



North Plains Connected

A monthly newsletter from the City of North Plains - January 2023

City of North Plains

31360 NW Commercial St.
North Plains, OR 97133

City Hall is open
8:30 am to 4:00 pm
Monday - Friday.



(503) 647-5555



www.NorthPlains.org



Contact Your Council:

Mayor Teri Lenahan

Robert Kindel

Russ Sheldon

Cameron Martinez

James Fage

Rickey Smith

Trista Papen

Mayor's Corner: Take Our Resident Survey



Happy New Year, North Plains!

As we reflect on a busy 2022 and enter into 2023, the City is preparing for many exciting things to come. Soon we will be revisiting City Council's Goals for our community (available here: www.northplains.org/citycouncil) and preparing and adopting a new biennial budget. We want and need feedback from residents to help us set priorities for City services and community improvements.

Please take our survey! Just

scan the QR code here with your smartphone or visit our website and click on the survey link available at the top of every page. We are conducting this online survey to hear residents' satisfaction with City services and to gauge community priorities. It should take less than 8 minutes of your time and is very much appreciated. It is open through January 9, 2023.



Our residents are the heart of this community and your feedback is important in helping us plan and budget for continued great services and improvements in the future. In addition to taking this current survey, I encourage you all to get involved. No one knows North Plains better than you, our residents, and we encourage you to learn more about what's happening and participate in your city. Visit www.northplains.org, subscribe to our monthly E-Connect, download the MyNorthPlains app, follow us on Facebook, attend public meetings, or apply to join a City board, commission, or committee (current openings: Budget Committee and Parks & Recreation Board!).

Although we can never know for certain what a new year will bring, I am encouraged and warmed by what I have seen this community accomplish together in both good times and challenging times. Let's continue to look forward and work together for a vibrant North Plains!

~Mayor Teri
teri.lenahan@northplains.org



News From Your Library

**Unless otherwise noted, programs are drop-in, no registration required.*

**If accommodations would help you to attend any library programs - contact us!*



Craft Guild - Wednesday, January 4th

Join our informal group of knitters and quilters from 5:30 to 7 pm on the first Wednesday of each month. Anyone interested in gathering for camaraderie as you work on your individual projects is welcome. This is an informal get-together of crafters, with no formal instruction.

Writing Your Life: Introduction to Writing Memoirs

Turn your unique life experiences and memories into well-written stories with Marie Buckley, a writer and writing teacher. Four sessions will be held on Saturdays, January 14 & 28, and February 11 & 25, 2023 at 10 am at Jessie Mays Community Center. Register online wccls.org/events. Please note that registration is for the full program series, not individual sessions.

Storytime at the Library - Wednesdays at 11 am

Time for stories, bubbles and songs! Following storytime Mrs. Emily will teach children to identify and sound out letters of the alphabet and counting basics. Parents and caregivers learn meaningful techniques that will help expand learning experiences at home with your child.

Bookbabies - Fridays at 10 am

Miss Chris guides parents and caregivers through some inspirational early development activities for babies and toddlers. Adults learn techniques that help expand learning experiences at home with your child. Bonus: Visit with other parents and care givers while entertaining and educating your little one.

Kindergarten Continuation Class Wednesdays at 4 pm on Zoom.

FREE academic enrichment class for kindergartners. Whether your child needs a learning boost or seeks more of a challenge, this class is a great way to supplement your child's education. Get them ready for success and inspire a love of lifelong learning with Mrs. Emily! Register online at wccls.org/events. No library card required to register.

OBOB Book Club for 6th-8th graders

Thursday, January 12th at 4:30 pm in the library

The Oregon Battle of the Books (OBOB) is a statewide voluntary reading motivation and comprehension

program. Join us to create art, discuss the book, AND THEN BATTLE! We'll be discussing *The Total Eclipse of Nestor Lopez* by Adrianna Cuevas.

Teen Council - January 20th at 4:30 pm

Are you a teen who wants to make a difference in our community and connect with other teens? Do you have ideas on how the Library could better serve teens? Please join us at the library every 3rd Friday of the month!

Book Club Potluck - Saturday, January 28th at 12 pm

New patrons are welcome to join the North Plains Library Book Club at the Library for their annual potluck where they'll announce the upcoming book choices for 2023! Email Carolyn at carolyn@markleavitt.com for more info.

Tai Chi & Qigong Class Fridays at 8 am January 6th-

February 24th at Jessie Mays Community Center. This entry-level program combines breathing and movement exercises from Qigong and elements from Yang-style Tai Chi. Suitable for all ages. Please join us to increase your energetic vitality, rejuvenate your mind, body and soul, and improve agility and flexibility.

Super Smash Bros Tournament Friday, January 13th at 4:30 pm at Jessie Mays Community Center.

Are you ready to smash? Teens in 6th-12th grade are invited to compete in this fun Tournament on the Nintendo Switch. Bring your own controllers or use ours. Sign-ups begin at 4:15 pm. The first 32 people to sign up are guaranteed a spot to play. 1st place will receive a \$25 gift card to Gamestop or Powell's Books, 2nd place will receive a \$15 gift card to Gamestop or Powell's Books.



January City Calendar

Public meetings and events below are taking place in-person and many offer virtual options. Visit www.northplains.org/calendar for more events and details.



- 1/1 Library closed (New Year's Day)
- 1/2 City offices closed (New Year's Day observed)
- 1/3 City Council (w/ 6 pm Work Session) - 7 pm
- 1/4 Economic Development Committee - 6 pm
- 1/9 Parks & Recreation Board - 6 pm
- 1/11 Planning Commission - 7 pm
- 1/16 City offices closed (MLK holiday observed)
- 1/17 City Council - 7 pm (Tues due to Mon Holiday)
- 1/18 Library Board - 7 pm

City 101: Boards, Commissions and Committees

The City of North Plains has boards, commissions, and committees of the City Council, as well as an Urban Renewal Agency, which are key to informing the development of North Plains' programs and policies, and to our community's quality of life. The volunteer members share their time and expertise and are important connections to the needs and values of our community.

We welcome residents to learn more and apply for open positions. Below is an overview of each group's role as well as links to more details.

Budget Committee

Seven residents appointed to four-year terms and seven City Councilors meet up to a few times per year to review and recommend City Council approval of the City's biennial budget that guides two fiscal years of City financial management per state law.

Economic Development Committee

This committee was formed by the City Council in 2018 to make recommendations to help guide business growth and development and foster proactive economic development that maintains community livability. It is made up of five volunteers appointed by City Council for 4-year terms and meets monthly.

Library Board

This seven-member board is appointed by City Council and approves policies, reviews proposed budgets, develops library goals, and advocates for the library within the community. Four members reside within the city limits and three represent the service area population outside city limits. It meets monthly and each member serves a four-year term and is eligible for reappointment for an additional four years.

Parks & Recreation Board

Comprised of seven residents serving four-year terms and a youth position serving a one-year term, this board meets monthly. It reviews and updates the Parks Master Plan including the walking trail plan, gives advice on planning and maintenance of park facilities, and makes recommendations regarding projects and fees.

Planning Commission

Consisting of seven voting members appointed by City Council for four-year terms, the Commission guides the City's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning and Development

Standards, reviews designs for future structures and remodels, and assists Council with related policy development. The Commission also holds public hearings on land use, development code changes and other zoning matters.

Urban Renewal Agency Board

North Plains Urban Renewal Agency (URA) is a separate legal entity from the City and was started in 2006 with the purpose of fostering private investment in the North Plains Urban Renewal Area and creating jobs in the community. The URA Plan and Report further explain the goals of the agency. The governing board is comprised of all current City Councilors and the Mayor, and the City Manager serves as the Executive Director.

All of these boards, commissions, and committees have dedicated web pages at www.northplains.org with more details including current members, eligibility, and meeting agendas and minutes. If you have questions please send us a message or call 503-647-5555.

Board & Committee Openings - We Need You!

Parks & Recreation Board Vacancy

Be a part of overseeing park development and maintenance, and making recommendations regarding park projects and fees in your community. The City of North Plains is seeking applicants (must live inside the North Plains city limits) to fill this vacancy for a term that runs through June 30, 2024. Learn more: www.northplains.org/bc-parks



Budget Committee Vacancy



Committee members serve 4-year terms and the Committee usually meets 1-2 times per year in the spring for biennial budget consideration, or for getting progress reports, hearing about budget adjustments and future budget planning before the second year of the biennial budget. Learn more: www.northplains.org/bc-budget/page/budget-committee

Chief's Corner: Keeping your vehicle safe from thieves

As we head into colder temperatures, how can I keep my vehicle safe from thieves?

Cold weather season is here, and many of us like to appreciate warm vehicles before heading out. But each year, Sheriff's Office staff correlate an increase in vehicle thefts to vehicles left unattended while de-icing or warming up. Help protect yourself from vehicle theft by taking the following precautions:

- Do not leave your vehicle running while unattended. Leaving your vehicle, even for a few seconds, provides car thieves an opportunity to break in or drive off with it, sometimes even returning to burglarize your home.
- Install and use anti-theft devices or audible car alarms.
- Use a camera to record and help identify thieves.



- ALWAYS lock your vehicles.
- Never leave valuables inside your car.
- If anyone or anything seems out of place, suspicious, or disconcerting, report it to non-emergency dispatch so law enforcement is aware and can respond accordingly.
- Get to know your neighbors and look out for one another by identifying suspicious behaviors, promptly reporting pertinent information to law enforcement, and reducing opportunities for criminals.



Chief James Haxton

Although we all appreciate warm and cozy cars on cold mornings, remember would-be-car thieves are always looking for an easy target. If you witness a crime in progress, call 9-1-1 immediately, or if you discover it after-the-fact, call non-emergency dispatch at 503-629-0111 to report it.

We Need Your Feedback!

Take Our Survey

North Plains Residents are invited to take
our online City services survey.

Scan this QR code with your smartphone or visit
NorthPlains.org and click on the link at the top of every web
site page to take the survey and share your thoughts on the
City of North Plains services and future priorities.

OPEN THROUGH
JANUARY 9, 2023



Tips to see you safely through Winter Storms



Winter storms can be dangerous, bringing heavy winds, freezing temperatures, power failures, as well as icy or flooded roads. Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue encourages you to prepare

yourself and your family for winter storms by following these safety tips.

Indoor Safety:

- Have a professional perform annual inspections of your heating system and make any necessary repairs. If you have a fireplace, have the chimney inspected and cleaned annually.
- Bring pets and smaller animals inside to keep them warm and dry.
- Keep heating sources at least 3 feet away from materials that can burn, and never leave lit candles or other flames unattended.

- Have a disaster supply kit with bedding, clothing, first-aid supplies, flashlights, food, a battery-operated radio, and water to be self-sufficient for the first 72 hours of any emergency. For more information on 72-hour kits, visit www.tvfr.com.



- Know the shut-off locations for your electricity, natural gas, and water.
- During a power outage, turn off major appliances to reduce power demands when electricity is restored.
- Install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in the home and test them regularly.

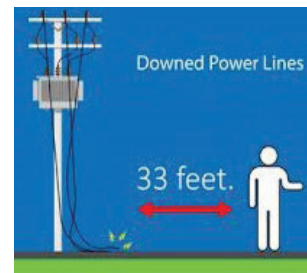


Outdoor Safety:

- Minimize outdoor activities whenever possible. If you

must venture outdoors, dress appropriately for the weather conditions you may encounter and avoid getting wet to prevent hypothermia.

- Don't overestimate how far you can walk on extremely cold, rainy, or snowy days.
- Use extreme caution when stepping outside in icy conditions, particularly in the morning when it's coldest and the ice hasn't had a chance to melt.
- Insulate exposed water pipes with fiberglass or foam to protect them from freezing.
- Report power outages to your electric company and NEVER touch a downed power line!
- If you have pets or livestock that must be outside, provide a sheltered area and access to non-frozen drinking water.



Safety Behind the Wheel:

- Avoid traveling when the weather service issues storm advisories.
- If you must drive, drive much slower than you would in ideal weather conditions.
- Have your car inspected to ensure it's in proper running condition. A breakdown during extreme weather can put you and your passengers in danger.
- Replace worn tires, belts, leaking radiator hoses, and burned-out headlights and taillights.
- Ensure your radiator has appropriate antifreeze for the conditions you will encounter.
- Have an emergency kit in your car equipped with blankets, flashlights, snacks, tools, a shovel, and kitty litter or sand for traction in case of an unexpected delay or emergency.
- Keep your gas tank more than half full. Should a power outage occur, you may have difficulty finding a service station that can fill your tank.
- If you plan to travel in the mountains, carry the appropriate chains or traction devices required by law.

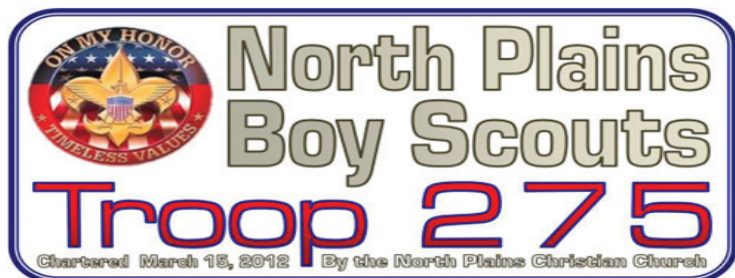
For more fire and life safety tips, visit www.tvfr.com.

TENINTY'S PIZZA & SUBS

10395 NW Glencoe Rd #600 North Plains, OR 97133 503-647-5761

WWW.TenintysPizzaAndSubs.COM Online ordering available

Now Serving Detroit Style Pizza!



Please contact Darrel Smith
(Scoutmaster) at 503-648-1488

Place this portion of flyer in bag provided, with
your donation. Attach it to base of tree. Leave
tree curbside by **9 am** on **January 7th or 14th**.

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2022 / 2023 Donation Record

Thank you for your generous donation to
North Plains Boy Scout Troop 275

Amount: \$10 \$20 \$30 Other \$

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

WE PICK UP AT YOUR CURB



SATURDAY JANUARY 7th

SATURDAY JANUARY 14th



**We'll pick up your
bottles & cans too!**

*Please note, this year might be the last time we recycle
trees, unless we recruit new Scouts. If you know of any
local youth between 11 and 17, please encourage them to
contact us to learn about our exciting Scouting program.