



FALLS CITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 9
SEPTEMBER 2022

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City Hall Hours are Monday – Thursday 8:30 am – 4 pm
Closed on Fridays

Riparian Zone Conservation

Flowing streams and rivers are a key feature of the Oregon landscape and natural resources heritage. Flowing water habitat also includes springs, seeps, and intermittent streams. Flowing water is of significant conservation concern under climate change, with changes in precipitation patterns, snowmelt cycles, and fire frequency. The headwaters of many streams are fed by snowmelt, and the flowing freshwater systems are crucial to iconic Northwest salmon and steelhead as well as amphibians, dragonflies, and other Strategy Species.

Riparian zones are the dynamic interface between land and flowing water. The plant assemblages and communities in riparian zones help buffer inputs and the cycling of nutrients. The vegetative composition and structure of riparian zones is a function of elevation, stream gradient, floodplain width, and disturbance events such as flooding.

Riparian habitats have declined from historical levels and are now greatly reduced in area and connectivity, especially those in low-elevation areas and valley bottoms. Development, logging, roads, agricultural practices, and grazing can degrade riparian habitat. Removal or reduction of riparian habitat allows runoff containing fertilizers and other contaminants to reach flowing water and further impact aquatic habitat more easily.

Preventing Pollutants from Entering the Water

Outside Activities

- Never dump anything into gutters, storm drains or onto the street.
- Prevent spills and report illicit dumping immediately.
- Properly maintain stormwater facilities on your property for effective treatment.
- Clean vehicles at a commercial car wash or use a covered wash rack that drains to an approved sanitary sewer or a holding tank.

Auto Care

Vehicles are a primary source of petrochemicals, metals, and other persistent pollutants.

CITY SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER 2022

CITY COUNCIL MEETING:
SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2022 @ 6PM
LOCATION- COMMUNITY CENTER

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:
LOCATION- COMMUNITY CENTER
DATES AND TIMES BELOW

- PUBLIC WORKS
SEPTEMBER 22ND, 2022 @ 6PM
- PARKS AND RECREATION
SEPTEMBER 21ST, 2022 @ 6PM

- Prevent oil and fluid leaks with proper maintenance.
- Use a commercial car wash or wash your vehicle on a lawn or other unpaved surface.

Yard and Home Care

- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly; use natural alternatives.
- Properly clean up spills and overspray.
- Sweep up and collect dirt and debris rather than hose or blow it off to the street/storm drain.
- Water wisely to prevent runoff.
- Cover bare soil with grass, plants, or rock to prevent erosion.

Illicit Discharge

- Oil/Grease
- Vegetation (Grass/Leaves/Clippings)
- Landscape Products (Topsoil/Bark/Gravel)
- Trash/Large Debris

- Keep oil, gas, soap suds and other pollutants away from storm drains.
- When leaks are noticed, use drip pans and absorbents to contain and clean up the fluids.
- Pick up pet waste and put it in the trash.

- Garden naturally with native plants and compost or mulch to improve soil and plant health.
- Help keep your neighborhood free of debris and litter.
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces to areas where runoff can soak into the soil.
- Use porous surfaces for driveways, patios, and sidewalks.

- Pesticides/Fertilizer
- Concrete Washout/Construction Debris
- Paint

