



Established in 1856

"National Historic District"

September, October 2013

The Aurora Colony Times

21420 Main St. NE · Aurora, OR 97002

503-678-1283 www.ci.aurora.or.us

ALL WELCOME City Meetings for September/October 2013

Meetings at the City Council Chambers at 7:00pm

- **Planning Commission**
September 3 & October 1
- **City Council**
September 10 & October 8
- **Park Committee**
September 17 & October 15
- **Traffic/Safety Comm.**
September 25 & October 23
- **Historic Review Board**
September 26 & October 24

**Please confirm dates and
times with City Hall**

503-678-1283

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Aurora Water Conservation Measures

The Aurora city council, staff, and volunteers would like to thank all of the city's residents for working together to mitigate the over withdrawal of the city's aquifer. In the initial days of the call for conservation, the city's water intake was reduced by almost 50% and the aquifer depth immediately responded with a measurable increase. The consumption of water was over 200,000 gallons / day through July; more than double that of our non-summer months. Of that total, less than one third went back through our sewer system. That means the vast majority of the water was used outdoors. The water system maintained full pressure throughout this period, handling the load. However, the water supply from which we draw was being severely taxed. The city is asking the state for assistance in looking at other users of the aquifer around the city to stop over usage. The city is also looking at possibilities of expanding our intake as our city grows.

The mayor has asked for continued conservation through the end of the summer heat, with mandatory odd/even lawn watering restrictions as well as no non-essential use of outdoor water. Additionally, funds have been reallocated to fix two small leaks of an old non-used pipe near the park. The continuation of the summer odd/even lawn watering program with a ban on watering between 10am to 6pm will allow lawns to be maintained while reducing evaporation rates. This conservation measure will exist through the month of September. Please refer to the mandatory watering schedule on page 3 of this newsletter.

The State of Oregon and local municipalities continue to promote fresh water conservation. All users of this natural resource must maintain a sustainable rate of use so that the quality of life in the Willamette Valley will continue to be the best in the country. We all must share in the responsibility of protecting this resource.



Please go to the City of Aurora website at www.ci.aurora.or.us and sign up for Aurora Notifications and Alerts. This is our way of getting you the most up to date information as quickly as we can.

REMEMBER to trim plants and bushes away from water meter boxes.

The enclosed Utility Bill is due on or before September 10th

City Hall Holiday Closures

September 2, 2013—Labor Day

Volunteer opportunities in Aurora

Aurora Traffic & Safety Commission



The TSC (Traffic Safety Commission) is looking for people interested in traffic and pedestrian safety within the City of Aurora. The commission is responsible for, but not limited to: serving as an advisory body to the city council; acting as Aurora's Marion County Sheriff representative in policies and programs to enhance traffic safety, and, at the request of the mayor, on policies and programs relating to public safety. There are other duties as well, not to be named here due to limited space.

Over the years, the commission has been successful in achieving many of its' goals for local improvements. Most recently: the widening of Airport Road, the crosswalk across Highway 99E at Ottaway Road, and the stop bars painted at intersections, to name a few.

Some of the upcoming issues may include: a railroad quiet zone; bus shelters; lighted crosswalk at Ottaway and Highway 99E; line-sight visibility at intersections; residential speed limits; Liberty Street; stop signs.

The TSC meets the 4th Wednesday of the month and includes a non-voting representative of the Marion County Sheriff Department (Aurora representative), the fire chief or their representative(s) and may include a voting member of the City Council. Average time investment for a commissioner has been approximately 1 hour monthly. If interested you may contact Commission Chairman Rob Graham at 503-678-1053 or e-mail at robgraham.aurora@gmail.com.

Applicants are welcome to apply at Aurora City Hall and must be confirmed by the City Council

Volunteers needed September 14th for "Day of Service"

Please contact Marion-Polk Food Share at 503-581-3855 or email endhungertoday@gmail.com to find out how you can help with the problem of hunger in our communities. There is a flyer posted on the window of city hall with more information about this effort which joins area churches and community volunteers to serve those in need.



Volunteer City Beautification Project

Spring Flower Bulb Planting October 19, 2013



On Saturday October 19, 2013 please come join other members of our community in planting Daffodil and Tulip bulbs in the planter strips along Hwy 99E to give our great little town some colorful beauty next spring. We will be planting bulbs in the planter strips adjacent to the Hwy from Bobs Ave to 2nd Street N.E. Starting time will be 9AM and with your help we should be finished around noon. Meet in the parking lot across from City Hall. Please bring your own gardening tools.

Local Businessman, Martin Meskers of Oregon Flowers Inc. has been very generous in donating the flower bulbs for this community beautification project. Contact Spud Sperb at **503-504-3523** or by email at spudsperb@gmail.com to sign up as a volunteer or if you have questions.



On Patrol

With Deputy Pete Marcellais



What an exciting last few weeks. The concerts were wonderful, The Colony Days were fun and National Night Out seemed to go pretty good. Nothing can make one happier than seeing the community you serve come together and just enjoy each other's company.

A thanks goes out to the Aurora American Legion Hall and our own Aurora Fire Dept. for grilling burgers and hotdogs at the National Night Out. It was good to talk to a lot of the neighbors in the community. National Night out is an event, normally put on by the Neighborhood Watch Groups, to have the community come together and have a "Goodbye to Crime" celebration.

Which brings me to my next observation, where are all the watch groups in our city? There are plenty of neighbors who care about the community. I have the resources and information needed for anyone who would like to start a watch group. I would love to see at least one in each neighborhood. It's up to you.

With that being said, I was actually happy to see so many people at the last City Council meeting. I know there were special circumstances that brought so many people but honestly, that is what a City Council meeting should look like. That is where you get all of your information about what is going on in town. That is where you have an opportunity to address your Mayor and Council to voice your problems and concerns.

At any normal council meeting there are maybe three people that show up, and one of them is already scheduled to present something to the council. I am talking about an hour in the evening every second Tuesday, every month. And with a watch group you could rotate who would go and bring that information back to the group.

Finally I would like to point out a few places to go to get information about what is going on in the City of Aurora. First there is obviously the City Hall. But did you know that there is an email alerts that Kelly puts out? You can sign up to get any news that is going on in the city. You can also go to the website for information. And, of course, this newsletter.



Mandatory Watering Schedule

The odd / even watering schedule works as follows: If your address ends with an odd number, water only on odd numbered days; If your address ends with an even number, water only on even numbered days. In addition, there shall be no watering between the hours of 10 am and 6 pm and no more than 20 minutes per 24 hour period.

One of the best ways to water flower baskets is to use pitchers or buckets to "catch" water you are running to get warm for dishes or showers. There are several more water conservation ideas listed at the following Marion County website:

<http://www.co.marion.or.us/PW/EmergencyManagement/CCC/Water+Conservation.htm>

City hall also has a list of water conservation ideas you can pick up during office hours or from the blue bench by the council chamber entrance.

Aurora Colony Upcoming Events



AURORA — “Celebrating Our Golden Memories” is the theme for the 41st Annual Quilt Show at the Old Aurora Colony Museum. The popular quilt show opens Friday, Oct. 11, and continues until Sunday, Oct. 20. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Admission is \$6.00 per person, groups of 10 or more at \$5.00 each, and students \$2.00. Proceeds benefit the Old Aurora Colony Museum exhibits and ongoing historical research. www.auroracolony.org

To celebrate the Aurora Colony Historical Society’s 50th Anniversary “Preserving the Past for the Future 1963-2013” up to 50 antique Aurora Colony quilts will be on display! There will be quilting demonstrations and a featured quilter. Shoppers can snap up quilting accessories, necessities, and more fabric bargains for their stash closets at the country store. Be sure to stop at the coffee shop area and rest up between shopping and quilt viewing!

Don’t forget to view the quilt created from last year’s “Celebrating Our Golden Memories” block contest entries. Raffle tickets will be sold for this vibrant and colorful work during the quilt show. The block contest theme for this year is “Are We There Yet: Travel Over the Centuries 1800- Present”. Submissions received for this contest will be pieced together and displayed at the 2014 quilt show as part of the Aurora Colony Historical Society’s 50th birthday celebration. For more information on the quilt block competition, call the Old Aurora Colony Museum at 503-678-5754, visit the website:www.auroracolony.org, or email the Museum: info@auroracolony.org.

Scarecrow Contest It’s time to raid that garage or attic to create your home or business scarecrow display for Aurora’s annual **Scarecrow Contest**. Pick up an entry form at city hall or White Rabbit Bakery, or print one out at www.auroracolony.com. It’s been great fun to see that autumn-time creative expression around town. Every year more join in. (Look for the slideshow of last year’s participants on the auroracolony.com website.) For information call Aurora Colony Visitors Association at (503)939-0312 or info@auroracolony.com. Entry deadline is October 18 for judging on October 20th.



Get Nutty about “Hazelween” October 19-20 Aurora’s merchants are developing an autumn event bringing our favorite nut to the stature it deserves! Spend a day on a **scavenger hunt for “Phil & Bert” who have hidden their best recipes using Hazelnuts**, receive hazelnut treats and do a little fun shopping at the same time. Prize drawings, special treats for costumed children and more. Watch for Phil & Bert’s posters.

City of Aurora Contact Information

503-678-1283 office 503-678-2758 fax

Office Hours: 9am-5pm Monday-Thursday

Closed Fridays

Kelly Richardson, City Recorder
recorder@ci.aurora.or.us

Jan Vicek, Finance Officer
finance@ci.aurora.or.us

**Mary Lambert, Administrative Assistant/
Court Clerk**
clerk@ci.aurora.or.us

Bob Southard, Public Works Superintendent
southard@ci.aurora.or.us

Ricky Sellers, Public Works Assistant
sellers@ci.aurora.or.us

Otis Phillips, WWTP Operator
phillips@ci.aurora.or.us



Aurora/Marion County Police Department

Anonymous Tip Line 503-540-8079

Non Emergency 503-588-5032

Emergency Dial 911

Deputy Sheriff Pete Marcellais

503-932-3369
pmarcellais@co.marion.or.us

City of Aurora Website:
www.ci.aurora.or.us