

Arch Cape water conservation recognized by state

Plan to detect leaks, update piping made the unincorporated area stand out

By Brenna Visser
Cannon Beach Gazette

The unincorporated area of Arch Cape has been recognized for water conservation efforts by the Oregon Water Resources Department.

Arch Cape, with only 150 residents, was the only district nominated for towns serving less than 1,000 customers. The award is designed to recognize individuals, groups and businesses for responsible water



View of Arch Cape from the south.

management.

Kerri Cope, a Water Management and Conservation Analyst for the Oregon Water Resources Department, said Arch Cape was recognized because of the depart-

ment's plans to construct a glass-lined steel reservoir, install new radio-read meters and update distribution piping.

"It's been several years since we've made any water stewardship and conservation awards, but Arch Cape's Water Management and Conservation Plan was the inspiration for once again recognizing those who have shown an outstanding commitment to responsible water management," Cope said.

The City of Prineville and the Dillon Dam Project in Umatilla County were also recognized for water conservation efforts.

The Water Management and Conservation Plan is a document all water suppliers are required to sub-

mit to the state, Arch Cape Domestic Water Supply District Manager Phil Chick said. It serves as a road map for how the department plans to save water for the next 10 years.

Some of the other goals listed in Arch Cape's plan include improving the district's leak detection program, as well as a yearly water audit to identify and quantify water waste.

While these conservation strategies aren't necessarily unique to Arch Cape, Chick said what he finds notable is how the plan was designed and by who.

"We did this all in house by staff. Usually a plan of this size is done by consultants, so we are pretty proud," Chick said. "The passion

for this comes from a locally-dedicated citizenry. Our community is very proactive — we have a knack for getting ahead of things."

This document serves as a plan mainly for when cities face water shortages — a reality that is possible but not often seen on the rainy, Oregon Coast. But for Chick it's about making sure the resource is not being taken for granted.

The water conservation plan parallels the town's long term goal to acquire the 5,000 acres that constitutes the area's watershed, echoing the area's overall commitment to sustainable operations, Chick said.

"What better way than to manage from the source?" he said. "Water is too important."

Nehalem Airstrip to see safety upgrades

The airstrip at Nehalem Bay State Park will undergo major safety improvements this fall.

A two-phased project begins in October to remove underbrush along both sides of the 2,350-foot airstrip and to clear out about 20 acres of non-native maritime pine trees at its north end. The trees, planted sometime in the mid-1970s, are now about 50-70 feet tall. They have become a significant safety hazard for pilots on takeoff and landing. The airstrip is one of 28 state-owned airstrips serving small communities for emergency access, recreation and general transportation.

The Oregon Department of Aviation, which oversees the operation and maintenance of state-owned airstrips such as the one at Nehalem Bay, is funding the project. The Department of Aviation leases the property from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

The project will be overseen by park staff, management and the Oregon Parks forester, and will take about two months. Logs harvested will be cut for firewood sales in the campground. Work will resume in spring 2018 with manual removal of invasive Scotch broom in the same area.



Fog is seen through the trees along North Fork Nehalem River.

State seeks input on Nehalem River plan

EO Media Group

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department is taking feedback until mid-October on a proposal to add a 17-mile section of the Nehalem River to the state scenic waterways program.

A scenic waterway designation helps protect the scenic, natural and recreation value of a section of river by subjecting some activities within one-quarter mile of the bank to a review.

The designation would include several miles of the river in southern Clatsop County between Henry Rier-son Spruce Run Park and the

Beaver Eddy Campground. The designation would continue downriver to Cougar Valley State Park east of Nehalem.

Public feedback will be used in a recommendation for or against the designation.

The state parks department held at September hearing at the North Country Recreation District in Nehalem.

Comments can also be emailed to oprd.publiccomment@oregon.gov or mailed to: OPRD Scenic Waterway Study, 725 Summer St NE Suite C, Salem, OR 97301. The comment period closes Oct. 13.

Beach cleanups in Cannon Beach, South County haul in tons of trash

Exhaust pipe found in Gearhart

Cannon Beach Gazette

Hundreds of volunteers in the South County came to Cannon Beach, Gearhart and Seaside beaches Saturday for the annual SOLVE Beach and Riverside Cleanup, presented by the Oregon Lottery.

More than 4,600 volunteers joined for the event, which collected an estimated 72,000 pounds of trash and marine debris were collected from 140 project sites including rivers, neighborhoods, parks, historic cemeteries, and other natural areas across the state.

According to SOLVE, cleanups took place along all 362 miles of the Oregon Coast.

In addition to removing litter, invasive, non-native plants were cleared from 2.5 acres of natural area.

In Seaside, SOLVE and the Seaside Lions met at the Turn-around at 10 a.m. and continued efforts through the early afternoon.

In Cannon Beach, volunteers joined SOLVE and Pacific Alarms Systems for the cleanup.

In Gearhart, cleanup teams went to Del Ray Beach in Gearhart. Among items salvaged was a car exhaust pipe, SOLVE reported.

The most common items found during the event were tiny bits of plastic, cigarette butts, fishing rope, glass bottles and plastic bottles. Items found by volunteers included a door and \$20 at the Salmon Headwaters Cleanup at Tim-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

berline, 20 large Styrofoam blocks in the Multnomah Channel and two bikes along Bear Creek Greenway in Medford.

SOLVE was originally about stopping litter, but as the years have passed, their mission has focused in on how volunteers can make a difference with the environment and build a legacy of stewardship,

Quintin Bauer, program director of volunteers, told members of the Seaside Downtown Development Association this spring.

"We want to bring people together and we want to improve the environment," Bauer said. "We want to get to the heart of this and stop people from leaving their trash on the beach."

"Brittani is a new mom to a beautiful little girl who's enrolled in dance at Encore this fall," the studio wrote. "She is excited to be a part of the Encore team, and she's looking forward to inspiring children in the studio."

"She's so excited to be dancing here with us and is already working her magic in some Hip Hop, Musical Theater and Jazz classes," the

Encore Dance hires Universal Studios' 'Cindy Lou Who'

GEARHART — Encore Dance Studio is excited to announce that its family of teachers has grown.

"We've stolen Christmas! Well, maybe not Christmas, just Cindy Lou Who!" Encore wrote.

The studio's newest teach-

er, Brittany Henderson, comes all the way from Los Angeles, where she played Cindy Lou Who at Universal Studios.

"She's so excited to be dancing here with us and is already working her magic in some Hip Hop, Musical Theater and Jazz classes," the

dance studio said.

"Brittani is a new mom to a beautiful little girl who's enrolled in dance at Encore this fall," the studio wrote. "She is excited to be a part of the Encore team, and she's looking forward to inspiring children in the studio."

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