



Grant Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 13102, Portland, OR 97213

Spring 2010

Grant Park Neighborhood Clean-Up, May 15, 2010

Once again this year, there will be a Neighborhood Clean Up on May 15th from 9 am to 1 pm, held in the parking lot of Grant Park Church, located at 2728 NE 34th Avenue.

We are asking only \$10 per car load and \$20 per pick-up load, but our funding limits the number of drop boxes so when they are full the clean-up will have to close. There will be an extra \$3 fee for large loads of yard debris.

There will be separate drop boxes for general waste and for yard debris. Other vendors will also be available to recycle or reuse your unwanted items including scrap metal, and building material. There will be areas for swapping/selling other items. You can save a lot of trouble and effort by separating or grouping your materials as you load your vehicle.

Yard Debris

The rules for yard debris are similar to your curbside rules: no rocks, stumps; metal, plastic, branches more than 4 thick, animal waste, garbage, dirt, or sod. You can add unpainted and untreated wood but not plywood or particle board.

Building Materials

Building materials should be sound and free of major defects. Lumber should be at least four feet long without nails. For more about what is acceptable check out www.rebuildingcenter.org/donations.htm

Scrap Metal

Scrap metal will be collected by LJs

Metal Hauling Service. He will be on site and have business cards available and if people have things that are too heavy, he can arrange to pick it up.

Don't Bring

- Please do not include your regular household garbage.
- **NO** hazardous waste: (paint, pesticides, fertilizer, disinfectants)
- **NO** batteries
- **NO** motor oil
- **NO** medical waste.
- **NO** tires
- **NO** electronics (TVs, computer monitors, phones)
- **NO** refrigerators.

FOR ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED

Hazardous Waste:

Can be taken to Metro Central Station, 6161 NW 61st Ave., from 9 am to 4 pm, Monday - Saturday. There is no fee for hazardous waste from your home. For information, call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000.

Electronics:

Check www.oregonecycles.org to find out where you can take TVs, desktop computers and monitors. Call 1-888-5-ECYCLE, for information.

This year's sponsors include The Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN); METRO (waivers on the dumping fees); and the Office of Sustainable Development (hauling fees and related expenses). We would also like to thank the Grant Park Church, Family Medical Group and The Real Estate Firm who let us to stage this event in their parking lot.

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NEXT GENERAL MEETING

May 4, 2010
Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Grant Park Church
2728 N.E. 34th Ave.
(at Knott)

Grant Park Neighborhood Association is open to ALL persons living within its boundaries. We invite our neighbors to involve themselves in neighborhood affairs. If something prevents you from participating, please contact a Board members.

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AGENDA

Scheduled:
Portland Police update
NECN Updates
City Planning update
Committee Reports

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FUTURE MEETINGS
(not yet scheduled)

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GPNA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Liz Alexander 503-331-1381

Cori Jacobs 503-281-6514

Grant Field Improvement Update

There was a hearing at City Hall on a proposal on a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) to allow a group called Friends of Grant Athletics to begin fund raising for installation of artificial turf in Grant Bowl and the Upper Baseball/Soccer fields.

Our President, Geoff Hyde, testified for the GPNA Board of Directors to raise our concerns about whether the Parks Public Involvement Guidelines were followed, the timing of the project with the high school restructuring and the \$2,000,000 the schools have set aside for high school field renovation and health and safety concerns of synthetic versus natural turf.

The end result was that the most Commissioners stated that they will vote in favor of the MOU at next weeks meeting. Commissioner Leonard said he would also support further improvements including lights and seating to allow Grant to play its home games in the Bowl and Commissioner Fish spoke in favor of increased club soccer use.

Most people testifying pointed out that synthetic fields were common in the suburbs and it created an inequity for local teams who have to play and practice on natural turf.

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Village Building Convergence 2010

Dates: May 28th - June 6th, 2010

Theme: Intersection - Reclaiming the Crossroads

Central Venue: 2800 SE Harrison St., Portland, OR

Tickets: Available Now!

Contact: vbc@cityrepair.org

As the Village Building Convergence (VBC) enters its second decade, we are asking our community to think about and create deeper intersections in their lives and in the world around them.

How can the private and the public be effectively merged to co-create the world we want to live in? How can modern technology and traditional methods work symbiotically instead of being at odds with each other? Are the ways in which we conduct our interpersonal relationships conducive to building communities? How do we create diverse communities that support and nurture the uniqueness of each member?

Village Building Convergence events are a bit like a conference, a bit like a festival, and a bit like a neighborhood improvement day.

During the Village Building Convergence, there are workshops and keynote speakers. There are activities from early morning until late in the night. Many people register to attend the entire event. Participants celebrate public art and lavishly decorate the central venue, eat dinner together every night, and feature local bands nearly every night. Attendees at VBC are integrally involved in creating the “content” (the placemaking site projects), and as such, it is more of a convergence of interested, skilled, experienced and committed people, of both those living in Portland, and visitors from afar.

During the Village Building Convergence, a lot of work is done to directly improve spaces which the public either owns or has access to. Each project is initiated and managed by neighborhood groups with support from the VBC Placemaking Committee. People feel more ownership of the place in which they live. We’re rebuilding vibrant neighborhoods!

Admission charged for the evening event is used to support the non-profit Village Building Convergence, which in turns assists the neighborhood placemaking sites with materials and other support.

Gardening Season is here!

Another garden season is upon us and Portland is known for its great gardens. Here are a few resources to help get you going this year. Good luck and happy gardening!

Grow Smart, Grow Safe

The Metro brochure Grow Smart, Grow Safe can help you garden with nature. With environmental and health ratings of 600 pesticides, fertilizers and soil amendments, this publication offers a comprehensive guide to lawn and garden products. The easy-to-use tables organize entries into categories that help you find the least hazardous lawn and garden products. In addition, tips from regional experts offer simple ways to reduce pest problems without toxics and safely grow a productive, healthy garden.
library.oregonmetro.gov/files/gsgs_11-5_web.pdf

Natural gardening coupon

Metro partners with garden supply retailers to provide a \$5-off coupon on a total \$20 purchase. You can receive your free coupon by calling Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000 or by attending a natural gardening program. Once you have your coupon, you can use it at the retailers listed on the Metro web site:
www.oregonmetro.gov/index.cfm/go/by.web/id=558

SWCD Resources

East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District (EMSWCD) has created a specialized directory to help residents find the special services or products related to conservation practices. The focus of EMSWCD is on local businesses that can help you get your conservation project done: rain garden contractor, native plant vendors, erosion control supplies, stream restoration companies, and more!
www.emswcd.org/

City Plant Resource Publications

The resources listed on this page provide information on native, invasive, and non-invasive ornamental plant species selection and care. There are also resources for designing sustainable stormwater facilities with lists of plants that are most suitable for absorbing rainfall and treating urban runoff. Trees are a particularly important tool in managing urban stormwater and we encourage you to use the resources below to choose trees for your yards and planting strips.
www.portlandonline.com/bes/index.cfm?c=48240

You Change Your Clocks. Did you Check Your Smoke Alarm?

For years, "Change your clock, change your smoke alarm battery" was the advice from your firefighters. New technology has changed that. Portland Fire & Rescue suggests you don't just check your smoke alarm but that you install a new smoke alarm with a 10-year lithium battery.

Any smoke alarm that is more than 10 years old has lost much of its effectiveness and should be replaced. Oregon law requires that any new smoke alarm sold or installed in Oregon must contain a lithium battery that is expected to last up to 10 years. After that don't just replace the battery, replace the entire unit. New alarms are simply not designed to work for longer than the 10-year life span.

The new smoke alarms also have a "Hush Button". This button will silence the alarm when nuisance smoke or shower steam accidentally set it off. Pushing the button will silence the device for up to 15 minutes before it resets itself. By installing a new smoke alarm with the "Hush Button", you will never forget to put the battery back in after a nuisance activation.

Smoke alarms continue to provide your best protection against dying in a fire. Most fires occur in the home and the greatest risk is when you are sleeping. A working smoke alarm significantly increases your chances of surviving a deadly home fire. Protect yourself and your loved ones by checking your smoke alarm today.

Remember to:

- Test all smoke alarms each month.
- Install a smoke alarm on each level of your home, near sleeping areas and inside each bedroom.
- Have and practice a home escape plan.
- Remember to help elderly relatives and friends check their alarms after you check yours.

If you qualify Portland Fire & Rescue will provide and install a smoke alarm for free! Call the "Smoke Alarm Hotline" at 503-823-3752 for details.

For further safety information, contact Portland Fire & Rescue's Public Education Office at (503) 823-3700 or click here.

School Events Spring 2010

- Grant High School will be presenting the musical Sweeney Todd at 7:30 pm in the Grant auditorium on April 29, 30 and May 1, 7, and 8. Check with the school for more information.
- Grant High graduation is Saturday, June 6.
- The last day of school is Tuesday, June 15.

In our area:

Grant High School | 2245 NE 36th
8 am - 3pm
Lunch 11:37 am - 12:19 pm (open campus)

Beverly Cleary Schools:
Fernwood Site | 1915 NE 33rd
8:30 am - 3 pm | Lunch (closed campus)

Hollyrood Site | 3560 NE Hollyrood Ct.
8:30 am - 2:45 pm | Lunch (closed campus)

Portland International Community School
(PICS) | 2728 NE 34th
9 am - 3:30 pm | Evenings 5-9 pm
Lunch (closed campus)

The Practice of Hope Workshop

Saturday May 22, 9:00 - 12:00 pm
Location in downtown Portland
Free, but registration is required.

This workshop was created to elevate hope among those who seek to create a sustainable culture. Living in a society where "bad news" seems so prevalent, is authentic hope possible? In the workshop, we explore hope as an intentional act or a practice.

Through presentation and small group discussions we will cover topics such as, the meaning of hope, its relationship to optimism (and pessimism), guiding principles for the practice of hope, specific practices, and ways to stay aligned with hope over time.

Presenters: Jeanne and Dick Roy are nationally recognized for their tireless work for the Earth while remaining hopeful. As full-time volunteers for the past 17 years, they are co-founders of the Center for Earth Leadership, the Northwest Earth Institute, and the Natural Step Network.

For more information or to reserve your space, contact Emily Klavins at 503-227-2315 or info@earthleaders.org.

Save Our Elms

"Working to preserve the urban forest"

If you've strolled around the neighborhood lately, you may have noticed the sudden loss of four mature American elms trees on NE 41st Ave., just north of Knott, reminding us that Dutch elm disease (DED) is alive and well and seriously threatens the few remaining majestic American elm trees.

Many streets in older neighborhoods like ours were once lined with elms that created a continuous, high, wide canopy. While healthy elms can live for hundreds of years, the presence of DED means they desperately need our help if they are to survive.

There are many public values inherent in these large trees including the protection of air quality, the cleansing of stormwater, the energy efficiency aspects of natural reduction of heat loss in buildings and cooling during warm periods, noise reduction and increased privacy. In addition we receive the habitat value, the beauty of having some green environment where we live, and the 8% to 10% increase in housing assessed value when trees are present.

There is a Grant Park affiliate of Save Our Elms (SOE), 2625 NE 41st Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97214. SOE is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization that works to preserve mature elms in Portland and replant disease-resistant elm varieties, is raising funds for inoculations and planting.

Elms are inoculated every three years so. On June 19, 2010 we'll be inoculating approximately fifty American elms in our neighborhood. Contributions and volunteers are needed. To get involved, please contact Angela at 503-281-2738.

To learn more, visit: www.saveourems.org.

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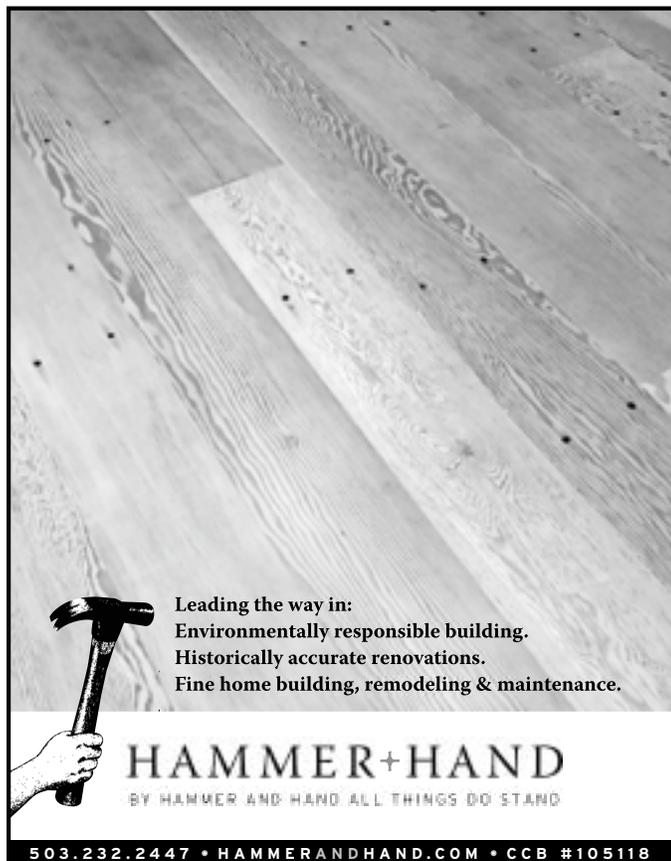
Grant Park Church

Great things are happening at the corner of 34th and Knott. Four distinctly unique congregations are now worshipping and sharing that space. Portland International Community School continues to serve high school students giving them an opportunity to succeed as English language learners. Lee Owen Stone Cooperative Pre-School serves families with an innovative and life enriching program. Youth for Christ has headquarters here and is touching the lives of Portland youth.

On Good Friday evening, women from each of the four participating congregations led the worship service. It was a powerful gathering with a beautiful tapestry of the human family gathered for worship.

You can learn more about each of the groups by going to www.grantparkchurch.com and clicking on groups in the building. All of the participants in the building express our thanks for all each of you do to add value to our Grant Park Neighborhood.

We look forward to seeing many of you on May 15th at the Neighborhood Clean Up Day.



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Ride Connection Needs Volunteers

Ride Connection is a nonprofit, service organization created in 1988 to link accessible, responsive transportation to meet the need for the elderly and persons with disabilities to have transportation. Ride Connection coordinates over 30 providers and schedule's over 358,000 rides for more than 10,500 individuals annually.

Ride Connection is seen as the center of the wheel that moves throughout our communities, offering essential transportation in a coordinated, collaborative, stable and reliable manner, keeping older adults and people with disabilities independent and mobile.

Ride Connection is recruiting volunteer drivers to serve in your neighborhood and beyond. The volunteer driver's role is to provide necessary transportation services to older adults and people with disabilities in the tri-county area who are unable to drive and access public transportation for various needs, often for life-sustaining purposes.

Volunteer drivers provide transportation in a Ride Connection vehicle or in their own personal vehicle to medical/dental appointments, shopping, volunteering and other personal business. This service enables these individuals to continue to live independent, quality lives. Last year over 370,000 rides were provided to customers through Ride Connection and its partner agencies.

Recruiting volunteers in our neighborhood is essential.

Ride Connection's Mobility Trainers provide one-to-one travel training on all transportation options in our community. The RideWise program educates individuals to use all services more effectively.

Together, we are working to improve the lives of older adults and people with disabilities in Oregon. For more information contact 503.528.1720 or e-mail: ride@rideconnection.org.

For more information on Ride Connection and the volunteer opportunities, please visit their website at www.rideconnection.org or contact Katrinka E. Easterday at 503.528.1720 or at keasterday@rideconnection.org

Phase II of the Portland Plan

Feedback is being sought on goals and objectives for Portland. Phase Two Portland Plan survey, which focuses on a selection of proposed objectives for the city for 2035. The survey asks Portlanders to look ahead 25 years and imagine what's possible. What kinds of big, ambitious changes should we aim for to make this a better place?

Residents are asked to rate the proposed objectives as being too aggressive, not aggressive enough or just right. Questions address issues such as housing and transportation costs, living wage jobs, home energy use, healthy watersheds and education.

The draft objectives were developed from community input during visionPDX, Phase I of the Portland Plan, outreach, and extensive research contained in the Portland Plan background reports. Teams of City staff and technical experts analyzed the information to develop this set of draft objectives for public input. A broader set of objectives will be presented at the Phase Two workshops, which begin on April 26th and run through May 18th. The complete workshop schedule, as well as the survey and background reports, are available online at www.pdxplan.com.

The Portland Plan will be the City's road map for the next 25 years, guiding our direction as the city grows and changes. Portlanders are encouraged to bring their friends and families and join their neighbors to make their mark on Portland's future.

The Portland Plan team is committed to providing equal access to information and meetings. If you need special accommodations, please notify us five (5) days prior to the event by phone at 503-823-7700, by the TTY line at 503-823-6868, or by the Oregon Relay Service at 1-800-735-2900.



Farmer's Markets Open in May!

Fresh, local produce, plants will soon be here again.

Hollywood Farmers Market Opens May 1

Located on NE Hancock between 44th and 45th Avenues, the Hollywood Farmers Market is open Saturdays 8 am to 1 pm from May until Halloween and 9 am to 1 pm until Thanksgiving. We hope to see you there!

The Market offers children's entertainment and weekly live music all season. For a schedule and details, check out the Market's calendar online at www.hollywoodfarmersmarket.org.

The Hollywood Farmers' Market's dog policy offers customers both dog-free hours and hours when dogs are allowed. From 8 to 10 am, dogs will not be allowed in the Market. This will allow customers who prefer to do their shopping without dogs to enjoy the Market without the presence of dogs. During dog access hours, dogs must be kept on a short, non-expandable leash. And please, come prepared to clean up after your dog! Labeled service dogs will be allowed at all times in the Market, as required by law.

To volunteer at the Market, please contact the Market's Community Volunteer Coordinator at 503-803-7279. For general questions about the Hollywood Farmers' Market call 503-709-7403.

King Farmers Market Reopens May 2

The King Farmers Market will open its second season on Sunday, May 2, at 10:00 am at NE 7th and Wygant (a block south of Alberta, adjacent to King School Park.) The market will continue every Sunday, 10 am to 2 pm, through October 31.

After a highly successful first season, the King Farmers Market is back, bigger and better than before with more produce vendors, more special events, music, meat, cheese, cut flowers, plant starts, hot food, cooking demonstrations, and an adjacent children's playground. This year, Oregon Trail Card (food stamp) users can receive up to \$10 in matching tokens for use at the King Farmers Market.

Join your neighbors on May 2 and every Sunday to celebrate a new season of the freshest local food.

2010 Junior Rose Festival Parade

The Fred Meyer Junior Parade is the nation's oldest and largest children's parade. A signature children's event of the Portland Rose Festival Association, the parade comes to Portland's Hollywood district each June, attracting hundreds of spectators.

The Fred Meyer Junior Parade welcomes all children, up to and including middle-schoolers. For more information on participating in the parade, visit www.rosefestival.org/events/juniorparade/.

Date and Time

This year the parade will be Wednesday, June 9th, at 1 pm. Parade participants may begin to gather as early as 11 am in the formation areas.

Formation and Disband Areas

The formation area includes eight square blocks between NE Sacramento & 57th and NE Tillamook & 53rd. Normandale Park is also used for bands and dance units. Grant Park is the disband area.

Parade Route

The parade begins at NE Sandy & 52nd and marches down NE Sandy to NE 40th where the parade turns right. At NE Tillamook the parade turns left. It ends at NE Tillamook & 36th and disbands at Grant Park. The parade route is approximately one mile long.

Street Closures

Sandy Blvd is closed beginning at 11:30 am. The rest of the parade route is closed around 12:30 pm. The parade generally lasts until approximately 3:30 pm.

Spectators

The Fred Meyer Junior Parade attracts hundreds of spectators who line the streets, often setting up lawn chairs or just sitting on the sidewalk. Seating and parking can be very tight, so we encourage the use of public transportation. Spectators should also remember to be prepared for the weather.

Clean-Up

The Portland Rose Festival is proud to be the "Cleanest and Greenest Festival in America." The Festival makes every effort to provide ample garbage containers in the formation areas and to encourage participants to keep our parks and streets clean. They want to thank the city of Portland and the Hollywood Boosters for assisting in these efforts!

A Call for Clean-Up Volunteers

If you would like to get involved, we would love to have you. Volunteers should bring work gloves and wear protective clothing and footwear. We will also have free food and beverages for volunteers!!

In the past we had quite a few Grant High School volunteers and several families have expressed interest in volunteering. We are overjoyed at the interest the students and the community have taken in this event.

Parents, working side by side with their children, send such a strong message about the care and value that we place on our environment. At the same time we must be cautious about issues of safety at the clean up.

There is constant vehicular traffic; cars and trucks are backing up; drop boxes are being loaded and unloaded; people are tossing items. Sometimes there is broken glass or pieces of sharp metal. This is not a safe site for young children. We are happy to have adult and high school volunteers. Middle school students are welcome if accompanied by a responsible adult. Sorry, we do not feel that elementary age students can be safely monitored.

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Grant Park Neighborhood Association Drive-thru Spring Clean-up

Saturday, May 15, 2010

9 am to 1 pm

(materials will not be accepted after the event closes
and cannot be left on-site)

Where

NE 34th Ave. & Knott

(the parking lot of Grant Park Church)

\$10 donation per car load, \$20 per truck load

Drop-off items Accepted:

- Non-hazardous garbage
- Yard debris
- Scrap metal
- Building materials
- Bulky household waste
- Donations (i.e. Goodwill)

Materials NOT Accepted

- Hazardous materials (to find out what is hazardous, visit:
www.metro-region.org/article.cfm?articleid=644)
- Plastics (for recycling)
- Cell phones
- Computers, monitors and peripherals
- Televisions

Thanks to our sponsors: The Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods,
METRO, and the Office of Sustainable Development, Grant Park Church.

Volunteers Needed!

We will provide food and beverages. You provide muscles & brains.
For information or to volunteer, please contact us at grantpark@necoalition.org