

**Tree Regulations**

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lations than the proposal contains. For instance, homeowners would be required to replace trees cut if they are 20 inches in diameter or more.

Sallinger thought the requirement should apply to trees 12 inches in diameter. He also opposed exempting small lots from development regulations; "you can always mitigate off-site," he said. The cost of planting and preserving trees is "a bargain, with a great return on investment."

Representatives of the Parks Bureau and Bureau of Environmental Services endorsed the draft. Paul Scarlet, director of the Bureau of Development Services, said he supported its "goals," but had "concerns" about the complexity, flexibility and enforcement of the new proposals.

Commissioner Randy Leonard, who oversees the bureau, was upset when its representative, Rebecca Esau, said she had not seen the latest changes to the proposed draft.

After some discussion Council agreed to have Bureau representatives meet, reach consensus and have Council consider the result on March 9. Susan Anderson, Director of the Bureau of Development Services, cautioned, "I am virtually sure there won't be 100 percent agreement among us."

**Bridlemile Cleanup**

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and waiting. They'll meet over the next three years to clear invasives and weed. They look forward to crawdads in the creek, salamanders, songbirds, and maybe even some beaver. "Hopefully, we'll convert the whole area to a native conservation zone," Gooley said. "It's something that can be enjoyed, and it's beneficial to the environment."

Mary Logalbo, an urban conservationist for the West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, worked closely with Gooley and his neighbors. "Our mission is to help private land owners conserve their land," she said. "I help people with invasive species removal, native plant establishment, storm water management and wildlife enhancement."

She was excited to see three acres of

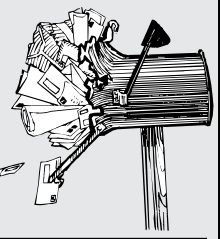
landowners band together for the conservation project. "They were already losing most of their native trees due to ivy and clematis," she said.

According to Logalbo, the polluted streams would eventually affect the Columbia and Willamette rivers. "Without the trees, you'd have a warmer stream and more erosion," she said.

And, projects like this affect wildlife throughout the region. For example, removing invasives and planting willows attracts the Willow Flycatcher, a threatened bird. "If we just let it go, we could lose them. A healthy environment is good for all wildlife."

Contact the West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District at 503/238-4775, [www.wmswcd.org](http://www.wmswcd.org). Learn more about the Bridlemile Creek Stewards at [swni.org/bridlemile\\_neighborhood\\_association/creek\\_stewards](http://swni.org/bridlemile_neighborhood_association/creek_stewards).

**Letters to the Editor**



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**Pedestrians need to share responsibility for their own safety**

Our mothers taught us not to wear dark clothing when walking at night, to walk facing traffic and to look both ways and cross safely. This was good advice, which seems to have been lost to younger generations.

Pedestrians need to take some responsibility for their own safety. They need to follow the simple rules that our mother's taught. As a driver, it scares me to death when I come upon someone in the roadway in dark clothing and barely visible.

All of us are pedestrians at some point and it is our responsibility to cross safely instead of thinking that the walker owns the road and drivers must look out for them.

It is arrogant and foolhardy to take risks just because the pedestrian is supposed to have all the rights. It is time for pedestrians to use the common sense that mothers preached for years.

*Patti Waitman, Multnomah*

**Ash Creek opposed Water Tank**

*(Continued from Page 1)*

half a million gallons short of the supply now, he said, and will be a million gallons short by 2016. The comment about not proceeding for two years was "a misunderstanding," he said, and referred to construction rather than process.

Ruhmke challenged this. "They have yet to produce a technical document that shows they have that big a need," he said. "And if it was from 2006 it's a fantasy because in those days we assumed that residential development in Washington County would just keep on growing."

Another District representative, Todd Heidgerken, said of the impact,

"I have to be honest, this structure would have a bigger footprint. We're looking at ways to make it visually more pleasing." They propose to plant wax maple and Japanese Barberry.

Ruhmke told *The Post* that he could accept an alternate proposal for increased water capacity on the site, such as two 1.5 million gallon tanks. Asked if they would consider structural rather than cosmetic changes in their plans Heidgerken said, "I couldn't say one way or the other. We would have to consult our board."

Heidgerken said the District had hired consultant Eryn Kehe to "find what the neighbors are concerned about, drill a little deeper into that."

Ash Creek chair Jack Klinker told *The Post*, "They have to upgrade their tanks, and they see this as a cheap way to increase capacity. I don't think this is appropriate for this neighborhood, but it's a subjective judgment."

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