

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2008

COLUMBIA CITY
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NEW WATER RATES

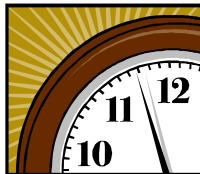
The City Council approved a water rate increase following a public hearing in February. The rate increase will take effect on March 26, 2008, and will be reflected on the April 26, 2008 billings.

For a residential customer within the City limits, the new rates include a \$0.65 increase in the minimum monthly charge, a \$0.10 increase in the first volume charge, and a \$0.05 increase in the second volume charge, for an overall average increase of 2%.



Residential Customer In Columbia City	New Rate 3/26/08
Minimum charge - less than 500 cubic feet of usage	\$30.00
For each additional 100 cubic feet, but usage less than 1,000 cubic feet	\$3.60
For each additional 100 cubic feet	\$4.50

The rates for commercial, industrial and outside City water users received similar adjustments. For detailed information about other rate classes, please contact City Hall by calling (503) 397-4010.



DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME BEGINS

On the second Sunday in March. March 9th begins daylight-saving time; so don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour.

SEWER SMART TIPS

Sanitary sewer systems are designed to handle three types of waste products:

- ⇒ Used water
- ⇒ Human body waste
- ⇒ Toilet paper

You can help prevent unwanted sewer backups and keep your sanitary sewer working properly by following these simple Dos and Don'ts!

Do's:

- *Do* collect grease in a container and dispose of it in the garbage.
- *Do* place food scraps in the garbage for disposal with solid waste.
- *Do* place a wastebasket in the bathroom to dispose of solid waste.

Don'ts:

- *Don't* pour grease, fats, and oils from cooking down the drain.
- *Don't* use the sewer to dispose of food scraps.
- *Don't* use the toilet as a wastebasket for garbage and chemicals.
- *Don't* use the toilet to dispose of diapers, plastic gloves or personal hygiene products. These items do not belong in the sewer system.

Important note: Violators may be subject to civil penalties, suspension of service, damages, court costs, attorney's fees and more!

THANK YOU

We'd like to extend a very special "thank you" to: Marian Calnon, Gloria Chinell, Nell Harrison, Betty Jensen, Jean Lord, Vera Moeller, Phyllis Rowley and Vonnie Walker for helping with the newsletter and utility billing in January.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ YOUR LIBRARY

Thanks for all your support and book buying at our library book sale! We made over \$400 and have room to walk into our storeroom again. We are planning another book sale during the annual Spring Clean Up day. So during your spring cleaning, think of us and bring us books you'd like to share with the library and the community for our next book sale!

If you don't have a library card, stop in during our open hours. There is no fee for using the library and we have a great selection of books. Most of our books are donated by people in the community so we have one of the least expensive libraries around and it reflects what people in the community are actually reading. Your support makes it possible. So come in and check out some books – make room on our shelves for more books!

We are looking for more library volunteers. The ones we have are great but can't always fill all the hours we are open. Volunteer for a four-hour shift once a month and enjoy visiting with some of your neighbors! This is a great way to build community relationships.

New at the Library...

Murder with Peacocks by Donna Andrews: In the fall of 1997 Donna Andrews started on the road to publication by submitting her first completed mystery manuscript to the Malice Domestic/St. Martin's Press Best First Traditional Mystery contest. Upon learning that **Murder with Peacocks** had won, she acquired a copy of **Peterson's Field Guide to Eastern Birds** and settled down to have fun in her fictional world for as long as she could get away with it. **Murder with Peacocks** won the Agatha, Anthony, Barry, and Romantic Times awards for best first novel and the Lefty award for the funniest mystery of 1999. Subsequent books have also received Agatha and Lefty nominations, and **Crouching Buzzard, Leaping Loon** won the Toby Bromberg Award for Excellence (presented by Romantic Times) for the Most Humorous Mystery of 2003. These are fun mysteries, and we have three or four at the library.

Tales from Watership Down by Richard Adams: **Watership Down** was one of this century's best-loved works of imaginative literature. Now Richard Adams returns, to tell us what happened to the rabbits after their defeat of General Woundwort.

Tales From Watership Down begins with some of the great folk stories well known to all rabbits. Then we listen in as Dandelion, the rabbits' master storyteller, relates the thrilling adventures experienced by Al-ahrairah, the mythical rabbit hero, and his stalwart, Rabsuttle, during the long journey home after their terrible encounter with the Black Rabbit of Inlé (as narrated in **Watership Down**). Finally, in the principal part of the book, we are told eight enchanting stories about the rabbits of the Down -- Hazel, Fiver, Bigwig, and their companions -- including the impact on the warren of the obsessive doe Flyairth, and the appointment of Hyzenthlay as a female Chief Rabbit and partner to Hazel.

All readers -- the millions who remember **Watership Down** with the deepest affection, and also those for whom this volume will be their first encounter with the rabbits -- will find these nineteen tales utterly compelling, the fruit of Richard Adam's spellbinding narrative power and ability to conjure up a world that is at the same time both real and unreal.

Internet Access:

Online access is available at the library. The staff can help with online research or guide new users.

Friends of the Library Meeting: 3/17/08 - 7 PM

Novel Quilters Meeting: 3/19/08 - 6:30 PM

Storytime: Mondays 11 AM

Staffed Library Hours:

Mondays & Saturdays

10 AM to 2 PM

Wednesdays

4 PM to 8 PM

Thursdays

Phone: (503) 366-8020

E-mail: cclibrary@opusnet.com

Address: 205 "I" Street

OPEN BURNING PERIOD FOR YARD DEBRIS BURNING PERMITS NOW REQUIRED

The next **biannual burn period will begin on Saturday, April 5th and end on Sunday, April 13th**. The burn period is for yard debris only, and burn barrels are prohibited. Yard debris is lawn clippings, leaves, brush, trimmings, prunings, sawdust and wood scraps. It is **not** dirt, gravel, paper, plastic, metal, rocks, bricks, sod, or food waste.

Burn permits are required prior to burning! If you were issued a permit in Fall of 2007 you may not need to get a new one, check the expiration date. Permits may be obtained at City Hall or at any Fire Station within the Columbia River Fire & Rescue District. Please remember you must call the "Burn Line" at (503) 397-4800 each day to see if it is a burn day.



You must follow these basic rules for proper open burning:

- ❑ You must have a garden hose, or a shovel and a 5-gallon bucket of water at all times, and the fire must **NOT** be left unattended at any time until out.
- ❑ Yard and garden trimmings must be cut and piled no larger than 6 feet wide by 4 feet high.
- ❑ The ground must be cleared not less than 10 feet around the burning area. There must be a separation of 50 feet between the burn pile and any structure, trees, vehicle or property line if the burn pile is greater than 3 feet in diameter; and a 25 foot separation if the burn pile is less than 3 feet in diameter.
- ❑ The fire must not adversely affect neighbors (smoke).
- ❑ It must be daylight hours during a designated burn day.

Have questions? Please call Bill Goodwin, Fire Marshall, at 503-397-2990 ext. 17.

FOUND ITEM

A large set of keys and padlock was found on "L" Street near Fourth Street and turned into City Hall. Do they belong to you? If you think these items may be yours, please contact City Hall at (503) 397-4010 for more information.

STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS!



With the flu season in full swing, remember to stop the spread of germs that make you and others sick!

After coughing or sneezing...wash your hands with soap and warm water, or clean with an alcohol-based hand cleaner or wipe.

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, or cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve - not your hands.



2008 COLUMBIA COUNTY BRIDAL SHOW

On Sunday, March 2nd at the Buccini Hall in St. Helens there will be a bridal show. The show will be from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. with a fashion show at 2:00 p.m., featuring: bridal gowns, tuxedos, prom, special occasion gowns, hair & make-up.

One of the sponsors of this event is our very own Caples House Museum & Knapp Social Center among many local floral, photography and other sponsors.

You can see the show at 165 South 14th, in St. Helens.



COLUMBIA COUNTY RSVP COMMUNITY MEDIATION SERVICES

Did you know mediation services are available to residents of Columbia County free of charge through the Columbia County RSVP?

Mediation is a peaceful problem solving process in which a neutral third party helps the disputants reach a mutually satisfying solution to their differences. Mediation is voluntary.

A mediator is a neutral third party who helps to open channels of communication and to define the real issues. A mediator does not impose settlements, counsel or give advice, or take a side or assess blame.

The kinds of problems that might be appropriate for mediation are:

- Animals
- Neighborhood disputes
- Nuisance
- Litter
- Noise
- Trespassing
- Property damage
- Property maintenance
- Parking
- Boundary
- Trees

The process works like this:

1. A person involved in a conflict calls the Columbia County RSVP office.
2. A trained mediator from the community interviews all parties involved in the dispute.
3. If the parties agree to mediate the conflict.
4. At the mediation meeting, each disputant describes their view of the conflict.
5. The mediator works with all parties to find their own solution.
6. The agreement is then written down by the mediator and then signed by all parties.

To access mediation services, contact:
Columbia County RSVP
219 Columbia Blvd.
St. Helens, OR 97051
Phone: (503) 397-5655
Fax: (503) 397-7196
Email: rsvp@opusnet.com



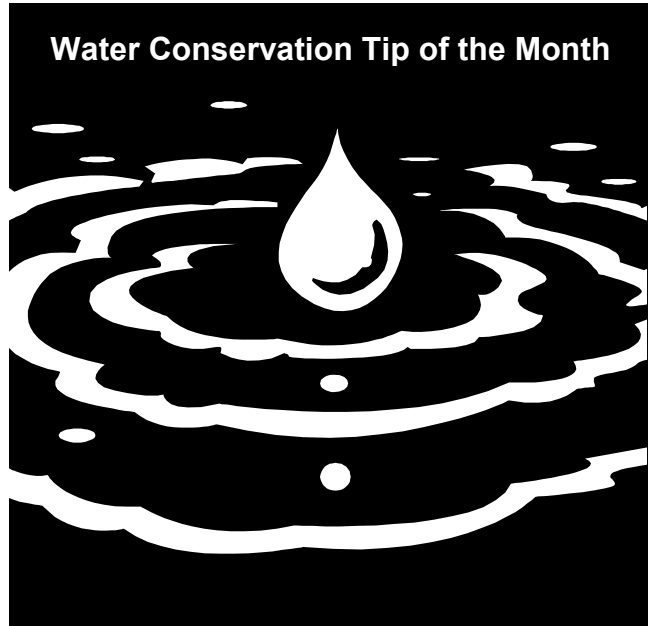
DEDICATION CEREMONY FOR CAPLES MUSEUM HERITAGE ORCHARD

The Caples House Museum Complex at 1915 First Street, Columbia City will hold a dedication ceremony for their orchard on Sunday, April 20th from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

The 130-year-old orchard planted by pioneer Dr. Charles Caples has been designated a Heritage Orchard by the State of Oregon's Heritage Tree Program. Please, come join representatives from the Oregon State Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and the State of Oregon's Heritage Tree Program as we proudly celebrate this event. Refreshments will be served.

The DAR is also providing interested citizens with the opportunity to Adopt-A-Tree and provide the yearly pruning costs at \$145.00 per tree.

Water Conservation Tip of the Month



Wash your produce in the sink or a pan that is partially filled with water instead of running water from the tap.

**POLICE REPORT
(01/15/08 to 02/08/08)**

01/15/08 Disturbance call in the 2200 block of Second Street.
 01/16/08 Audible alarm in the 3500 block of Park Drive.
 01/16/08 Public assisted at the Police Department.
 01/16/08 Animal complaint at Highway 30 and "I" Street.
 01/17/08 Audible alarm in the 3500 block of Park Drive.
 01/17/08 Incomplete 911 call checked in the 1700 block of Ninth Street.
 01/17/08 Vandalism call taken near Highway 30 and "I" Street.
 01/17/08 Report of fraud activity in the 600 block of "I" Street.
 01/19/08 Premise checks conducted.
 01/19/08 Suspicious person checked near Fifth and Pacific Streets.
 01/20/08 Premise checks conducted.
 01/20/08 Unwanted person reported at the Mini Mart.
 01/22/08 Suspicious vehicle checked near Highway 30 and "L" Street.
 01/22/08 Premise checks conducted.
 01/23/08 Suspicious circumstances checked in the 1400 block of Fourth Place.
 01/25/08 Suspicious circumstances in the 1300 block of Fourth Street.
 01/25/08 Welfare check in the 2400 block of Fifth Street.
 01/26/08 Incomplete 911 call in the 1600 block of Second Street.
 01/26/08 Public assist at City Hall.
 01/27/08 Traffic accident near Fifth and "J" Streets.
 01/28/08 Suspicious vehicle in the 2300 block of

Sixth Street.
 01/28/08 Hazard checked in the 1600 block of Second Street.
 01/29/08 Vandalism reported in the 3200 block of Fifth Street.
 01/29/08 Motorist assist near Highway 30 and Chimes Crest.
 01/29/08 Animal complaint in the 1800 block of First Street.
 01/29/08 Traffic complaint in the 1800 block of Second Street.
 01/29/08 Animal complaint near Fifth and Pacific Streets.
 01/29/08 Animal complaint in the 2400 block of Fifth Street.
 01/29/08 Premise checks conducted.
 01/31/08 Follow-up on animal complaint.
 02/01/08 Animal complaint in the 400 block of "A" Street.
 02/01/08 Assist another agency near Highway 30 and "A" Street.
 02/01/08 Suspicious person near Highway 30 and "L" Street.
 02/02/08 Public assist in the 1700 block of Second Street.
 02/03/08 Burglary in progress call responded to in the 400 block of "B" Street.
 02/04/08 Theft report taken at the Columbia City Grade school.
 02/06/08 Suspicious circumstances in the 3500 block of Tahoma Street.
 02/06/08 Fraud activity reported in the 300 block of Tahoma Court.
 02/07/08 Noise complaint in the 3600 block of Fifth Street.
 02/08/08 Premise checks conducted.
 02/08/08 Disabled vehicle checked near Highway 30 and Pacific.

**MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR
MARCH 2008**

March 6 th	7:30 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
March 10 th	7:30 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall
March 11 th	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
March 17 th	7:00 p.m.	Friends of the Library Meeting in the Library
March 18 th	5:00 p.m.	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
March 18 th	6:00 p.m.	Streets Committee Meeting at City Hall
March 18 th	7:00 p.m.	Water Committee Meeting at City Hall
March 20 th	7:30 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
March 27 th	7:30 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall



COLUMBIA CITY COMMUNITY COOKBOOK RECIPE ENTRY FORM

Trading recipes has been a popular pastime for generations upon generations. We want to turn this time-honored tradition into an exciting and profitable fundraising program for the Columbia City Community Library! Our community is full cooking talent, and we need your help!

What recipes are you "famous" for? Please share them with us! Submit your favorite recipes to include in the Community Cookbook. We will be collecting recipes over the next few months and we plan to have the book ready for sale during the next City Celebration. **Please e-mail your recipes (with photos if possible) to: colcity@columbia-city.org.** Or, submit a copy of your recipe(s) or use the following entry form to submit your recipes to City Hall, and please include photos! If you have any questions please call City Hall at (503) 397-4010. **Please submit your recipes by: March 31st, 2008.**



Name of Recipe: _____

Submitted by: _____ Servings: _____

Ingredient List: _____

Cooking Instructions: _____

Please provide a contact number for questions, not for publication in the cookbook.

Phone number: _____