

LOCAL WEATHER



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Garlic mustard, pictured here, is an invasive species that has been found along the Umatilla River in Hermiston.

UNWELCOME:
continued from page A1

asia that few animals will eat because of its distinct smell.

"It's pretty easy to identify," he said. "All you've got to do is grab a leaf and squish it between your fingers, and then you can smell it really easily. The leaves produce a distinct garlic odor when crushed."

The plant has white flowers in April or May, Durfey said, but does not bloom for very long before going into seed production. He said the weed, with its "kidney-shaped leaves," can be difficult to spot because it blends in with other plants in wetter areas next to trees.

"The plant height is supposed to be 12 to 48 inches, although, I've seen some where the plant leaves are

as big as my ball cap, and there are plants along the Umatilla River as tall as I am," he said.

Durfey said the Oregon Weed Board aggressively targets garlic mustard, and he has received two grants to address the only known outbreak in eastern Oregon. Although the herbicides registered to kill garlic mustard are not extremely effective, he said he tries to "stay on top of it" with spring and fall applications.

Durfey said he is currently focusing on the areas upriver to prevent reseeding downriver and will eventually progress downward to sites such as Oxbow, but the plant will continue to spread.

The weed can be pulled by hand, he said, but the plants should be placed in bags immediately and burned because their high-water content allows

them to "go to seed" the same day.

"If you hand pull it and just stay after it, you can control it that way," he said. "Being mustard, it produces a lot of seeds, so it takes a lot of effort to take care of it."

Durfey said he hopes people will learn about garlic mustard and other invasive species to help prevent further spread.

"The only good thing about having it at Oxbow is it's a high-traffic area, and it's a good opportunity to educate (people) about the weed and any noxious weeds," he said. "The best way to take care of it is through more education. The more eyes on it, the more it helps us."

People can contact Durfey at 541-278-5462 or dan.durfey@umatilla-county.net.

GOALS:
continued from page A1

veloping parks in the northeast area of town, paving remaining gravel streets, retrofitting sidewalks on older streets and building a city and county shooting range.

Councilwoman Jackie Myers said each council member provided input, and the projects selected were based on a group consensus.

"I think what we chose was a list of the high priority items that were agreed upon throughout the whole council," she said.

Myers said park improvements to improve the quality of life for children was her highest priority.

Councilman Rod Hardin also said focusing on city parks was important. He said the eastern side of the city needs more parks, and, although a skate park "has been on the horizon for years," the city needs to complete the project.

"For me, it's always been embarrassing that everyone else has these skate parks around us, including Irrigun, with a state-of-the-art kind of a deal, and ours looks pretty sad there behind the police department," he said.

Hardin also said proactive code enforcement was important to ensure the city is attractive, and a planned clean-up day April 25 will help.

City Manager Byron Smith said identifying the goals will help officials develop a plan to accomplish them.

"Some of it will work really well into the budget process," he said. "We're kind of getting started on that right now, so we can look and see where we can plug money towards accomplishing those things."

Smith said a supplemental budget approved during

the council meeting addressed some of the goals, including setting up a reserve fund to begin saving for the skate park. He said some of the goals may take longer to accomplish, however, such as constructing the natural gas line, which cannot begin until a court ruling confirming the city has the authority to take over for the current service provider has been delivered.

"We will come back quarterly to report (to council) where we're at with all of these things," he said.

The elected leaders also identified medium priority initiatives: planning a library expansion as a community hub, studying the benefits of a rail line through the center of town, adopting aesthetic standards for signs, updating a water master plan and developing parks and trails. Medium priority capital projects identified by the council include redeveloping the current fairgrounds, public transportation and replacing aging infrastructure and equipment.

Initiatives identified by the city management team as high priorities, which were not ranked as highly by the council, include developing a capital improvement plan, implementing a GIS mapping program and changing the leave accrual rate for long-term employees. High priority capital projects identified by the management team include implementing an equipment replacement fund, constructing more water storage and a new city hall and adding backup generators to critical water supply resources.

In other City Council news:

• Council members approved a \$5.5 million supplemental budget, which includes the \$2 million Community Development Block Grant for the senior

center.

• The council passed an emergency ordinance amendment effective immediately that allows police to stop people who are misusing park equipment, such as sitting on countertops intended to be used for cooking or skateboarding on tables. At an officer's

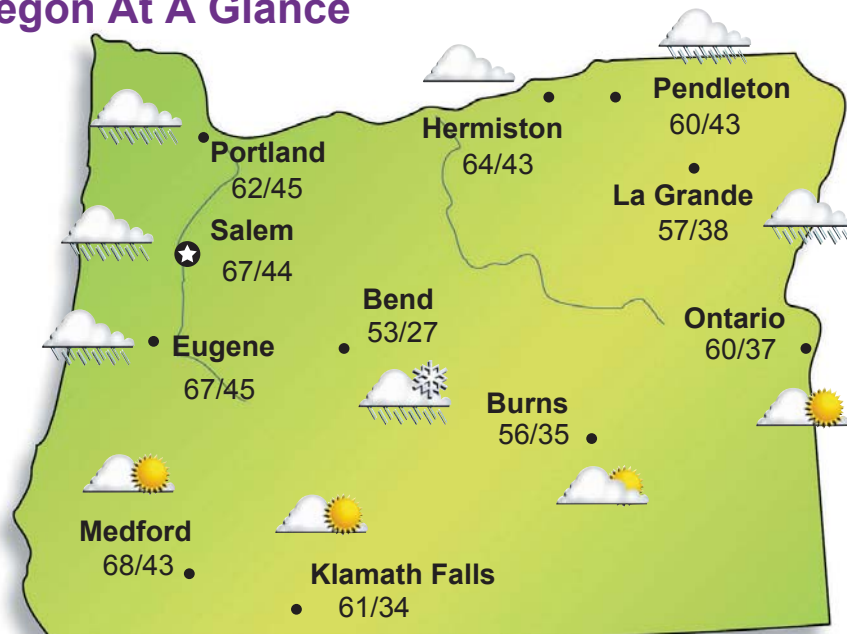
Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Wed 3/25	Thu 3/26	Fri 3/27	Sat 3/28	Sun 3/29
64/43 Cloudy. High 64F. Winds SW at 10 to 15 mph.	74/45 Plenty of sun. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 40s.	76/51 Mainly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 50s.	71/45 Chance of showers. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 40s.	71/46 Plenty of sun. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 40s.
Sunrise 6:50 AM Sunset 7:15 PM	Sunrise 6:49 AM Sunset 7:17 PM	Sunrise 6:47 AM Sunset 7:18 PM	Sunrise 6:45 AM Sunset 7:19 PM	Sunrise 6:43 AM Sunset 7:21 PM



Oregon At A Glance



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Albany	67	45	rain	Florence	60	45	rain	Newport	57	47	rain
Ashland	67	43	pt sunny	Grants Pass	70	44	pt sunny	Pendleton	60	43	rain
Astoria	54	43	rain	Hermiston	64	43	cloudy	Portland	62	45	rain
Baker City	57	33	cloudy	John Day	58	36	rain	Redmond	62	36	cloudy
Bend	53	27	mixed	Klamath Falls	61	34	pt sunny	Roseburg	71	47	pt sunny
Brookings	63	48	pt sunny	La Grande	57	38	rain	Salem	67	44	rain
Burns	56	35	cloudy	Lakeview	59	32	cloudy	Springfield	65	43	rain
Coos Bay	62	47	pt sunny	Lincoln City	58	46	rain	The Dalles	62	44	rain
Corvallis	67	45	rain	Mcminnville	64	45	rain	Tillamook	59	44	rain
Eugene	67	45	rain	Medford	68	43	pt sunny	Vale	61	39	pt sunny

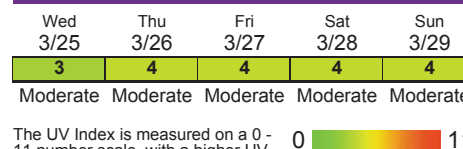
National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	75	57	pt sunny	Houston	79	64	pt sunny	Phoenix	84	58	pt sunny
Boston	47	38	mst sunny	Los Angeles	82	63	sunny	San Francisco	71	53	mst sunny
Chicago	54	35	cloudy	Miami	86	74	pt sunny	Seattle	57	49	rain
Dallas	80	53	sunny	Minneapolis	42	26	windy	St. Louis	70	43	pt sunny
Denver	46	30	cloudy	New York	45	43	rain	Washington, DC	57	52	cloudy

Moon Phases



UV Index



©2010 American Profile Hometown Content Service

East Oregonian
BUTTE CHALLENGE
Hermiston Herald

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2015

5K RUN, 5K WALK, 10K RUN, KID'S BUTTE SCOOT

All races begin & end at Hermiston's Butte Park
DRAWINGS • FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Online registration & race information at
WWW.BUTTECHALLENGE.COM

REGISTER ONLINE BY APRIL 23RD TO ORDER A CUSTOM TECHNICAL RACE T-SHIRT

All proceeds benefit THE HERMISTON CROSS COUNTRY PROGRAM
Thank you for your support!