

'If I Were Mayor' contest deadline is tomorrow

The Cottage Grove City Council is participating in the Oregon Mayors Association's student "If I Were Mayor..." contest.

The deadline for youth to enter is quickly approaching on Friday, April 16, at 5 p.m.

Youth in the community are invited to enter:

- Poster Contest for 4th and 5th grade students are invited to participate in a poster contest with local prizes of 1st Place (\$50) and 2nd Place (\$25.)
- Essay Contest for 6th through 8th grade students are invited to participate in an essay contest with local prizes of 1st Place (\$75) and 2nd Place (\$50).

Digital Media Presentations for 9th through 12th grade students are invited to participate in a digital media presentations with local prizes of 1st Place (\$100) and 2nd Place (\$50).

The Cottage Grove City Council will be awarding the local prizes at that April 26 city council meeting.

The local 1st place winners will be entered into the Oregon Mayors Association's statewide contest.

For information on how to enter and further details about the contest follow the link of the city Council's site at: www.cottagegroveor.gov/citycouncil.

Master Gardener Spring Plant Sale has begun

The Lane County Master Gardener Association announces its 2021 Spring Plant Sale. Plants for sale include vegetables, berries, natives, perennials, shrubs, and roses.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, orders will be online only, with in-person pick-up on April 24.

Customers will sign up for a time and be provided with pick up location upon purchase.

For the safety of our customers and volun-

teers, no plants will be available to purchase onsite.

Pre-orders will continue through April 23.

All sales final.

Pick up in Eugene on April 24, between noon and 6 p.m.

Location disclosed after purchase.

Order plants online at www.lcmgplantsale.square.site

For more informaton, contact Laura Hoover by email at lcmgplantale@gmail.com

Summer restrictions in place at wastewater treatment plant

The Wastewater Treatment Plant has gone into the summer thermal limits required by the Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

Now through May 15, limits are 13 million Kcals/day. This is the allowed increase in Coast Fork River water

temperature caused by treated water being released into the river by the treatment plant.

Due to the restriction, the City is unable to discharge all its treated effluent into the river. This is to keep the river cooler for fish migration.

The limits are usually attainable until May 15 when the limits are again reduced to accommodate

the fish spawning season. The restriction is then reduced to a limit of 9 million Kcals/day.

On May 1, the summer permit starts, which increases the testing requirements for phosphorus, nitrite, nitrate, and Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen.

The increased testing runs through the end of October.

From June 15 through

Sept. 15, the NPDES permit has a very strict orthophosphate limit.

The City's limit to achieve is under one pound per day.

With the new pond project, the city will have more treated water storage, which will help stay in compliance with DEQ according to the City's permit.

CFW Watershed Council awarded \$234,842 for restoration project

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) awarded \$234,842 to Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council for My Brothers' Farm Floodplain Forest Restoration at their March board meeting.

The award was one of 85 grants totaling \$10,095,681 provided to local organizations statewide to support fish and wildlife habitat and water quality projects.

"This project will restore and enhance wetlands, oak habitat, and floodplain forest on over 64 acres," said Reilly Newman, Projects Manager, Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council. "The habitat restoration at My Brothers' Farm demon-

strates how agricultural activities and restoration can complement each other."

Newman added that working lands and intact healthy habitats are not mutually exclusive.

"This farm will serve as a great model for demonstrating how to find that balance," he said.

The My Brothers' Farm Floodplain Forest Restoration Project will enhance and restore 64.4 acres of habitat for native species through:

- 1) Releasing legacy oaks and enhancing oak woodland understory and upland prairie
- 2) Restoring and expanding bottomland hardwood forest buffers;
- 3) Expanding and en-

hancing forested, shrub/scrub, marsh and wet prairie wetlands, and

4) Installing 1.6 miles of electric fencing to protect waterways from livestock.

It is expected to begin in 2021 and be completed by 2026.

Funding for grants awarded by the OWEB Board comes from three primary sources: The Oregon Lottery, Salmon License Plate revenues, and Federal Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery funds provided by the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration.

Since 1999, the Oregon Lottery has provided over \$684 million to OWEB's grant program that helps restore, maintain and enhance Oregon's water-

sheds. Combined, the Lottery has earned over \$9 billion for watershed enhancements, public education, state parks and economic development.

Information about the Oregon Lottery can be found on its website.

For more information about this project, contact Amanda Gilbert at coordinator@coastfork.org.

For information about OWEB and its grant programs, contact April Mack at april.mack@oregon.gov.

A listing of all awarded grants is available at: Spring 2020 Open Solicitation Grant Offering report.

Yard sale signage not the only option this spring

The return of spring weather will mark the return of yard or garage sale signs.

Residents are reminded that yard/garage sale signs are not allowed within the city rights-of-way, on traffic signal, street light, street sign or utility poles.

Yard sale signs in the right-of-way can be a distraction to drivers, pedestrians or cyclists.

Signs on private property, however, are fine.

The city is also providing a way of promoting yard/

garage sales. Just follow the "Community Resources" menu on the City of Cottage Grove webpage and go to the "Yard Sales" link.

There, you can enter in yard sale information and the city will post the list on the page of all yard or ga-

rage sales by Friday morning each week.

Anyone wishing to take a tour of the yard sales in town can access the site on their device or print out a list and then shop till they drop.

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