

Cascade Highlands Herald

www.neighborhoodlink.com/vancouver/cascadehighlands

June 2023

A little time, a little effort, makes for a better neighborhood!

Upcoming CHNA Events

- June 10 Green Bag Food Pick Up
- June 17 Annual Cleanup MVHS, 8:00 a.m. until noon (coupons required to drop off items)
- July 11 Annual Dessert Meeting in Homestead Park, 7:00 pm
- August 4-6 Every-other-year Neighborhood Garage Sale
- August 12 Green Bag Food Pick Up

Agenda for July 11 meeting

- 1. Greetings and introductions of board members
- 2. Short Term Rentals Jason Nortz, City of Vancouver
- 3. Pacific NW Pets emergency service Kate Sycamore
- 4. Election of officers (Vice Chair, Secretary/Newsletter Editor, and Website Coordinator)
- 5. Executive Board reports (Maureen, Jean, Dan)
- 6. Neighborhood Police Officer
- 7. Topics of Interest or Concern

Financial Report (June 2023)

by Maureen Humbert

The last finance report (January 2023) indicated the association's balance was \$3,979.42. Since then, \$35.00 was paid to reimburse a neighbor who took CERT training, a RecycleU Grant from the city for \$120 was deposited, and \$120 for the association's insurance was paid. This brings the new balance to \$3,944.42.

Contact me directly if you have any questions about this report. Hope everyone has a wonderful summer!

C.H.N.A. LEADERSHIP

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CHNA page on City website -https://www.cityofvancouver.us/ cmo/neighborhood/cascadehighlands



The Annual Cleanup

The city of Vancouver is sponsoring a neighborhood cleanup for us on June 17. For efficiency sake, it will again be

combined with the Mountain View N.A.

We will have: packer trucks for junk, the chipper and debris box for yard trimmings and debris, a box for metal (we get the money from the sale of this metal), an area set aside for bicycles for Bike Clark County, an area set aside for small engine machines, and we will be collecting food and personal care items for F.I.S.H. of Orchards.

The cleanup is scheduled for **Saturday, June 17, in the Mountain View H.S. parking lot**, from 8:00 a.m. until noon.

We will need only four volunteers as MVNA is also providing some volunteers: Two unloaders, one yard debris, and one greeter. Shifts go from 7:50 a.m. until your replacement volunteer shows up at 10:00. We also need a pickup and driver to transport the bicycles (to 1604 Main St.) after the cleanup is over.

If you're willing to volunteer, please let chair Jean Kent (jeaken@pacifier.com) know.

The green coupon attached to this newsletter (page 9) will be required for each load. Please sign and address it before you arrive at our welcome area. If you need more than one coupon, perhaps you could talk with your neighbor and use theirs. After all, this is a neighborhood project and we like promoting neighborliness. Although, if you're transporting your 'junk' in a small car, we can make allowances for you to make multiple trips on one coupon.

We will also be collecting canned goods, paper products, and personal hygiene items to donate to F.I.S.H. of Orchards, so please plan to bring something to donate as well.

We will also accept donations of money to be deposited in our account or to be donated to F.I.S.H. of Orchards.

If you need assistance getting your items to the dumpster/shredder on cleanup day please call in advance of cleanup day to arrange for help. (360-896-7291 v.m.)

What IS Accepted at the Cleanup

Bulky Items

Broken or worn out items that are too large to fit in your garbage cart at home such as a rug, kiddie pools, small appliances, broken furniture, brooms, broken plumbing items, kitchen sinks, mattresses, rotten deck boards, etc.

Scrap Metal

Metal BBQs, lawn furniture, car parts or small engines (drained of all fluids, please) metal appliances (no Freon containing items – no fridges, freezers or AC units), metal pots and cans, etc. Mowers and other small engines will be set aside for a lawn mower specialist.

Yard Debris

Branches, grass, leaves, vines, bramble, arborvitae, juniper, bamboo, yard and garden trimmings.

Bicycles

Donated to Bike Clark County (1604 Main St.)

What Is NOT Accepted

NO Household trash

NO Contractor waste

NO Large or heavy quantities of concrete, cement, rocks, sod, or dirt

NO Home project/remodel debris (i.e. flooring tiles, drywall, large amounts of fencing, etc.)

NO Roofing shingles or roofing materials

NO Hazardous chemicals, cleaners, paints or stains

NO Fluids like gasoline or oil

NO TVs, computers or electronics (recycle for free at Goodwill)

NO CFL or fluorescent tube lights (recycle for free - visit <u>www.LightRecycle.org</u> for locations)

NO REALLY LARGE items such as boats or hot tubs - they should be hauled directly to the transfer station.

Recommend a Guest Speaker?

What speakers and topics would you like to learn about at our annual meeting? Let chair Jean Kent know (jeaken@pacifier.com).

Garage Sale This Year

The Garage Sale will be Aug. 4, 5, and 6, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day. The sign-up sheet can be found on page 4 of this newsletter. Cost is \$7.00 to get placed onto the map we give to people who visit the sales. [We're continuing to produce a map because CHNA is so spread out and can be confusing to navigate.] You may participate 1, 2 or all three days and the registration deadline is July 30.



Recycling 101

1. The Recycling 101 Class is a collaboration between City of Vancouver solid waste, Clark County, and Waste Connections (our garbage, organics and recycling hauler). To

attend a future class consult: www.cityofvancouver.us/recycleu.

2. Our U.S. economy is based on us buying 'stuff' so we produce a lot of garbage (3 times the global average/person) and separate out some recycling. We are fortunate to have recycling here in Clark County.

3. Our garbage is transported to an Oregon land fill but our recycling mostly remains local with the exception of metal which is transported to Kentucky (aluminum cans) and Pennsylvania (other metal).

4. 1/3 of the items we put in our blue carts wishing they would get 'recycled' are actually garbage: like cups, unacceptable plastic, shredded paper, plastic bags. ONE THIRD! Egads!

5. Items to be recycled need to be CLEAN, EMPTY and DRY. Plus, they also must minimally be as big as your fist (or a post card, if paper).

6. Plastic is complicated - ignore the recycling symbol (and number). The symbol refers to the kind of plastic the item is, rather than its recyclability. Only jars, tubs and bottles are recyclable,. **All other plastic is garbage** (although you can recycle plastic bags at grocery stores).

7. "Flat" objects must be paper to be recycled, otherwise they're garbage (so NO LIDS).8. Glass is restricted to food jars and bottles only (also no lids). Other glass (window panes, vases, ceramic anything, pyrex,

cups/plates/bowls) is NOT recyclable. Put that in the garbage.

9. Vehicular oil and antifreeze can be recycled but only in 1-gallon containers with screw-top lids (like rinsed-out milk jugs). If you use an original oil/antifreeze container to recycle your oil or antifreeze that must be self-carried to a transfer station.

10. When in doubt refer to the Recycling A-Z Directory <u>https://clark.wa.gov/public-health/recycling-z</u>.

Organics 101

1. The organics program is only within Vancouver city limits and Ridgefield city limits.

2. 'Organics' is yard debris and food scraps. It is NOT plastic bags, dog poop, rocks, soil, or treated (or painted) wood.

3. Thirty percent (30%) of the items in our organics stream is food related.

4. Having an organics program reduces our garbage amount and lessens pollution (methane production at the land fill), allows nutrients to be returned to the soil, and creates high-quality compost.

Curb Number in Front of Your House?

Do you want your house number painted on the curb out front? Or, has your formerly painted house number faded, been scratched off by the street sweeper, rubbed off by the side of a tire, or just faded by weathering? Contact CHNA chair Jean Kent with your address and, once the weather cooperates and the curb is dry dry dry, she'll paint (or repaint) your house number on your curb.

This service is free for CHNA residents, but if you'd like to, you could donate money into our bank account. We're saving to get a couple additional park benches in Homestead Park. [If you're interested in assuming responsibility for carrying out this program, please contact Jean Kent.]

Two Spanish Proverbs

- 1. One must not ask for pears of an elm tree.
- 2. The best counselor is experience, but it usually arrives late.

CHNA GARAGE SALE SIGNUP SHEET

(Sale is Aug. 4, Aug. 5, Aug. 6, 2023, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) You may participate on one, two, or all three days. Please note that below.
Print name
Address
Email address
Phone
All 3 days Fri. only Sat. only Fri. & Sat Sat. & Sun
Optional: select categories (max of 5)
Categories: A appliances; B/C babies, children; B books: C clothing (adult); C/A camping; C/S craft supplies; D dish-ware; E electronics; F furniture/antiques; G general; H holiday; J jewelry; K kitchen; L linens/towels; M miscellaneous; M/C motorcycle; P plants; S sports; T toys; T/L tools; V vintage/collectable; W wedding.
The cost for participating in the sale is \$7.00 .
check for \$7.00 enclosed (made out to Cascade Highlands N.A., or CHNA)
\$7.00 in cash enclosed
Please fill out this signup sheet and mail or bring it, along with your \$7.00 to: 14902 SE Cir., 98683. You will be put on the map if your registration is received by the deadline.
Registration Deadline: 9:00 p.m. Sunday, July 30, 2023
You are responsible for signs directing people to your particular location. The N.A. will put up signs at the 9 major intersections on McGillivray, Mill Plain, Village Loop, 164th, and 160th Ave.

Each participant will be given maps of participating houses to give to garage-sale goers. Any signs you put up should be stand-alone signs, not attached to city-owned poles such as stop signs, street signs, light poles, etc. Thanks and good luck with your sale!

Any comments?

Emptying Garbage Cans in Homestead Park

We asked the City Grounds supervisors about the schedule of when our park garbage cans are emptied.

There are two crews that do this work: 1) the county has offender/restitution crews with whom the city contracts. They typically do weekend days and 1 to 2 weekdays. 2) City Sanitation crews supplement the weekdays, plus sometimes work weekends depending on the weather, after they have cleaned all the park restrooms and as time allows. (Homestead - a neighborhood park does not have restrooms; community parks have restrooms.)

Thus, there are no specific days, per se. Workloads and other factors, including weather, staffing levels, etc. determine the frequency that the garbage cans are emptied.

The 'Wall' on SE 1st St. east of SE 164th Ave.

Have you traveled out SE 1st St. east of 164th Ave. since they've updated (performed a complete reconstruction of) that area? If so, perhaps you noticed the sound wall built on the south and north sides of the street.

Ryan Lopossa spoke at the February NTSA (Neighborhood Traffic Safety Alliance) meeting and said that the materials used for that wall were not the city's first choice. Normally they would have used a pre-poured concrete wall of some sort but, since there are power lines looming over much of the area, they could not use a crane to lift concrete panels into place.

These styrofoam-reinforced panels are coated with an easy-graffiti-removing substance. Additionally, the next segment of that road improvement (phase 2, SE 177th Ave. to SE 192nd Ave.) is fully funded. It is planned for construction in 2023.

There will be a 30 foot 'dip' in the route to align the street with both the future Section 30 development to the north and the Columbia Tech Center to the south.

MyVancouver App

(<u>https://www.cityofvancouver.us/commu</u> <u>nity/page/myvancouver</u>)

The free *MyVancouver* mobile app offers residents a direct, convenient way to communicate with City employees to solve nonemergency issues. The app also has information about City events and resources.

You can download the app from the Apple App Store or Google Play.

What can you do with the MyVancouver app?

• Report non-emergency issues, such as potholes, graffiti, sign damage, or streetlight outages quickly and easily. You can include a photo and GPS location if you want.

- View and track the status of a request .
- View other reported issues in a particular area of the city.
- Access other online City services such as paying for a parking ticket or making permit payments.
- Access other City information, including street sweeping schedules, a community event calendar and city job listings.
- Easily locate local parks, hospitals, community centers, etc.
- Connect with the City's social media through an #IHeartVanWa widget.

This mobile app doesn't replace any current methods (e.g., phone, web, email, etc.) that customers use to report issues, it just provides an additional method.

Here's how to report other issues not currently listed on the app.

• Non-urgent Public Works issues not currently available on the app, or you can call 360-487-8177.

• Traffic-related complaints - call the Vancouver Police Department traffic hotline at 360-487-7402.

• Code compliance complaints (e.g. junk vehicles, overgrown vegetation, vermin) or call 360-487-7810.



CERT Class in the Fall

Cascade Highlands paid the tuition for a resident to attend the eight CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) classes last winter so now the neighborhood has the benefit

of another CERT-trained neighbor. If you're interested in taking these classes which generally occur at night, keep an eye out on the CERT website and let us know once you've signed up.

<u>https://www.certclarkcountywa.com/</u> Part of our Neighborhood Action Plan includes paying the tuition for two neighbors to take the CERT classes.

Food Project Pick Ups - February and April

When each gives a little the result is extraordinary!

For February, 71 people donated 1,222 pounds of high-quality food or personal care products, plus \$170.00 cash to F.I.S.H. of Orchards (F.I.S.H. stands for Friends In Service of Humanity). We filled 27 banana boxes from our donors' green bags and even had some green bags left over to weigh and empty separately.

For April's collection, even though it occurred during spring break, we mustered 1,297 pounds of food and \$755.00 to F.I.S.H. of Orchards.

F.I.S.H. was so happy to get our food - Rex said that since the SNAP benefits were reduced there are cars lining both sides of the road when he arrives at the pantry each day.

To those who participate in this project, THANK YOU!

And to those who are interested in participating, please contact chair (and neighborhood coordinator for the project) Jean Kent (jeaken@pacifier.com).

Paper Paper Paper

Tissue paper, like you put in gift bags, cannot be recycled. It has really short paper fibers so it would dissolve in the pulping process and be discarded along with the effluent. If the tissue contains glitter it should either be reused or put in the garbage. Facial tissue (Kleenex) should definitely be discarded. Tissue and paper towels can NOT be recycled.

Large Spills? Small Spills? - Here's What to Do

From City of Vancouver Public Works

A spill of any size that enters a stormwater drain musts be reported to the Washington Dept. of Ecology. Please never rinse or wash spills onto streets or into stormwater drains.

Small Spills (less than one gallon): Cover the spill with absorbent material (such as cat litter, wood shavings, or sawdust). Let it soak for a few minutes then sweep up the absorbent material. Bag it. Put it in the garbage.

Large Spills (more than one gallon): Stop, redirect or capture the flow. Use booms, pads, or absorbent material. Report the spill to the WA State Spill Hotline (1-800-258-5990) and to Vancouver Operations Dispatch (360-487-8177).

Here are Some Memes to Remind You to Help Keep our Water Clean

Protect your groundwater Only rain down the drain Don't drip and drive Grow smart, grow safe What can YOU do for clean water?

One thing you can do for clean water is remember that car-washing liquids/products should NOT be dumped into the street. Curb water ultimately drains to the Columbia River. Toss that dirty water onto your lawn or yard where the dirt and foliage can filter and clean it before the water reaches the river.

Fireworks Ban Reminder

Just a reminder with the July 4 holiday coming up: Fireworks are illegal <u>at any time of year</u> in the City of Vancouver, with fines starting at \$500. Note: citizens are asked to call 311 (rather than 911) to address firework-related complaints, unless there is an immediate danger that needs to be addressed.

Cascade Highlands Watershed Information

We got the information for this article from Rod Swanson, City of Vancouver's permit manager, and from geologist Eric Lambert, Clean Water Outreach Specialist, Clark County Public Works.

First of all, what is a *watershed*? It's a land area that channels rainfall and snowmelt to creeks, streams, and rivers.

We CHNA residents live in the *Columbia Slope* watershed of Clark County. Columbia Slope covers 25 square miles along the Columbia River from around Everett Street (SR 500) in Camas just southwest of Round Lake in the east, to a bit beyond Fruit Valley in Vancouver to the west.

Our watershed is a group of springs and small creeks that drain directly to the Columbia River and include Fisher's Creek, Joseph's Creek and Ellsworth Springs.

Fisher's Creek seems to start just east of Shahala M.S. (immediately east of SE 201st Ave.) and travels southwest. It crosses under 192nd Ave. near the Les Schwab tire center and under SR-14 approximately between 177th Lane and 178th Pl.

Joseph's Creek is a very small creek. It might be the one just east of 164th. Otherwise, we don't know much about it.

Ellsworth Springs Creek is a little west of I-205, near Ellsworth Road.

The streams and springs that flow from and drain the Columbia Slope are a product of where permeable ice-age gravel called the Missoula Flood deposits were dropped on top of the older clayey Columbia River gravel deposits called the Troutdale Formation. Over millions of years, the upper part of the Troutdale Formation gravel was weathered and turned to clay.

The Missoula floods deposited around 100 feet of gravel on top of the clay about 15,000 years ago. The top of the Troutdale Formation clay layer is exposed on the hillside below Highway 14. So, when rainwater infiltrates the Missoula Flood gravel, and makes its way downward toward the underlying Troutdale Formation clay layer, it is forced to move south toward the Columbia Slope hillside. That forms numerous springs and streams which all eventually drain into the Columbia River.



To Those with Sidewalks

Sidewalks are a feature that adds a lot to the livability of our neighborhood. They are

considered dedicated public rights-of-way so sidewalks also bring a degree of liability with them.

If tree roots lift a concrete slab which then creates as little as a half inch difference in the adjoining slab, it is considered a tripping hazard and is a violation of the city's sidewalk maintenance ordinance.

The tripping hazard also creates a legal liability for the homeowner.

Slabs can also crack, have degraded surfaces, have holes in them, or be considered defective, dangerous, dirty, slippery, or obstructed.

Sidewalk construction (or reconstruction) requires a permit and adherence with regulations for work in the public right-of-way, including the use of a licensed contractor.

You are encouraged to inspect your sidewalk and, if needed, take corrective action. You have some choices for leveling your sidewalk if individual slabs are not even with their neighbors. They include:

1. Lifting the raised slab and removing the roots.

2. Grinding the raised slab.

 Patching concrete on the lower slab to bring the lip up to the level of the raised slab.
Removing a damaged slab and pouring fresh concrete.

Homeowners with sidewalks are also asked to keep trees trimmed at least six feet above the sidewalk.

Electronics and Florescent Tubes/Bulbs Disposal

Conveniently, Goodwill Industries (1200 SE 162nd Avenue) accepts computers, monitors, cables, and accessories. They also take many appliances for disposal, such as televisions and microwave ovens.

Unbroken florescent bulbs are accepted for no charge at both the Home Depot on SE 192nd Avenue and Lowes on SE Mill Plain Boulevard.

Continued from page 7

Central Transfer on NE 117th Avenue will accept fluorescent bulbs and tubes for no charge on weekends at their hazardous household waste drop-offs.

Broken fluorescent bulbs and tubes must be double-bagged.

Batteries Plus Bulbs at 2100 SE 164th Avenue (near New Seasons) charges a fee for each unbroken fluorescent bulb or light tube which is dropped off.

NOTE: Incandescent bulbs may be disposed of in household garbage, but it is suggested they be placed in a bag to contain any broken glass. Do not put bulbs in with your glass recycling.

Garbage/Recycling Cart Hints

Place your roll cart at least three feet from other carts or obstacles. Providing adequate space around your cart allows the automated arm on a recycle truck to reach out and pick up your recycling cart without knocking into other nearby carts or objects (such a basketball hoop).

Cut cardboard down to fit inside your recycling roll cart. Cardboard is much more marketable if it is dry. Also, if cardboard is inside the cart, it saves time for the recycling driver and allows them to service more carts in a day. That keeps Waste Connections' costs down. Plus cardboard is more apt to be dry if it's stored inside the blue cart.

Blairmont's Getting Resurfaced This Summer

As a final part related to the construction of the new Mountain View H.S. Blairmont will be resurfaced from McGillivray on the south to Park Crest on the north/east.

Here is information for nearby residents and those using the street taken from a city publication:

Resurfacing Paving Projects

Overlays are a mixture of coarse rock and asphalt, about two inches or more thick, which provide additional load-carrying capacity and a smoother ride. In most cases, residences and businesses fronting impacted streets receive door hanger notices in advance of paving.

Within construction zones, drivers are asked to be prepared for delays, watch for traffic changes, proceed slowly, and be alert to construction workers, bicyclists, pedestrians and other motorists.

Regardless of the type, all paving applications are highly weather dependent. Construction hours are typically from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, though work may continue as late as 8 p.m. if needed. All paving applications are highly weather dependent. In case of rain, paving must be postponed and rescheduled.

The first phase of work includes reconstruction of pedestrian ramps to bring those corners up to current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) required standards. Then pre-paving repairs are done on the most badly damaged areas by excavating below the existing pavement and replacing base materials, if needed. Finally, work continues with grinding, followed by the actual paving.

Crews finish up by re-striping the streets.



Thank you to all our dedicated newsletter distributors - you help make Cascade Highlands a great place to live! Thank you to Jackie Andrewjeski, Judy and Dick Bird, Gary and Peggy

Bowman, Joe Bruzda and Kim Peterson, Mark Crawford, Son Do and Jessica Tu, Marion Dittman, Julie Dunn, Sandy Hadenfield, Jim and Shareefah Hoover, Ann Horstman, Maureen Humbert, Mary Ellen Hunt, Annette Idler, Brenda Jensen, Mark Johnson, Judie Kearney, Jean Kent, Holly Orr, Pat Poe, Rose Ann and Tony Ranft, Steve Schmidlkofer, Reland Short, Lee Ann Stewart and Teddy Peetz, Sharon and Bill Wilton and Niel Wolfe for helping distribute the February 2023 newsletter.

The City of Vancouver supports the Neighborhood Associations in their effort to share vital information with residents to create a more informed public. However, the information provided and the opinions and views expressed in Neighborhood Association newsletters or other documents, do not necessarily represent the position of the City of Vancouver, nor does the City determine whether the information published is accurate or appropriate.

Printed by the City of Vancouver Office of Neighborhoods

	Cascade Highlands Neighborhood Association Cleanup
Good fo	r drop-off of bulky items. No hazardous waste, tires nor concrete, please.
	Mountain View H.S. Parking Lot (1500 SE Blairmont) VALID: Saturday, June 17, 2023 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. only
Y	ou must live between SE Blairmont/Parkcrest and SE 164th Aves., and McGillivray and Mill Plain, please.
My signature r	eleases all CHNA volunteers from any damage that may occur as a result of the neighborhood cleanup.

Please bring these/this **coupon**(s) and some **canned**, non-perishable **goods**, household cleaning, or **personal care products** to **donate**. Thank you!

ONE COUPON PER LOAD - NO LIQUIDS of any kind.

* * CHIPPER/YARD DEBRIS COUPON * *

Cascade Highlands Neighborhood Association Cleanup

Good for drop-off of large yard debris, clippings, leaves. No plastic bags nor wood. **Mountain View H.S. Parking Lot** (1500 SE Blairmont) VALID: **Saturday, June 17, 2023 8:00 a.m.** to **12:00 p.m. only**

You must live between SE Blairmont/Parkcrest and SE 164th Aves., and McGillivray and Mill Plain, please.

My signature releases all CHNA volunteers from any damage that may occur as a result of the neighborhood cleanup.

signature

street address

LEGAL FLWORK no Cares: YOUR NFIGHBOR

FIREWORKS CAN CAUSE:

Fires. Injuries. Anxiety. Stress. Property Damage.

Fireworks are illegal in the city of Vancouver!



Violators may be fined \$500 or more.

cityofvancouver.us/fireworks

