

From The Director's Office:



The week of May 15 to May 21, 2022 marked the 62nd annual **National Public Works Week**.

Celebration of Public Works Week is meant to raise awareness with our community about role of public works in creating and keeping our city a great place to live and work.

Within every public works professional lies a superhero, which is dramatically represented in this year's poster. Public works professionals are always **READY** to serve their communities and **RESILIENT** as ever in their abilities to swiftly respond after encountering challenges.

This year's theme of "**Ready and Resilient**" highlights the ability of public works professionals to perform regular public works duties and be ready at a moment's notice to react as first responders during natural disasters and other emergencies.

Public works superheroes help keep communities strong by providing services related to the operations and maintenance of water, wastewater and stormwater systems, public facilities and grounds, roadways, right-of-ways, emergency management and first response.

These services could not be provided without the enthusiastic, timely and dedicated efforts of our public works professionals.

A big thank you to the public works superheroes.



Best Regards,

Delora Kerber, Public Works Director

Facilities

Annual Water Feature Maintenance

Facilities crew assisted our Parks team to complete annual maintenance on the ever-popular interactive water features at Murase Plaza in Memorial Park and at Town Center Park. This process can take several days and requires special safety precautions. To prepare for safe summer fun, staff thoroughly flushes and clears the features of any debris. Each feature has a water filtration system that uses special sand filters to keep the water clean.

At Town Center Park, staff were required to complete a confined space entry to access the underground surge tanks to ensure that they are in proper working order. When the person enters, fresh air is forced down into the workspace. Consistent gas monitoring ensures that the atmosphere is safe for the worker and a rescue winch is standing-by in case personnel needs assistance to exit the confined space.

City staff completed all necessary maintenance in time for the scheduled June 1 opening.



Trevor cleaning at Murase Plaza



Baker entering the vault at Town Center

Facilities

Bulky Waste Day 2022

This hugely popular event took place on Saturday, May 14 at the Republic Services yard. Each year, Republic Services teams up with Public Works to offer free disposal of large items, such as home appliances and furniture, for Wilsonville residents. At every event, donations are accepted in-lieu of payment and the items go to the Wilsonville Community Sharing Food Bank. For the first time, we requested donations of gift cards for local businesses in small denominations.

Thanks to Republic Services for another successful Bulky Waste Day event!



A huge "Thank you!" to all our volunteers!



Operations

Parking Lot Resurfacing

In the middle of May, the parking lots near the Public Works/Police Department building, Community Center, and the Art Tech building along with portions of the WES Transit lot were temporarily closed for maintenance. The WES parking lot was heavily used after the 2021 Ice Storm as it served as a debris drop-off site for our community which caused additional damage to the pavement.

To minimize disruption to visitors, City staff and commuters, some work was completed on Saturdays and Sundays. A paving company was contracted to apply crack seal, slurry seal, restripe and apply new ADA decals. This kind of maintenance is highly weather dependent, because it requires days with no precipitation forecasted. Conditions need to be dry and warm enough for all the sealant and decals to adequately adhere to the paved surface.



Aerial photo of the WES lot after the 2021 ice storm



Fresh striping and surface at WES

Stormwater

Lending a Helping Hand

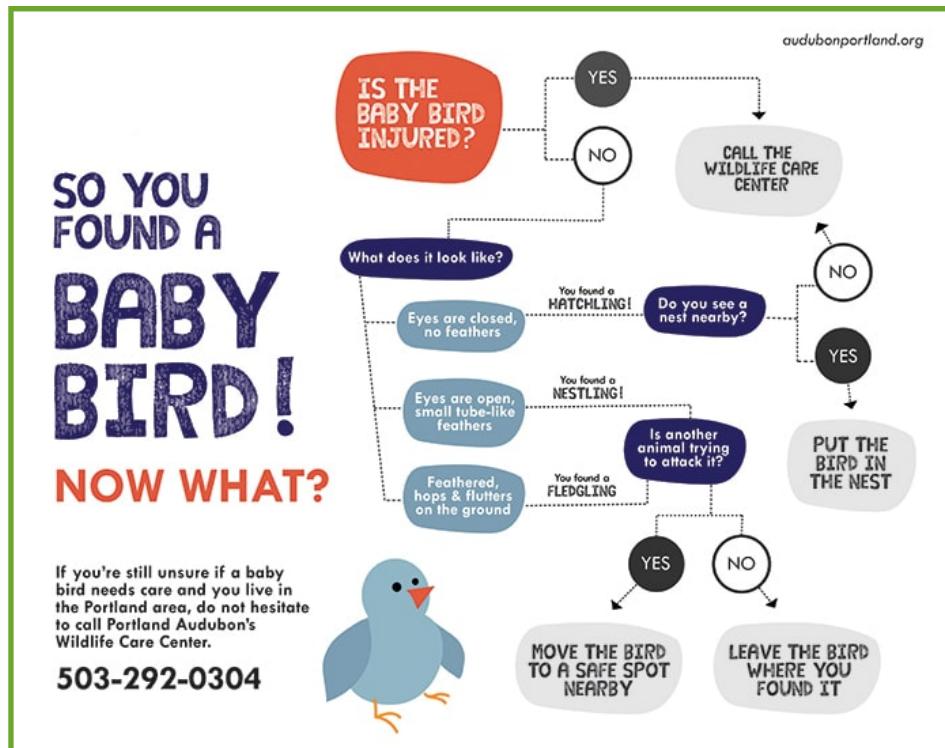
The Public Works department received a call from a concerned resident about ducklings that had fallen into a storm catch basin. Our Stormwater team, Konnen Bell and Jay Herber, diverted from their nearby project to lend a hand.

Upon arrival, Good Samaritans had already recovered three ducklings from the basin, but one duckling escaped into the underbrush. Konnen had the idea to play a recording of duck calls from a mother duck on YouTube, hoping to draw it out from the blackberry bushes. It worked! The little duckling wandered close enough for Konnen to catch and reunite it with the other two siblings. All three ducklings were kept safe at a distance from humans until the mother duck returned to claim them.

Our staff are not always able to recover wildlife in the storm system due to the potential safety risks. Recovery may be considered a 'confined space' entry which requires special training, equipment and permitting. We caution citizens from taking any heroic measures that could put anyone's safety at risk. If you find injured or abandoned wildlife, contact Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) or the Portland Audubon for guidance.



Konnen with rescued duckling



Utilities—Water

Annual Hydrant Flushing

The Water crew's primary focus in May was on flushing the distribution system. Water main flushing is one of the most important preventative maintenance activities that the water crew performs. Over time, water settles, ages and is affected by mineral deposits and loose sediment that slowly build up inside water mains, which could ultimately result in discolored water and reduced capacity in the pipe. These factors affect the quality and taste of the water. Flushing also allows the operators to verify the proper operation of the hydrants. If a hydrant is found to be malfunctioning it is promptly repaired in order to restore its fire protection capabilities.



Utilities—Wastewater

Commercial Drivers License Training

This month, two Public Works employees obtained their Commercial Driver License (CDL). A CDL is required for all Public Works Maintenance Specialists, Technicians, and Supervisors. Obtaining a CDL is a significant achievement in a Public Works employee's career. Significant preparation and training is required to successfully pass the knowledge test and skills assessment, which includes demonstrating a pre-trip inspection of the vehicle and safe vehicle operation.

The City is very fortunate that SMART Transit has very skilled and knowledgeable CDL trainers on staff. The CDL training is two hours per day for approximately four weeks. Drivers learn all of the necessary skills using a City bus and come out of the training with the knowledge and confidence to pass the exam which is conducted through a third party testing company.



Congratulations, David!