

DUNES CITY KICKS DISASTER PLANNING INTO OVERDRIVE

Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue recently received grant funding to update its Emergency Operations Plan. At the same time, Lane County received grant funding to update its Hazard Mitigation Plan, and the Ford Family Foundation awarded grant funding to Oregon State University to draft a regional Disaster Resilience and Recovery Plan. Meanwhile, local non-profit organizations are meeting frequently to discuss disaster preparation and recovery. And FEMA has kicked its training and planning efforts in the Pacific Northwest into high gear.

Why all the hubbub? The answer is simple, although somewhat disturbing. Recently, the USGS issued a

finding that in virtually every catastrophic seismic event that has occurred in recent history, the earth movement monitoring equipment went "quiet", meaning that there was little or no earth movement taking place, thus pressure was building that ultimately resulted in the catastrophic event. The Cascadia Subduction Zone is now quiet.

This is no reason to panic, however, because it doesn't mean the event is impending; it could happen an hour from now or another 300 years from now. The concern is that, historically, the Cascadia Subduction Zone has experienced a seismic event every 250 to 300 years since prehistoric times. It has been more than 315 years since the last event. We are overdue.

While, realistically, deaths are expected, seismic events of this magnitude are survivable with proper planning and preparation. Dunes City takes its efforts to ensure its residents and employees will be adequately prepared for such an event very, very seriously. Many hours are currently being volunteered

in the various Emergency Support Function (ESF) training classes and discussions to develop an Emergency Operations Plan that adequately addresses the needs of our community.

We cannot, and should not, do it alone. We are looking for individuals in our community who have training (or are interested in helping and willing to get training) in the various Emergency Support Functions areas such as transportation (ESF 1), communication (ESF 2), public works and engineering (ESF 3), emergency management (ESF 5), housing and shelter (ESF 6), resource management (ESF 7), mass care, health and medical (ESF 8), food and water (ESF 11), public safety and security (ESF 13), economic development and recovery (ESF 14), and animal protection (ESF 17). We are also looking for individuals who may provide input or management experience in debris management, damage assessment (i.e., buildings, homes and bridge inspections), and air support. These positions would be voluntary, assisting the City to develop its emergency/resiliency/and recovery plans and to help out in a catastrophic event. If you are interested in volunteering, please call Dunes City hall at 541-997-3338 or email admin@dunescityor.com. 🍷



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Getting To Know Your City

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



DUNES CITY'S 3RD ANNUAL OREGON DUNES TRIATHLON AND DUALTHON IS ALMOST HERE!

Dunes City's annual Oregon Dunes Triathlon and Duathlon is set for Saturday, May 9th. As of press time, there are already 86 athletes registered to participate from Oregon, Washington, Utah, and Idaho. As the event date gets closer this number is expected to rise rapidly. We expect to exceed the number of athletes who took part last year, which was a whopping 153.

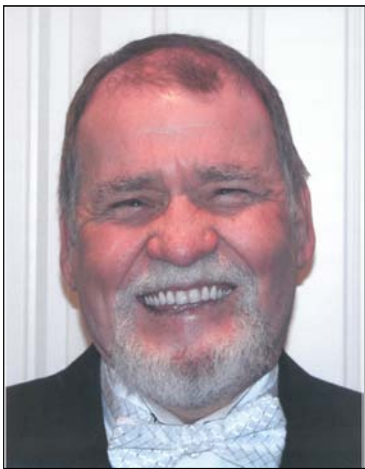
Dunes City is looking for a minimum of 200 volunteers to make sure this year's Tri/Du runs as smoothly and safely as possible. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Renee Green at Dunes City Hall, 541-997-3338. All volunteers receive a free t-shirt and lots of gratitude from the participating athletes and staff at Dunes City Hall.

Commemorative sweatshirts, t-shirts and hats will soon be for sale at Dunes City Hall and, of course, at the event as well. Volunteering to staff the event is a great way to come out and support some incredible athletes, enjoy time with family and friends and help Dunes City raise money. Visit www.oregondunestriathlon.com for more information about the event, or sign up to compete!

Speaking of volunteers, we have lots of vacancies on our Committees to fill! 🌿

MEET THE NEWEST DUNES CITY COUNCILOR

We are thrilled to introduce our newest Dunes City Councilor, Ken Platt. Ken and his wife, Wan, came to Dunes City from the San Francisco Bay Area where he was a partner in a commercial construction venture. Prior to his California experience, Ken served in the Air Force as a flight engineer, and after training, he worked on laser and electron beams for Air Research.



Ken retired from the commercial arena in 1991 and has kept himself busy remodeling their homes in Arizona and California. He and Wan moved to this area in 2004. He says his home in the Woodland Lane area is still a work in progress!

Ken has a long history of volunteerism, having served in the Masonic Order for 50 years. He was initiated into the Ancient Order of the Shriners through The Scottish Rite, and is also a member of the Elks. He was honored to serve as Master of the Florence Masonic Lodge #107.

Ken also has volunteer experience in local government, serving on the Dunes City Planning Commission from 2004 to 2006.

Ken's interests include metal sculpting, silver-smithing and making Indian jewelry. As a lover of nature and the outdoors, he enjoys camping, archery, and target shooting. He is a dog lover and is particularly fond of jazz and blues music.

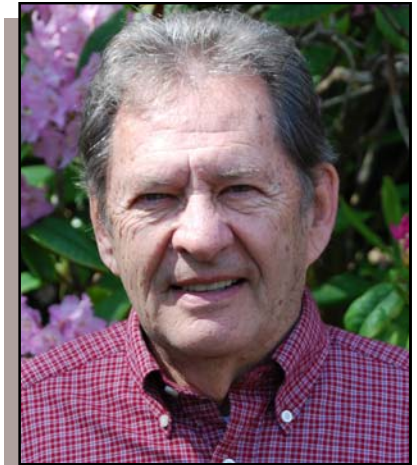
Please join the Mayor and City Council in welcoming Ken to the City Council! 🌿

RECOGNIZING 20 YEARS OF VOLUNTEERISM

Doctor Richard "Dick" Anderson, DDS moved to Dunes City with his family in 1984 and almost immediately became active in the community. Dr. Anderson began volunteering his time to Dunes City on the City Council in 1997, where he served for five years. On two separate occasions he served on the Planning Commission with breaks to perform Mission work for his church. Dick again served on the City Council, most recently being elected to a four-year term in 2010.

During his terms on the City Council he was Chairman of the Parks & Recreation Committee, the Conservation Committee and was an active member of the City's Budget Committee.

Dr. Anderson retired from the City Council, effective in January, 2015. In December, Mayor Ruede presented him with a plaque that reads, appropriately, "Community Service Award presented to Dick Anderson in appreciation for twenty years of outstanding service and leadership to the Dunes City Council, December 2014, in gratitude." He plans to continue living in the Dunes City area with his wife of more than 50 years, Diane. The next time you see the Andersons please be sure to extend a special thank you for the wonderful years of volunteer service to our community! 🌿



DUNES CITY LOSES VALUABLE ASSET

To the dismay of Dunes City Staff and residents, long time resident and volunteer extraordinaire, George Burke, sold his house here in Dunes City last fall and moved with his wife back to Eugene where they lived for thirty years prior to taking up residence by Siltcoos Lake more than ten years ago. George epitomized what it means to be a volunteer. When he signed up for a task, he didn't ask, "what is it going to cost me, or how much time will it take." He simply dug in, got his hands dirty and kept a smile on his face while he got the job done.

George was a member of the Planning Commission for nine years. As a Planning Commissioner, he served at various times as both Chairman and Vice Chairman and, as such, was the representative to the Road Commission. He was also on the Budget Committee for three years. George was instrumental in spearheading the challenge to make sure our City Code is clear, objective and defensible and spent hundreds of hours working on updates and modifications, both as a Planning Commissioner and as a member of the Ordinance Review Committee.

In addition to his time on City commissions and committees, George volunteered many, many hours to City fundraising events, including Christmas events, Festival of the Lakes, the 2013 Paddle only Poker Run, and the Oregon Dunes Triathlon and Duathlon.

It is residents like George Burke who make Dunes City "a nice place to live!" It was an honor and a privilege to select Mr. George Burke as Dunes City's Volunteer of the Year for 2014. Always the gentleman, George says, "I couldn't do it without the support of my wife, Laura!" Today, George still volunteers time to Dunes City as he continues to work as an unpaid consultant to the Planning Commission while it continues work on Code revisions.

Please join the Mayor, the City Council and City Staff in thanking George for his loyalty and dedication to the City. 🌿



ABOUT PRIVATE WELL MAINTENANCE, TESTING AND TREATMENT

(From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website)

The US Environmental Protection Agency's rules that protect public drinking water systems do not apply to individual water systems, such as privately owned wells. As an individual water system owner, it is up to you to make sure that your water is safe to drink. Several water quality indicators and contaminants that should be tested for in your water are:

Total Coliforms. Coliform bacteria are microbes found in the digestive systems of warm-blooded animals, in soil, on plants, and in surface water. These microbes typically do not make you sick; however, because microbes that do cause disease are hard to test for in the water, "total coliforms" are tested instead. If the total coliform count is high, then it is very possible that harmful germs like viruses, bacteria and parasites might also be found in the water.

Fecal Coliforms/*Escherichia coli* (E.coli). Fecal coliform bacteria are a specific kind of total coliform. The feces and digestive systems of humans and warm-blooded animals contain millions of fecal coliforms. *E. coli* is part of the fecal coliform group and may be tested for by itself. Fecal coliforms and *E. coli* are usually harmless but a positive test may mean that feces and harmful germs have found their way into your water system. These harmful germs can cause diarrhea, dysentery and hepatitis. It is important not to confuse the test for the common and usually harmless WQI *E. coli* with the test for the more dangerous germ *E. coli* O157:H7.

pH. The pH level tells you how acidic or basic your water is. The pH level of water can change how your water looks and tastes. If the pH of your water is too low or too high, it could damage your pipes and cause heavy metals, like lead, to leak out of the pipes into the water and eventually make you sick.

Nitrate. Nitrate is naturally found in many types of food; however, high levels of nitrate in drinking water can make people sick. Nitrate in your well water can come from animal waste, private septic systems, wastewater, polluted storm water runoff, fertilizers, and decaying plants. The presence of nitrate in well water also depends on the geology of the land around your well. A nitrate test is recommended for all wells. If the nitrate level in your water is higher than EPA standards, you should look for other sources of water or ways to treat your water.

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). VOCs are industrial- and fuel-related chemicals that may cause adverse health effects at certain levels. Which VOCs to test for depends on where you live. Contact your local health or environmental department, or the EPA, to find out if any VOCs are a problem in your area. Some VOCs to ask about testing for are benzene, carbon tetrachloride, toluene, trichloroethylene, and methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE).

When to have your well tested

At a minimum, check your well every spring to make sure there are no mechanical problems and test it once each year for total coliform bacteria, nitrates, total dissolved solids, and pH levels. If you suspect other contaminants, you could test for those as well; however, testing is expensive so do your homework as to what to test for. The best way to start is to consult a local expert, such as the local health department, about contaminants of local concern.

Check your well every spring to make sure there are no mechanical problems and test it once each year for total coliform bacteria, nitrates, total dissolved solids, and pH levels.

If you suspect any other contaminants, test for those as well.

Consult an expert, such as the local health department, to determine if there are specific contaminants to test for in your area.

(Continued on Page 7)



John Murphey
Agent

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WE'RE LOOKING FOR LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS!

Dunes City needs volunteers for: Budget Committee, Communication and Education Committee, Ordinance Review Committee, Water Quality Committee, Road Commission, Planning Commission, and a Water Tester for Siltcoos Lake.

If you can help, please call Dunes City at 541-997-3338, or email admin@dunescityor.com

City Council

The City Council is comprised of a seven person non-compensated board consisting of a mayor and six councilors.

Position	Name	Term Ends
Mayor	Rebecca Ruede	1/12/2017
Council President	Jamie Mills	1/12/2017
Councilor	Ken Platt	1/10/2019
Councilor	Maurice Sanders	1/12/2017
Councilor	Ed Scarberry	1/12/2017
Councilor	Sheldon Meyer	1/10/2019
Councilor	Duke Wells	1/10/2019

Budget Committee*

Position	Name	Term Ends
Budget Officer	Fred Hilden	N/A
Citizen Member	April Dumas	6/30/2015
Citizen Member	- vacancy -	6/30/2015
Citizen Member	- vacancy -	6/30/2015
Citizen Member	Stuart "Wally" Shoults	6/30/2016
Citizen Member	- vacancy -	6/30/2016
Citizen Member	- vacancy -	6/30/2016
Citizen Member	- vacancy -	6/30/2017

* Also includes all City Councilors.

Communication & Education Committee

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Jamie Mills	1/14/2016
Citizen Member	- vacancy -	12/31/2015
Citizen Member	Steve Burton	12/31/2016

Ordinance Review Committee

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Jamie Mills	1/14/2016
Citizen Member	- vacancy -	1/14/2016
Citizen Member	Steve Burton	1/12/2017

Parks & Recreation Committee

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Ed Scarberry	1/14/2016
Citizen Member	Roberta Dalbeck	6/30/2015
Citizen Member	Gary Lapping	1/11/2018
Citizen Member	April Dumas	6/30/2016
Citizen Member	Carol Sweet	6/30/2016

Planning Commission

Position	Name	Term Ends
Commissioner Chair	Paul Gargis	1/11/2018
Commissioner VC	Ken Henderson	12/31/2015
Commissioner	Bonnie Allen	12/31/2015
Commissioner	Norman Martin	12/31/2016
Commissioner	- vacancy -	1/11/2018

Road Commission

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Maurice Sanders	1/14/2016
Commissioner VC	- vacancy -	1/11/2018
Commissioner	Richard Palmer	12/31/2016
Commissioner	- vacancy -	12/31/2017
Commissioner	Christopher John	12/31/2016
Commissioner	Bill Harris	12/31/2015

Water Quality Committee

Position	Name	Term Ends
Councilor Chair	Sheldon Meyer	1/14/2016
Citizen Member	Bonnie Allen	12/31/2015
Citizen Member	- vacancy -	1/11/2018
Citizen Member	David Dumas	1/11/2018
Citizen Member	Christopher John	12/31/2015
Citizen Member	- vacancy -	1/11/2018
Citzn. Water Tester	Steven Hager	12/31/2016
Vol. Water Tester	- vacancy -	n/a

Dunes City Staff

Position	Name	Email
City Administrator	Fred Hilden	recorder@dunescityor.com
Admin. Assistant	Linda Stevens	admin@dunescityor.com
Permits	Renee Green	permits@dunescityor.com
Planning Dept.	Rapunzel	planning@dunescityor.com
Road Secretary	Laurale Lorentzen	roads@dunescityor.com

Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
 Phone: (541) 997-3338 Fax: (541) 997-5751
 82877 Spruce St ~ PO Box 97, Westlake, OR 97493

Visit our website at
www.dunescity.com



MORE ABOUT PRIVATE WELL MAINTENANCE, TESTING AND TREATMENT

(Continued from Page 4)

You should also have your well tested if:

- * There are known problems with well water in your area;
- * You have experienced problems near your well (such as flooding, land disturbances, or septic failure and nearby waste disposal sites);
- * You replace or repair any part of your well system (this is mandated by County code); or
- * You notice a change in water quality (i.e., taste, color, odor).

Who should test your well

State and local health or environmental departments often test for nitrates, total coliforms, fecal coliform, volatile organic compounds, and pH. Health or environmental departments or County governments should have a list of the State-certified laboratories in your area that test for a variety of substances.

For more information, contact your State health department at 971-673-1221 or the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. ☞

NEW SEPTIC MAINTENANCE ORDINANCE PRESENTED TO CITY COUNCIL

The Dunes City Planning Commission, through its consultant George Burke, presented its recommendations for amendments to Dunes City's current septic maintenance Code to the City Council at its regularly scheduled meeting on February 12th.

The draft ordinance, written after taking into consideration numerous written comments and testimony received during the Citizen Advisory Committee meetings, addresses concerns raised by individuals since the adoption of the current Code, Ordinance No. 203. Efforts to make changes to the Code in the past were thwarted by Oregon's Land Use Board of Appeals for failure on the part of the City Council to enter adequate findings to support the changes made.

This ordinance, as explained by Mr. Burke, essentially follows the proposal previously made by the Ordinance Review Committee, Ordinance No. 210A, with the addition of the Oregon State University Extension Service Septic Tank Maintenance Table of April 2000. The table would be used as a guideline to determine pumping frequencies.

While a set, mandatory, timeframe within which inspections are to be done would be removed from the current Code language, periodic inspections and evaluations would still be required, but the frequency for the inspections and evaluations would be determined by the expert doing the inspection. If an owner disagrees with the expert's recommendation, the owner could seek a second opinion and Dunes City would accept the recommendation that gave the greatest time interval between inspections.

The Planning Commission recommended that the City Council move forward with the ordinance without further action by a Citizen Advisory Committee, since a Citizen Advisory Committee already created the document. Council members and the Mayor agreed that the City should ensure, by consulting with its legal counsel, that the process proposed is proper. The City Attorney prepared an Order for the City to proceed with the process and the Council voted unanimously at its March 12th meeting to issue the Order. ☞



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