

Small Town,  
Big  
Community



SCAPPOOSE  
*Oregon*

MAY 2024

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To report a streetlight issue please contact City Hall at 503-543-7146 Thank you!



CITY OF SCAPPOOSE  
33568 E. COLUMBIA AVE.  
SCAPPOOSE, OR 97056  
503-543-7146  
WWW.SCAPPOOSE.GOV

2024 If I Were Mayor Contest ~ Dinner with Mayor Backus



(Left) Catania & Mayor Backus



(Right) Remi & Mayor Backus

IF I WERE MAYOR CONTEST



(Left) Lila & Mayor Backus



(Right) Conrad & Mayor Backus

*Congrats!*

The Scappoose Historical Watts House will continue its popular FREE monthly program "History Connections" and our next guest speaker will be Brandon Sundeen presenting a program about Erik John Peterson, a local logger and basketry folk art icon! Peterson resided in St Helens many years. The talk will be held May 23, from 7-8 at the Scappoose Senior Center at 33342 S.W. Meadow Drive in Scappoose.



A skilled craftsman, Peterson was well known nationally for his baskets, works of art that were functional as well as beautiful. Oregonians have been collecting them for decades.

Peterson wove his wooden baskets in a traditional Swedish weaving style and in 1981, a collection of his baskets was included in an exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C. and recognized in the book "Folk Art of The Oregon Country."

Brandon Sundeen was able to connect with Peterson's relatives in Sweden and learn a wealth of information about the traditional baskets still woven in villages currently. The public is welcome to bring their own personal baskets and stories to share!



## HOW DOES THE CITY USE THE MONEY WE COLLECT?

Knowing how the City pays for community services, projects and programs is valuable for community awareness and City transparency.

We are starting a series of articles to inform you about where City funding comes from and how it is spent. In the coming months we will start with where funding comes from for the General Fund; which includes Administration, Police, Planning, Courts, and Parks.

### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2024 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

#### Acceptable Hazardous Waste Materials:

- Thinners and solvents
- Pesticides, herbicides, lawn/garden chemicals
- Cleaners, detergents and poisons
- Light ballasts-*remove from light fixture*
- Fluorescent tubes
- Ammunition
- Propane cylinders
  - Limit of 5 large (>1lb.) cylinders
  - Limit of 10 1lb. cylinders
- Pool and spa chemicals
- Art and hobby chemicals
- Gas/diesel/fuels
- Batteries (*all types and applications*)
- Fireworks/flares
- Items containing mercury

**Bring products in original container and Secure Your Load**

**HAZARDOUS DISPOSAL  
IS FREE OF CHARGE**



#### Items NOT accepted:

- ⊗ Household garbage or trash
- ⊗ Asbestos
- ⊗ Ethyl/Ether
- ⊗ Unwanted/Unused Medicines or Pharmaceuticals
- ⊗ Liquids in containers larger than 5 gallons
- ⊗ More than 25 gallons of liquids-per household

For All OTHER MATERIALS including materials from Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQGs, <220 lbs./mo.) and liquids in containers larger than 5 gallons, **call Marc Winkler of ACT Enviro** at least 2 weeks prior to event at 916-693-4496 for appt.

#### ***Items accepted for free during regular business hours at the Transfer Station:***

Accepted Products (maximum container size is 5 gallons, original can & label):

- ✓ Exterior and Interior Paints: latex, acrylic and oil-based
- ✓ Enamel, stains, shellacs, lacquers, varnishes and primers
- ✓ Used motor oil and antifreeze
- ✓ Electronics-TV's, computers, monitors
- ✓ Medical Sharps Exchange Program: must be in a sealed, OSHA approved, puncture-proof containers (BRING containers to the Transfer Station SCALE HOUSE for proper disposal and receive a new empty container at no cost.

***This event is only for Columbia County residents. Proof of residency may be requested before any waste is accepted. Columbia County may limit the amount of waste collected. No commercial or other organizational waste will be accepted.***

**Toxic.Free.Home.**



Participate In Your Local Household Hazardous Waste Roundups

**THE COLUMBIA COUNTY  
TRANSFER STATION**  
1601 RAILROAD AVENUE  
ST. HELENS OR 97051

Regular Business Hours:  
Monday – Saturday / 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

*If you have any questions about hazardous items collected  
call Jake 503-397-7259.*



## FENCES, RETAINING WALLS AND THE SCAPPOOSE MUNICIPAL CODE – A Quick Guide

### INSTALLING A FENCE?



### OR RETAINING WALL?



Ensure your fence, retaining wall or an accessory structure near your property line or public Right-of-Way (ROW), complies with the Scappoose Municipal Codes and State of Oregon Building Code.

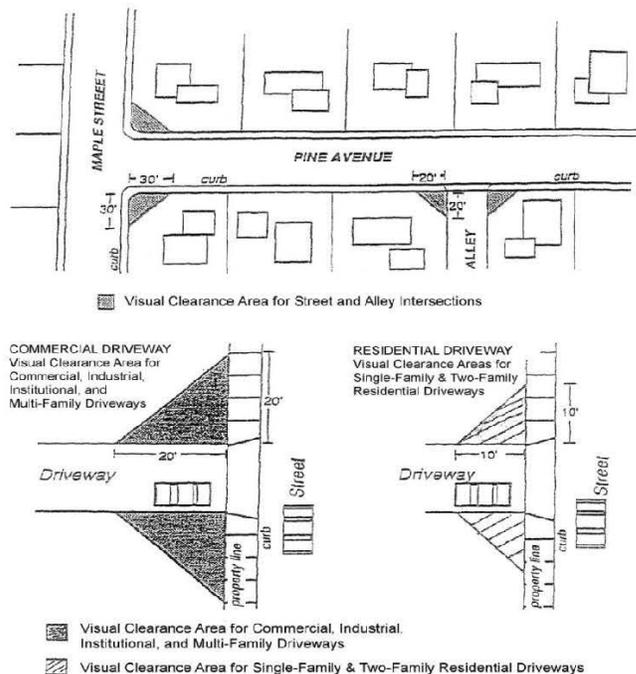
### HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS:

- Fence, wall, and landscaping heights, within the front yard setback (check your zone, it's usually 15' or 20' from property line), may only be up to **4' high** when located outside Visual Clearance Areas (VCA).
- Retaining walls up to 4' which do not support a structure or retain materials to protect a structure may be built without Planning or Building Department permits.
- Fences up to 7' may be built without Planning or Building Department permits, when located outside of the front yard setback and VCA.
- Please contact the City Community Development Department for permit info if you wish to build a fence higher than 7'.
- The City's Landscape, Screening, and Fencing code can be found in Ch. 17.100; <https://scappoose.municipal.codes/Code/17.100>
- Properties within the special flood hazard areas can have fences, when located out of the floodway with sufficient openings as not to impede, retard or change flow of water per Ch. 17.84. See link below for floodplain maps; <https://www.scappoose.gov/planning/page/city-maps>

### VISUAL CLEARANCE AREAS (VCA):

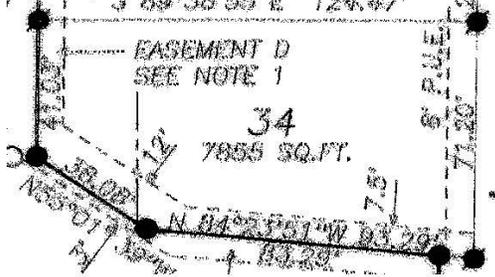
- The Visual Clearance Areas (VCA) for corner lots and driveways require obstruction-free areas for pedestrians and vehicle traffic sight distances. No fence or retaining wall may exceed 3' in height within the VCA.
- The Municipal Code chapter for VCAs can be found within Ch. 12.10.

Figure 12.10.1: Visual Clearance Areas for Streets and Alleys



**PROPERTY LINES:**

- Most homeowners are unaware of the location of their property lines and existing Public Utility Easements (PUE) on their property in relation to the public Right-of-Way (ROW) width.
- Fences, retaining walls, and/or accessory structures in a PUE or the public ROW are **not allowed**.
- The City GIS imagery shows only the **approximate** location of property lines.
- The only way to be certain of the exact location of property lines is to hire a surveyor to locate the property pins and distances between each.
- Alternatively, you may try to locate the property pins yourself. Typically, metal property pins are located at the corner of each lot or intersection of property lines indicated with a black dot on the plat map and surveys (see below example). These documents are accessible via the County Web Maps: <https://gis.columbiacountymaps.com/ColumbiaCountyWebMaps/>
- Newer subdivisions have stamped-cap iron rods buried. The challenge is when a new fence or tree is installed near property corners; these iron rods get accidentally moved or removed.
- In older parts of the City, the property pin can look similar to a long iron rod/nail or a railroad stake without any caps or markings.
- **Please Note: it is illegal to remove property pins. Only a licensed surveyor can install or replace property pins.**



**PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENTS:**

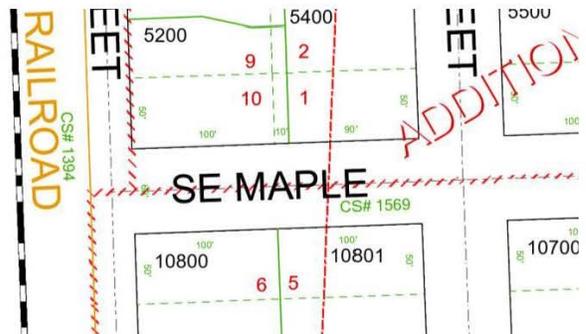
- In most subdivisions there is a 5' or 8' Public Utility Easement (PUE) and/or Street Tree Easement (STE) for properties abutting the streets, however each subdivision is different.
- The PUE is an easement **within your** property, which is separate from the public ROW.
- Easement documents should have been included with the documentation that was required when you purchased your property. If

you do not have it, then contact your title company or visit the County Records Clerk for recorded documents.

- There should **not be any** obstructions in/on a PUE or ROW, unless the developer and City explicitly agreed to it when the subdivision was built.
- City GIS imagery will only show City utilities.
- Cable, electric, gas, phone lines **are not shown on City or County maps**. Be sure to **call 811** to request locates BEFORE YOU DIG; otherwise you could be responsible for damages; <https://call811.com/>

**RIGHT-OF-WAY:**

- Ensure that you know the location of your property lines and the width of the right-of-way (ROW) abutting your property.
- Columbia County tax maps and past surveys of your property can be found on the County Assessor's web-maps: (contact the assessor's office for assistance with their website) <https://gis.columbiacountymaps.com/ColumbiaCountyWebMaps/>
- For example: The public ROW width of SE Maple is 60' while the paved width is approx. only 30'.



Questions, contact Elizabeth Happala at [ehappala@scappoose.gov](mailto:ehappala@scappoose.gov) or calling 503-543-7184 \*402



## **MAY IS BUILDING SAFETY MONTH**

Building Safety Month is an international campaign celebrated in the month of May to raise awareness about building safety, reinforcing the need to adopt modern, regularly updated building codes to help residents, property owners and developers understand what it takes to create safe and sustainable structures in our communities.

In 2023, our State of Oregon Building Codes turned 50. It all started when Sen. Dick Groener and Reps. Robert "Bob" Elliot and Roger Martin sponsored Senate Bill 73, which Gov. Tom McCall signed to create Oregon's unique statewide building code system. The issues driving the 1973 bill included consistency of code requirements between municipalities, dispute resolution for decisions made by building inspectors, and establishment of stakeholder advisory boards to help adopt codes. [www.oregon.gov/bcd/50years](http://www.oregon.gov/bcd/50years)

Seven governor-appointed, Senate-confirmed advisory boards support the code system in Oregon. These volunteer boards are made up of leaders in their fields who help ensure that the adopted codes are well-researched and will work in the field. Board meetings are public and provide a great opportunity to engage in policy development.

- Board of Boiler Rules
- Structural Board
- Electrical and Elevator Board
- Mechanical Board
- State Plumbing Board
- Manufactures Structural Board
- Energy Board

For more info; [www.oregon.gov/bcd/boards](http://www.oregon.gov/bcd/boards)

Contact Elizabeth Happala at the Scappoose Building Dept. (503-543-7184) or visit link for more info; [www.scappoose.gov/building](http://www.scappoose.gov/building)



The Oregon Building Codes Division (BCD) administers the Oregon's Statewide Building Code which all building departments follow to ensure newly constructed residential and commercial buildings are safe to occupy. Visit link below to learn more about;

- Adopted Codes & Standards
- Contractor Licensing
- Inspector Training Program
- Continuing Education

[www.oregon.gov/bcd](http://www.oregon.gov/bcd)



Visit Oregon Construction Contractors Board for info on;

- How to get a contractor license
- How to select a Contractor
- Avoid Construction Scams
- Report Unlicensed Contractors
- How to File a Contractor Complaint
- Search Contractor License and any complaints

[www.oregon.gov/CCB](http://www.oregon.gov/CCB)

The following Building-Safety brochures & fliers can be found on the ICC Safe website;

<https://www.iccsafe.org/advocacy/building-safety-month/bsm-member-printable-materials/>

- 10-tips on Fire Safety
- Alarm Safety Tips
- Exit Safety Tips
- Electricity Safety Tips
- 10-tips for Backyard Pool Safety
- Water Safety Tips for Winter
- 10-tips for Disaster Safety
- Disaster Prep Brochure
- Are you Ready (FEMA Brochure)
- 12 Ways to Prepare (FEMA)
- Resilience in the Building Codes
- Mitigation for Homeowners (FEMA)
- 10-tips for water conservation
- Prevent Stormwater Runoff Pollution (EPA)
- 10-tips for Energy Efficient Homes
- Building Green, Living Better
- Non-Potable Water Reuse

### **New businesses in Scappoose**

Harmony Haven Wellness LLC  
52561 Columbia River Highway  
Scappoose, OR 97056  
971-424-1134

Cornice Construction, LLC  
33465 SW Maple Street  
Scappoose, OR 97056  
503-396-5399

**Welcome to the City of Scappoose**



Don't know  
what to do after high school?

Want a better job or career  
change?

Check out the PCC OMIC Training Center.

**PCC: short term training**

The PCC OMIC Training Center offers flexible certificates for good paying jobs, at low or no cost to you. You can get trained, get certified and job ready in 3 months.

**What's next?**

Take a look at our opportunities at [pcc.edu/omic](http://pcc.edu/omic). Then, apply to PCC online, for free, in just a few minutes. Apply here: [pcc.edu/enroll](http://pcc.edu/enroll) New classes are starting soon.

Contact Student Outreach Coordinator Michelle Liccardo for more information at 971-722-1815 [michelle.liccardo@pcc.edu](mailto:michelle.liccardo@pcc.edu)

**Application Deadline for Summer Term: June 10, 2024**

**Summer Term starts: June 24, 2024**



OMIC  
Training Center



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**SCAPPOOSE  
SUMMER  
OUTDOOR  
FESTIVAL  
JUNE 8**



**SCAPPOOSE SUMMER**

*Saturday*  
**8TH**  
JUNE 2024



**OUTDOOR FESTIVAL!**



**Free Admission / Kayaks / Backpacking /  
Bikes / Vendors / Music / Food / Free  
Outdoor Instruction / Kids' Activities / Bird  
Alliance of Oregon / Dunk Tank / Campfire  
Stories / Grande Ronde Dancers / The Famous  
Scappoose Saurkraut Sandwich / And More!!**

**HERITAGE PARK JUNE 8 10AM TO 8PM**



**City Meetings Calendar**

- **City Council work sessions ~ May 6 & 20, at 6:00pm**
- **City Council Meetings ~ May 6 & 20, at 7:00pm**
- **Planning Commission Meetings ~ May 9 & 23, at 7:00pm**
- **Economic Development Committee ~ May 16, at Noon**
- **Parks & Recreation Committee meeting ~ May 16, at 6:00pm**
- 

Verify meetings, get virtual meeting details, and get more meeting information on our website: <https://www.scappoose.gov> or call City Hall at 503-543-7146