

City of Coos Bay,
Oregon



The Friday Update

December 18, 2015



Mayor
Crystal Shoji



Council President
Stephanie Kramer



Councilor
Jennifer Groth



Councilor
Mike Vaughan



Councilor
Mark Daily



Councilor
Thomas Leahy



Councilor
Fred Brick

Heavy Rain and Flooding Alert



Historically, Coos Bay averages 10.88 inches of rainfall in the month of December. We are just a little more than halfway through the month, and we have surpassed that amount already with more rain on the way. The National Weather Service is forecasting an additional 5 inches of rain in our area by the end of next week. To complicate the impacts of this anticipated weather, we can expect some extremely high tides (also known as “King” tides) from December 23rd through the December 25th.

With all of this rainfall, it is very likely that we will have some localized flooding along the waterfront, along riverbanks, and low lying areas. Some of the areas in and around Coos Bay that are historically prone to flooding include the downtown area along Highway 101 and parts of Englewood along Southwest Boulevard. There may be other areas in your neighborhood that may be impacted by the extreme volume of rainfall. Below you will find maps indicating areas of the City in which we have experienced flooding in the past during extremely high tides and heavy rain events.



When the soil becomes saturated, trees and hillsides become less stable. We may have some landslides; and particularly if we experience high winds, we can expect some trees to come down. This may also result in power outages.

The City of Coos Bay would like to let our neighbors know of some potential hazards and remind people to be careful and prepare for possible disruption in services.

- ✓ **Do not drive into flooded areas.** “Turn around, Don’t Drown.” The water may be deeper than you realize, and even shallow moving water can sweep a vehicle off the roadway and into even deeper water. Floodwaters may conceal road damage as well.
- ✓ Heavy rain can limit a driver’s visibility. **Slow down** and be aware that detours may route traffic around flooded areas.



- ✓ If you live in an area that is prone to flooding, do what you can to protect your family, animals, and property. It may be necessary to evacuate some areas.
- ✓ Watch for signs of hillside slippage, tilting trees, new cracks or bulging ground, etc. Be mindful if you live near an unstable hillside and have an emergency plan in place.
- ✓ **Never approach downed powerlines.** Assume that the lines are energized and keep away. Call 9-1-1 and the power company, and let them handle the situation.
- ✓ In the event of a power outage, **do not use gas powered heaters, stoves, or generators indoors**; these items generate dangerous fumes. Have a working flashlight available, and you may need extra blankets and food.

As Oregonians, we are used to periods of heavy rain; and this winter looks to be one for the record books. Good preparation will help us safely weather the storm(s). For more information about how to prepare, go to www.ready.gov or contact the Coos Bay Fire Department at 541-269-1191 for a preparedness checklist.

Sandbag Giveaway for Flood-Prone Areas in Coos Bay

The City of Coos Bay is preparing for the potential impacts and possible flooding as a result of the combined predicted high tides and forecasted heavy rainfalls next week by offering free sand bags to residents.

While the City has a number of sandbags currently in stock, many more may be needed. The City is asking for volunteers to help fill approximately 500 sandbags. The sandbags will be filled at the City Shops located at **1295 S Broadway** (across from the disposal site) on **Monday, December 21st** beginning at 8:30 am. Parking will be on the southeast end of the yard near the City equipment. We hope to be working under a roof, but bring your rain gear, boots, and gloves. For those interested in volunteering to fill sandbags, please contact Pam Patton at 541-269-8918 in the Public Works Department at City Hall.



Sandbags will be available for City homeowners or businesses in the flood prone areas beginning **Monday, December 21st**. There will be a limit of 15 sandbags per household or business. Availability is on a first come bases while supplies last. To sign up and reserve sandbags contact Public Works staff at 541-269-8918.



The Friday Update



Today the City had to close a section of Coos River Hwy and West Park Roadway due to settlement issues and unsafe conditions.

A detour route has been set up for Coos River Hwy for local traffic. Semi-trucks and heavy haul equipment will be required to use East Bay Road.



¡Vamos a hablar! Let's talk!

SPANGLISH! INTERCAMBIO DE IDIOMAS/LANGUAGE SWAP

Ven a la biblioteca y práctica hablar en español o en inglés en un ambiente informal, amable y ayuda a otros a mejorar sus habilidades. Esto NO es una clase, se prestara ideas para temas de conversación. Los participantes hablarán la mitad del tiempo en español y la otra mitad del tiempo en inglés. ¡Los principiantes son bienvenidos!

Come to the library and practice speaking Spanish or English in an informal, friendly setting, and help others improve their skills. This is NOT a class, but ideas for conversational topics will be provided. Attendees will speak half the time in Spanish and half in English. Beginners welcome!

Sábado 9 de enero/Saturday January 9th, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

La Sala de Myrtlewood/Myrtlewood Room



The Coos Bay Boat Building Center will hold their second annual Santa's Workshop on Saturday, December 19th from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. located at 100 Newmark Avenue, Coos Bay. The workshop is for youth from six to ten years of age. Students will learn to use woodworking tools to build a Kon Tiki boat. They may keep their Kon Tiki or donate it. The cost of the project is \$10. Cookies and hot chocolate will be available for attendees. Contact the Boat Building Center at 541-808-2211.

CAPTAIN CAL MITTS CELEBRATES 20 YEARS AT THE PD



Cal Mitts began his career with the Coos Bay Police Department in 1994 as a Reserve Police Officer. In 1995, Cal Mitts was sworn in as a full time Police Officer with the Coos Bay Police. Since that time, he has worked as a patrol officer, narcotics detective, criminal detective, and patrol sergeant. In 2009, he was promoted to Operations Captain. In August of 2012, he was selected to be the Director of SCINT where he currently serves.

Cal served in Desert Shield and Desert Storm as a member of the 101st Airborne Division, US Army. Cal was born and raised in Coos Bay; and together with his wife, Megan, they have raised two sons, Holden and Lane.

Coos Bay City Hall
500 Central Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420

www.coosbay.org

Police Department
(541) 269-8911

Fire Department
(541) 269-1191

Library
(541) 269-1101

Community Development Department
(541) 269-8918
or
(541) 269-8924

Public Works Department
(541) 269-8918

Finance Department
(541) 269-8915

City Manager's Office
(541) 269-8912

DON'T LET THE GRINCH STEAL YOUR CHRISTMAS - According to the



Christmas carol *Deck the Halls* this "Tis the season to be jolly..." But it is also the season to be wary of burglars, thieves, and other holiday grinchers. Nothing can ruin the Christmas spirit faster than becoming a victim of crime. Unfortunately, thieves view the holiday season a little differently. For them, it's a time of opportunity to take from others.

The following is list of strategies that can help you enjoy the holidays without incident:

- ✓ Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave your house or apartment - even for a few minutes.
- ✓ Don't openly display your Christmas tree and gifts in the front window so they are easily visible from the street. It's too tempting for a potential criminal to smash the window and grab the wrapped packages, or plan a later break-in based on their earlier observation.
- ✓ Use an inexpensive light timer when you are away, and ask a neighbor to pick up your newspapers and mail.
- ✓ Burglars know to look for the hidden door key near the front entrance. Don't hide spare keys under rocks, in flowerpots, or above door ledges. Instead give the spare key to a trusted neighbor.
- ✓ Burglars prefer to enter through unlocked doors or windows. A holiday problem can occur when exterior Christmas light extension cords are run inside through a window, and prevents it from being secured.
- ✓ Don't leave descriptive telephone answering machine messages like, "You've reached the Wilson's...we're away skiing for the Christmas holidays...please leave a message." Bad guys love to hear that they have plenty of time to break in and completely ransack your home.
- ✓ While shopping, lock your packages and gifts in your vehicle's trunk or keep them out of sight. Keep you vehicle's doors locked and windows closed.

BUDGET COMMITTEE OPENINGS – The application period for the three openings



on the Budget Committee have been extended to **January 8, 2016**. Applicants must be a resident of the City of Coos Bay, and they are appointed by the City Council for three-year terms. The meetings are held mid-April and possibly the first week of May at 7:00 p.m.

There are currently three openings on the Budget Committee. Applications are available from the City Manager's Office at City Hall, by calling 541-269-8912, or on the City's website at www.coosbay.org. **Applications will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. January 8, 2016.**