



City of Aberdeen
WASHINGTON

Matters

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
MARCH - APRIL 2025

Chehalis River Bridge

Upcoming Local Events

MARCH 2025

- Mar. 1-2 These Shining Lives (Driftwood Theatre)
- Mar. 5 Tea Time Tastings and Traditions (Library)
- Mar. 7-16 Groundhog Day the Musical (Bishop)
- Mar. 8 Genealogy Café (Library)
- Mar. 12 City Council Meeting
- Mar. 17 St. Patrick's Day Event (Downtown)
- Mar. 26 City Council Meeting
- Mar. 26 Adult Softball Sign-ups Open

APRIL 2025

- Apr. 9 City Council Meeting
- Apr. 16 Easter Egg Hunt
- Apr. 23 City Council Meeting
- Apr. 26 She Kills Monsters (Driftwood Theatre)
- Apr. 30 City Council Meeting

MAY 2025

- May 1 Adult Softball Begins
- May 2-28 She Kills Monsters (Driftwood Theatre)
- May 4 Sunday Market Begins (Downtown)
- May 6 Navigating Medicare (Library)
- May 8-11 Little Shop of Horrors (High School)
- May 14 City Council Meeting
- May 18 Race for Recovery (Quinault Wellness)
- May 26 Memorial Day (City Hall Closed)
- May 28 City Council Meeting

JUNE 2025

- Jun. 11 City Council Meeting
- Jun. 20 International Aberdeen Clean Up Day
- Jun. 21 World Music Day
- Jun. 25 City Council Meeting

Aberdeen City Council meeting agendas and minutes can be found on the City of Aberdeen's website at www.aberdeenwa.gov/AgendaCenter.

Citywide Spring Clean Up Begins April 1

Citywide Spring Clean Up is a month-long event and partnership between the City of Aberdeen and LeMay Waste Management. City of Aberdeen customers who live in a single family residence in city limits, will receive a voucher in the mail to dump up to one ton/load in a car, pickup or 4x8 trailer for free at LeMay of Grays Harbor Transfer Station in Montesano. Voucher must be presented at the time of disposal in order to receive the free service and are good the entire month of April.



If you receive your mail via P.O. box or live in a multi-residential building, you can stop by City Hall to pick up your voucher with valid identification or a current City of Aberdeen utility bill. Please be aware that the City will not provide reimbursements for any costs associated with the charges above the load limit or if you do not have a voucher present at the time of disposal.

Residents with vouchers are limited to disposing moderate waste items which includes one refrigerator or freezer. Cement, medical waste, asbestos, ammunition or explosives will not be accepted.

Vouchers will be sent out the last week of March. The LeMay Transfer Facility is located at 29 Gavett Lane North in Montesano. For more information about this program, please contact Jolynn Springer at (360) 537-3210.

Enhancing Public Safety with New Four-legged Recruits

Our City has just welcomed two exceptional new employees--each with four legs, a keen sense of smell, and an unwavering dedication to serving and protecting our community. The police and fire departments have each introduced a new K9 to their teams, expanding their capabilities in crime prevention, community engagement and employee well-being.

The police department welcomes K9 Kibo, a young dog who has shown exceptional skills early on in his training. He is trained on tracking, handler protection, evidence searches and building searches.



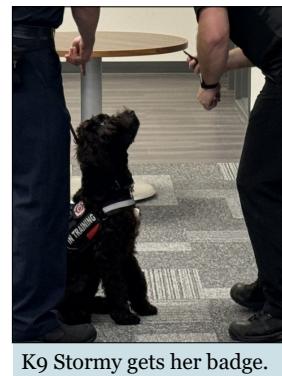
K9 Kibo

During his basic training, he quickly demonstrated exceptional obedience, outstanding work ethic and incredible drive. K9 Kibo and his handler, Officer Noah Ewing, have collectively completed over 400 hours of training and are a certified patrol K9 team through the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission.

Another wonderful addition to the City team is K9 Stormy, a therapy dog who provides emotional support to our local first responders. This means that during a Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) deployment, she focuses on helping first responders manage the mental and emotional toll of their demanding work. She will also be available for CISM deployments countywide.

In cooperation with Peer

Support K9 Program, Stormy completed her initial training and is now working toward her



K9 Stormy gets her badge.

Therapy Dog certification. She will serve on third shift along with her partner and handler, Chuck King.

As these two remarkable dogs settle into their new roles, their impact on the community will only grow. Whether tracking a suspect or offering a reassuring presence, these four-legged heroes represent the evolving ways our city prioritizes public safety, well-being and community connection.

New Senior Rate for Garbage and Recycling Service

In an effort to support older residents on fixed incomes, the Aberdeen City Council approved a contract with the LeMay Grays Harbor that included the creation of a new discounted garbage service rate for senior citizens. "This initiative aims to make essential services more affordable for aging residents while ensuring the community remains clean and well-maintained," said Mayor Douglas Orr.

The discounted senior rate counts toward 65-gallon and 95-gallon garbage services and 95-gallon recycling service. "I encourage all eligible residents to apply and take advantage of this opportunity," Mayor Orr added. The new rate is part of a

broader effort to support seniors and improve their quality of life in our community.

Lemay's customers who are 65 and older can call LeMay to change their service to receive the discount. Contact LeMay Customer Service at (360) 533-1251.

International Aberdeen Clean Up Day June 20

The City of Aberdeen, Washington was contacted by its namesake, The City of Aberdeen, Scotland recently and was asked to participate in the International Aberdeen Clean Up Day on June 20. Aberdeen, Scotland invited all Aberdeens across the globe to participate in this clean up effort.

There are more than 30 cities named Aberdeen around the world

with 18 of them located in the United States. It is said that all Aberdeens were given their names as Scottish people settled in other countries. Here in the United States, there are Aberdeens in Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, and West Virginia. Internationally, there are Aberdeens in Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, India, Jamaica, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Zimbabwe.

For more information about the International Aberdeen Clean Up Day and how to participate, contact Parks Director Stacie Barnum at sbarnum@aberdeenwa.gov or by phone at (360) 537-3229.

Protect Your Home From Wildfires: Steps You Can Take

By Fire Chief Dave Golding

In January, thousands of homes were devastated by wildfires in California that quickly overwhelmed first responders. As wildfire seasons grow longer and more intense, the Aberdeen community should still be aware of the potential threats. Although we have marshy conditions in some parts of our city, our community is still surrounded by lush wooded areas. With dry grasses and strong winds, wildfires can spread rapidly. However, there are steps you can take to minimize the risk to your home.

Create a Defensible Space: Clear debris and trim trees and shrubs around your home. A defensible space of at least 30 feet (100 feet for high-risk areas) will slow the fire's spread.

Fire-Smart Landscaping: Keep your yard well-watered. Consider creating firebreaks around your property with gravel or non-flammable materials.

Clean Gutters Regularly: Prevent debris build-up in gutters, as dry leaves can catch fire quickly. Clean your gutters frequently during dry months.



Have an Emergency Plan: Create and practice an evacuation plan with your family. Keep an emergency kit with essential supplies and stay informed with local alerts.

Test Your Smoke Alarms: Ensuring your smoke alarms are properly working is vital step to make sure you and your family are alerted in case of a fire.

By taking these simple precautions, you can help protect your home and your community. Together, we can reduce the risk of wildfire damage and stay prepared.

Aberdeen Fire Chief Dave Golding began his career with the Aberdeen Fire Department in 1998 and has been promoted through every rank in the organization. He has served as Fire Chief since 2022.

Mayor's Message: More Reasons to Get Outside

By Mayor Douglas Orr

As we say goodbye to winter and the snow and cold weather, people are starting to get antsy and excited about the warmer weather bringing more opportunities for outdoor activities. One thing I know that is almost always true on the harbor is that when talking to most folks here, they'll tell you that they love our outdoors!!!!

Speaking of the outdoors, I met with the Parks Board today and a local gentleman named Dan Lindgren was talking to the group about a new Jet Ski Competition that will be taking place May 10 and 11 at our very own Lake Aberdeen!! We are very proud to host this leg of the national

competition and hope that it will be part of our event offerings annually. Mr. Lindgren also organizes the largest ocean water jet ski competition on the West Coast in Grayland each year. That event attracts thousands of visitors each year to the Harbor, and we'll expect a great turnout to the Aberdeen event as well.

I also wanted to acknowledge that on Presidents' Day there were three groups doing park clean ups and riverbank plantings to slow bank erosion. Those groups were Grays Harbor Conservation District, Aberdeen High School Skills USA Kids, and the Moore Wright Group



Mayor Douglas Orr

along with a bunch of volunteers! Thank you all for caring about the quality of life in our city. We love you.



In 1937, President Franklin Roosevelt visited Aberdeen. His visit was the first and only President to visit Grays Harbor. He was amazed by the natural beauty of our landscape.

Better Weather Means Activities are Heating Up

As the weather warms up and the days grow longer, spring is the perfect time to get active and enjoy all that Aberdeen has to offer. The city is buzzing with opportunities to get outdoors, connect with the community and embrace a healthy lifestyle.

Women's Volleyball

The Adult Women's Volleyball League starts in March and will be played at Aberdeen High School (AHS). Games will be on Monday nights starting March 3, with a pre-season open gym on February 24th 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at AHS.

Easter Egg Hunt

Aberdeen Parks & Recreation and the City of Hoquiam are having an Easter Egg Hunt Wednesday, April 16 at Olympic Stadium in Hoquiam. Stadium doors open at 5:30 p.m. With the Easter Egg hunt starting at 6:00 p.m. Photo opportunities with the Easter Bunny will be available.



Adult Men's and Women's Softball

Looking for an outdoor activity? Registration will open for the City of Aberdeen Adult Men's and Women's Softball Leagues on March 26. To register a team, go to www.teamsideline.com/aberdeenwa.

More Info?

If you need information about any of these activities, contact us at the Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Office. Our location is at 100 S. I Street (Old World Building) or you can call 360-537-3230 or email Recreation Supervisor Craig Yakovich at cyakovich@aberdeenwa.gov.

Community Volunteers Clean Up Local Parks

On January 20 (Martin Luther King Day), volunteers from around the city came together to make a difference, tackling litter and debris at Stewart, Sam Benn and Finch parks. The clean up was a collaboration between the City and



SkillsUSA, Grays Harbor Conservation District and the Moore Wright Group.

High school students from

SkillsUSA club volunteered their time on their day off from school to clean Morrison Park. The students worked hard to clear the walking path, and pick up trash along the playground area to ensure those public spaces remain clean, safe and enjoyable for all. SkillsUSA is a high school club at Aberdeen High School that uses skilled trades to teach kids to become skilled professionals, career-ready leaders and responsible community members.

Across town, volunteers from the Grays Harbor Conservation District (GHCD) and the Moore Wright Group (MWG) volunteered their time to clean up James Stewart and Sam Benn parks. Volunteers focused on clearing trails,



picking up trash near the picnic shelter.

Volunteers had filled multiple bags of garbage, leaving the parks noticeably cleaner. "We are so grateful for these volunteers," said Parks Director Stacie Barnum. "Keeping our parks clean not only enhances their beauty but also promotes a healthier environment for everyone."

City of Aberdeen Mission:

The mission of the City of Aberdeen is to serve with transparency and integrity; provide dependable services and public safety; to honor our history and be stewards of our natural and cultural resources.

City of Aberdeen Elected Officials

Mayor Douglas Orr

Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5	Ward 6
Melvin Taylor	David Gakin	Liz Ellis	Vacant	Joshua Francy	David Lawrence
Kacey Morrison	John Maki	Scott Prato	Deb Hodgkin	Debi Pieraccini	Sydney Swor