

## Summer canal repairs and improvements

The Albany Public Works Department is continuing to repair and improve the historic, 18-mile Santiam-Albany Canal to deliver water safely to users.

In the last year, worker safety improvements have been completed at the intake and fish screen on River Road east of Lebanon; the Albany Gates at the IOOF Cemetery, Lebanon; and the hydropower plant at Third Avenue and Vine Street SW in Albany. Major overhauls have also been done on all of the control structures along the canal, resulting in a safe and reliable system for controlling flow and protecting adjacent properties.

This summer, Albany crews kept up a vigilant battle against invasive plants, primarily English ivy and blackberries, along the canal banks and removed dead and dangerous trees where they threatened neighboring property or where they could cause bank failures. This fall, crews hope to begin a project to remove sediment deposits that have accumulated in the lower end of the canal from the Pacific Boulevard/Queen Avenue intersection to the canal's outlet on Third Avenue.

In June, interpretive signs were installed at the outlet where pedestrians walking on Vine Street, Third Avenue, or across the bridge to Bryant Park may stop and read. The signs include a timeline of the canals in Albany and Lebanon that merged to become the present day conduit. They

present the canal's role in Albany's early economic development, providing water power for numerous mills. Hydroelectric generation started in 1888 and provided the first electricity for Corvallis.

Today, water from the canal is channeled by Albany Parks & Recreation Department to Cox Creek through Timber-Linn Memorial Park and Waverly Park. The canal provides drinking water for the cities of Lebanon and

Albany, irrigation and flow augmentation for area creeks and drives the hydroelectric facility during the winter.

Because of steep and soft slopes, submerged woody debris, and cold, deep, fast-moving water, the canal is not to be used for recreational purposes. Swimming, boating, and fishing are not allowed.

To prevent damage to the gates, equipment, and turbines in the canal system,

citizens are urged not to dump any material into the canal, particularly tree trimmings and berry vines. And because it is our drinking water, pesticides should not be used within ten feet of the canal top of bank.

For more information about the Santiam-Albany Canal, contact Jeff Kinney, Water Superintendent, 541-917-7628 or [Jeff.Kinney@cityofalbany.net](mailto:Jeff.Kinney@cityofalbany.net).



**Right: New interpretive signs near the Bryant Bridge on Third Avenue illustrate the influence of water on Albany's history. Mayor Konopa and Ian Johnson of the State Historical Preservation Office attended the dedication.**

## Garbage carts don't belong in bike lanes or on sidewalks

City Hall and Albany Police often get complaints about residents storing carts for garbage, recycling, and yard debris on sidewalks and streets or in bike lanes. Those carts don't belong there.

Carts should never be placed in a location that blocks traffic, either on foot or on wheels. Bikes are part of the City's surface transportation network and need to be kept clear just like the travel lanes used pri-

marily by motor vehicles. Sidewalks need to be clear for people on foot and those who need the assistance of a wheelchair or other mobility device. On the street, carts should not block access to driveways or mail delivery.

Carts should be removed from sidewalks and streets as quickly as possible after they are emptied. If someone is injured because your cart is where it doesn't belong, you could be held liable.

Allied Waste Services provides solid waste disposal and recycling service in Albany. Here are the company's recommendations for where to place carts for safe and efficient collection:

- Place carts at the curb by 6:00 a.m.
- Place with the handle toward the house so the cart opens toward the street
- Place cart approximately 10 feet behind vehicles parked in driveways
- Place cart approximately 6 feet in front of vehicles parked at the curb
- Place cart approximately 4 feet from other objects such as mail boxes, other carts, poles, and planters



### Walmart, highway construction update website available

The City of Albany, the Oregon Department of Transportation, and Walmart have posted a website with current information about highway construction projects related to the development of the new Albany Walmart store:

<http://albanywalmarthighwayproject.com/>

The site includes maps of each of the areas where construction is taking place; detour routes; schedules for each of the projects; contact information for the agency or organization in charge of each project and for Walmart. Information is updated as work progresses and as needed.



**Yogurt Extreme, opening its doors in Albany in September 2011, is proud to be a sponsor of the River Rhythms concert series. Staff played games and promoted the store's opening with concert goers this summer. River Rhythms was a big part of five Thursdays for Albany Parks & Recreation, Police, and Fire Department staff. See what other City of Albany employees do on a typical work day inside this issue of *City Bridges*.**

### Inside

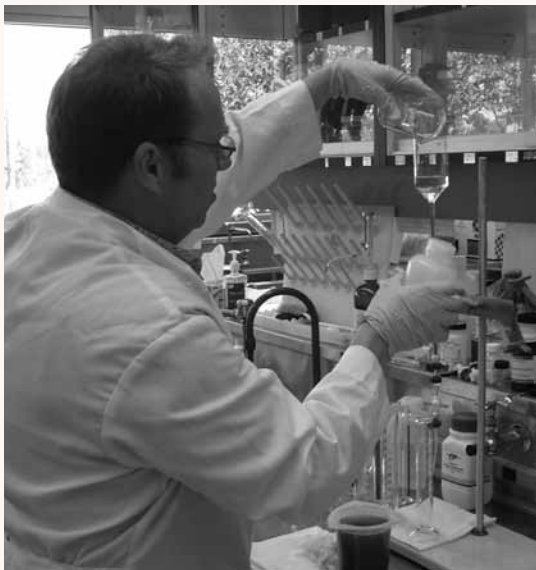
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# Any day in

Albany city government is a lot more than just what happens in City Hall, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

City employees are on duty around the clock, seven days a week, throughout the 17.7 square miles inside the city limits. Here's a look at some of the things that happened on a typical day this summer:



**12:35 p.m.** Wastewater Laboratory Technician Steve Weidinger performs a routine test on water that has been cleaned at the Water Reclamation Facility.



**1:15 p.m.** Asset Management staff Danielle Utt and Lisa Kirk verify that their Trimbles are working before using the units in the field. Trimbles are used for collecting data and completing work orders. Here, Utt and Kirk collect information on a fire hydrant, including its color, manufacturer, and model.

**Noon** Albany Fire Department personnel supervised a tug-of-war at Safety Camp at South Albany High School. Each summer, the Fire and Police Departments partner with Albany Community Pool (Albany Parks & Recreation), Greater



Albany Public Schools, and the Boys and Girls Club of Albany to provide two 4-day Safety Camps. Campers learn about personal fitness and safety. Local businesses provide scholarships so no one is turned away. Fire Department staff also provides safe, reliable rides to and from camp for those who need it.



**1:00 p.m.** Patrons at Albany Public Library check the latest market conditions as stock markets close on the East Coast. The Library has 38 computers for public use; more than 210 individuals use them each day. The Library is a popular Wi-Fi hot spot for patrons who bring their own laptops and other wireless devices. Patrons use Library computers for e-mail; social networking; looking for jobs; preparing resumes; web browsing; homework; consumer research; and reading books, magazines and newspapers. It's all free.



**2:00 p.m.** Parks Maintenance staff work on a new bridge in Periwinkle Park. Parks Maintenance workers take care of path, rest room, tree, and ground maintenance in the City's 30 park properties, year-round. Temporary employees help out in the busy summer months. Most of the full-time staff have worked for the City for many years and are skilled at an assortment of jobs, from propagating plants to building construction.

# Albany...

**2:10 p.m.** Dave Chiller of Common Pulse leads a drumming exercise as part of the Children's Summer Reading Program.



**2:20 p.m.** Water Maintenance/Backflow Specialist Ron Humphries fills the vac-truck with water to begin maintenance on a water utility line. The City's water distribution system consists of nine storage reservoirs, five pump stations, approximately 290 miles of pipeline, 7,500 valves, 1,856 fire hydrants, 18,000 residential water meters, and 95 large commercial water meters.

**2:40 p.m.** Robb Romeo makes a new sign for placement on Broadalbin Street at the Public Works facility on Waverly Drive. Romeo is on the Street Maintenance crew. Among their duties: make and maintain signs, keep traffic signals working and synchronized, patch potholes, remove debris from bike and traffic lanes, and repair sidewalks.



**3:52 p.m.** Fire Department Ladder 11, Engine 12, Truck 13, Medics 13 and 14, a command officer, and safety officer respond to the report of a traffic collision. Initial information says one patient is bleeding, another is not moving, a third is elderly with unknown injuries, and several others are injured as well.

Albany's medic units (ambulances) are constantly staffed with two Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technicians (FF/EMT). They are trained as firefighters and EMTs so they can perform the duties required at a fire, rescue, or medical emergency. They carry firefighting protective equipment with them at all times since they can respond to any type of emergency in their medic unit.

The two-digit number associated with a Fire apparatus identifies the fire station where it is based. Albany has four fire stations and provides the following constant emergency staffing: Station 11 downtown (Ladder 11); Station 12 on 34th Avenue SE (Engine 12 & Medic 12); Station 13 east

of I-5 on Three Lakes Road (Truck 13 & Medic 13), and Station 14 in North Albany (Engine 14 or Medic 14).

Albany Police patrol officers are dispatched to the same collision for traffic control and to investigate what happened. Patrol Services is the largest and most visible unit of the Police



Department. Officers are on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Four patrol teams work rotating 12-hour shifts. They are usually the first to arrive at the scene of accidents, crimes, or disasters. Patrol responded to 56,847 calls for service in 2010.



Those calls for service are sent to patrol officers by communications specialists or dispatchers. Eleven communications specialists dispatch 9-1-1 emergency calls within the Albany city limits. Among their duties: answering all incoming emergency telephone calls, from which they elicit pertinent information so they can dispatch police personnel via radio; take nonemergency calls after weekday business hours and on weekends; operate a computer-aided dispatch system to maintain accurate accounts of officer locations, calls, and times and to document all emergency calls the department receives; distribute police-related information to other law enforcement agencies; and use mobile data terminals to dispatch officers to reduce radio traffic.

*Continued on the next page*

# Any day in Albany...

Continued from pages 2-3...



**4:15 p.m.** Deputy Fire Marshal Bob Brooks inspects the fire department connection near the Wheelhouse building near Downtown Albany. The Fire Department is responsible for inspecting over 2,000 commercial and industrial occupancies for compliance with the Oregon Fire Code. The Oregon Fire Code outlines the requirements for new and existing buildings to provide a reasonable level of life safety and property protection from fire, explosion, or other hazards and to provide safety to firefighters during emergency operations. The Fire Department has two Deputies who do these inspections.

**4:35 p.m.** Dragonflies have made a home at Talking Water Gardens, the constructed wetlands project in Northeast Albany that helps cool treated wastewater from Albany and Millersburg before returning it to the Willamette River. The facility will be open for the public to view in fall of 2012.



**6:30 p.m.** Police Captain Jeff Hinrichs visits a neighborhood crime-prevention party.



**7:00 p.m.** Police Officers Jedd Wilson and Jorge Salang patrol on bikes, keeping an eye on the crowd at a River Rhythms concert in Monteith Riverpark.

Next issue: 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

## Dispose of household hazardous waste October 21-22

Allied Waste Services, which provides garbage and recycling services in the Albany city limits, will hold its annual household waste recycling event Friday and Saturday, October 21-22, at its Albany site, 1214 Montgomery Street SE. Hours both days are 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Allied Waste residential customers may drop off items either day at no charge. The City of Albany Environmental Services staff encourages Albany residents to take advantage of the free disposal as a simple, handy way to keep hazardous substances out of local rivers and streams. Household hazardous substances should never be dumped down storm drains, sinks, or flushed down toilets.

Business customers should contact Phillips Environmental, 800-547-2436, to make an appointment for disposing of their hazardous waste.

Here is a list of the items that will be accepted at the collection event. No appliances, please!

- Paint and wood treatments
- Cleaners and degreasers
- Fertilizers and pesticides
- Herbicides and insecticides
- Antifreeze
- Batteries
- Thinners and solvents
- Photographic chemicals
- Laboratory chemicals
- Computers and other electronics
- Other products labeled Flammable, Toxic, Poison, Danger, Warning, or Caution



For more information, call Allied Waste at 541-928-2551.

## Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan available

On January 26, 2011, the Albany City Council adopted a revised Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan for the community. The plan was approved by FEMA Region X on February 1, 2011.

The hazard analysis identifies eight natural hazards that can have an effect on Albany and its residents. These hazards include high winds, floods, ice and snow storms, droughts, landslides, volcanic eruptions, and earthquakes. These natural hazards are included in the plan along with action items that, when implemented, can help identify ways to reduce the hazard's impact on property and lives.

A Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee meets twice a year to review progress on the action items and assure that Albany is moving forward, doing what it can to reduce the impact of natural hazards here. The plan will be reviewed and updated again in 2016.

FEMA and the City of Albany encourage residents to read, understand, and comment on this plan. An electronic copy of the 2010 Natural Hazard Mitigation plan is at <http://www.cityofalbany.net/fire/>. A hard copy is at the Main Library, 2450 14th Avenue SE, and at City Hall in the Public Works and Community Development Departments.

Mitigation activities can reduce loss of life, property, essential services, critical facilities, and economic hardship; reduce short-term and long-term recovery and reconstruction costs; increase cooperation and communication within the community through the planning process; and increase the potential for state and federal funding for recovery and reconstruction projects.

For more information about the plan, contact at Darrel Tedisch, 541-917-7725 or [darrel.tedisch@cityofalbany.net](mailto:darrel.tedisch@cityofalbany.net).

## CITY OF ALBANY Directory

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Building Inspection ..... 541-917-7553

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City Manager ..... 541-917-7500

Engineering ..... 541-917-7676

Finance Office ..... 541-917-7500

Fire Department ..... 541-917-7700

Human Resources ..... 541-917-7500

Main Library ..... 541-917-7580

Mayor/Council Line ..... 541-917-7503

Municipal Court ..... 541-917-7740

Parks & Recreation ..... 541-917-7777

Planning and Zoning ..... 541-917-7550

Police Department ..... 541-917-7680

Public Information Office ..... 541-917-7507

Senior Center ..... 541-917-7760

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Water/Sewer Billing ..... 541-917-7547

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