

New laws affect boaters, drinkers, hunters, shoppers

The Columbia Press

News laws went into effect this week designed to protect the environment, right some wrongs, and raise money for transportation projects.

Following are the main new rules in Oregon that people may notice.

PLASTIC BAG BAN

Grocery stores and restaurants are banned from offering single-use plastic bags at checkout lines.

Oregon joins California, New York and Hawaii in banning single-use plastic bags. Those who forget to bring a reusable bag will be charged 5 cents for each paper bag or other alternative.

Plastic bags used for produce, bulk foods and meat are exempt.

PLASTIC STRAW BAN

Restaurants may not offer customers single-use plastic straws (customers must request one). There is an exemption for customers in drive-through lanes at food-service windows – employees can offer, but still can't automatically include straws in take-out bags. Also exempt are those serving patients at residential care homes and nursing facilities, and convenience stores, which are allowed to place straws on the counter in an unattended location, such as a self-serve drink station.

Small cocktail straws are included in the restriction, but plastic straws attached to or packaged with an item, such as juice boxes, are OK.

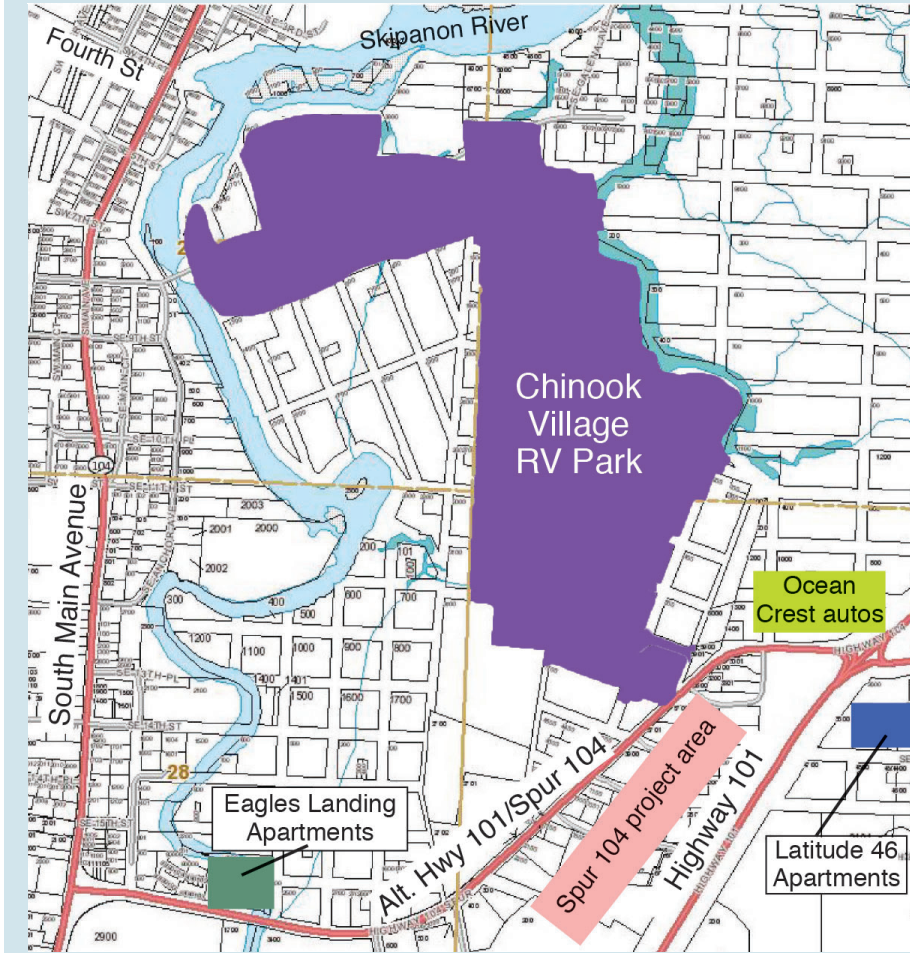
NEW BICYCLING RULE

Cyclists have been required by law to abide by the same traffic laws as cars. While bicyclists still must yield to foot and vehicle traffic, they'll be allowed to roll through clear stop-sign intersections, rather than come to a full

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Developer plans campground south of marina

BY CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press



A large recreational vehicle park and campground has been proposed on vacant land along the Skipanon River.

Chinook Village RV Park would have 99 spaces for campers, plus yurts, portable cabins and/or tiny homes, all for short-term stays.

In addition, there are two new apartment complexes planned in the general vicinity. Both apartment projects are on the Planning Commission's Jan. 9 agenda for public hearings.

The proposed 30-acre campground also will require a public hearing before it can be approved, but that hasn't yet been scheduled.

The project's developer, Jason Palmberg, owns individually or with family members about half of the land along the east side of the Skipanon River.

"I'm supportive of the project. There seems to be a demand," said Mark Kujala, whose family owns the other half of the land. "We are still exploring our options on that property, but we do have intentions for some type of residential development."

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Five-car pileup sends nine to area hospitals

The Columbia Press

Nine people were injured in a five-car pile-up on Highway 101 south of Warrenton.

The crash was reported about 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 26, at Ivyloo Acres Lane in front of Glenwood Village manufactured home park.

Derek Hampton, 73, of Talent was headed north in a Ford Econoline van with Civil Air Patrol markings when, for an unexplained reason, he crossed into oncoming traffic, striking two vehicles, according to the Oregon State Police.

One of the vehicles that was struck

then crashed into a northbound vehicle. The driver of the fifth vehicle attempted to avoid the crash and drove into a dirt embankment.

Nine people were taken to three different hospitals and the highway was

closed for several hours.

Michael Salamunovich, 31, of Astoria was driving a silver Toyota Corolla that was struck head-on. He was critically injured and taken by LifeFlight

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A van headed north on Highway 101 crossed into the path of oncoming vehicles. An Astoria man driving the Toyota was seriously injured and taken by Life Flight to a Portland-area hospital.

Lenard Hansen
Warrenton Fire Department

