

Upper Nehalem CPAC elections to be held May 11

Columbia County will be holding Citizen Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) elections, for those positions with expiring terms.

CPACs provide advice and recommendations to the County Land Use Planning entities, including the Planning Department, the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners. CPAC members serve for two-year terms. Each CPAC is divided into neighborhoods. Members represent neighborhoods in which they reside or own property.

Residents and/or property owners within the neighborhoods elect their CPAC members. There must be at least five voters from each neighborhood to hold an election for the neighborhood. In order to be eligible to vote you must show either picture identification proving that you live in the CPAC neighborhood where you will cast your ballot; or a tax statement proving that you own property within the neighborhood where you are voting. You may vote only once in your CPAC area. The Upper Nehalem CPAC

elections will be held on Tuesday, May 11, at 7:00 p.m. at Vernonia City Hall, 1001 Bridge Street, Vernonia.

The following neighborhoods for the Upper Nehalem CPAC need elections: Stoney Point, City of Vernonia, Treharne and Hwy. 47 South.

For more information about the the CPAC boundaries and elections process, contact Chief Planner Glen Higgins, or Land Use Planners Debbie Jacob or Erika Owen, in Land Development Services, County Courthouse, 503-397-1501.

Many outdoor chemicals can be hazardous to pets

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hazard to your pet before application," says Dr. Nicole Chamberlin of the Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Tualatin. Overapplication can lead to excess residue, which can be harmful.

compost piles.

Insecticides and Pesticides – These products tend to be more toxic to pets than fertilizers and herbicides, so be even more cautious with them.

Store all insecticides and pesticides in their original packaging and away from pets. The National Pesticide Information Center (800-858-7378) can help you make informed decisions about pesticide use.

The most dangerous forms of pesticides include: slug and snail bait (containing metaldehyde), fly bait (containing methomyl), systemic insecticides (containing disyston or disulfoton), mole or gopher bait

(containing zinc phosphide), and most forms of rat poisons.

Dogs can be attracted to slug bait that contains metaldehyde. Signs of poisoning include tremors, seizures, shaking, vomiting, hyper-salivation, rapid heart rate, and abdominal pain. If your pet ingests slug bait, contact your veterinarian immediately. And use caution with newer "pet-safe" slug baits containing iron. These products can still be toxic to pets and can initially cause gastrointestinal signs.

Natural alternatives to insecticides and pesticides include:

Diatomaceous Earth: This is

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Chainsaws and mushrooms are topics of event for women woodlands owners

Basic chainsaw skills and woodland mushroom cultivation will be the focus of an event geared for women who own or manage woodlands on April 24 at 10 am in St. Helens.

The event is sponsored by the OSU Extension Service and the Women Owning Woodlands Network, a group whose goal is to encourage and support women's involvement in woodland management.

Safe chainsaw handling and basic cutting skills will be covered. Logs that are cut during the class will be inoculated with edible mushroom plugs. Local landowners will lead the class, which will have a hands-on component. Participants are

encouraged to bring their own saws and safety gear.

The event is free, but an RSVP is required by April 22. To respond, or for more information, call the OSU Extension Service office, 503-397-3462. Oregon State University Extension Service offers educational programs, activities and materials without discrimination based on age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran's status. Oregon State University Extension Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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