

May / June 2019

The Aurora Colony Times

21420 Main St. NE · Aurora, OR 97002

503-678-1283 www.ci.aurora.or.us

ALL WELCOME City Meetings for March/April

Meetings at the City Council Chambers at 7:00pm

Planning Commission

May 7
June 4

City Council

May 14
June 11

Parks Committee

May 21
June 18

Historic Review Board

May 23
June 27

**Please confirm dates and
times with City Hall
503-678-1283**

**City of Aurora
Website**

www.ci.aurora.or.us

Mayor's Corner

It's hard to believe with all the rain we are receiving that summer is just around the corner!



Did you know this year is the **30th Anniversary of the Aurora Colony Days Celebration?** The event will be held August 9-10th with numerous activities for you to participate in. Whether it's the 1k/5k run, entering the parade, or browsing the vendor booths in the park. These are only a few of the many activities to enjoy – something for everyone! As in previous years, the evening will end with a live concert in the park where the community gathers to celebrate! The Concerts in the Park will take place during the month of July leading up to Colony Days. Volunteers are still needed so if you have any interest please contact me. [Here are some helpful links to learn more about these events:](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/AuroraColonyDays/>
<https://www.auroracolonydays.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/AuroraConcerts/>

The City Council and Budget Committee meets yearly in May to receive the budget message and take public comment. A preliminary meeting was held April 24th and public comment will be received at the May 8th and May 15th meetings held at City Hall! I encourage you to attend and participate.

And finally, with school coming to end in June, more of us traveling our local roads, and in light of the recent traffic accidents beyond our community please drive defensively, refrain from texting, and be aware of your surroundings.

Looking to our future...
Mayor Kris

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City Park Reservations Now Open Year-Round

Anyone wanting to make reservations for the Aurora City Park can now do so year-round, and for any day of the week.

In years past, reservations could only be made between May and September. However, that policy has since been changed.

Different sections of the park can be reserved, depending on your needs. The park is a great venue for parties, weddings, reunions and other special occasions. For more information on reserving the Aurora City Park, go to <https://www.ci.aurora.or.us/parksrec>.



**THE ENCLOSED UTILITY BILL IS DUE
ON OR BEFORE May 10th.**



The Aurora Fire District Spot



Window Fall Prevention

Keeping your kids safe!

Did you know the leading cause of injury for children are window falls? It accounts for 38% of all fall related injuries in children four and under. The rate of fall related injuries increases during the spring and summer as people open up their windows to get that fresh spring air in their home. But many don't realize that children can easily push out the bug screen that they feel will protect them from a fall. Children play, they may jump or climb on furniture near windows, or windows might be low enough that a child could easily fall out. Screens may keep bugs out, but they won't keep children in. Many kids may think that leaning or pushing on screens is ok as they seem secure, but as soon as they push hard enough, out they go.



Prevent window falls by removing furniture such as chairs or couches away from open windows so children cannot reach them. Teach older children to stay clear of windows and to prevent younger children from playing near windows. And the best way to prevent falls is to never open windows more than four inches, and install a window stop to prevent it from being opened more than four inches. Be sure that the window stop can be removed by an adult in the event of a fire, and the window being needed for escape.

If you would like more information you can visit www.safekids.org/fall-prevention.

Street Sweeping Requirements



There have been various inquiries regarding the street sweeping services contracted for by the city. The purpose of this release is to provide information and clarification about those services.

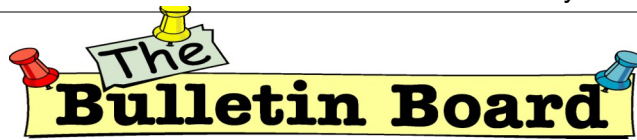
Street sweeping is conducted in Aurora on the last Wednesday of every month between the hours of 6 and 11 a.m. The sweeping is done throughout the entire town and not just certain select streets. Some residents have questioned the cost and necessity of having the service provided. However, the service is a critical component of the city continuing to meet mandates set forth by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

In 2006, the DEQ approved the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) standard. The TMDL was established in order to improve the quality of inputs going into the state's watersheds. Much of those efforts involve reducing the amount of mercury present in the water. Regular street sweeping, particularly by smaller cities, is part of DEQ's mercury reduction plans intended to meet water quality standards.



Volunteers Sought for Colony Days

Colony Days 2019 is right around the corner and we have a number of volunteer positions open right now. If you enjoy our annual festival, you can help make this year the best ever. If you are interested in volunteering, please email mayor@ci.aurora.or.us or tweidman@ci.aurora.or.us.



The Bulletin Board

Aurora First Friday

First Friday's in Aurora is scheduled to kick off May 3 and will run thru the summer.

There will be 17 businesses open for your shopping pleasure until 8 p.m. Attractions will include live music, wine tasting, food, desserts and specials throughout town. The North Marion Community Library will be open from 5 to 7 p.m. If you can't make it on May 3 mark your calendar to attend on any first Friday throughout the summer.

Please come support your local business community at First Friday in Aurora!

In Emma's Kitchen: A Day in Aurora with Author Jane Kirkpatrick

Old Aurora Colony Museum

May 11, 2019, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Grab a friend--or your mom--and spend a lovely and unique day with Jane Kirkpatrick, author of the beloved Emma of Aurora books about Colony pioneer Emma Wagner Giesy. Highlights of the day will be a book signing in the house Emma lived in, a lecture by Jane Kirkpatrick, and a reception at French Prairie Perennials in Aurora. The menu will feature actual recipes from Emma, her daughter Kate, and her granddaughter Irene! Tickets are \$40, available at the museum or at www.auroracolony.org.



Two great opportunities at your North Marion Community Library this spring!

- **Come to the library's spring open house** on Saturday, April 27, 2019, from 1 to 4 p.m. (regular Saturday hours). Meet the library volunteers (perhaps sign up to be one?), get a library card, socialize with fellow readers, have some tasty treats, check out a book or two, or maybe win a door prize by telling us how the library could be more user friendly. Find us in the basement of the Aurora Presbyterian Church, 21553 Liberty St. NE.

- **Come to Aurora's "First Friday Evening!"** May 3, 2019, 5 to 7 p.m. Yes, evening hours! Aurora's merchants and places to eat/drink will be open and the library will be part of the evening's festivities! We'll have gently used books for sale as well as volunteers on hand to make library cards or to steer you to a good book.

And looking ahead:

- **Aurora Colony Days book sale, August 9-10-11, 2019**, location and time to be determined. There will be hundreds of books for all ages at great prices, and all proceeds benefit the North Marion Community Library. If you're a book lover, this is the event for you!

- **This August will also mark five years** since the library opened its doors! While we appreciate the space that Aurora Presbyterian Church lets us use, our wish is for a more visible, accessible (one level or fewer stairs) larger space to hold the library's collection. Can you help us find this place in Aurora?



A crew cleared blackberry bushes and other invasive species from the nine-acre, city-owned property near the railroad tracks April 10. The work was funded by a grant the city received from the Pudding River Watershed Council.

**View or Pay
your Bill**

ELECTRONIC WATER ACCOUNT ACCESS

You can make payments and view your water/sewer account online at the following website <https://cityofaurora.merchantransact.com/>. If you choose to pay your bill with a credit or debit card, there is a small convenience charge of \$3.50 for each transaction. This site also provides the option to sign up for electronic bill delivery.

If you need assistance, please call City Hall at 503-678-1283 for help getting set up.

Emergency and Non-emergency call out information

- If you have an emergency call 911.
- If there is a non-emergency item you would like to report please call 503-588-5032, Marion County non-emergency dispatch.
- If there is a water leak that you would like to report please call City Hall, 503-678-1283. If it is after hours, please report it to Public Works at 541-231-8674 or 503-505-0951 or call the non-emergency dispatch number, 503-588-5032 and they will contact public works
- The City is only responsible for repairs and water leaks in the city right-of-way only.

For additional information regarding events and happenings in Aurora, please check out the City of Aurora facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/City-of-Aurora-Oregon-1690880117667604/>.

This page will be updated regularly to provide up to date information to anyone who may be interested.



North Marion Community Library

21553 Liberty St. NE., Aurora, OR 97002

Library Hours: Tuesday, Thursday &

Saturday : 1 – 4 pm



City of Aurora Contact Information

Office: 503-678-1283 Fax: 503-678-2758

Office Hours: 9am-5pm Monday-Thursday
Closed Friday

W. Scott Jorgensen, City Recorder
recorder@ci.aurora.or.us

Mary Lambert, Finance/Court Clerk
finance@ci.aurora.or.us

Tammy Grimes, Administrative Assistant
assistant@ci.aurora.or.us

Mark Gunter, Public Works Superintendent
pws@ci.aurora.or.us

City Council Contact/Information

Mayor Kris Sallee – mayor@ci.aurora.or.us

Councilor Weidman—tweidman@ci.aurora.or.us

Councilor Feely—mfeely@ci.aurora.or.us

Councilor Heitmanek—theitmanek@ci.aurora.or.us

Councilor Asher—basher@ci.aurora.or.us

You will find additional council and board information on the city website or come by City Hall with any questions.

City of Aurora Website
www.ci.aurora.or.us

Aurora/Marion County Police Department

Anonymous Tip Line: 503-540-8079

Non Emergency: 503-588-5032

Emergency Dial 911