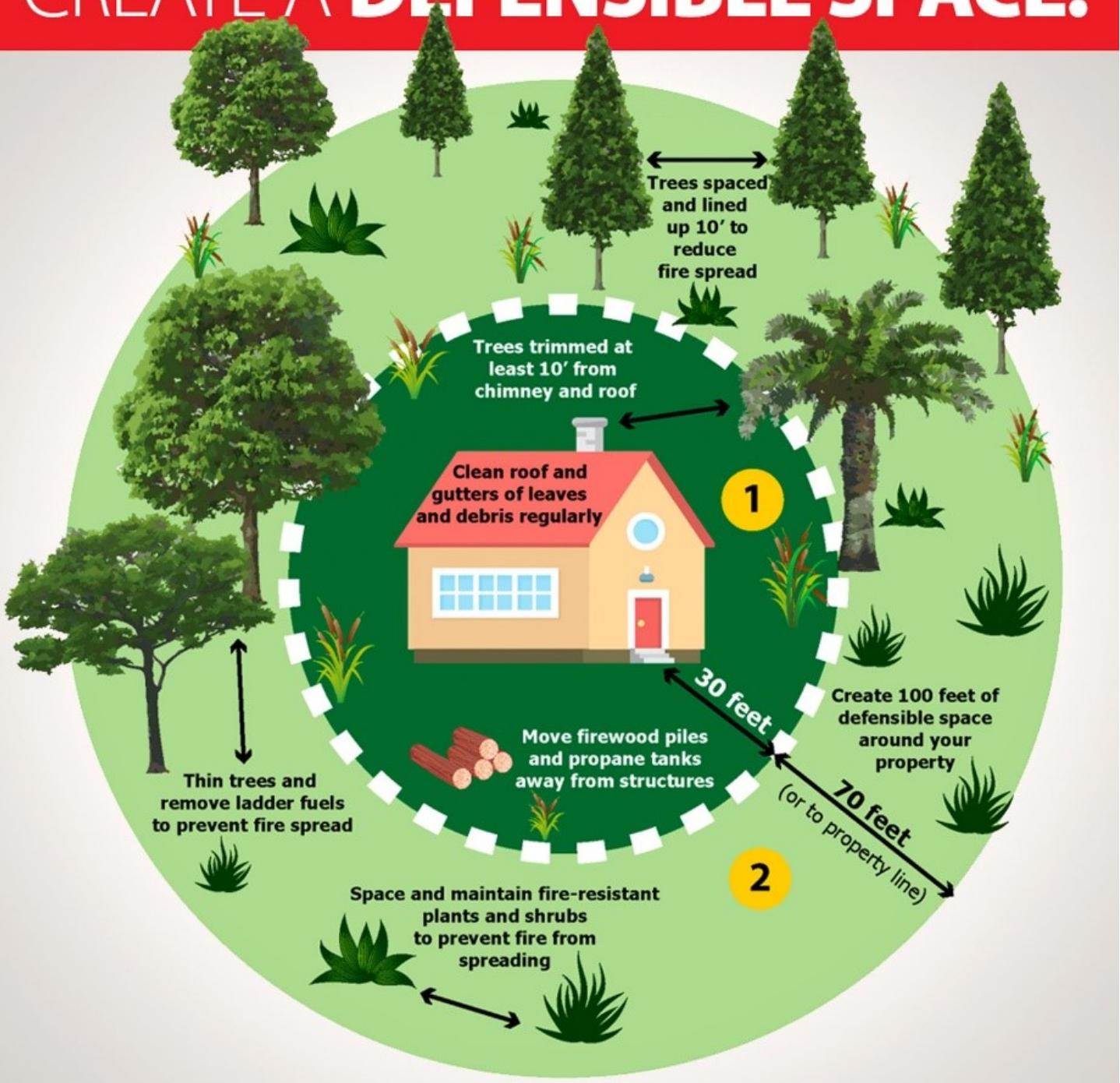
The Fern Ridge Library is open to the public during its regular hours (see their website for hours) and extend their open hours during periods of extreme heat.



Veneta Community Pool
Opens June 18th at 12:00pm
Recreation Guides will available on our website at www.venetaoregon.gov and paper copies will be available at the front counter at City Hall, 88184 8th St. beginning June 6, 2022.



CREATE A DEFENSIBLE SPACE!



The image (credit to City of Albany, Oregon) demonstrates the two zones that defensible space experts recommend to keep around your home.

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