

WE ARE NEIGHBORS WORKING TOGETHER FOR A STRONG COMMUNITY

## Sunday, August 25th: Join us for our annual picnic



Annual Picnic at Bella Vista Park. We will partner again with our friends from Bella Vista. We will bar-b-que hotdogs, polish sausage and impossible dogs with fixings. Neighbors can assist with side dishes, salads or desserts. The picnic will be from Noon to 2pm at the park on Sunday, August 25th. The theme will be FOUR MONTHS UNTIL CHRISTMAS! So, wear your Christmas colors and bring an ornament too, as we will decorate an artificial tree.

Come to the gathering. Come to socialize, come to relax, come to meet the people that live on the block.

Thank you! 🍷❤️

*A Big Thank You goes to Kathy Fellabaum, Carol Hostettler and Colleen Sneider for helping to deliver last year's Cascade SE Courier. There are a lot of houses in the neighborhood. Please think about volunteering to help deliver next year's newsletter.*

*Email [colleen.kinney.sneider@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.kinney.sneider@gmail.com) to be added to a list of potential newsletter volunteers.*

# Bulky Item Pickup

Disposing Of Bulky Items (through Waste Connections) If you are not able to make it to the Annual Clean Up on September 7th, remember that you can get a one-time/year, free curbside pickup for up to five bulky items (e.g. worn-out furniture, old mattresses, broken lawn chairs, bulky rugs). You can schedule the pickup by going to <https://wcnorthwest.com/> and clicking on “Free Bulk.”



**Appliances:** In addition to this special 2022 Bulky Item Pickup Day, an annual one-time free appliance pickup is available to single-family households as part of regular Vancouver Solid Waste services in the City of Vancouver. To arrange for an appliance pickup under our regular program, you must schedule directly with Waste Connections by calling 360-892-5370, emailing [customerhelp@wcnx.org](mailto:customerhelp@wcnx.org) or using the chat feature at [www.wcnorthwest.com](http://www.wcnorthwest.com). The appliances collected as part of the regular appliance pickup option will be recycled. Appliances collected as part of the Bulky Item Pickup Day will be sent to the landfill.

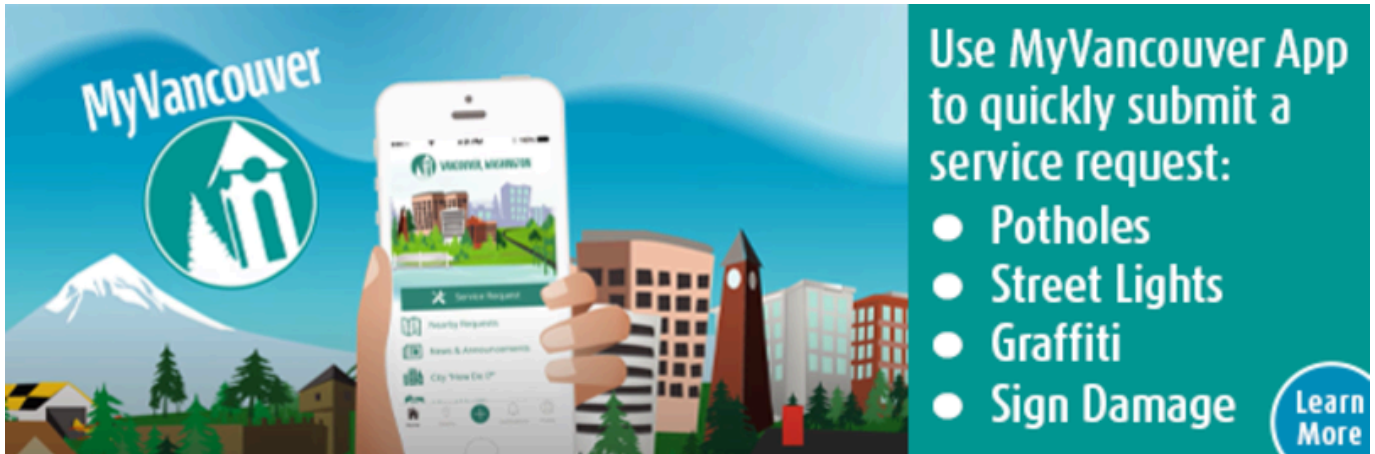
## Examples of Common and Acceptable Bulky Items for Pickup

- Broken or worn out items that are too large to fit in your garbage cart at home
- Furniture such as couches, chairs and beds
- Small appliances, such as vacuums and lamps
- Rugs, brooms, kitchen sinks and plumbing items
- BBQs, bicycles, kiddie pools, lawn mowers and garden equipment
- Broken patio furniture and broken play sets

City of Vancouver Public Works Department  
Garbage and Recycling Services  
360-487-7160 | [solidwaste@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:solidwaste@cityofvancouver.us)  
[www.cityofvancouver.us/2020CleanupOptions](http://www.cityofvancouver.us/2020CleanupOptions)

CITY OF Vancouver WASHINGTON  
Public Works

Up To 5 Bulky Items Allowed



Learn more about the Vancouver app at <https://www.cityofvancouver.us/community/page/myvancouver>



## *The Little Free Library*

**Have you seen one? Have you used one? Have you donated books to one?** Or have you even heard of this concept? Our nearest public library is over 2 miles from Cascade SE. Not all residents are able to easily access that library. Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to be a catalyst to build community, inspire readers, and expand book access to all. It provides guidelines and plans for starting a Little Free Library. **If you have thought about starting a Little Free Library you should browse the website ([littlefreelibrary.org](http://littlefreelibrary.org))**

Imagine having a Little Free Library right in our neighborhood, making it easier for everyone to grab a book anytime! What's a Little Free Library?: It's a small, community-led book exchange that's part of a global initiative to inspire readers and build community. Anyone can take a book or leave a book, and it's all based on trust and sharing. Why It Matters for Us: With

hundreds of homes in our community, think of the endless possibilities for sharing stories, knowledge, and even neighborhood news through a Little Free Library. Be a Part of Something Big: This is more than just books; it's about strengthening our community ties and creating a shared space for everyone to enjoy.



## Neighborhood Cleanup Day –

Annual Neighborhood Clean-Up Our annual clean-up this year will take place on Saturday, September 7th. We will again partner with four other neighborhoods at Riverview Elementary School, 12601 SE Riveridge Drive. It is about 1 mile and a three-minute drive from our neighborhood. As a reminder, this clean-up is for yard debris, trash items too large for curbside pickup, scrap metal and donation items termed “too good to toss”. There will be a chipper there for branches.

8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Please contact Carol Hostetler to volunteer to help. A 2 hour shift would be great. [carolahostetler@gmail.com](mailto:carolahostetler@gmail.com).**

### What Is Accepted at the Cleanup

#### Bulky Items

Broken or worn-out items that are too large to fit in your garbage cart at home such as rugs, kiddie pools, small appliances, broken furniture, brooms, broken plumbing items, kitchen sinks, mattresses, rotten deck boards, etc.

#### Scrap Metal

Metal BBQs, lawn furniture, car parts or small engines (all drained of fluids, please) metal appliances (no Freon containing items – no fridges or freezers, AC units), metal pots and cans, etc. Mowers and other small engines will be set aside for a lawn mower specialist.

#### Yard Debris

Branches, grass, leaves, vines, bramble, arborvitae, juniper, bamboo, yard and garden trimmings.

#### Bicycles

### What Is NOT Accepted

NO Household trash

NO Contractor waste

NO Large or heavy quantities of concrete, cement, rocks, sod, or dirt

NO Home project/remodel debris (i.e. flooring tiles, drywall, large amounts of fencing, etc.)

NO Roofing shingles or roofing materials



NO Hazardous chemicals, cleaners, paints or stains

NO Fluids such as gasoline or oil or liquids

NO TVs, computers or electronics (recycle for free at Goodwill)

NO CFL or fluorescent tube lights (recycle for free visit [www.LightRecycle.org](http://www.LightRecycle.org) for locations)

NO REALLY LARGE items like boats and hot tubs. These should be hauled directly to the transfer station.

### **Prepare Your Load:**

Categorize your load –

- separate your load before you come for easy unloading into the bulky item truck, yard debris box or truck, chipper or metals box
- Use a tarp liner under the yard debris for faster and cleaner unloading
- Put the yard debris on the bottom, then the big stuff (furniture), then the other stuff tucked in around the big stuff
- Don't forget to cover your load to prevent littering if you bring a truck or trailer
- Come prepared to unload what you bring to the cleanup (i.e. leather gloves and tools to unload)
- Do not bring your curbside cart to the cleanup, as they are too heavy to dump.
- Follow the directions of the volunteers in the parking lot.

Thank you Carol, for all your awesome organization skills and your leadership in pulling off past clean up days.

#### **Property Tax Exemption Program**

Did you know Clark County has a program that helps senior citizens and people with disabilities remain in their homes despite rising property taxes? Participants in this program will not need to repay those taxes, and there is no lien placed against your home.

Follow this link for more information:

<https://assessor-property-tax-exemption-program-clarkcountywa.hub.arcgis.com/>

## Our neighborhood needs volunteers.

In order to be a recognized neighborhood we need to have a slate of neighborhood officers.

Without volunteers we will lose access to the following services:

- Neighborhood clean-up programs
- Reduced land use/permit appeal filing fees
- Neighborhood Action Planning
- Technical assistance/problem solving
- Notices of development pre-application
- Neighborhood newsletter printing
- Support for neighborhood activities (picnics and other special events)
- Quarterly Leadership Meetings with the City Manager

## Our neighborhood need you to volunteer.

- We need a secretary (contact [colleen.kinney.sneider@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.kinney.sneider@gmail.com))
- We need a vice president (contact [colleen.kinney.sneider@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.kinney.sneider@gmail.com))
- We need more volunteers helping to pass out the newsletter (contact [colleen.kinney.sneider@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.kinney.sneider@gmail.com))
- We need volunteers to help with the neighborhood cleanup on September 7th (please contact [carolahostetler@gmail.com](mailto:carolahostetler@gmail.com).)
- We need a new president. After having the role for 8 years it is time for me to step down. I am working full time, I have 2 young kids, and I am coaching. Being president is not much of a time commitment but I need to step down so that someone with fresh energy can step in. (contact [colleen.kinney.sneider@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.kinney.sneider@gmail.com))



***Sunday, August 25th: noon to 2 picnic at Bella Vista***

***Park***

***Saturday, September 7th: Neighborhood Clean-Up***

***and Chipper day at Riverview Elementary. 8 a.m.***

***to 1 p.m.***

***Volunteer to take on one of the roles in the***

***neighborhood.***



**TWO AVERAGE-SIZED TREES**  
produce enough oxygen in  
one year to keep a family  
of four breathing!



**BY ABSORBING STORMWATER**  
and pollutants, trees help  
keep rivers and streams  
clean. Stormwater absorption  
also helps prevent flooding!



# Look What TREES Can Do!



**TREELAX!** Just 5 minutes  
of viewing trees can  
**REDUCE STRESS.**

**TREES FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE**  
by absorbing carbon dioxide,  
storing the carbon, and  
emitting pure oxygen.



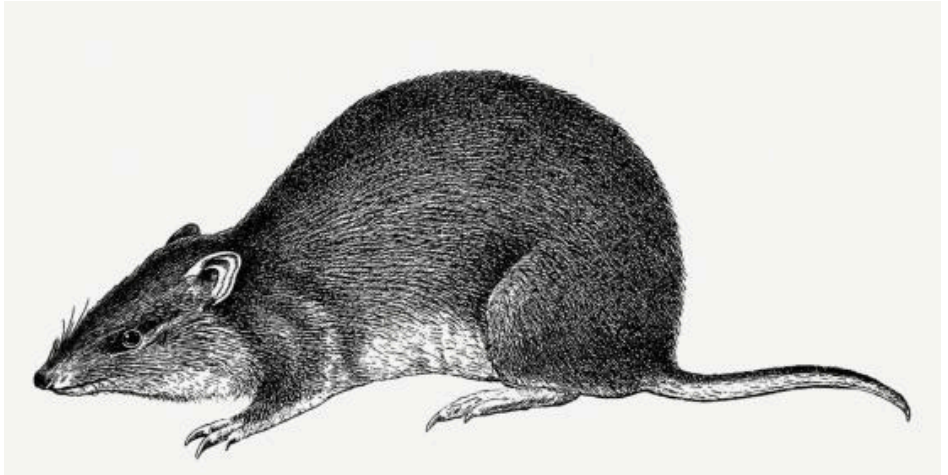
**PEOPLE OF COLOR AND LOW-INCOME**  
communities are more likely to live in  
areas without sufficient tree cover and  
green spaces, making them more  
susceptible to illnesses  
like asthma.

**THE MORE PEOPLE**  
volunteer, the  
healthier and  
happier they are!

**IN A YEAR, AN ACRE**  
of mature trees absorbs  
the same amount of CO2  
produced when you drive  
your car 26,000 miles!

**EVERY \$1 SPENT**  
creating green  
spaces, especially in  
low-income areas,  
can save almost \$3 in  
health care alone.

# Have you had rats visiting your house?



Rats are a problem the instant they take up residence in your yard, garden, or house. Rats can cause a surprising amount of damage to property in a short amount of time. Homes, vehicles, and gardens are not safe when rats are around. Rats also pose a health risk because they spread infectious diseases to humans and pets. Once a rat problem has been discovered it is imperative to act quickly to remove the rats and ensure they do not return. There are also steps you can take to prevent rats from appearing in the first place.

## Understand what attracts rats to your yard

If you are going to get rid of rats, you need to understand what attracts rats to gardens. You could be enticing rats without knowing it as there are plants that attract rats. For rat traps to be effective, you first must understand why the rats are there. Whatever is attracting the rats needs to be removed if traps are going to work.

### Plants that attract rats

Out of all the foods rodents consume, their top two loves are generally fruits and berries. In the wild, rats and mice consume these foods at every opportunity. Therefore, raspberry and blackberry bushes — as well as apple and pear trees — can serve as magnets for the animals. When unconsumed fruits and berries are left to rot on their bushes or trees or left in uncovered trash cans, these rodents are drawn by the smell and sweetness. They are also very fond of walnuts and almonds. So, it's vital that all fallen fruit and nuts should be regulated, removed, and discarded as soon as possible.



## **Smells and Odors that attract rats**

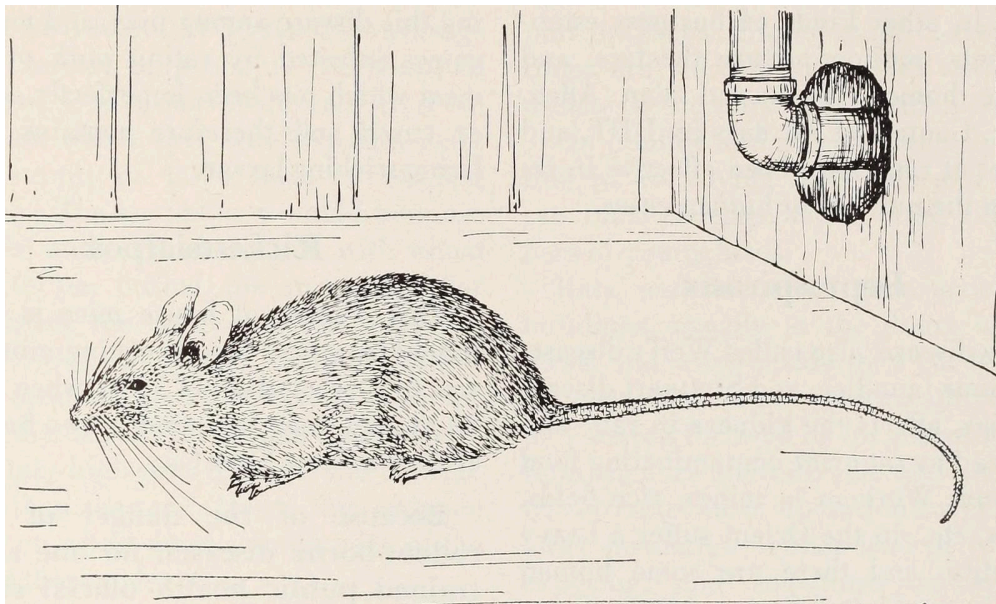
Odors and smells that come from pet waste, pet food, garbage containers, barbecue grills, birdfeeders, and even from unharvested fruit and nuts from plants can attract rats and mice. Good sanitation habits can effectively improve the prevention of attracting rodents in your yard.

## **Overgrown and stationary areas that attract rats**

Rats do not prefer open spaces but rather overgrown areas, as they provide cover from predators and it's also an ideal place for them to build their nests. To prevent rats from living in your yard, you must deny them access to shelter. Keep your yard nicely trimmed and remove any piles of wood, brush, debris, compost piles, dense shrubbery, ground covers, and ivy as this will attract rats over time. Also, keep storage shelters properly sealed – repair or seal all openings with durable materials, such as concrete, metal flashing, steel wool, or heavy welded wire.

## **Water sources that attract rats**

Most rats require a constant water source and they tend to stay around these sources. It's necessary to remove, cover, or repair any sources that provide a water source for these rodents. This includes swimming pools, leaky faucets, irrigation lines, water bowls for pets and other sources of standing water.



## District 4 Neighborhood Police Officer

[cole.larson@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:cole.larson@cityofvancouver.us)

360-903-8020

# District 4 NPO Ofc. Cole Larson

District 4 includes these neighborhoods: Airport Green, Bella Vista, Bennington, Burnt Bridge Creek, Burnt Bridge Creek, Burton/Evergreen, Cascade Highlands, **Cascade South East**, Cimarron, Columbia River Neighborhood Association, Countryside Woods, Fairway/164th, Fircrest, First Place, Fisher's Creek, Fisher's Landing East, Hearthwood, Landover-Sharmel, Lewis and Clark Woods, Mountain View, North Hearthwood, Northfield, Old Evergreen Highway, Parkside, Parkway East, Riveridge, Village at Fisher's Creek, Village at Fisher's Landing, Wildwood and Woodland Meadows.



The NPO's are the liaisons to the citizens within their district and are available to meet with neighbors to discuss crime issues, livability issues, attend community meetings and to answer questions about crime trends and prevention. These officers are the main contact person for a citizen within a district to go to when there are crime issues or other concerns that the police department can assist them with. These officers work cross departmentally as well to assist citizens with problem solving strategies as well.



## Why Picking Up After Your Dog Matters

Picking up after your dog isn't exactly the most enjoyable chore. Let's face it — it's gross! It can be tempting to skip this task, but doing so is not only bad for the environment and public health — in many places, it's also illegal. Keep reading for all of the reasons you really do need to pick up your dog's poop, and read on to learn how to clean dog poop from grass.

## Dog Poop Is Not Fertilizer

People often believe that leaving dog waste to decompose in the yard is good for the lawn, but the truth is that dog poop is toxic for your grass, said [PetHelpful](#). Unlike cow manure, which is basically composted grass, a typical dog's poop, which is made acidic through natural digestive processes and their [microbiome](#), is enough to destroy the grass underneath it. For this reason, dog poop also shouldn't be placed in your compost or used to fertilize your garden. In either case, it contains bacteria that could contaminate your vegetables.

## It's an Environmental Pollutant

In fact, the [Environmental Protection Agency](#) describes dog waste as containing two types of pollutants: nutrients and pathogens. Dog waste that gets washed into waterways may carry pathogens that affect living things in the water and can make people sick that are in contact. Also, nutrients released from dog poop can stimulate the growth of algae and other plant life, making the water unsuitable for recreational uses.

## It Carries Diseases

Even if your dog doesn't show any symptoms of illness, their waste could still carry bacteria and parasites that are harmful to other pets and humans. And you don't need to come into direct contact with dog poop in order to contract an illness from it — diseases in poop can be transmitted by flies or other pets that come into contact with it, said [iHeartDogs](#).

## It Can Overwhelm the Ecosystem

While you may think your own dog's poop can't do that much harm, keep in mind that your dog is likely one of hundreds in your area. iHeartDogs pointed out that while the ecosystem can generally handle up to two dogs per square mile, in urban areas, there are on average 125 dogs per square mile — far more than enough to overwhelm the local ecosystem with their waste. By picking up after your dog, you'll help protect the ecosystem.

## It Smells Bad

Dog feces left lying in parks, on public walkways and even on neighborhood lawns can quickly pile up to a point that the smell becomes overwhelming. Even if you live in a rural area with no close neighbors, you no doubt know that a relaxing afternoon in the hammock can be ruined by the smell of too many dog deposits in the yard.

## It's Common Courtesy

If you've ever had to clean dog poop from the bottom of your shoe, you don't need to be told stepping in the stuff can ruin an unsuspecting person's day. We all know how inconvenient it is to have to stop multiple times while mowing the lawn clean up after a dog from outside your family

left a surprise in your yard. Picking up after your dog not only makes you a responsible dog owner, but also a considerate neighbor. It's simply the right thing to do.



## Get a \$10 tree for your yard!

Here's your chance to get a great deal on one or more new trees for your yard.

Trees: 1) increase your property value,  
2) reduce your cooling and heating bills,  
3) beautify your property,  
4) can screen an undesirable view,  
5) soften the suburban hardscape, and  
6) if a street tree, can slow traffic. Plant one or

more in your yard with Friends of Trees!

### Step 1: **SIGN UP**

Register with Friends of Trees and we'll work with the City to determine which trees are the "right trees in the right place" for your home. Start by checking your address below.

### Step 2: **PICK IT OUT**

Once we have your planting permit, you'll be able to choose from a list of trees approved for your space. We source our trees from wholesale tree nurseries throughout the region to provide you the best possible selection.

### Step 3: **DIG IN!**

Your tree will be planted at the annual community-supported event for each neighborhood. There's a way for everyone to support — like helping plant, or driving a truck, or contributing to the volunteer lunch. And even if you can't help that day, we'll get it planted.

### Step 4: **Add Water**

Water your tree once a week for 3 years (not during the months of December through March)

Important date: **Early fall:** last day to create an account and to order your tree(s)

The cost is just \$10! Each tree comes with a free gator bag (that's a watering jacket which you fill with water once a week - it makes watering super easy).

Sign up to participate/learn more at [www.friendsoftrees.org](http://www.friendsoftrees.org).

## Cascade SE People to Know

*City of Vancouver Neighborhood Liaison*  
Currently unfilled

President: Colleen Sneider Plans to resign  
([colleen.kinney.sneider@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.kinney.sneider@gmail.com))

*Neighborhood Police Officer*

**Ofc. Cole Larson**

(360) 903-8020

[cole.larson@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:cole.larson@cityofvancouver.us)

Vice President: Open

Treasurer: Kathy Koch

Secretary: Open

# Hello Neighbor

Cascade SE Courier

The City of Vancouver supports the Neighborhood Associations in their effort to share vital information with residents in order to create a more informed public. However, the information provided and the opinions and views expressed in Neighborhood Association newsletters or other documents do not necessarily represent the position of the City of Vancouver, nor does the City determine whether the information published is accurate or appropriate. Printed by the City of Vancouver Office of Neighborhoods.