

KNOW THE CODES

FCC = Firstenburg Community Center

MCC = Marshall Community Center

LC = Luepke Center

VTC = Vancouver Tennis Center

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Keeping parks and trails open, and recreation programs running during the economic downturn

As we continue to face economic challenges in our daily lives, the same challenges also affect local government. With costs increasing faster than tax revenues, the city and county face serious budget shortfalls. Most local government departments are seeing cuts, including parks and recreation. These cuts have resulted in the following changes to the services you receive from us:

- Hours of operation reduced at Marshall and Firstenburg
- Staff reductions
- Fewer classes and activities being offered
- Increased recreation and pass fees to help cover costs
- New fees at some parks to help pay for maintenance
- No lifeguards at Kline Pond
- Grass not being watered at parks
- Reduced maintenance in parks
- Greater reliance on grants, donations and sponsorships
- Reduced support of recreation scholarship program

The city and county are exploring solutions to the challenges facing the parks and recreation system, and more cuts may be on the horizon. But our top priority remains: to do everything we can to ensure your enjoyment of the parks, trails and recreation programs in Vancouver and Clark County. We hope you'll find opportunities for a fall full of fun, fitness and the creation of rich family memories in this catalog. Please stay informed and engaged by becoming a volunteer, attending Parks Commission meetings, or following us on Twitter and Facebook. Go to www.vanclarkparks-rec.org to learn more.

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Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge present

Birdfest

in Ridgefield, WA and Bluegrass

Most Events are **FREE!** **October 7th-9th 2011**

Join us for a natural wonder-filled weekend of wildlife, culture and music!

- Experts tell their story of bringing back bluebirds and nuthatches.
- Learn new skills with birding, photography and videography
- Sandhill Crane Tours to closed area blind
- Guided nature, plant & bird walks
- Children's Activities - Art projects, bird house building, live bird shows, Geo-Adventures, etc.
- Birders' Marketplace with Nature Art & Crafts
- Bluegrass Music - 13 bands, 2 stages. Bring your instruments, jamming all weekend.
- Kayak, Big Canoe and Plankhouse Tours
- Food Vendors and Salmon Bake
- Refuge Guided Wildlife Bus Tours
- Park & Ride the shuttle bus between locations.

Go to the **Schedule of Events** to plan your weekend.

www.RidgefieldFriends.org