

Small Town,
Big
Community



SCAPPOOSE
Oregon


MARCH 2025

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

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

 **SCAPPOOSE**
Oregon

Local issues and projects of
YOUR community

Visioning, public safety, and infrastructure


Annual Town Meeting

AT SCAPPOOSE HIGH SCHOOL
AUDITORIUM

Meet w/ City
officials,
community
partners, and
residents

Free to everyone
and includes
coffee and
breakfast!

State of the City Address

 Joe Backus
Scappoose Mayor

Saturday
April 5th
@ 9 am

For More Information: njohnson@scappoose.gov



Council President Tyler Miller honored as Hometown Hero at the Portland Winterhawks game on January 24, 2025.

Tyler had served as a volunteer reserve deputy sheriff for Columbia County Sheriff's Office from 2012 – 2017 (6 years). During that time, he received a Distinguished Action Award from the Oregon State Sheriff's Association and a Medal of Valor from the Columbia County Sheriff's Office for "performing extraordinary lifesaving measures in the line of duty."

Tyler has served as a city councilor for the City of Scappoose since 2020, and most recently as the council president. In November 2024, he was elected by the Scappoose community to serve another 4-year term. City council positions for our city are also volunteer, nonpaid positions. Congratulations, Tyler!

NOW OPEN!
2025
COMMUNITY
ENHANCEMENT
PROGRAM GRANT!

March 3, 2025
to
May 4, 2025



Available to nonprofits serving Scappoose
For more information, please visit:
[www.scappoose.gov/cityhall/page/
community-enhancement-program](http://www.scappoose.gov/cityhall/page/community-enhancement-program)

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

EARTH DAY



8AM - 3PM HERITAGE



PARK



Made with PosterMyWall.com

SCAPPOOSE OREGON

2025 IF I WERE MAYOR CONTEST INFORMATION

Mayor Backus invites local students to share their ideas about what they would do if they were Mayor of Scappoose.

Completed submissions must be received by 4pm on Friday, March 7, 2025. Items can be submitted by email to sreeves@scappoose.gov or in person at Scappoose City Hall located at 33568 East Columbia Avenue.

Statewide winners and their mayors will be notified shortly after the judging takes place. First place winners and their parents will be invited to attend the Awards Luncheon held during the OMA Annual Conference in Baker City at the Geiser Grand Hotel on August 16, 2025 where they will receive their prizes – a check for \$500.00! Second and third place prizes will be sent to mayors to present to the winners locally.

All completed submissions will be reviewed at a future City Council meeting. Winners will be notified prior to the meeting.

For more information, please visit our website at <https://www.scappoose.gov/cityhall> or contact City Recorder Susan M. Reeves at 503-543-7146 or sreeves@scappoose.gov.



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.

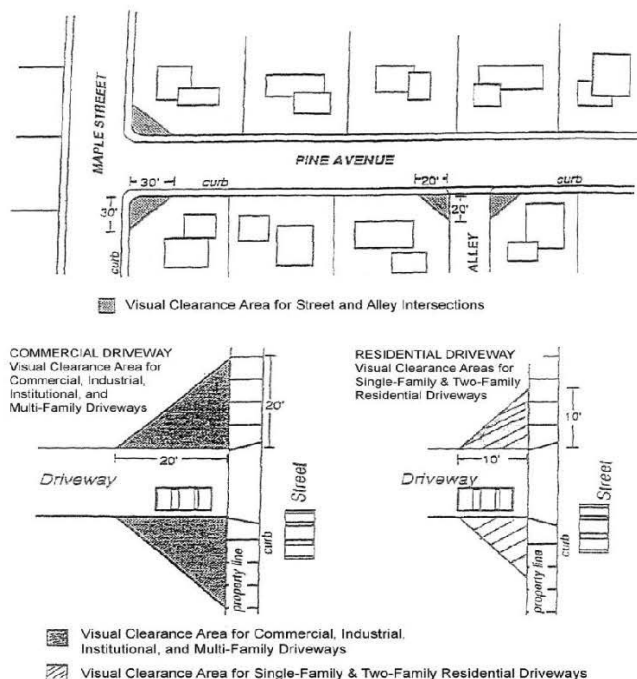
HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS:

- 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):

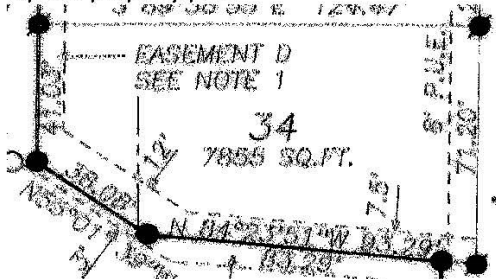
- The Visual Clearance Areas (VCA) for corner lots and driveways require obstruction-free areas for pedestrians and vehicle traffic sight distances. No fence or retaining wall may exceed 3' in height within the VCA.
- The Municipal Code chapter for VCAs can be found within Ch. 12.10.

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:

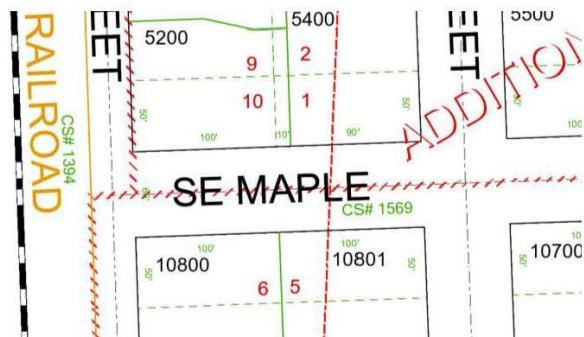
- In most subdivisions there is a 5' or 8' Public Utility Easement (PUE) and/or Street Tree Easement (STE) for properties abutting the streets, however each subdivision is different.
- The PUE is an easement **within your** property, which is separate from the public ROW.
- Easement documents should 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 or calling 503-543-7184 *402



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 15, 2025

Columbia County Announces 2025 Household Waste Collection Schedule

Columbia County, Oregon – Columbia County's Solid Waste Division of the Public Works Department is offering residents a valuable opportunity to safely dispose of hazardous materials, such as old paint, motor oil, pesticides, and other toxic substances that cannot be included in regular trash or recycling. These no-cost Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection events are designed to help protect the environment and ensure the safety of our communities.

2025 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule:

March 1 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. St. Helens	May 17 8 a.m. – noon Rainier	August 23 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. St. Helens	November 1 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. St. Helens
April 12 8 a.m. – noon Vernonia	June 7 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. St. Helens	October 4 8 a.m. – noon Clatskanie	

Drop-off Instructions:

Items must be placed in containers no larger than five (5) gallons and securely transported to prevent spills. Your household hazardous waste must be in your vehicle's bed, trunk, or hatchback - not the passenger compartment. Trained technicians will unload materials directly from your vehicle. Please be patient, and please remain in your car.

Accepted items include:

- Fireworks and flares
- Gas, diesel, fuels, motor oil, and antifreeze
- Lawn and garden chemicals, herbicides, and pesticides
- Pool and spa chemicals
- Light ballasts (must be removed from light fixtures)
- Fluorescent tubes
- Art and hobby chemicals
- Solvents, thinners, and items containing mercury
- Propane and compressed gas cylinders

- more -

- Batteries (all types and applications)
- Cleaners, detergents, and poisons
- Paint and paint products (e.g., latex, acrylic, oil-based, enamel, stains, primers, etc.)
- Cooking oil
- Medical sharps in OSHA-approved, puncture-proof containers
- Ammunition

New Policy for Liquid Disposal Containers:

To improve event efficiency and reduce wait times, containers used to transport liquids for disposal will not be returned. This change ensures a smoother process for all participants. Thank you for your cooperation!

“We’re always looking for ways to make the HHW collection events run more smoothly,” said Jacob Anderson, Solid Waste Program Coordinator. “This new policy for liquid disposal containers will help speed up the process and make the event more efficient for everyone. We really appreciate the community’s understanding and cooperation as we continue to improve these events.”

Additional Information:

- Disposal fees for automotive batteries, antifreeze, and fluorescent tubes are waived during HHW events.
- Unwanted paint, used motor oil, and used cooking oil can always be disposed of for free at the Transfer Station during regular business hours.
- Medical sharps in sealed, OSHA-approved containers are accepted at no cost at the Transfer Station Scale House during business hours. Residents can also enroll in the **FREE Sharps Container Exchange Program** at the Transfer Station.

For materials not included in this list – such as those from Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQGs, <220 lbs./mo.) or liquids in containers larger than five gallons – please contact Marc Winkler at ACT Enviro (916-693-4496) at least two weeks before an event to schedule an appointment.

We encourage all Columbia County residents to take advantage of this important opportunity to dispose of hazardous materials safely and responsibly. For more information or to find out more about HHW events, visit www.columbiacountyor.gov or contact Jacob Anderson at 503-397-7259 or jacob.anderson@columbiacountyor.gov.

Columbia County is committed to disposing of hazardous waste through safe, environmentally responsible practices, protecting the health of our community and the environment.

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ABOUT COLUMBIA COUNTY’S SOLID WASTE PROGRAM

Columbia County plans, organizes, and directs recycling, reuse, waste reduction, and household hazardous waste management programs throughout its 657-square-mile area. The county also operates a transfer station in St. Helens and administers solid waste collection events within its unincorporated areas.



SCAPPOOSE SENIOR CENTER OFFERING LUNCHES

The Scappoose Senior Center is now offering lunches three times a week! Everyone is welcome!

Join us for a tasty lunch at the Salt and Pepper Café!

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11:30 until 1:00

\$7.00 for members

\$8.00 for nonmembers



AARP TAX GROUP SERVICE BOOKING APPOINTMENTS IN FEBRUARY

Starting Feb. 4th, AARP Tax group will be providing services on Tuesdays.

Call the Center to book your appointment!
503-543-2047



PLANNING A BIG EVENT? WE HAVE A LARGE SPACE FOR RENT

Consider the Scappoose Senior Center – it may be just what you need.

For details or to view the facility, please call (503) 543-2047

City Meetings Calendar

- City Council work session ~ March 3, 6:00pm
- City Council Meetings ~ March 3 & 17, 7:00pm
- Urban Renewal Agency meeting ~ March 17, 6:30pm
- Planning Commission Meetings ~ March 13, 7:00pm
- Economic Development Committee ~ March 20, Noon
- Parks & Recreation Committee meeting ~ March 20, 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.