GRESHAM

SPRING 2020 A NEWSLETTER FOR RESIDENTS

Pictured above: Hogan Cedar and Presidential Ginkgo, in honor of Arbor Month.

Stay Home, Save Lives

"Now is the time to unite with one goal—keeping ourselves and our neighbors safe by slowing the spread of this virus." **— Mayor Shane Bemis**

Be Strong, Stay Well

A message from Mayor Bemis

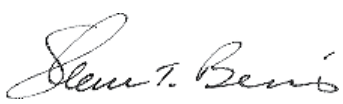
I know people are scared and worried. I know you're worried about your health, your kids, your partner, your parents. On top of that many of you are worried about your jobs.

These are the moments in history that matter. How we show up for each other in the days and weeks to come will define our community as strong, resilient, and kind.

In these challenging times, I'm incredibly moved by the stories of the many ways Gresham residents are helping one another—checking in on neighbors, donating food and rallying to support our local businesses.

There is a light at the end of this tunnel. We are now seeing communities across the globe begin the road to recovery and containment of the novel coronavirus. The first clinical trial of a COVID-19 vaccine has begun. At some point, schools will resume, you can hug your neighbors, and going to the grocery store will return to a mundane errand.

I am so proud to be your Mayor. Thank you. Thank you for your sacrifice, your patience. Keep helping one another. Keep rising to the challenge to slow the spread and keep one another safe. We will get through this together.



What the City is doing

- On March 12, the City declared a state of emergency to ensure access to regional, state and federal resources when they might be needed.
- Essential services such as Police and Fire will continue to serve the public.
- Council approved protection for Gresham's residential renters and commercial tenants. No evictions or "no cause" evictions are allowed for any reason connected to the COVID-19 emergency during the City's declared state of emergency. (See Page 5)
- Launched two phases of a small business emergency grant program and activated a special team of staff dedicated to help businesses find and file for relief. (See Page 5)
- The City has applied a 60-day freeze on water shut-offs.
- Gresham City Hall is closed to walk-in customers. Services are being provided online and by phone. (See sidebar: How we can help)
- All Gresham park playground equipment is closed to limit the spread of COVID-19. Parks are still open, but visitors must maintain social distancing of 6 feet.
- The City's Emergency Operations Center team is coordinating resources and responses to COVID-19. Leadership meets daily to plan for providing essential services while ensuring the safety of the public and our workforce.
- Regular updates to the community are posted on **GreshamOregon.gov/Covid19** and the City's social media channels as this situation continues to evolve.

More resources, Page 5

Assistance for our most vulnerable
Residential renter protection
Commercial tenant protection
Small business emergency grants

HOW WE CAN HELP

Gresham City Hall is closed to walk-in customers. Services are being provided online and by phone until further notice. Because City Hall staff are working remotely, response time may be delayed.

- To pay a City bill online visit **GreshamOregon.gov/Pay-Your-Bill-Online**.
- Utility billing: Pay your water/sewer/wastewater bill:
  - Drop off payments at the drop-box outside of City Hall at 1333 NW Eastman Parkway.
  - Mail payments to City of Gresham Utilities, 1333 NW Eastman Parkway, Gresham, OR 97030.
  - Call 1-844-813-4738 to pay by phone (a fee applies).
  - Learn more at **GreshamOregon.gov/Utility-Billing**
  - Have a utility billing question? Call **503-618-2373**.
- Passports: At this time, an online/phone/mail option is not available for new passport applications. Customers who need to renew an expired passport should visit **GreshamOregon.gov/Passports** for instructions. Contact us at **Passports@GreshamOregon.gov** or call **503-618-2619**.
- Title liens and collections: **PayoffRequests@GreshamOregon.gov** or call **503-618-2380**.
- Accounts receivable: **AccountsPayable@GreshamOregon.gov** or call **503-618-2600**.
- Business and rental housing licenses information is available at **GreshamOregon.gov/Licenses** or call **503-618-2370**.
- Permit services are available at **GreshamOregon.gov/Permit-Services** or call **503-618-2845**.
- Planner on duty: Information about development processes, zoning and more is available at **POD@GreshamOregon.gov** or call **503-618-2780**.
- Rental housing inspections: Information available at **GreshamOregon.gov/Rental-Housing-Inspections** or call **503-618-2248**.
- Small Business Center inquiries: Assistance is available at **GreshamOregon.gov/Small-Business-Center** or call **503-618-2872**.
- Code compliance concerns: Assistance is available at **GreshamOregon.gov/Code-Compliance** or call **503-618-2463**.

2020 CENSUS
How to take the census ***Page 3***

GreshamOregon.gov
Facebook.com/CityofGresham
Instagram.com/CityofGresham
Twitter.com/CityofGresham
Youtube.com/CityofGreshamOregon

PRESORT
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POSTAL CUSTOMER

NEWS BRIEFS

Information about COVID-19

The City is working closely with lead agency Multnomah County to do our part to slow the spread of novel coronavirus and get resources.

Public health information

For information about what to do if you're sick or how to care for a member of your family, **call 2-1-1** for answers to basic COVID-19 questions from 8 a.m.-11 p.m. or visit **multco.us/novel-coronavirus-covid-19**.

For City Hall updates, visit **GreshamOregon.gov/Covid19** or follow us social media: Facebook, Twitter or Nextdoor.

Comment on our disability plan

With community feedback, the City has drafted an Americans with Disability Act (ADA) Transition Plan to make sure all programs and services follow federal accessibility requirements.

The draft plan describes how Gresham is moving to ensure people with disabilities can access services, enter City buildings and parks, get around on sidewalks and use traffic signals.

Everyone is encouraged to read the draft ADA plan at **GreshamOregon.gov/ADA**. Comment online or by phone, **503-618-2223**. The review and comment period are open through April 30.

Rockwood Rising project update

The Gresham Redevelopment Commission's new development in Rockwood is transforming the former Fred Meyer site, 18535 SE Stark St.

Local partner RKm Development is building Downtown Rockwood's new vibrant neighborhood center featuring space for local entrepreneurs, an international food market hall, plaza with fountain, retail and commercial storefronts, affordable apartments above and much more.

Renovations are finished on the former Rockwood Community Office building, which opened its doors to the new Oregon Tradeswomen headquarters in January.

Development is on track to see WorkSystems Inc., WorkSource Oregon and Wallace Medical open this summer in the project's Innovation Hub.

This summer construction starts on the market hall, and the final mixed-use building begins in the fall.

Get updates at **rockwoodrising.com**. For more information about tenant opportunities, contact the Urban Renewal office at **503-618-3208**.

Council Work Plan

The goal: A vibrant community for all

Interested in the work your City Council is doing this year? The 2020 Council Work Plan projects focus on the safety and livability of our community.

All are important, says Council President Janine Gladfelter, and two projects are high on her radar: The Fire Station Scoping Analysis and Parks.

"Nothing is more important than the safety of our community, and we must ensure our fire stations are strategically located and up-to-date so we can provide the critical emergency services everyone depends on," Councilor Gladfelter said.

Parks are "near and dear to her heart," and Council continues to explore ways to improve Gresham's parks and recreation on very limited funding.

"Gresham is a creative, nimble and resilient City and when we work together toward a common goal, we can accomplish anything," Gladfelter said.

The Council Work Plan is created in part from resident input. Other key topics include future growth, housing, homelessness and water supply.

"It's important to have one plan and one voice as a Council," said Councilor David Widmark. "Council knows what the priorities are, and staff and citizens know where we're putting our work effort."

Read the Work Plan online at **GreshamOregon.gov/Council-Work-Plan**.

COUNCIL WORK PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

A Safe Community
Mobile Integrated Healthcare
Police Mental Health Team
Fire Station Scoping and Analysis

Opportunity and Livability
Parks Assets and Opportunities
Homelessness
Housing Opportunities
Municipal Court Feasibility Study

Sustainable Services
Census Outreach 2020
Climate Action
Transportation Trends and Priorities
Water Supply Study

CITY SERVICES

In addition to Council Work Plan projects, the City continues its daily work providing services to residents of Oregon's fourth largest city. A snapshot:

- 76,764 calls responded to by Police
- 17,565 calls responded to by Fire
- 72,000 people provided with clean, safe, reliable water
- 13 million gallons of wastewater treated daily
- 9,000 children supported through free recreation programs/partnerships
- 5,010 code compliance cases resolved
- 1,103 acres of park land, natural areas and trails maintained
- 910 miles of streets, sidewalks, bike lanes, etc. maintained
- 133 people housed through our homelessness services

Our future water supply: an update

Looking ahead, Gresham has a big decision to make about its water.

Should Gresham continue to buy most of its water from the City of Portland, or should we further develop Gresham's own groundwater supply? The cost of Portland's water will soon increase steadily to pay for a new $1 billion water treatment facility.

Gresham's deadline to decide is June 2021.

3 things we're working on

1. Cost projections. In all options, the cost of water will increase over time. We will do everything we can to control costs long-term, whether it is negotiating the most favorable contract with Portland or pursuing financing options to help offset the costs of constructing our own groundwater system.

2. Drilling test wells. The City is drilling two new groundwater wells to test supply, in Kirk Park and Southwest Community Park. Even if the City continues buying water from Portland, these wells can increase our water supply in the case of a large emergency like an earthquake.

3. Studying what wells are needed. Early projections show Gresham can meet the water needs of its residents by constructing up to four new wells by 2030 and one additional well by 2040.

Stay informed

Learn more and sign up for periodic email updates at **GreshamOregon.gov/Water-Supply**. Or, call **503-618-2525**.

When you take the census, we all benefit

Every 10 years, the entire United States takes part in the census. This is a population count of newborns to seniors and everyone in between.

Why the census counts

The information collected helps Gresham and decides Oregon's representation in Washington, D.C.

It's important everyone fills out the census so our community is better counted and doesn't miss out on available money for:

- Healthcare
- Housing
- Education, after-school funding
- Transportation

Every year, based on a city's census data, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads and other resources.

We believe everyone counts

Gresham's local organizations are working closely with their communities to help them take the census.

"We want our community to feel included in the census; therefore, we want them to know its importance, and what's at stake if they don't fill it out," said Ana Muñoz, the Latino Network's Census Equity Coordinator in Rockwood and the nonprofit's Chief Training and Engagement Officer.

Support is available for anyone, especially people in hard-to-count communities such as foreign born, recent immigrants, people of color, renters, limited English speakers, people experiencing homelessness.

Assistance for all census takers includes culturally appropriate materials delivered in different languages.

"In Gresham, we believe everyone counts. It is so important for everyone to complete the census as it affects how we receive federal funding. We are stronger as a community when we are all counted."
– Councilor Eddy Morales, City Council Census Liaison

In East County, Census Assistance Centers are open to anyone who wants extra help filling out a family's census form in a safe space (see map). For a complete list in the Portland-Metro area, visit wecountoregon.com/census-assistance-centers.

For more information about the census and how you can make sure you are counted, visit **GreshamOregon.gov/Census** or call Alex Logue, **503-618-3214**.

CENSUS QUESTIONS

Who can take the census?
Everyone. The information you provide is private and safe, by law.

- You may be foreign-born and take the survey.
- If you don't have a physical address but consider this your home, list Gresham as your city of residence.

How can I take the census?
Mail: By April 1, every home will receive a paper questionnaire and return envelope.

Phone: You can take the census by calling 844-330-2020.

Online: You can take the census at my2020census.gov.

You can also take the census at a Census Assistance Center.

Please note: Centers may be impacted by COVID-19 social distancing requirements. Check **GreshamOregon.gov/Census** to confirm if they are open.

What if I lost my census mail and ID?
You can still complete the census online or by phone.

CENSUS ASSISTANCE CENTERS

Census Assistance Centers may be affected by social distancing requirements.

INSIDE CITY HALL

Mayor	
Shane T. Bemis	503-618-2584
City Council Office	503-618-2871
City Council	
Karylinn Echols	
Janine Gladfelter, Council President	
Jerry Hinton	
Eddy Morales	
Mario Palmero	
David Widmark	
Abandoned Vehicle Reporting	503-618-3081
Animal Services (Multnomah County)	503-988-7387
Building Permits	503-618-2845
City Recorder	503-618-2697
Code Compliance	503-618-2463
Drug Tip Line	503-661-3784
East Metro Mediation	503-618-3247
Emergency Preparedness	503-618-2567
Fire/Police Non-Emergency	503-823-3333
Garbage/Recycling	503-618-2525
Graffiti Information and Reporting	503-618-3089
Neighborhood Associations	503-618-2482
Neighborhood Watch/Ready	503-618-2213
Parks Reservations	503-618-2300
Passports	503-618-2619
Utility Billing	503-618-2373
City of Gresham	503-618-3000

1333 NW Eastman Parkway
Gresham, OR 97030

GRESHAM is produced quarterly by the City of Gresham for its residents.

Questions, comments and suggestions should be directed to Elizabeth Coffey at **503-618-2247,** or **Elizabeth.Coffey@GreshamOregon.gov**.

Issues are available for viewing at **GreshamOregon.gov/City-Publications**

The information in this newsletter is current as of the publication date. Call the City at **503-618-3000** to verify meeting dates and status of events.

© City of Gresham

Oregon Tradeswomen rising in Rockwood

Raise a hammer! An exciting new resource helping women start careers in the trades is open in Rockwood.

Oregon Tradeswomen moved its headquarters from Portland to be part of the Downtown Rockwood transformation.

"We heard about the powerful stuff that is happening in Rockwood, and the commitment by the City and developer to empower folks in the future of how this community is growing," said Executive Director Kelly Kupcak, Oregon Tradeswomen. "We want to be a part of that!"

The 8,000-square foot headquarters features classrooms, a hands-on training facility and offices. It is the first building completed for the City's urban renewal redevelopment project.

More than a job

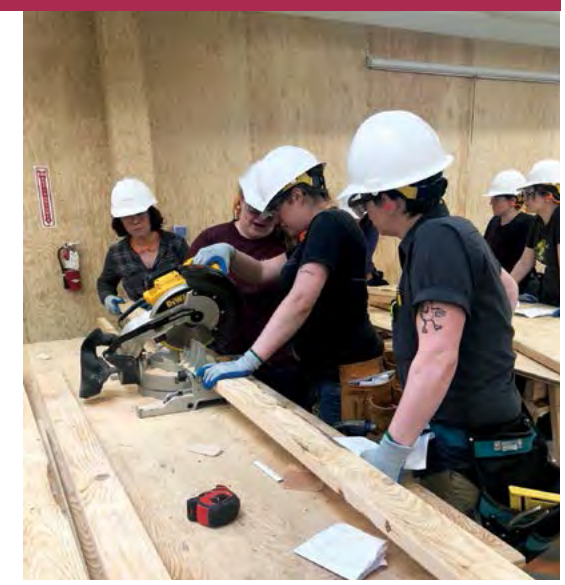
Oregon Tradeswomen helps women, many facing adversity from poverty to discrimination, be financially independent by learning a career in construction, manufacturing, mechanical, and utility trades. The nonprofit works closely with the trades industry to build a diverse workforce.

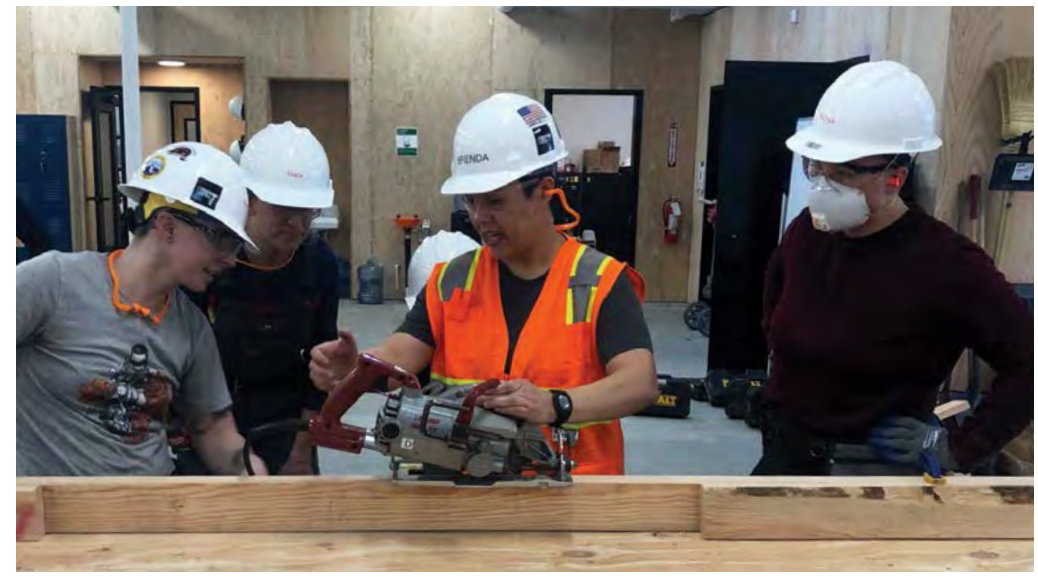
"We are reaching the people who need us most," Kupcak said, adding the trades starting wage is $18.41 an hour. "At the end of the day it means women are working in our community with good wages and reinvesting in the community they live in. That's great for Rockwood."

Oregon Tradeswomen graduated its first pre-apprenticeship class of 26 women at the new headquarters in March.

Get started

Oregon Tradeswomen will open enrollment for the Fall 2020 apprenticeship readiness program on June 11. Attending an information session is the first step to enrollment in the program. The fall class runs Oct. 13 – Dec. 3. Learn more at tradeswomen.net or call 503-335-8200.





Learning trade skills at Oregon Tradeswomen in Rockwood. Submitted photos.

Apply for summer internships

Come build the future with us! Spring is a great time for local youth ages 16-24 to consider a summer internship at the City.

Internships typically last 180 hours between July and August. No experience is needed, just an interest in gaining work skills and learning about public service.

"Our internship program is a foot in the door, a pathway to deepen your experience," said Ashley Graff, Special Projects Coordinator. "There are also potential opportunities to stay on and serve, like Silver did (see sidebar)."

- The internship program welcomes youth from diverse backgrounds with little or no work history.
- Youth help with projects at the City in areas such as Parks, Natural Resources, Technology, Facilities and City events.
- More than 70 young people have gained job skills and mentorship from City staff since 2014.
- The City partners with the County and others to offer paid SummerWorks internships.

Interested? Internship applications open in April. Fill one out at summerworkspdx.org.

Learn more about City youth programs, including our Police Cadets and Fire Helpers, at **GreshamOregon.gov/City-Careers** or call Human Resources, **503-618-2729**.

SILVER SHINING

One of Silver Medina's favorite parts of her job is no two days are the same as a Public Service Apprentice with the Facilities team.

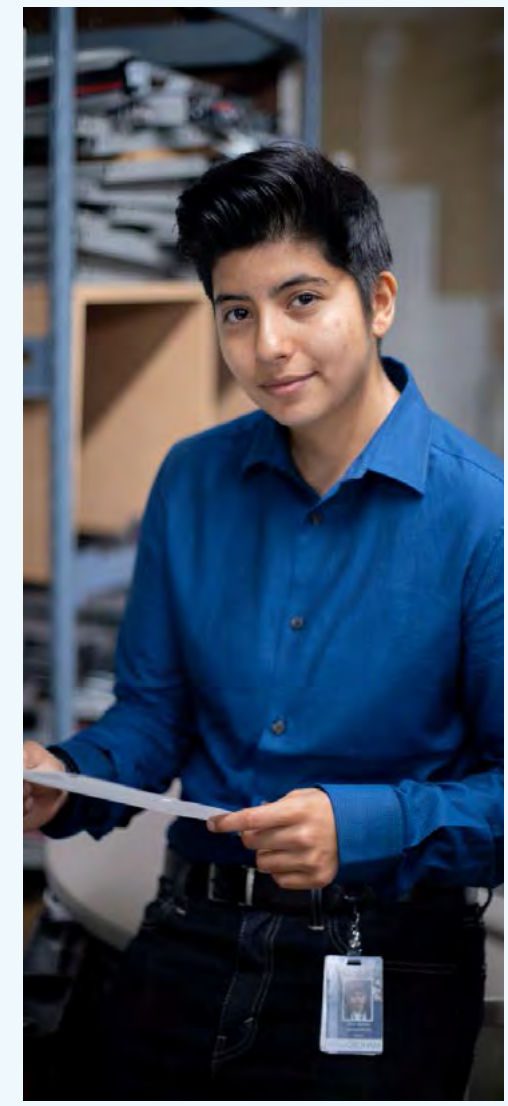
"Today we fixed potholes, yesterday we reconfigured department cubicles– but that's why I like it," she said.

A talented singer-songwriter, Silver started an internship with the City in summer 2019, then accepted a job offer to continue part-time for two years.

"I really wanted to stay," Silver said. "I've always been hands-on, did work in construction, but I wanted to get my foot in the door for something."

Working with "my squad" is helping Silver be ready for whatever the future brings.

"I watch how different things are done that I don't know how to do, like electrical work," she said. "If you look at my badge photo from my first day, it's a complete transformation."



City announces strong emergency residential and commercial tenant protections

The Gresham City Council took action in an emergency Council meeting March 19 to protect Gresham's residential renters and commercial tenants during the City's declared State of Emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19.

The action bars residential landlords from evicting renters during the state of emergency for any reason connected to the emergency, or for no reason at all via so-called "no-cause" evictions. The provisions apply for the duration of the declared State of Emergency.

Landlords violating the order risk losing their City of Gresham rental license, which allows them to conduct business in Gresham.

"This is a substantial measure, but we must protect the stability of our families, and their housing, as a first order of business," said Gresham Mayor Shane Bemis. "Many of our residents are facing drastic economic challenges at the same time that we're asking them to take unprecedented actions. Stabilizing their housing safety, in the short term, is a critical first measure in controlling the spread of the virus. We are all in this together, and we cannot have families displaced during an unprecedented global health pandemic."

On the commercial front, the City Council's action bars commercial property owners from terminating commercial leases for any purpose connected to the declared State of Emergency.

Those who violate the moratorium will be denied a license to conduct business at their location for one year following the conclusion of the State of Emergency.

The City continues to explore other options and remedies as well to support the housing stability of residents and the viability of local businesses. In addition to taking local action and exploring other local options, the City is urging state and federal actions.

"We will continue to push the state and federal governments to take swift actions to ensure the public's health and safety, provide enhanced renter protections, mortgage relief, and small business assistance," Bemis said.

Some activities in this newsletter may have changed after publication. Check their status at GreshamOregon.gov.

City launches small business technical assistance team

The City has created a special Small Business Technical Assistance Team available to help small businesses navigate the maze of new and existing state and federal resources and programs available to assist them through this difficult period.

City staff will help serve as caseworkers for small businesses, hearing and understanding their specific needs, researching and recommending programs, and assisting with preparation of forms and application materials.

Businesses interested in accessing these services can email **BusinessCovidSupport@GreshamOregon.gov** or call **503-618-2115**.

Small Business Emergency Grant Program

The City launched two phases of a small business emergency assistance program, for qualifying small businesses, in response to the unprecedented level of hardship they face due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The first phase had more than 80 apply; the second phase was open at press time.

"Even under normal circumstance, small business enterprises face significant volatility. They also contribute to our vibrancy, our sense of community, and our collective identity and pride," said Mayor Shane Bemis.

"While we address the current public health crisis as a first order of concern, we also must prepare for the rebuild, and, without substantial intervention like this, our small businesses won't be here when that time comes."

This grant program is only the first step in comprehensive economic recovery efforts being considered by the City. Nearly all businesses face the prospect of economic losses; this grant program allows for some immediate, emergency relief for those businesses facing mandatory changes in their operating model.

As more information and resources are available for businesses, it will be provided at **GreshamOregon.gov/COVID19**. For assistance, call **503-618-2115**.

ASSISTANCE FOR OUR MOST VULNERABLE

City staff have set up Operation Gresham Connected and are calling longtime Gresham utility account holders and other vulnerable residents to make sure people are safe and have the information they need.

Staff will refer residents to services and even do our best to help messenger critical pickups and deliveries.

Community-based organizations, churches or neighborhood groups with directories of vulnerable residents can reach out to Operation Gresham Connected, and City staff will give them a call to check in.

Email **GreshamConnected@GreshamOregon.gov** or **503-618-2111**.

Gresham Recycling and schools are national Food Waste Warriors

Recycling's Meghan Borato is leading the way nationally, with our students and teachers, to study how much food is wasted after lunch in school cafeterias —and find answers.

Gresham was one of nine US cities across eight states to work with students on the Food Waste Warrior pilot program in 2019.

"The kids are fascinated by what's happening at lunch," said Borato, Sustainability Advisor and Oregon Green Schools chair.

During the study, students from five schools collected, measured and weighed waste from 34 after-lunch audits and, with partner Clackamas County, shared findings in a national report.

There is a lot of leftover milk in cartons and uneaten food.

The students learned food waste has a high environmental footprint.

"It was the perfect opportunity to get them interested in how they could help conserve resources from water and energy to labor and transport by wasting less milk and food," Borato said.

The school data helped guide the School Food Recovery Act,

Story continues on Page 7

GRESHAM GREEN SCHOOLS

Cafeteria milk served in bulk dispensers wastes 86 percent less milk than serving it in cartons.
—2019 Food Waste Warrior business case

Meghan Borato

RECYCLE AT SCHOOL

Interested in making a difference? Recycling and Solid Waste offers free assistance to schools. Learn more at **GreshamOregon.gov/Recycle-at-School** or call Meghan Borato, **503-618-2134**.

RECYCLE

THANK YOU FOR RECYCLING THESE:

Cans

Aluminum and Steel Cans
(empty)

Cartons

Food and Beverage Cartons
(empty)

Paper

Newspapers, Mail, Cereal Boxes, Magazines and Flattened Cardboard

Plastic

Kitchen, Laundry, Bath: Bottles and Containers
(empty)

Glass

Bottles and Jars
(empty)
On the side

NO!

No Food or Liquid
(empty & dry)

No Batteries or Electronics

No Needles

No Plastic Bags or Plastic Wrap
(return to retail)

No takeout containers

CITY OF GRESHAM

Recycling & Solid Waste
503-618-2624
GreshamOregon.gov/Recycle-at-Home

YES, YOU'LL WANT TO CUT ME OUT.

Takeout Containers Don't Belong in the Recycling

Take us out. Then throw us away.

RecycleOrNot.org

Cuando termine de comer, tire los recipientes de plástico a la basura. No se ponen en el reciclaje. Obtenga más información sobre cómo reciclar bien en ReciclarONo.org.

Extra time at home? Try these waste prevention tips

Is there something even better than recycling? The answer is, yes! Reducing waste, repairing and reusing items at home is better.

While recycling is great, it's less important than preventing the waste of the item.

"The mindset we're championing today is 'waste prevention,' meaning buying and consuming less by reusing first through repairing, buying used, trading, borrowing and repurposing," said Shaunna Sutcliffe, Residential Recycling Coordinator.

"We want to change our thinking from: 'It's broken, I'll buy a new one,' to 'It's broken, I'll get it repaired, or I'll buy it used,'" Sutcliffe explained.

It's not hard to reuse first and recycle second. Check out what you can easily do.

Waste prevention tips

- Prevent food waste at home with easy tips and recipes from EatSmartWasteLess.com.
- Repair small appliances vs. throwing away or buying new. Find your nearest repair location at portlandrepairfinder.com (includes Gresham).
- Gresham hosts repair and swap events every season. A free Repair Café is May 30 from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Gresham Library.
- Buy food in bulk or from bins to eliminate excess packaging waste.
- Buy used clothing, or repair rips and broken zippers before buying new.
- Rent tools instead of buying new for one-time repair or limited use.
- Reuse items like jars and bags for leftover food storage.
- Drink from reusable coffee cups and water bottles.

For more tips, visit **GreshamOregon.gov/Recycle-at-Home** or call Shaunna Sutcliffe, **503-618-2694**.

GRESHAM
GREEN
BUSINESS

EXPERT ASSISTANCE TO MEET YOUR SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

Our free assistance can help your business reduce waste, conserve water and energy—helping the bottom line.

- **Free resources** from recycling boxes and signs to water conservation tools.
- **Personalized** consultation to identify solutions that make sense for your company.
- **Recommendations** that take the guesswork out of going green.
- **Training** for staff.
- **Business to business networking** at monthly events.

GET STARTED!
GreenBiz@GreshamOregon.gov or **503-618-2206**
Learn more at **GreshamOregon.gov/GreenBiz**

... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

a national policy in development. It would offer schools grants to support food waste reduction and its impact on the planet. For example, schools could purchase a "steel cow" cold milk dispenser so students can choose the amount of milk they want to drink.

The Food Waste Warrior program is rolling out in Gresham and nationwide for kitchen staff, administrators, teachers and students.

For more information about Gresham's recycling in schools visit **GreshamOregon.gov/Recycle-at-School**.

$5 coupon

Free Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

Bring a load of household toxics that includes weed control and garden pest products, and Metro will waive the $5 fee. Maximum load is 35 gallons. This GRESHAM newsletter coupon is required. Good at either Metro Central or South transfer stations. Questions? Metro, 503-234-3000.

Coupon expires April 30, 2023.

Metro

GET INVOLVED IN GRESHAM

CITY CALENDAR

At print time, these activities were scheduled. However, we recommend checking **GreshamOregon.gov/Events** for the status of meetings and events.

APRIL

28 City Budget Committee Meeting #1, 6 p.m., virtual meeting, 503-618-3000

30 City Budget Committee Meeting #2, if needed, 6 p.m., virtual meeting, 503-618-3000

MAY

2 Bike Month Family Kick-Off, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Aspen Highlands Park, 503-618-2215

2 Gresham Farmers' Market opens, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Arts Plaza, 971-303-2248

2 Portland Columbia Symphony, Sensory Friendly Concert (Family), 2 p.m., cost, MHCC Theater, 503-234-4077

5 City Budget Committee Meeting #3, if needed, 6 p.m., virtual meeting, 503-618-3000

6 Bike and Walk to School Day, participating schools, 503-618-2215

15 Bike to Work Day, 6:30-8:30 a.m., treat stops: Main City Park, Springwater Trail/ Pleasant View, On Semi-Conductor, 503-618-2215

16 Green & Clean Day of Service, Nadaka Nature Park, 9 a.m.-noon, RSVP: 503-618-2482

21 Third Thursday, 5:30-8 p.m., Downtown Gresham, @ThirdThursdayGresham

25 Memorial Day, City Hall closed

30 Repair Cafe, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Gresham Library, 503-618-2694

JUNE

14 Free Bike Repair Clinic, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Main City Park, 503-496-9641

14 Free Bike Mechanics Workshop, 3-5 p.m., Main City Park, 503-496-9641

18 Third Thursday, 5:30-8 p.m., Downtown Gresham, @ThirdThursdayGresham

19 Juneteenth, 2-9 p.m., Vance park, 971-804-8889

24 Free Bike Repair Clinic, 1-5 p.m., Main City Park, 503-496-9641

24 Free Bike Mechanics Workshop, , 5-7 p.m., Main City Park, 503-496-9641

25 Artists' Reception: The Fun & Games Exhibit, 5:30-7 p.m., Visual Arts Gallery, 503-618-2171

JULY

4 Independence Day, City Hall closed

6 Music Mondays season begins, July-August, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Arts Plaza, 503-489-1157

City Council Business Meetings are the 1st Tuesday at 6 p.m. and 3rd Tuesday at 3 p.m. City Council agendas are available Wednesday afternoons before the meeting at GreshamOregon.gov/Agendas.

Planning Commission meetings are the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 6:30 p.m. Agendas are available a week before at GreshamOregon.gov/Planning-Commission. Location varies; call 503-618-2401.

Gresham Redevelopment Commission meetings are the 3rd Tuesday after the 3 p.m. Gresham City Council Business Meeting in Council Chambers. Commission agendas are available the Thursday afternoon prior at GreshamOregon.gov/Gresham-Redevelopment-Commission.

Visit GreshamOregon.gov/Events for a complete list.

Hats off, neighbor

Name: Regina Blake

Years in Gresham: 35

Neighborhood: Powell Valley

Volunteer Causes: Powell Valley Neighborhood Association, past president; East County Windwalkers; SnowCap Community Charities, board; Albina Head Start, board

What I do and why I love it:

Probably no one has explored Gresham by foot more than Regina Blake, local volkswalker and member of the East County Windwalkers for 31 years.

"We have walks all around Gresham," Regina says. She walks for "fun, fitness and friendship." The club offers Tuesday walks anybody can join.

You might spot Regina volunteering on the Springwater Trail picking up trash along the section from Walters Road to Towle Road. The Windwalkers have maintained it every month for over a decade.

"I like seeing the number of people that use the trail, the bicyclists, families walking, people walking."

For Regina, volunteering is a way of paying life back. "And I've had a good life," she says. "So, when I volunteer, I feel good about helping someone else. You can always give, and it doesn't hurt."

Regina Blake

If you're interested in volkswalking with the East County Windwalkers, contact Regina at reggie_blake@yahoo.com. Or, find everyday volkswalks and events at WalkOregon.org.

For more information about the City's volunteer program, contact the Office of Neighborhoods and Community Enhancement (ONCE), **503-618-2469** or visit **GreshamOregon.gov/Volunteer**.

Juneteenth celebration is June 19

Vance Park, 1400 SE 182nd Ave.

Don't miss the Juneteenth event for the community hosted by Beyond Black CDC from 2-9 p.m. Friday, June 19. Juneteenth is a celebration that commemorates the end of slavery. The festivities honor culture, community and feature music, food, children's activities, games and an overall good time.

Council officially recognized Juneteenth a city holiday for the first time in Gresham's history in 2019.

Learn more at Facebook.com/beyondblackcdc or call the Beyond Black Community Development Corporation office at 971-804-8889.

Let's keep in touch. Curious what's happening now and what's coming up? Get regular updates with "Neighborhood Connections," the City's monthly e-newsletter sent to your email. Sign up for Neighborhood Connections and stay connected with City Hall events, activities, programs and projects. Call **503-618-2420** or visit **GreshamOregon.gov/City-Publications** to sign up.

Neighborhood Association Information

At print time, these meetings were scheduled. Check the status at **GreshamOregon.gov/Events.**

CENTENNIAL
For more information:
Michael Gonzales,
503-618-2482 or
Michael.Gonzales@
GreshamOregon.gov

CENTRAL CITY
For more information:
Michael Gonzales,
503-618-2482

GRESHAM BUTTE
Jim Buck, President
503-830-2344 or
jimbuck22@comcast.net
Monthly meeting (May thru Sept.),
every second Wednesday, 7 p.m.
City Hall

GRESHAM PLEASANT VALLEY
Kent Liebelt, President
503-621-4478 or
k.liebelt@comcast.net

HISTORIC SOUTHEAST
April 22, 7 p.m.
Dexter McCarty Middle School (library)
1400 SE 5th St.
April 25, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Clean up event: Dexter McCarty

HOLLYBROOK
Mark Cage, President
Cagefam97080@gmail.com
April 9, 7 p.m.
Hollydale Elementary School
505 SW Birdsdale Drive

HOGAN CEDARS
Matt Callison, President
503-577-4962 or
callisonm@hotmail.com
May 13, 6:30-8 p.m.
Springwater Church of the Nazarene
3445 SE Hillyard Road

KELLY CREEK
Charles Teem, President
503-663-5066 or
KellyCreekNA@gmail.com
May 20, 7 p.m.
Kelly Creek Elementary School
2400 SE Baker Way

NORTH CENTRAL
Maggie Anderson, President
971-220-0859 or magipdxtal@aol.com
May 7, 7 p.m., June 4, 7 p.m.
City Hall

NORTHEAST
For more information:
Michael Gonzales,
503-618-2482 or
Michael.Gonzales@
GreshamOregon.gov

NORTH GRESHAM
Michael Elston, President
503-753-7932 or
mkelston@comcast.net
June 1, 6 p.m.
Eastrose Fellowship Unitarian
Universalist, 1133 NE 181st Ave.

NORTHWEST
Kat Todd, President
503-666-5150 or
trevkat@hotmail.com
April 27, 7 p.m., City Hall

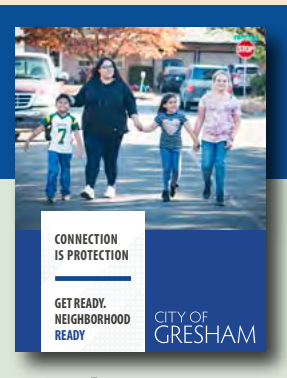
POWELL VALLEY
For more information:
Michael Gonzales,
503-618-2482

ROCKWOOD
Catherine Nicewood, President
503-285-6587 or
rockwoodpresident@gmail.com
June 15, 7 p.m.
Location to be determined

SOUTHWEST
Gail Cerveny, President
503-667-6088 or
gclilhumbird@aol.com

WILKES EAST
Kris Freiermuth, President
503-255-7685 or
www.wilkeseastna.org
Second Mondays of March, Aug. and Nov., 7 p.m., 7 p.m., Albertina Kerr Campus, 722 NE 162nd Ave.

COALITION OF GRESHAM NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS
Carol Rulla, President
503-663-1466 or
crullaor@gmail.com
Monthly, every second Tuesday,
7 p.m., City Hall



Get ready. Neighborhood Ready

The City's Neighborhood Ready workbook is available online and walks you through what you can do to make a plan with your loved ones and be prepared in an emergency.

Want to connected with your neighbors? The Neighborhood Ready workbook can be downloaded from our website and has a section where you can map out your neighborhood and list your neighbors' names and contact information.

Visit **GreshamOregon.gov/Neighborhood-Ready**.

CONTACT THE NEIGHBORHOODS OFFICE

The Office of Neighborhoods and Community Enhancement (ONCE) includes Neighborhood Associations, Volunteer Program, East Metro Mediation, and Community Livability.

Call **503-618-2482** or visit **GreshamOregon.gov/ONCE**.