

working for clean rivers

CLARIFIER

JULY 2013

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Message from the Commissioner



I am excited about my new assignments, working with the talented and dedicated teams at the Bureau of Environmental Services and the Portland Water Bureau.

This combination of bureaus gives us the opportunity to think holistically about how we maintain aging infrastructure while ensuring that ratepayers get the most value for their hard earned dollars.

There are those who continue to challenge, legally and politically, Portland's innovative efforts to put nature front and center in managing stormwater. I think they are wrong—and I intend to push back forcefully.

With your help, I look forward to telling our story, with a goal of ending the false distinction between green and grey infrastructure. We need both. My hope is that Portlanders will better understand that using nature to address our challenges is not only environmentally responsible, but cost effective, too.

In the next few months, I will be spending a lot of time listening and learning. I will be visiting many of you in your workplaces, and asking you how we can better serve all Portlanders.

Thank you for your service to our city—I hope to see you soon.

Nia Fia

**ROAD
CLOSED**



Installation of 144-inch wide manhole at Harrison and Cesar Chavez requires full closure of the intersection.



Old chimney-type manhole to be replaced at Harrison and Cesar Chavez



Pre-constructed manhole segments to replace old manhole on the 120-year-old sewer

Cesar Chavez Closure

Last Friday, Environmental Services closed SE Cesar Chavez Boulevard to through traffic between Hawthorne Boulevard and Division Street. The project completely closed the intersection at SE Harrison to all traffic. The SE Lincoln Street neighborhood greenway remains open for bicycle traffic across SE Cesar Chavez during construction.

Around the clock, continuous construction will allow the contractor to complete the work and re-open SE Cesar Chavez as quickly as possible. The closure will last no longer than 21 days. The work will replace sewers the city constructed about 120 years ago and is part of a larger project to replace aging sewers that are in poor condition. More project information is available at www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/CesarChavezBlvd.



Above: Cesar Chavez is closed to through traffic between Hawthorne and Division. Below: SE Lincoln Street greenway remains open for bicyclists.



Environmental Services isn't the only agency with big projects this summer that will affect traffic. The bureau is working with TriMet, the Portland Bureau of Transportation and the Oregon Department of Transportation on coordinating construction schedules to try to ensure that major road closures on north-south corridors don't overlap.

Environmental Services Director Dean Marriott, City Commissioner Steve Novick, TriMet General Manager Neil McFarlane and Don Hamilton from ODOT gathered at the Cesar Chavez construction site last week to brief reporters on construction-related street closures and detours this summer.

Industries Working for Clean Rivers

Each year, Environmental Services recognizes industrial customers that work to protect the environment and keep our rivers, streams and watersheds healthy. The ceremony for the 2011 award winners was on June 7 at the Water Pollution Control Laboratory. Congratulations to the latest Industrial Pretreatment Award Winners.

No Permit Violations in last 10 Years

Herbert Malarkey Roofing Company

No Permit Violations in last 5 Years

Dacon Industries, Co.

Ocean Beauty Portland Distribution

Univar USA Inc.

No Permit Violations in 2012

ALSCO Uniform Services Division

American Recyclers LLC

Aramark Uniform Services

Archer Daniels Midland Company

Sweeteners Terminal

Ashland Water Technologies

Baker Commodities Inc.

Beltservice Corporation

Blue Beacon of Portland

The Boeing Company, Portland

BP West Coast Products, LLC

Portland Terminal (T22)

BridgePort Brewing Company

CertainTeed Corporation

Chevron USA Willbridge Distribution Center

Cintas Corporation

Coca-Cola Company Portland Syrup Branch

Craft Brew Alliance

Darling

Del Monte Fresh Produce N.A., Inc.

East Side Plating Plant, Inc. #4

Electro-Chem

Glacier Northwest, Inc.

Graphic Flexible Packaging, LLC

Harry's Fresh Food

ISSPRO, Inc.

Kanto Corporation

Kinder Morgan Liquids Terminal

Koppers Industries

Kosta's Scrap Metal

LSG SkyChefs, Inc.

Leatherman Tool Group



From left – Mike Tuel, Malarkey Roofing; Dean Marriott, BES Director; Marveita Redding, Pollution Prevention Services Manager; Miguel Santana, Permitting Section Manager; and Greg Malarkey accepting the award for no permit violations for the last 10 years.

Masic Industries

MEMC Electronic Materials

Metro Central Transfer Station

Momentive Specialty Chemicals

New System Laundry

OHSU Center for Health & Healing

Oregon Air National Guard

Oregon Plating Co.

Ota Tofu Company

Paramount Petroleum Corporation

Pasco Corporation of America

PDX Car Rental Car Wash

Pentagon Technologies

Phillips 66 Terminal

Portland French Bakery

Portland Hospital Service Corporation

Portland Meadows Race Track

Sapa, Inc., Coatings Div.

Sapa, Inc., Riverside

Siltronic Corporation

Silver Eagle Manufacturing Company

SSA Pacific, Inc.

TCI America Headquarters

TCI America Oregon Research Center

TriMet Center Street Garage

Union Pacific Railroad

United States Bakery, Franz

UPS Portland South

Yoshida Foods International



Explorando participants paddle the Columbia Slough

Explorando

Over 450 people attended Explorando el Columbia Slough at Whitaker Ponds last month. Environmental Services has been a sponsor of the bilingual nature festival since the Columbia Slough Watershed Council launched the event 12 years ago.

Participants enjoyed music and dance, games, food, guided canoe trips on the slough, live birds and hands-on environmental activities. Over 90 volunteers and staff from the watershed council and partner agencies worked on the event.

[Click here to see more Explorando photos on Flickr.](#)



This year's Corps of Rediscovery slough paddle participants

Corps of Rediscovery

It wasn't quite as epic as the Lewis and Clark expedition, but it was an eye-opening experience for guests on the Columbia Slough Watershed team's annual Corps of Rediscovery slough paddle. Participants in the June 14th event included staff from the Mayor's office, Division of State Lands, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Parks & Recreation, Multnomah County Drainage District, the Oregon Department of Transportation, the Water Bureau and Metro.

Participants got to see the slough from the water and view stormwater management and restoration projects on a nine-mile paddle from Fairview Lake to the NE 18th Avenue levee.



New Rates

New sewer rates went into effect Monday, July 1. The average single family residential monthly bill for sewer and stormwater services increased 5.32%. The estimated average single family residential monthly sewer bill went from \$59.57 to \$62.74, an increase of \$3.17 per month. Complete sewer rates are posted at www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/55059.



Art Deco Update

Art Deco has recently acquired some new art. It will be the first artwork on display in the new Engineering Office Building at the Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant. Titled *Heron Haven*, the mosaic by Hillsboro artist Gordon Campbell shows a heron in a wetland setting and is made with recycled linoleum tile and marmoleum countertop pieces. Look for *Heron Haven* in the new building this fall.



"Heron Haven" will be on display in the Maintenance Engineering Building this fall.



Dekumstruction Recognition

Environmental Services finished work on a green street facility at NE Dekum and Durham in 2011 and worked with the Regional Arts and Culture Council to add a unique combination of a bicycle parking structure and public art. Artists Buster Simpson and Peg Butler developed a steel sculpture called "Dekumstruction" made of halved oil barrel planters stenciled with names of depleted oil fields. The sculpture replaced two car parking spaces and created parking for 10 bicycles.

In June, Dekumstruction won a Public Art Network Year in Review award. The sculpture was one of 50 recognized out of over 350 entries from around the country.



Bike rack and sculpture on NE Dekum

Wellness Tip

If you take vitamins or other dietary supplements, here are some hints to make them even more effective: take them during or right after a meal, unless directed otherwise, with plenty of fluids; take them at a consistent time of day as recommended on the package; and continue taking them on a daily or otherwise consistent basis since it usually takes two to three months to feel the full positive effects.

Learn more about your coworkers on the BES intranet at TEAM BES.

Read about your teammates and review past profiles on the BES intranet at www.portlandonline.com/bes/teambes.

Contact your PEERs

PEERs are specially trained Environmental Services staff volunteers who are available to offer bureau employees support, guidance and referral. [Click here to learn more or to contact a PEER volunteer.](#)



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY OF PORTLAND
working for clean rivers



Our Mission

Environmental Services serves the Portland community by protecting public health, water quality and the environment.

We provide sewage and stormwater collection and treatment services to accommodate Portland's current and future needs.

We protect the quality of surface and ground waters and conduct activities that plan and promote healthy ecosystems in our watersheds.

Our Vision

To be recognized as a trusted service provider and innovative environmental leader through a demonstrated commitment to clean rivers, healthy watersheds and our community.

Environmental Services: www.portlandoregon.gov/bes
Nick Fish, Commissioner Dean Marriott, Director

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