



City of  
**The Dalles**  
OREGON

SPRING 2024-NEWSLETTER

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**Did you know**

The City of The Dalles Police Department has a prescription medication drop box available to you in the lobby of the Police Department? This free service allows you to safely dispose of any left over or unneeded medications. This keeps the medication from getting into the wrong hands, or ending up in the landfill or water supply. The Police Department is open Monday to Friday 8 to 5, excluding holidays or weekends. Please feel free to drop off your medication and say hello while you are here.



The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Community Clean Up will take place the first Saturday of May. The Dalles residents are encouraged to join in our annual spring cleaning event on Saturday, May 4, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Yard debris and large items, such as furniture, may be disposed of at the Old Wasco County maintenance yard at the corner of West 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Walnut Street only at this date and time. Please bring household clean up items only to this annual event.

Friends and neighbors are encouraged to help the elderly or handicapped dispose of unwanted items. Civic groups are encouraged to adopt an area of town for cleanup.

**No** kitchen garbage or food waste. **No** tires, refrigerators, freezers or air conditioners. **No** computers, monitors or televisions. **No** dirt, rock or animal waste (manure). **No** business or commercial waste will be accepted.

For more information about The Dalles Community Clean Up is on the City Hall Facebook page or go to thedalles.org.

Please thank the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Community Clean Up sponsors.



**Downtown Tree Project**

Be on the lookout this spring for new trees coming to downtown The Dalles.

As part of the City's new Downtown Tree Project, over 130 downtown tree wells abutting Second Street and the Roundabout will be assessed for removal, replanting, pruning, and/or overall maintenance. The project was awarded to The Davey Tree Expert Company in September 2023 with initial installation/removal occurring this spring, and annual maintenance occurring over the next three years.

Feel free to reach out to Director Joshua Chandler, Community Development Department, with any questions.



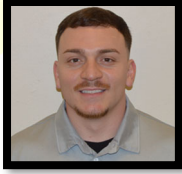
541.296.5481

[www.thedalles.org](http://www.thedalles.org)

City of The Dalles-City Hall

## Welcome New Employees

**Oscar Cuevas:** Systems Administrator in IT. Oscar recently worked for Orchard View as an IT Systems Administrator. He holds an Associate's In IT & Communication Systems from Perry Technical Institute in Yakima.



**Jordon Pesce:** Certified Mechanic at Public Works. Jordon is a resident of The Dalles and most recently worked for Mt Hood Meadows as their Vehicle Shop Supervisor. He has over 12 years of experience as a mechanic and has a bachelor's degree in Diesel Technology from Ferris State University.



**Mike Kasinger:** Facilities Supervisor. Mike was the Maintenance Supervisor at The Dalles Marina & owner/operator of an automotive detail business. Mike is a life long resident.



**Lisa Stuck:** Patrol Officer. Lisa is a resident of The Dalles and previously worked for us as an Animal Control Officer. She most recently worked for NORCOR as a Corrections Officer.



WE ARE

# HIRING

CURRENT OPENINGS:

<p><u>POLICE OFFICER, ENTRY/LATERAL</u></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">FULL TIME   OPEN UNTIL FILED</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">\$63,867-\$76,260 PER YEAR</p>	<p><u>SENIOR PLANNER</u></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">FULL TIME   OPEN UNTIL FILLED</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">\$6498.73-\$7992.62 PER MONTH</p>
<p><u>WASTEWATER COLLECTION OPERATOR</u></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">FULL TIME   OPEN UNTIL FILED</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">\$55,244-\$74,930 PER YEAR</p>	<p><u>EQUIPMENT OPERATOR</u></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">FULL TIME   OPEN UNTIL FILED</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">\$26.27-\$31.37 PER HOUR</p>

TEEN LIBRARY INTERN

PART TIME | TEMPORARY

\$15 PER HOUR

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY VISIT:

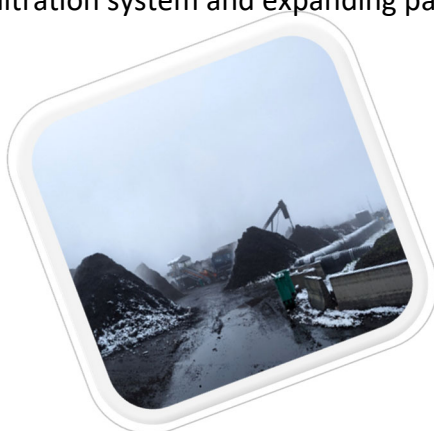
[THEDALLES.APPLICATPRO.COM/JOBS](http://THEDALLES.APPLICATPRO.COM/JOBS)

## DIRT HUGGERS

In an effort to address constituent concerns surrounding odors in The Dalles, City Manager Matthew Klebes, and City Clerk Amie Ell recently conducted a site visit to the Dirt Huggers facility. With a shared commitment to community well-being, the meeting primarily focused on understanding and mitigating the impact of odors, particularly during winter months when weather inversions and wind shifts intensify the issue.

Dirt Huggers acknowledged the importance of raising concerns, stating, "Thank you for bringing this to our attention. We treat potential odor complaints and operational issues seriously and are open to discussing any complaints as they arise. We appreciate feedback at all times and aim to foster a positive partnership with the city and community through direct, clear communication."

Dirt Huggers, expressing a sincere desire to be good neighbors, provided valuable insights into their ongoing initiatives. Notably, the facility is implementing new procedures and substantial improvements, including the installation of a weather station on-site for real-time monitoring of wind patterns. This proactive approach enables adjustments to operations when possible. Additionally, Dirt Huggers is investing in a new aeration filtration system and expanding paving, in a commitment to continuous improvement.







## Drone Policy Update

In 2022 The Dalles Police Department (TDPD) sought to begin using a small Unmanned Ariel Vehicle (UAV), more commonly referred to as a drone to assist in policing operations and community safety. Many communities and Police Departments are capitalizing on this technology which is growing in popularity and acceptance. TDPD reviewed model policies and researched best practice.

Police Chief Worthy, Officer Caminiti, alongside Deputy Reams, from the Sheriff's Department presented an update of the UAV drone policy to City Council members. The policy (Police Policy Book Chapter 26) was adopted in February 2023 and the Police Department returned to City Council in a year, to update on progress.

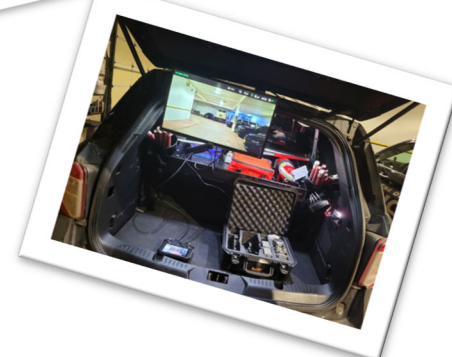
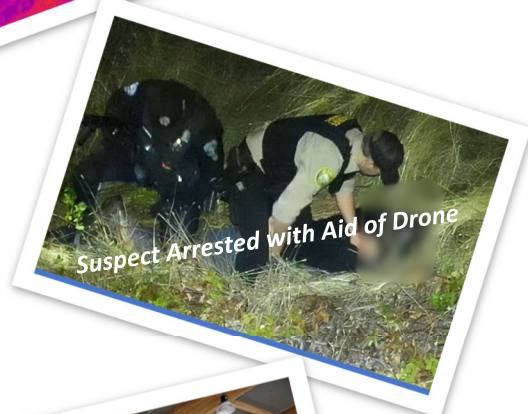
### Drone Use Statistics

The TDPD drone was deployed 41 times between March 9, 2023—February 5, 2024.

- ◇ 17 Attempts To Locate (ATL) suspects for various cases
- ◇ 8 ATL missing subjects (adults)
- ◇ 3 crime scene retention missions
- ◇ 2 assisting local agencies
- ◇ 2 barricaded subjects
- ◇ 1 cougar sighting/Safety of the Community
- ◇ Deployed the drone at a public event
- ◇ 7 total drone deployments in 2024

### Chief Worthy Concluded,

The use of the TDPD drone adds value to the Department and community safety. There have been no associated policy violations, privacy concerns or citizen complaints. The TDPD Drone policy is functioning as intended and provides a sufficient framework to ensure safe and reasonable operations that are within the law.







**CHESS CLASSES**  
SATURDAYS AT 1:00 | THE DALLES PUBLIC LIBRARY

**GREAT FAMILY ACTIVITY!**

- LEARN CHESS MOVES, TACTICS & STRATEGIES
- DEVELOP CRITICAL THINKING
- PROBLEM SOLVING
- DECISION MAKING SKILLS
- PLAY GAMES & ANALYZE FOR IMPROVEMENT

LEARN FROM A CHESS EXPERT | ALL AGES & SKILL LEVELS WELCOME | FREE CLASSES BEGIN SATURDAY, APRIL 6TH | VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO REGISTER

**Lunchtime Concerts**

**Fridays in June 12-1**

Outside on the Deck at The Dalles Library

Enjoy the music while you have lunch on the deck

Bring your lunch or enjoy the food truck

For more upcoming and current events happening at the Library visit their website at:  
<https://www.wascocountylibrary.com/events>



**TREE OF HEAVEN– Invasive Species**

The Tree of Heaven has been added to the list of Noxious Vegetation for properties within The Dalles city limits.

**The Dalles Municipal Code: Title 5 OFFENSES; Chapter 5.24 Noxious Vegetation; 5.24.010 (5). Tree of Heaven (Ailanthus altissima) are not allowed in the City of The Dalles that extend into the public way or pathway, cross a property line, or that are used for a habitation for trespassers.**

If you have this tree on your property, it should be removed.

The Tree of Heaven is known to grow quickly with heights of up to 90 feet and has the ability to clone itself indefinitely. The Tree of Heaven is considered a vigorous invasive species and one of the worst invasive plant species in North America.

The plant emits a very strong odor. \$

Questions? Contact Codes Enforcement in The Dalles Police Department. [nlesich@ci.the-dalles.or.us](mailto:nlesich@ci.the-dalles.or.us) or 541-296-2613.



## Home Sprinkler Safety

While sprinkler systems make it easy to water lawns and gardens, they also pose a potential risk. Without the proper plumbing equipment, water can flow backward (backflow), allowing contaminated water from your sprinkler system to flow into your home's drinking water supply and water mains.

Install a backflow preventer, to keep your water drinkable.

All sprinkler systems must be equipped with a properly installed, state approved backflow preventer to meet the requirements of Oregon plumbing code requirements. The City provides home sprinkler safety information by issuing a no fee permit. Also, all sprinkler systems fed by public water systems need a plumbing permit before installation.

Annual testing is needed for all assemblies, except atmospheric vacuum breakers, to ensure safe operation and health protection.

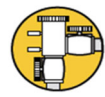
You can learn more about backflow testing and download a Backflow Prevention Assembly Permit at [thedalles.org/waterdistribution](http://thedalles.org/waterdistribution)

### How to Protect Your Health: Four Types of Backflow Preventers



**ATMOSPHERIC VACUUM BREAKER (AVB)**

- Cannot be tested to ensure safe operation and health protection
- Several may be needed to protect the whole system
- Elevated piping or valves not allowed downstream



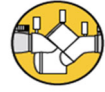
**PRESSURE VACUUM BREAKER ASSEMBLY (PVBA)  
SPILL RESISTANT VACUUM BREAKER ASSEMBLY (SVBA)**

- Must be tested to ensure safe operation and health protection
- Only one PVBA or SVBA needed to protect the whole system
- Elevated piping not allowed downstream



**DOUBLE CHECK VALVE ASSEMBLY (DCVA)**

- Must be tested to ensure safe operation and health protection
- Only one DCVA needed to protect the whole system
- Elevated piping allowed downstream



**REDUCED PRESSURE BACKFLOW ASSEMBLY (RPBA)**

- Must be tested to ensure safe operation and health protection
- Elevated piping allowed downstream
- Only backflow preventer allowed for application of fertilizer or other lawn chemicals through sprinkler system
- Only backflow preventer allowed for sprinkler systems connected to both an on-site well and city water system

## 2024 Investments in Pavement Management

The Transportation Division plans to get an early start on this year's pavement preservation activities. Annual road condition evaluations help determine best-value candidates for street maintenance projects. The City directs its limited resources to help protect and extend the life of the transportation system.

This spring and summer the City will focus on several street maintenance projects. See a few project highlights below:

- Approximately 30 miles of crack sealing will occur throughout the City. This is the lowest cost pavement preservation treatment available. Crack sealing as a pretreatment improves the effectiveness of other surface treatments such as chip seals. Approximately 75% of cracks turn in to potholes within 3 years if they are not sealed.
- Nearly three and a half miles of roadway in several areas of town will be chip sealed. This type of preventative maintenance is one of the best uses of street maintenance dollars. Chip sealing helps to reinstate oil into the oxidized pavement surfaces and provides a new, durable chip rock wearing surface.
- The westbound lane of W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. from Cherry Heights to Terminal Ave. will be ground down 2-inches and paved back with new asphalt in order to fix asphalt separation.
- 37 ADA curb ramp improvements are planned at multiple intersections in preparation for the City's 2025 paving projects.

The Transportation fund's primary sources of revenue:

- Oregon State Motor Vehicle Fund
- 3-cent City gas tax
- City Water & Sewer Impact Fees
- City General Fund

The first of these projects will start April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, weather permitting. Press releases are sent out and posted on the City Facebook page with details about each project. Thank you for your attention to safe travel around and through work areas.

You can view the 2024 street maintenance projects map, the list of streets that will be chip sealed at [thedalles.org/summerstreetmaintenance](http://thedalles.org/summerstreetmaintenance)



Use the QR code to learn more at [thedalles.org/summerstreetmaintenance](http://thedalles.org/summerstreetmaintenance)

## FIND IT, FLAG IT, FIX IT

People water landscapes to keep them green and flowering. If you have an in-ground landscape sprinkler system, did you know that just one broken or missing sprinkler component could use as much as 1,000 extra gallons of water per week? Making repairs to your system could save thousands of gallons of water over a six-month growing season. That's why it is so important to keep your sprinkler system operating in tip-top shape.

This quick landscape watering system checklist can help you conduct periodic check-ups on your system during the watering season.



Check	Find It	Flag It	Fix It
<b>Look for Leaks</b>	Leaks can occur at sprinkler valves, connection points, joints, and sprinkler heads or drip irrigation lines.	Walk through the landscape while the system is running and flag areas where water is pooling on the surface or water is bubbling or spraying unexpectedly.	Repair or replace valves or sprinkler heads. Tighten connection points and joints. Call a contractor for help if needed.
<b>Sprinklers aimed correctly</b>	Sprinklers pointed toward walls, patios, decks and sidewalks do not help plants stay green.	Walk through the landscape while the system is running and flag areas where walls, patios, decks and sidewalks are soaked.	In most cases, you can turn the sprinkler nozzle to face the correct direction. Call a contractor for help if needed.
<b>Poor sprinkler coverage</b>	Poor sprinkler coverage can cause over-watering in some areas of the landscape and dry spots in others.	Observe the distance of spray from one sprinkler to another; spray from one sprinkler should reach the adjacent one (known as head-to-head coverage).	Adjust the distance and direction of the nozzle. A sprinkler head may need to be added or moved to improve coverage
<b>Seasonal Sprinkler Schedule</b>	Plant water needs change with the season, and the schedule should as well.	Create a spring, summer and fall sprinkler run time schedule. Mark your calendar to make changes.	Select a WaterSense labeled weather-based controller that automatically changes run times seasonally
<b>Erosion on Slopes</b>	Watering systems can cause runoff and erosion on steep slopes, leaving bare patches and wash outs in the landscape.	Look at sloped areas to see if there is bare soil or soil collecting at the base of the slope.	Replant or reseed bare soil. Water at shorter intervals, multiple times per watering day (known as the "cycle and soak" method).



**Know what's below.  
Call 811 before you dig.**

### Common Sense Digging

Putting in a new fence? Installing an underground sprinkler system? Contact the 811 Utility Notification Center before digging more than 12 inches deep on your property. This important first step keeps you, your family, and your neighbors safe from unintentionally hitting an underground utility.

Utility locators use maps of underground utilities in the right-of-way and public utility easements. You may want to hire a private locator to mark utilities on private property such as in-ground landscape sprinklers, drainage pipes, private service lines or outbuildings with utilities. *(Continued on next page)*



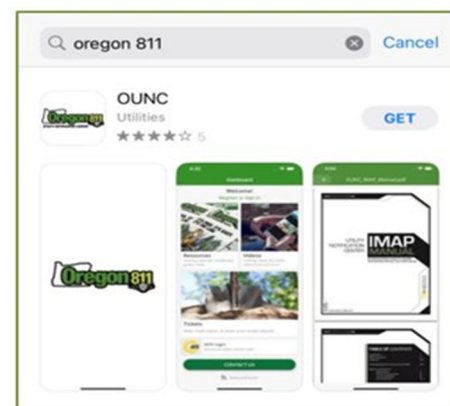
Damaging underground utilities when you are digging can cause injuries, environmental damage and interrupt utility services. Utilities provide underground locating as a free public service. But you don't have to call each utility. The 811 Utility Notification Center will contact all utilities in your project area.

**Follow these simple steps to dig safely:**

**CONTACT 811 before you dig**

There are three ways to contact the 811 Utility Notification Center:

1. Call 811.
2. Visit the [digsafelyoregon.com](http://digsafelyoregon.com) website.
3. Download the free Oregon 811 mobile app.



Download the free Oregon 811 mobile app from an app store.

Your request to have utilities located in your project area generates a notification ticket. When notified, utilities in your area will dispatch a locator to mark underground pipes and conduits. Providing accurate Information about your dig site is very important. Clearly mark your project area by circling the dig area with white spray paint on the ground.

**ALLOW time for utility response.**

Once your request is made, utility locators have two business days (48-hours) to respond. Wait until the response time has elapsed before you start digging. Keep in mind that holidays and weekends affect the utility response time. If you make a request after 5:00 p.m., the 48-hour response time will begin on the next business day. Use the QR code to learn more about what happens after you make a request using Oregon 811.



Use the QR code to learn what happens after a call to 811

**RESPECT and protect the marks**

Once your site is marked and the utility response time is over, take a moment to confirm that all utilities listed on your ticket have responded. Remember, it is your responsibility to protect the locate marks while working on the project. Take a picture of the site before starting work. Consider using flags to mark utility locations if your project is going to take days or weeks to complete. The locator marks need to be your guide for the duration of the project, and they should no longer be used after 45 days.

**EXCAVATE carefully**

Use the locator marks as a guide, but remember they are not 100% perfect. If you can't avoid digging near the marks, consider adjusting or moving your project. If that is not an option, be especially careful within the 24-inch "tolerance zone". Don't use power equipment within 24 inches from the marks in every direction and proceed with caution. If you encounter utilities that were not marked, stop digging and contact 811.

**If you hit an underground utility**

"Oops" is never a word you want to hear when digging, but it can happen. If you do hit a utility when digging, get yourself and others away from the site. If there is a potential threat to safety, contact 911 immediately. Call the utility for repair. Do not attempt to repair, cover, or bury the damage. Do not resume digging until the emergency is addressed and repairs are made.

By following these steps, you'll reduce the risk of damaging underground utilities. Good luck with your project. Help us spread the word about this free public service to your friends, family, and neighbors to protect them as well.





**Spring City Hall Closures**

May 27th, 2024

June 19th, 2024



**City of The Dalles Meeting Dates and Locations**

We encourage community members to attend meetings. All meetings are available to view live-streamed by clicking on the appropriate links on the City website. Updates and cancellations can be found on the City’s website at [www.thedalles.org/agendas](http://www.thedalles.org/agendas)

**City Council:** Council Chamber at 5:30pm. Meets 2nd & 4th Monday, with the exception of holidays

**City Budget Committee:** Council Chamber as needed, and generally the 1st week of May

**Planning Commission:** Council Chamber, 5:30pm 1st & 3rd Thursday

**Beautification Committee:** City Hall Council Chamber at 4pm, 1st & 3rd Monday

**Columbia Gorge Regional Airport Board:** Airport 8am meets on the 3rd Tuesday

**Historic Landmarks Commission:** Council Chamber at 4pm, meets on the 4th Wednesday

**Library Board:** Location varies, 4pm on the 3rd Tuesday

**Museum Commission:** Joint commission with Wasco County at The Harding House @ 6pm, meets the 2nd Tuesday

**Traffic Safety Commission:** Public Works at 7am, meets on the 3rd Wednesday

**Urban Renewal Agency:** Council Chamber, 5:30pm 3rd Tuesday of each month as needed.

**Urban Renewal Budget:** Council Chamber, generally in April

**Contact Information: Email or call anytime, we are happy to discuss your questions or concerns**

**City Staff**

**City Manager:** Matthew Klebes

**City Attorney:** Jonathan Kara

**City Clerk:** Amie Ell

**District Librarian:** Jeff Wavrunek

**Finance Director:** Angie Wilson

**HR Director:** Daniel Hunter

**Police Chief:** Tom Worthy

**Public Works Director:** Dave Anderson

**Community Development Director:**

Joshua Chandler

**IT Director:** David Collins

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541-296-5481 ext. 4448

541-298-8023

541-296-5481 ext. 2008

541-296-5481 ext. 1121

541-296-5481 ext.1172

**Elected Officials:**

**Mayor:** Rich Mays

**Councilor Position #1:** Timothy McGlothlin

**Councilor Position #2:** Darcy Long

**Councilor Position #3:** Scott Randall

**Councilor Position #4:** Dan Richardson

**Councilor Position #5:** Rod Runyon

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541-965-3195

541-238-2883

541-993-6413