



West Hazel Dell Neighborhood Association

MAY 2024

NEWSLETTER & 5/23 MEETING NOTICE

Welcome to your neighborhood update, newsletter, meeting announcement and Parade of Bands details. It's a beautiful spring (so far) and we need to take a deep breath and enjoy it while we have it.

Our next neighborhood meeting is Thursday, May 23, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm.

It is a hybrid meeting (check www.clarkwa.gov/Neighborhood section for link) to be held at the Public Works Operations Center, 4700 NE 78th Street, Bldg. B1, Vancouver, 98665. Bring your views, concerns, ideas and let's see what we can do to help. Any issues you have only get heard when you share them with your neighbors. There's a good chance others have dealt with the same or similar problems. We are here for you; that's what we do. Consider attending in person—it's an opportunity to meet your neighbors. *Thank you from your WHDNA board.*

SATURDAY, MAY 18: HAZEL DELL PARADE OF BANDS

Estimated Impact Period is 10 AM—2 PM

Hazel Dell Parade of Bands starts early with the Lions' Club breakfast at 7:00 am. **REMEMBER that the roads will start closing at 8 am.** The parade begins at 10:30 am and ends around 1:30 pm.

The 59th Annual Hazel Dell Parade is a once-a-year event allowing over 25 SW Washington schools music programs the opportunity to "strut their stuff" while other entries add to the festivities with animals, clowns, dances, car clubs, politicians and other local businesses. It brings over 20,000 people into your neighborhood! Thank you for your understanding and support for this annual community event.

WHDNA residents can contact whdna@comcast.net with questions or concerns. *Parade day is great fun and we want to ensure you are part of it all. It is one of the largest parades in the State of Washington. Thanks, ILA*

STREET CLOSURES DETAILED ON PAGE 3

This year's theme celebrates the "**Power of Music**" and honors our band coordinators, **Matt and Jodie Gohlke** of **Music World**. Matt and Jodie have been wrangling our local bands for many years and we couldn't manage without them. **Thank you for your service to our community!**



Hazel Dell Parade of Bands

Saturday, May 18, 2024 10:30am- 1:30pm



Street Closures Effecting Your Area and Access during parade:

Registration for participants and spectators could affect your commute on parade day.

1. **NE Hazel Dell Avenue** (between 99th & 88th Streets) will close at 8:00am.
2. **1-5 Freeway 78th Street Exit** closes at 10:00am.
3. **Hazel Dell Avenue-Highway 99** officially closes 8:15am-10:15am, starting with Hazel Dell Avenue.
4. **Parade begins at 10:30** and will completely restrict traffic on the parade route which goes south down NE Hazel Dell Avenue, crosses the freeway east at Minnehaha (63rd Street), continues north on Highway 99 until turning east of 78th Street and disbanding between business complexes (see map on next page).
5. **Freeway and parade** route will reopen after the last parade entry passes NE 78th Street, approximately 1:30pm.

**Please note these times are estimates based off the number of participants and spectators in the area. Let your family and friends know that between the hours of 8:30am and 2:00pm the roads will be closed.*

What is the Hazel Dell Parade of Bands?

The 59th Annual Hazel Dell Parade is a once-a-year event allowing over 25 SW Washington schools music programs the opportunity to “strut their stuff” while other entries add to the festivities with animals, clowns, dances, car clubs, politicians and other local businesses. It brings over 20,000 people into your neighborhood! Thank you for your understanding and support for this annual community event, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Hazel Dell Business Association. <https://www.hdscha.org/> or email: info@hdscha.org.

WHDNA residents may contact me if they are worried about leaving their homes during, before or after the parade. No guarantees, but often we can create an “escape route” for such things. Early alerts are necessary as I work the parade and will not be available after 7:00am on parade day.

***Messages (360) 573-7376**—please repeat name, number and address to be sure I get the right details. Or email me with issues: whdna@comcast.net. Parade day is great fun and we want to ensure you are part of it all. It is one of the largest parades in the State of Washington. Thanks, ILA*



Walk/Run for the Animals

On **Saturday, May 4th** is the annual **Walk/Run for the Animals** sponsored by the **Humane Society of Southwest Washington**. All the fun takes place downtown at the Esther Short Park complex. This event includes vendors of the pet-variety with a plethora of items for the family pet and owners, too. The walk is a fundraiser for the Humane Society and has many teams from across the county collecting contributions and competing in the best of form to support their efforts as they walk or run with or without their animals friends. It’s more or less a friendly competition between the teams to see which can raise the largest amount for the cause. It’s almost as fun to watch as it is to participate. Bring your cameras and sense of humor along and join the fun. (Only well mannered pets [and children], please.)

HAZEL DELL PARADE OF BANDS 05/18/2024—ROAD CLOSURE MAP

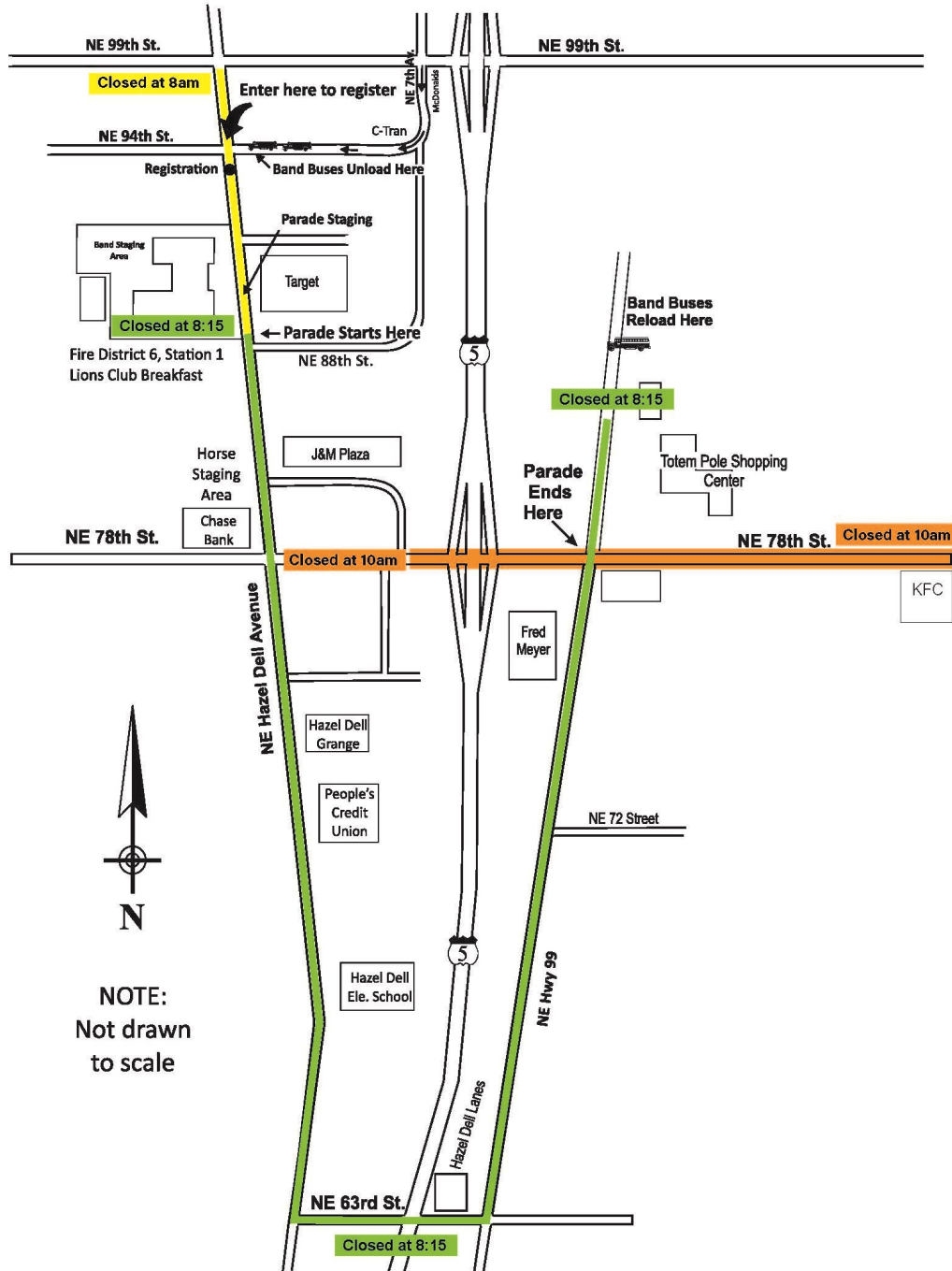
NE Hazel Dell Avenue (between 99th & 88th Streets) will close at 8:00am.

1-5 Freeway 78th Street Exit closes at 10:00am.

Hazel Dell Avenue-Highway 99 officially closes 8:15am-10:15am.

Parade begins at 10:30 and will completely restrict traffic on the parade route which goes south down NE Hazel Dell Avenue, crosses the freeway east at Minnehaha (63rd Street), continues north on Highway 99 until turning east of 78th Street and disbanding between business complexes.

Freeway and parade route will reopen after the last parade entry passes NE 78th St., approx. 1:30pm.



CLARK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 6 ANNOUNCES NEW LOCATION FOR THIS YEAR'S OPEN HOUSE

The long-running District 6 tradition will have a *temporary* new home. Due to construction at Station 61 (8800 NE Hazel Dell Avenue), we will hold the annual Open House at Station 63 in Salmon Creek. We'll have all the old favorites: **Free** hot dogs and chips, the Junior Firefighter Challenge, K-9 dog demonstration, and car extrication show-and-tell.

In addition, we'll be adding more vendors inside the engine bay, and will feature an exciting live-fire presentation by the Clark County Fire Marshal's Office. And, as we have in years past, we'll have the low-cost bike helmet program brought to you by the group "Trauma Nurses Talk Tough", out of Legacy Medical Centers.

Open House will be held on **Saturday, June 1st, from Noon to 3 p.m. at Station 63, 1303 NE 136th Street**. For more information, contact Public Information Officer, David Schmitke (David.schmitke@ccfd6.org).

While you're at it, sign up for their newsletter. It's short and sweet and full of valuable information about the District and the people on call to save your lives and properties.



Former CCFD6 Fire Chief and current Commissioner, **Brad Lothspeich**, was sworn in for six more years of service as a Fire Commissioner. Commissioner Lothspeich is a lifelong resident of our area.

He served as Fire District 6 Fire Chief from 1994-2003; Assistant Fire Chief from 1991-1994. From 1974-1991 he served as a firefighter, Lieutenant, Captain, and Battalion Chief. Lothspeich retired in 2003. "*Commissioner Lothspeich*

has been a guiding force at this District for decades, and we're very fortunate to have him as Commissioner for at least six more years," says Fire Chief, Kristan Maurer. For the swearing in ceremony **Commissioner Lothspeich** was assisted by his nearly two-year-old **Granddaughter, Lily. Thank you for your service, Brad!**

FREE IN-PERSON AND ONLINE WORKSHOPS PROMOTE COMPOSTING AND SUSTAINABLE LIVING

Clark County's **Composter Recycler program** is offering a series of free in-person and online workshops about composting and sustainable living strategies. The series will teach participants how to reduce their impact on the planet through composting, green cleaning, recycling, food waste prevention and low waste living.

Here are the workshops offered this spring:

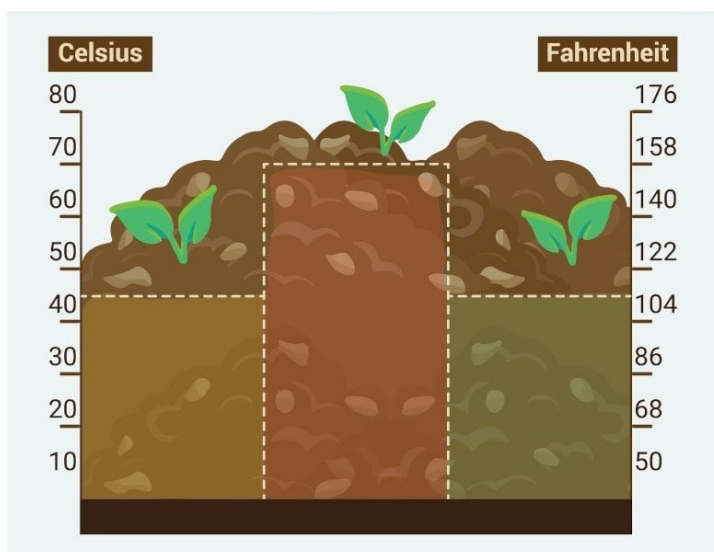
- **Low Waste Living:** 6:30-8 pm Wednesday, **May 1** at Waste Connections of Washington, 12115 NE 99th Street, #1830, Vancouver. Learn how to be an expert recycler and understand why only certain items can go into your blue recycle cart and glass bin. Participants will also hear tips and resources to repair, reuse and donate.
- **Green Cleaning:** 6:30-8 pm Wednesday, **May 8** at Waste Connections of Washington, 12115 NE 99th Street #1830, Vancouver. Learn how to make three versatile and environmentally friendly household cleaners. Participants will be eligible to receive a green cleaning kit at no cost.

Composting with Red Worms: 2-3:30 pm Saturday, **June 1** at Cascade Park Community Library, 600 NE 136th Avenue, Vancouver. Learn how to compost using red worms to turn food scraps into natural fertilizer. Participants will be eligible to receive a worm bin, bedding and worms at no cost.

The **Composter Recycler** program is also offering free hands-on learning opportunities. Field training event is 10-11:30 am on the following date and location:

Saturday, **May 18** at **Heritage Farm**, 1919 NE 78th Street, Vancouver.

Pre-registration is required for all workshops. To register, visit the **Composter Recycler** website: info@clarkcountycomposts.org. Participants will receive a confirmation email after successful registration. Recordings of previous workshops are also available on the Composter Recycler website.



The Composter Recycler program educates the community about easy ways to reduce waste, increase recycling and create healthier homes. For more information about the program, visit the [website](http://www.clarkcountycomposts.org) or email info@clarkcountycomposts.org.

If this newsletter misses available dates, check the websites for timely programs.

WHAT NOT TO FLUSH

Help be “sewer smart” by flushing only tissue.

Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG), non-dispersible materials (e.g., diapers and wipes) and solid food waste, blocking sewer pipes are a serious maintenance problem for both the District and private property owners. When grease washes down the sink, it sticks to the insides of sewer pipes. The build-up restricts flow and by itself or in combination with other materials can block pipes completely, causing raw sewage to back up into your home or overflow into streets and streams, potentially jeopardizing the public health and the environment.

These sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) are a violation of the Clean Water Act. In addition, flushing FOG, non-dispersible materials such as rags, hair, latex, personal hygiene products, cleaning wipes, and solid food waste may inhibit the proper functioning of pump stations and the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Home garbage disposals do not keep grease out of sewer pipes. The combination of grease and solid food waste from garbage disposal and non-dispersible material contribute to blockages in the sewer system. Products that claim to dissolve grease may dislodge a blockage, or temporarily change the form of grease allowing the grease to move further down the sewer line before re-congealing and forming blockages.

NEIGHBORS: HOW YOU CAN HELP

Here are some **guidelines** for keeping sewers flowing:

- Never pour grease down sinks or toilets.
- Pour grease and oil into a can and put it in the trash (“freeze the grease”).
- Scrape food scraps into the trash. Alternatively, compost food scraps.
- Catch food scraps with baskets or strainers in sink drains and throw scraps in the trash. Alternatively, compost food scraps.
- Do not flush non-dispersible material such as rags, hair, latex, personal hygiene products, cleaning wipes. Dispose of this material in the trash.
- Flush only toilet paper down the toilet.

Questions?

Please call **Clark Regional Wastewater District** at (360) 993-8833.

REDUCE ENERGY WASTE AT HOME

Cost-Saving Tips from Clark Public Utilities

Whether you rent or own your home, making it more energy efficient is always a smart move. Improving energy efficiency can make your home feel more comfortable, and even help lower your utility bills. Best of all—you don't have to invest a lot to do it.

Here are 5 simple yet effective ways to improve your home's energy efficiency.

1. **Watch The Thermostat**

You can easily save energy by setting your thermostat back while you're asleep or away from home. In fact, you can save up to 1% on your heating bill for every degree you lower your thermostat for eight hours—if you set it back 5 degrees every time you go to bed and leave for work, that could add up to a 10% savings! Programmable thermostats can do this for you automatically, and they're relatively inexpensive and easy to install. And smart thermostats go one step further, actually learning your setting and activity patterns over time. Whatever your approach, the thermostat is a very easy place to improve your energy efficiency.

2. **Avoid Air Leaks**

If you added up all the leaks, holes and gaps in a typical home, it would amount to a surprising quantity of heat loss! Sealing off potential leaks in your exterior walls prevents unwanted outside air from getting in, and keeps temperature-controlled air from getting out. Remove baseboards and fill gaps with nonexpanding foam. Add insulating pads beneath faceplates on outlets and switches, or seal the edges of the plates with winterizing tape. Seal wall penetrations routed to the outside—pipes, dryer vent ducts, cable and phone lines—with caulk or spray foam both inside and out.

3. **Check Your Ductwork**

Heating and cooling ducts are often big energy wasters. Sealing and insulating them can improve the efficiency of your heating and cooling system by up to 20 % or more. Cover seams and connections of any ductwork you can access in your basement, attic, or anywhere else in your home with sealant and insulation. This will keep them from getting hot in the summer or cold in the winter, and keep your temperature-controlled air under control.

4. **Give Your Home a Tune-Up**

Homes are sort of like cars—you get regular maintenance on your engine, right? Well, some regular maintenance for your home can be an inexpensive way to keep it running in tip-top shape too. An annual tune-up of your heating and cooling system can increase its efficiency by up to 30 %, and changing your air filter regularly can improve efficiency by up to 15 %! Check your filter every month, especially during peak months (winter and summer). If the filter looks dirty after a month, change it—at a minimum change it every 3 months. Dirty filters slow down air flow and make your system work harder. A clean filter will also keep dust and dirt from building up in the system, cutting down on maintenance and repair costs.

5. **Know Your Usage**

Energy management tools like mobile apps, online calculators, and even plain old pencil-and-paper, help you track energy usage, so you can better understand—and even cut back—energy consumption in your home. Tracking your energy usage is free, and relatively easy to use online.

More tips at www.clarkpublicutilities.com/resources-category/outsmart-energy-waste/

West Hazel Dell Neighborhood Association
Vancouver, WA 98665-7546

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
VANCOUVER, WA
PERMIT No. 130

CALENDAR NOTES: May 18 Hazel Dell Parade of Bands

WHDNA meetings: May 23 (pg. 1) ; July—Popsicles in Park; September 26 CRESA

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:

If you live within the West Hazel Dell Neighborhood Association (WHDNA) boundaries, you are a “**member**” of our neighborhood association. Homeowners living in HOAs are also part of the greater neighborhood association and have access to our programs and information. There are no dues associated with the West Hazel Dell Neighborhood Association, as it’s part of Clark County’s Neighborhood Outreach Program.

Our boundaries are on the south from the Vancouver city limits (about at the railroad bridge over Highway 99), on the north to NE 104th Street, on the east to I-5 highway, and west of Vancouver Lake. Our borders contain over 20,000 people!

To make the association work for everyone, we need input – about good, bad, strange, or new things. Please visit www.whdna.net/ and click “**LOGIN**” to **signup** to receive email updates regarding meeting updates and information on community events. Messages to (360) 573-7376 or whdna@comcast.net Thank you, ILA