

Road crews will start removing signs

Signs sprout like weeds along Washington County roads. They're getting out of control and county road crews will be pulling them up by the roots. The blight of political, real estate, work at home, and garage sale signs will start to disappear as crews begin their

periodic sweep of illegal signs. According to Land Use and Transportation operations manager Dave Schamp, "Signs placed illegally along the road generate safety issues and many citizen complaints, so periodically we concentrate on rounding them up. Naturally the

problem peaks just prior to elections but we don't discriminate – politics, real estate, internet access – we take them all."

Beside being a visual blight on the landscape, illegally placed signs block driver visibility and pedestrian access, and compete with important traffic control signs for driver attention. They also damage irrigation systems in landscaped areas.

The public should never place signs in a right-of-way, which generally includes the roadway, ditches, shoulders and sidewalks; basically all the area between the utility poles on both sides of the road. Signs must also not be placed on traffic signposts, power poles or signal cabinets.

The majority of signs are snagged by community service workers who, under the supervision of county employees, cruise the main roads favored by sign owners. The confiscated materials are recycled or disposed of at the landfill.

For more information about Washington County sign regulations, contact the Operations Division at 503-846-7623, or wc-roads@washington.or.us



Conner Reed as Rudyard Kipling in *The Jungle Book* at Theatre in the Grove. Reed played both Mowgli and Rudyard in the play, which finished its run on Sunday, October 28.



Banks Library specialist Becky Cottam went all out in decorating for the Book Fair this year. With a polar theme, visitors were welcomed to the library by a friendly polar bear. Seals, whales and otters were also on display. Inside the library, a table of wintry northern books were available along with many others. The Scholastic Book Fair raises money for the library so Cottam can buy new books. Another fair will be held in the spring.

Remember to change your clocks on November 3

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