Earth Day Tour Schedule Saturday April 22nd

Cottage Grove Water Treatment Plant - 10:30 am

Follow the flow of water from the watershed, into the river diversion, through the various multi-barrier treatment processes and finally to the distribution system for customer use. Learn how each individual treatment process works. Learn about microfiltration membrane modules and how they are used and maintained. The tour will include seeing the water quality laboratory facilities and their computer control system. Difficulty level: Moderate.

Aprovecho Sustainability Education Center – 12:00 pm

Aprovecho is a non-profit education center located west of Cottage Grove. Tour Aprovecho's annual and perennial gardens, managed Douglas fir forest, naturally built houses and community buildings, closed-loop water and waste systems, watershed restoration projects, and appropriate technology projects. Aprovecho's land and its community of educators is a regional resource for researching, demonstrating, educating, and career-building with techniques and strategies of sustainable living. Difficulty level: Moderate.

Kizer Creek Farm – 2:30 pm

Local farmers Tim and Marjory began farming at Kizer Creek Farm last fall. They have been growing seasonal salad greens and vegetables for local restaurants and farmers markets. Current farm activities include grafting and converting their 450 orchard apple trees to cider varieties with the intention of producing hard cider. They farm using organic and biodymanic methods. Learn more about their methods during this visit. Difficulty level: Moderate.

Sign up for tours at the CG Public Library 700 E Gibbs, Cottage Grove Tours and transportation provided free of charge.

Neighborhood watch Continued from A1

So, he says he took to Facebook and created a post to gauge interest in a neighborhood watch group. He noted the possibility of group members carrying firearms and that is where, he says, the misunderstanding occurred.

"I don't want to arrest anyone," he said. "The goal is to observe, document and report to the police," he said. "My interest is in cutting down the crime."

Rumors of an armed militia are false according to Bailey. While he says he would carry his firearm as a safety precaution, it is not the goal to detain suspects or threaten the public with firearms.

"It's an open carry state. I don't see anything wrong with defending yourself but we're not an armed militia," he said.

Moreover, members of the neighborhood watch group would be subject to background checks and Bailey is aware of the potential for unstable individuals and says those without a background check would not be welcome to join.

Cottage Grove Police agree neighborhood watch after the and note that Oregon is an open carry state and allows licensed gun owners to carry a firearm.

"Neighborhood watches work best when it's a group of like-minded individuals and everyone is on the same page with the same expectations and ground rules," said Captain Conrad Gagner.

Cottage Grove Mayor Jeff Gowing had also heard the commotion surrounding the post and noted during the Monday, April 10 council meeting that the Facebook group had misunderstood the intention.

"If everyone reported the thefts with the same frequency they report dogs in cars in the summer, we would have this taken care of," he said.

While the local police answer several calls for suspicious activity and thefts on a daily basis, Bailey says he understands staffing issues.

"In Josephine County they lost their law enforcement and the citizens stepped up and filled in the gap," he said.

Bailey hopes to model his

Guardian Angels of the 1970s in New York.

"We would go to the five boroughs but we would never go to the Bronx," said Bailey, who is originally from the upstate area of New York.

"People would be sitting on the stoop and these guys would walk by and the crime went down," he said. "It's about having a presence."

Bailey said he has no interest in going beyond documenting possible criminal activity to the local police and noted the entire idea started because of his children.

"I don't feel safe here with my kids," he said.

And after posting online, he said the issue has taken on a new life.

"A lot of it is putting words in my mouth that I never said," he said. "I just don't get it. For a town of 10,000 people, I don't understand the property crime. The first response I'll get is to lock up my stuff. But it's in my backyard. I want to stand up for my community."





COTTAGE GROVE, OREGON ---- REAL REAL RURAL RADIO with:

Saturday,

Earth

April 22

Fundraiser

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No Admission



