



CITY OF THE DALLES

# NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2025

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACADEMY

### APPLY NOW!

The City of The Dalles Local Government Academy offers residents a behind-the-scenes look at how local government works. Through presentations, tours, and conversations with City staff and officials, participants will gain insights into City operations and learn how to get involved—whether by running for office or serving on boards and commissions. For more information visit: [www.thedalles.org/LGA2025](http://www.thedalles.org/LGA2025).

Apply by Friday, August 1



## BEAUTIFICATION & TREE COMMITTEE

### TREE GRANT

The City of The Dalles is now accepting applications for its 3rd annual Residential Tree Grant Program! Eligible residents can receive up to two free trees to plant in their front yard or public right-of-way. Trees must be selected from an approved list designed for beauty, resilience, and root safety. Priority areas include: school zones, walking routes, affordable/senior housing, and low-shade neighborhoods.

[www.thedalles.org/2025treegrant](http://www.thedalles.org/2025treegrant)  
Questions? Contact Abigail Jara: 541-296-5481 ext. 4408 | [ajara@ci.the-dalles.or.us](mailto:ajara@ci.the-dalles.or.us)

Apply by August 1



## NEW FLOODPLAIN RULES ADOPTED

### REGULATIONS TO MEET NEW FEMA MANDATES

The City of The Dalles has updated its floodplain regulations to meet FEMA's Endangered Species Act requirements and maintain participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). These changes protect threatened species, strengthen flood codes, and ensure continued NFIP eligibility for local property owners.

The new rules were adopted July 14, 2025, and must be implemented by July 31, 2025. For details, contact the Community Development Department at [cdd@ci.the-dalles.or.us](mailto:cdd@ci.the-dalles.or.us) or 541-296-5481, ext. 1125.

## URBAN RENEWAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The Columbia Gateway Urban Renewal Agency has updated its Incentive Program guidelines to make it easier for property owners and developers to invest in downtown The Dalles. The revised program offers up to \$300,000 per property, expanded eligible activities, and new tools to support housing and mixed-use projects.

Learn more: [thedalles.org/urinentives](http://thedalles.org/urinentives)  
Economic Development Officer Jacob Anderson [jlAnderson@ci.the-dalles.or.us](mailto:jlAnderson@ci.the-dalles.or.us)

## MINT TEAM IN FULL FORCE

### FIRST CASE NETS DRUGS, GUNS, AND CASH

Many people in The Dalles are familiar with the MINT Team - Mid-Columbia Interagency Narcotics Taskforce. This interagency team of local law enforcement agencies investigates drug trafficking, which is often linked to theft, money laundering, and violence throughout the Columbia Gorge region. The team was inactive in recent years due to staffing shortages, but local agencies are working to rebuild capacity and fully restore this vital resource. Community tips are key to success. Even small pieces of information can help build larger cases. Tips can be submitted, anonymously if needed, to local Police Departments or Sheriff's Offices. You can also search "The Dalles PD" in your preferred app store to connect directly.



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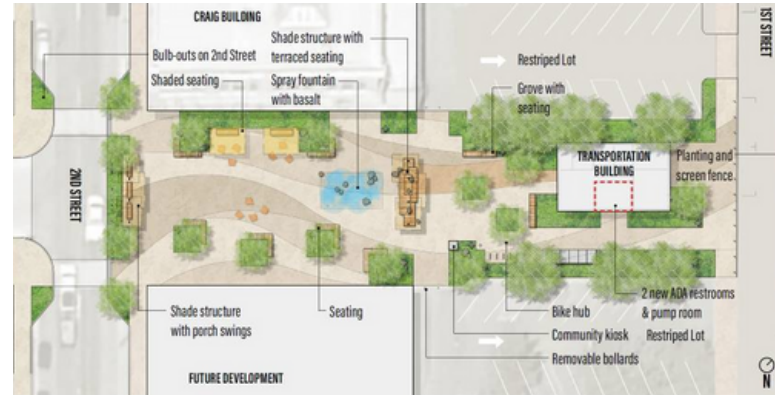
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# THE DALLES LAUNCHES BROWNFIELD REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

The City of The Dalles is now accepting applications for its EPA-funded Brownfield Assessment Program. If you own, are buying, or are developing an underused commercial or industrial property, you may qualify for free environmental reviews and cleanup plans to help with redevelopment. Sites with possible contamination (such as old gas stations, dry cleaners, or vacant industrial buildings) are eligible. Learn more and nominate: [www.thedalles.org/brownfield](http://www.thedalles.org/brownfield)  
Questions? Contact Economic Development Officer Jacob Anderson at [Jlanderson@ci.the-dalles.or.us](mailto:Jlanderson@ci.the-dalles.or.us)

# CONTRACT APPROVED TO ADVANCE THE FEDERAL STREET PLAZA PROJECT



For more information visit our website: [thedalles.org/FederalStreetPlaza](http://thedalles.org/FederalStreetPlaza)

## DOWNTOWN IS BLOOMING

### THANKS TO LOCAL BUSINESSES

Earlier this Spring, the City's Beautification Committee introduced its first Downtown Beautification Grant, providing up to \$300 in reimbursement to help downtown businesses and property owners enhance their storefronts with flowers, greenery, planters, and other welcoming touches. Now that the flowers are planted and the planters are in place, the transformation is easy to see! Thanks to the creativity and effort of our local businesses, downtown is looking more vibrant and inviting than ever.

These small improvements make a big difference, not only in beautifying our shared spaces but in fostering a sense of pride and community. Thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to brightening up The Dalles!

Photo Credit: John Nelson



Colorful florals at Meraki



Helping Downtown Bloom — One Planter at a Time @ La Golosa

Adding a Fresh, Green Vibe to Vibe Consignment

Floral Planters in Full Bloom at Terra Cotta



*Thank you to all the businesses who helped make downtown shine!*



## TREVITT TRIANGLE A COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Have you seen the newly completed Trevitt Triangle? This space has been beautifully transformed, adding even more character to our city. The project was led by the City's Beautification & Tree Committee and brought to life with the help of our dedicated Public Works team, City staff, and Big River Maintenance, who assisted with irrigation and planting. Special thanks also to the Columbia Gorge Community College Skills Center, instructors, and students for creating the striking new sculpture. While the project faced a few challenges, it came together through teamwork and persistence. Drive by and take a look—it's a great example of what we can accomplish when we invest in our community together.



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

## Investments in Safe Passage

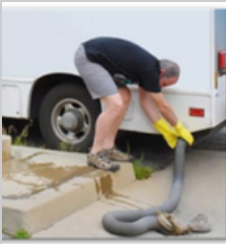
In 2019, The Dalles City Council adopted the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan. The City's goal is to provide accessible design features as part of transportation projects. To this end, the City has established new ADA design standards. ADA sidewalk access will be installed each year as budget allows.



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

## 2024 Water Quality Report Now Available

Your tap water delivers more value than any other water available to consumers, and at a bargain price. Consider the many ways that we use water: for maintaining public health, fire protection, supporting a vibrant economy and the overall quality of life we enjoy.



The Port of The Dalles RV Dump Station is a courtesy service for recreational vehicles. Use the QR code to get more information or go to [thedalles.org/rvdump](https://thedalles.org/rvdump)

## The Dalles RV Dump Station

The summer recreation season is in full swing. You and your guests are invited to dump recreational vehicle graywater and black water tanks at The Dalles RV Dump Station. Please view the two-page online flyer and leave a clean dump station for the next guest



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

## Find it, Flag it, Fix it: A checklist for your landscape

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?

## SEWER RATE CHANGES

### Why did the City increase sewer rates?

To keep up with rising costs and help mitigate increases in the future. This 3% adjustment helps the City continue providing reliable sewer service.

### How is this related to the City's master plans?

The City recently completed its Water Master Plan, which led to the first water rate increase in nearly 10 years. A Wastewater Master Plan update is now underway and may recommend further changes. This 3% increase is a first step to help manage future costs.

### Is this increase tied to a specific project?

No, this increase is not linked to a specific project. It helps cover higher operating costs and prepares for future improvements identified in the upcoming Wastewater Master Plan.

### NEW SEWER RATES - EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

Inside City Limits	\$47.47
Outside City Limits	\$81.10





## THE DALLES DOWNTOWN PASS PROGRAM

### FREE TRANSIT PASSES FOR DOWNTOWN EMPLOYEES & RESIDENTS

The City of The Dalles and Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) have partnered to offer a free 12-month Gorge Transit Pass to downtown employees and residents through the Downtown Pass Program. This program encourages public transit use and supports a more sustainable, livable community.

Learn more and sign up at: [gorgetransit.com/tddowntown](http://gorgetransit.com/tddowntown)

## GET INVOLVED & STAY INFORMED

### 1 JOIN THE BEAUTIFICATION & TREE COMMITTEE!

Help enhance public spaces and foster civic pride in The Dalles! There are three open seats on the Beautification & Tree Committee. Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 4 PM (Zoom available).

[thedalles.org/government/boards\\_commissions](http://thedalles.org/government/boards_commissions)

### 2 LISTEN TO CITY HALL ON THE RADIO

Stay connected with the City of The Dalles! Tune in to hear the City Manager on KODL radio every 1st Friday of the month and the Mayor every 4th Tuesday at 10:07 AM on the Coffee Break show with Al Wynn. Plus, don't miss the Executive Assistant to the City Manager on Radio Tierra every 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:30 AM for the latest updates and news. Stay informed and engaged!

### 3 WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CITY HALL?

Don't forget to follow our video series, where the City Manager gives recaps of City Council meetings.



## PUBLIC MEETING INFORMATION

To learn more about City Committee, Commission, and Board meetings visit our website where you can view agendas, minutes, and schedules. This is also where you go to find live-streamed meeting links and recorded video.



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

## JOIN OUR TEAM

We are hiring! Below is a list of the current openings:

- Lateral Police Officer
- Wastewater Collection Certified Operator

To learn more go to:  
<https://thedalles.applicantpro.com/jobs/>



## STAY INFORMED

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