

City News

88184 8th Street
 PO Box 458
 Veneta, OR 97487
 (541) 935-2191
www.venetaoregon.gov

Backflow Prevention Required to Keep Water Clean

The City of Veneta works hard to provide good, clean water. And, as seen in the most recent Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report (see related article), the City is achieving that goal. But residents, too, play a critical role in keeping the public's drinking water safe. Specifically, property owners/managers are required to maintain a Backflow Prevention Assembly wherever

cross connections are made between the potable water supply and nonpotable water or contaminants.

For most houses, the only cross-connection that requires backflow prevention is an underground sprinkler system. These systems pose a threat because most residents use fertilizer, pesticides, or

(See "Backflow" on page 2)

Residents Urged to Control Vegetation

With warm days and spring rains, Oregon's vegetation comes to life. With spring flowers also comes rapidly growing grass, weeds, and noxious vegetation, which homeowners and tenants must keep under control.

According to the City of Veneta's Municipal Code (Ch. 8.05, Sec. 8.05.060 (3)), prop-

erty owners or managers are required to prevent noxious weeds or vegetation from growing out of control on their property and on the right-of-way of a public thoroughfare abutting the property from June 1 through September 30 each year.

The code defines noxious vegetation as

(See "Vegetation" on page 2)

Stormwater Fee Increase

On June 26, the Veneta City Council approved a resolution to increase stormwater rates by 2 percent. The new fee will be \$2.44 per month for residential accounts, up .04 from the current monthly fee of \$2.40. The new fee for commercial accounts will be \$7.34 per month. Stormwater fees have been in effect since 2004.

Stormwater runoff—the portion of rainfall that flows over the land—carries a variety of pollutants from roofs, sidewalks, driveways, roads, and landscapes to downstream waterways. If this runoff is not managed, pollutants and sediment from land surfaces can increase flooding, damage streambanks and fish habitat, and pollute streams and lakes.

To treat stormwater runoff, the City uses a variety of natural and constructed vegetated waterways. These include manmade ditches and existing wetlands. This approach emphasizes the use of vegetated facilities to treat and "filter" stormwater on the property where the

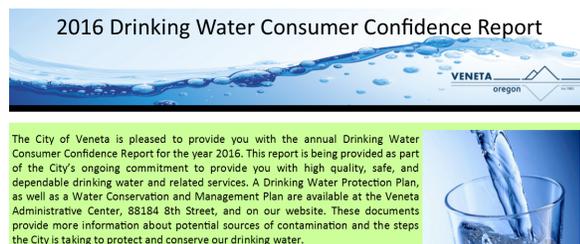
(See Stormwater on page 2)

 CITY OF VENETA - CIVIC CALENDAR - JULY 2017 		
Veneta Administrative Center - 88184 8th Street, Veneta, Oregon		
4	City Hall closed in Observance of Independence Day Holiday	Closed
4	Veneta Planning Commission Meeting - City Hall	Cancelled
5	Veneta Park Board Meeting - City Hall	Cancelled
6	Zumwalt Campground Opens	1:00 p.m.
10	Veneta City Council Meeting - City Hall Veneta Urban Renewal Agency Meeting immediately following	Cancelled
12	Veneta Economic Development Committee Meeting - City Hall	2:00 p.m.
14	Night Waves Teen Party - Veneta Community Pool - 25190 E. Broadway Ave.	8:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
20	Municipal Court - City Hall	8:30 a.m.
24	Veneta City Council Meeting - City Hall	6:30 p.m.
29	"Meet The Sergeant" (Lane County Sheriff's Office contract Sergeant for the City of Veneta) - Fern Ridge Library	1:00 p.m.
Calendar updates will be posted on the City's website at www.venetaoregon.gov . This Civic Calendar was sent to: Fern Ridge Review, Fern Ridge School District 28J, Fern Ridge Public Library, and Lane Fire Authority		

Drinking Water Report Now Available

Each year the City of Veneta makes available to all water users its annual Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report. The report is part of the City's ongoing commitment to provide consumers with high-quality, safe, and dependable drinking water.

That report is now available online at www.venetaoregon.gov A Drinking Water Protection Plan as well as a Water Conservation Plan can also be viewed on the City website, or may be obtained at the Veneta Administration Center, 88184 8th Street. The documents provide more information about the steps the City is taking to protect and conserve your drinking water.



Backflow

herbicides on their lawns. Water can puddle around the underground sprinkler and, if there is an event that causes back-siphon, such as a water main break or fire hydrant use, it is possible that contaminants could be sucked (backflow) into the potable water system.

A backflow preventer stops water from flowing back up a hose or pipe, preventing dirty or polluted water from tainting public drinking water supplies. Backflow assemblies can be installed with any sprinkler/irrigation system, for residential, nonresidential, commercial, and industrial facilities. Fire sprinkler systems are always required to have a backflow device.

In order to comply with state health and plumbing codes, the City of Veneta Municipal Code 13.20 requires that owners/managers have testable Backflow Prevention

Assemblies tested annually by an Oregon certified backflow assembly tester to ensure that they are operating properly.

If the initial test indicates that the assembly is not operating properly, the homeowner or business owner would be required to make the necessary repairs and have the assembly re-tested. The tester you choose is responsible for submitting your test results to the City of Veneta within five days of performing the test. The City of Veneta is not responsible for the expense of testing your backflow prevention assembly(s).

For your convenience, a list of certified backflow testers is available at www.venetaoregon.gov. Your cooperation in helping keep Veneta's water clean is appreciated. If you have any questions, please call (541) 935-2191.

Vegetation

weeds and grass more than 10 inches high, poison oak, poison ivy, and blackberry bushes growing into a public thoroughfare or across property lines. It also includes vegetation that presents a health, fire, or traffic hazard.

That means property owners or residents must mow grass and trim or cut down shrubs, bushes, weeds, or other noxious vegetation as often as necessary to prevent it from becoming unsightly or creating a fire hazard, or, in the case of noxious weeds, from going to seed. In addition to keeping the City beautiful and fire safe, cutting the grass helps reduce shelter for rodents and pollen dust that can collect in overgrown areas. Failing to do so, however, could result

in actions by the City.

"If a property becomes overgrown or neglected, the City will take steps to address the nuisance," explained Public Works Director Kyle Schauer. The property owner will be notified of noncompliance. If the issue is not addressed within 10 days of notice, "the City will take appropriate steps to bring a property into compliance and then bill the property owner accordingly."

Persons failing to abate a nuisance may also be subject to citation and fines through Veneta Municipal Court, with each day's violation constituting a separate offense.

Stormwater

runoff begins. The technique reduces pollution, volume and peak water flow, as well as groundwater recharge. Such activities are critical to protecting stormwater infrastructure and watershed health.

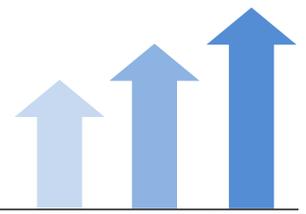
Of course, the facilities require maintenance, which is funded by stormwater fees and completed by City staff. Property owners—commercial developments, subdivisions,

and HOAs—are required to maintain their private stormwater facilities as well.

An increase of 2 percent has been made each July 1 since 2014 to keep pace with annual inflation. The rate increase will be reflected on the water and sewer bills for July services.

Veneta Economic Development

NEWS



An Occasional Publication of the Veneta Economic Development Committee

July 2017

Message from the Chair

June marks the end of most governments fiscal years, so it is a good time to review progress and point ahead to the future.

Veneta Business Connect has completed a successful; second year. This year, no businesses warranted a red flag. More importantly, two out of three that were red flagged last year received assistance and now remain in business. City staff, with the help of RDI, have completed a draft retail market analysis and next steps strategies, which the EDC hopes to approve next month, setting the stage for more assertive marketing of downtown opportunities.

Thanks to the work of the Chamber of Commerce, in late June the Veneta Small Business Assistance Center opened in the Chamber office on Highway 126. This is truly a big deal. Few cities, and certainly no cities the size of Veneta, have a dedicated space to help burgeoning business transition to a broader marketplace.

The City also began, late in June, an update of the Transportation System Plan, which will guide infrastructure decisions over the next 20 years. Members of the Economic Development Committee will sit on the citizen Advisory Committee, to ensure that economic development is one of the important criteria driving those decisions.

Finally, thanks to the efforts of Rep. Paul Holvey and others, the draft transportation package now before the Legislature include funding for the environmental analysis of the preferred option under The Fern Ridge Corridor Plan, an essential first step toward design and ultimate construction. While the fate of the package is still unclear, and may not be settled until just before the Legislature adjourns in July, there is at least some reason for optimism.

In the coming months, the EDC will continue to support the City's efforts to secure improved broadband communications, a high priority for all businesses, and work to help market the downtown area, once the Marketing Plan is approved.

-Len Goodwin

Business in the News—Wild Child Flower Company



Behind each arrangement is careful consideration – which foliage, or ornamental grasses to include; what color palette to draw from; what types of materials to highlight the distinct beauty of each season. From seed to bloom to market, Sara and Tyson Davies care for each stem – they are the owners, and

farmer-florists, of local business Wild Child Flower Company.

Wild Child opened February 2016 and Sara Davies is gearing up for their second season. Prior, Davies farmed at Winter Green Farm for ten years, growing huge flower gardens in her spare time. Her passion continually progressed – from a hobby, to weddings for family and friends, to what is now Wild Child.

What distinguishes Wild Child from other arrangement companies is that Davies embraces the local flower movement taking hold around the nation. Like the “slow food” movement, florists will source and grow both seeds and flowers from the region—meaning Davies sells flowers that grow naturally in the Pacific Northwest. And, although not certified organic, Davies uses organic farming methods, without pesticides or herbicides.

Davies grows a wide variety of flowers, foliage, vines, and ornamental grasses. She tries new varieties annually, and would like to expand and open a mobile flower shop one or two days a week in Veneta. Davies is currently building the cart and hopes to open before season's end.

Davies does full service event design from boutonnieres and corsages, to arbors and garlands. She also does arrangements for businesses and other special events, and a bouquet (commonly supported agriculture) where people buy a membership at the beginning of the season and get a bouquet delivered weekly to pick-up locations in Eugene, Veneta, and Fern Ridge.

You can find Davies in Eugene and around the Fern Ridge Area. Starting July, Davies will be at 18th and Polk in Eugene on Wednesdays from 2-6pm. She delivers in the Fern Ridge area on Fridays, and takes orders via phone and email.

Community members can follow Wild Child Flower Company on Facebook and Instagram for updates, and to check out the beautiful arrangements made by Davies. Visit Wild Child Flower Company at: www.wildchildflowerco.com
Email: wildchildflowerco@gmail.com, Phone: (541) 953-1277

Check out these new businesses in Veneta!

Welcome to our newest enterprises:

- Cottage Crafts
- Love Made This
- Lily Bettina Designs
- EV Consulting
- Parking Lot Parties
- Pacific Coast Partners
- Westside Juice and Smoothie Bar
- West Valley Dance Studio

Committee Mission

The purpose of the Veneta Economic Development Committee is to support existing businesses and attract new businesses. The mission is to pursue the economic interest of Veneta by constructing and implementing policy development and programs.

Events and Dates to Remember

Economic Development Committee Meetings –
Open to the Public

July 12th, and the Second Wednesday of every month 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Veneta City Administrative Center
88184 8th Street, Veneta

Subcommittee Meetings –
Open to the Public

Business Connect

**July 11th, and the Second Tuesday of every month
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

Veneta/Fern Ridge Area Chamber of Commerce
24949 Hwy 126, Veneta

Economic Development Committee Members

Len Goodwin, Chair	lenelmira@gmail.com
Herb Vloedman, Vice-Chair	herbLC@vloedman.com
Thomas Cotter, City Council President	tcotter@ci.veneta.or.us
Jason Alansky	jalansky@bannerbank.com
Linda Boothe	lbgeodesics@gmail.com
Dave D'Avanzo	dave.davanzo@laneelectric.com
Ryan Frome	ryanfrome@gmail.com
Gina Haley-Morrell	haleyscurves@gmail.com
Charles Ruff	ruff@truffletree.com

Staff

Ric Ingham, City Administrator	ringham@ci.veneta.or.us 541-935-2191 ext. 306
Marina Brassfield, Economic Development Specialist	mbrassfield@ci.veneta.or.us 541-935-2191 ext. 312

Sub-Committee Member Profile



Carolyn Heckler and her family moved to Veneta in the summer of 2015. Their future dreams are to one day own and operate a business within our community. Carolyn is currently a stay at home mom and full time student at Lane Community College pursuing an

Associate of Science Business Transfer degree: majoring in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accounting. She spends her free time serving as a citizen volunteer on Veneta's Budget Committee, the Business Retention and Expansion Program, and the Business Connect Program. Not only does Carolyn volunteer to accentuate her educational and experience capacities, but she is passionate about contributing to business cultivation and community empowerment.

Opening of the Small Business Assistance Center

Excitement bubbled in the room at the Veneta Small Business Assistance Center (SBAC) on June 21st, as Mayor Larson cut the ribbon, announcing the Grand Opening of the SBA C.

Business owners dropped in between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. to meet the partner resource organizations: Community Lending-Works, Business Oregon, Lane Community College Small Business Development Center (LCC SBDC), Lane County Community and Economic Development, and Regional Accelerator Innovation Network Eugene. Afterward, business leaders and residents enjoyed appetizers and wine, and had time to network and learn more about each other's business and happenings in the community.

In Fall 2016, the Veneta-Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce partnered with the Economic Development Committee (EDC) to create a subcommittee of the EDC, known as Business Connect. Business Connect is the force behind the Veneta Small Business Assistance Center, housed in the Chamber of Commerce office at 24949 Highway 126 in Veneta. The space acts as a "mini-incubator" for businesses. The office includes a PC and an iMac; a multifunction printer; a conference space; and a screen for presentations. There is also a variety of standard office supplies available for users.

Chamber members and non-members alike will be able to utilize the office at an affordable rate. Members receive up to 5 free hours of use in a year, and pay \$10 for every two-hour time slot thereafter. Non-members will pay a rate of \$20 per two-hour slot. Businesses of all kinds can use the space to have appointments with resource providers there for free, and trainings and workshops will also be held occasionally by business assistance organizations.

For additional information, or to reserve the SBAC work and meeting space, contact Veneta-Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce at 541-935-8443 or staff@fernridgechamber.com.

Night Waves

Pool Party

Friday, July 14, 2017

8:30pm - 10:00pm

Ages 13 - 17 only

\$3.50 Entry

(passes/punch cards not valid for this event)



Music

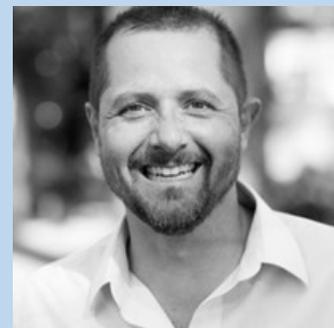
Dancing

Prizes

XBOX Games

Water Contest

Guest DJ
Barry MacGuire



**Veneta Community Pool • 25190 E. Broadway St.
Veneta, OR 97487 • 541-935-4390**

Learn to

SWIM

Classes Start June 26!

Swimming Lesson Schedule

- ◆ **Session 1 June 26 - July 6 (closed 6/4)**
- ◆ **Session 2 July 10 - July 20**
- ◆ **Session 3 July 24 - August 3**
- ◆ **Session 4 August 7 - August 17**

**Each session is 2 weeks
Lessons are held Monday - Thursday
\$40/In City \$42/Out of City**

541-935-4390



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