

SHERWOOD CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Monday Mic Night | January 26, 2026 | 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm | FREE | Sign-ups begin at 6:30 pm

Calling poets, writers, actors, musicians and artists of all ages!

Come share your talents with a live audience. Are you a student who needs to rehearse your monologue or solo for an upcoming audition or show? Are you a poet who wants feedback for a new piece of poetry? Are you a musician wanting to release your next big hit/single, but need to work out the kinks? Are you a comedian with laughter to share?

Share your gifts in a safe and welcoming environment. Not interested in performing? That's fine too! Come support your community as part of the live audience and cheer for these emerging talents.

WINTER ARTS CLASSES

It's never too late to revisit a hobby or try something new! At the Sherwood Center for the Arts, we offer workshops and weekly classes for children, adults, and families. Dive into ceramics, fiber arts, mixed media, painting, guitar, piano, cupcake decorating, acting and MORE!

With new classes offered each session, you are sure to find a class that inspires you! Visit [SherwoodCenterfortheArts.org](#) to view the full class and winter schedule and to register.

Sherwood Center for the Arts - Friends Night Out | January 16 | Doors open at 7:00 pm | \$35 per person*

An Evening of Music, Laughter & Desserts

Join the Friends of the Sherwood Center for the Arts for an unforgettable evening out! The community is invited to gather at Sherwood Center for the Arts for a night of entertainment, desserts, fun drinks, raffle baskets, and hilarity.

Featuring local musical talent and an appearance from professional improv troupe ComedySportz, this is a chance to enjoy some post-holiday entertainment.

Be a part of this new annual tradition—a swanky night out, right here in Sherwood, building community and supporting arts scholarships for our local youth. A night out with Friends!

*Table of 8 option is available. Bring your friends or colleagues and make it a party!

All proceeds support student scholarships and production assistance grants at the Sherwood Center for the Arts — helping fuel creativity, education, and the arts in our community.

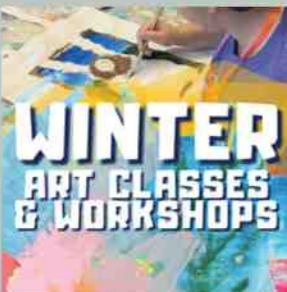
WE PROVIDE THE MIC YOU BRING THE TALENT

MONDAY MIC NIGHT

JAN. 26 7-9 PM

FREE TO THE PUBLIC

SIGN-UPS OPEN AT 6:30 PM



Sherwood Center for the Arts - Friends Night Out | January 16 | Doors open at 7:00 pm | \$35 per person* An Evening of Music, Laughter & Desserts Join the Friends of the Sherwood Center for the Arts for an unforgettable evening out! The community is invited to gather at Sherwood Center for the Arts for a night of entertainment, desserts, fun drinks, raffle baskets, and hilarity.



Sherwood Center for the Art Event Rentals

With first class facilities for events from large scale banquets to intimate meetings, the Sherwood Center for the Arts has the space you need to make your event a memorable one.

Available rooms include:

Meara Boughey Theatre/Main Hall – just under 4,000 square feet, can seat at least 200 for a banquet, or 393 in theater seating.

Stage – 29 by 30 feet at its smallest point, a sprung floor, full drapes, ample wing space, and full tech capabilities for productions, presentations, recitals, or ceremonies.

Lobby – beautifully windowed space with regular art exhibits on the walls, 890 square feet.

Classroom A – located downstairs with large windows overlooking the front patio, large white board, and sink.

Classroom B – located upstairs and private, with a large white board.

Dressing Room – fully lighted mirrors and makeup tables for 10, curtained dressing areas and cubby units for individual storage.

Kitchen – commercial-sized refrigerator, ice machine, full sink, ample counter space and separate back entry for caterers.

For more information visit [sherwoodcenterforthearts.org/gener-al/page/event-rentals](#) or call the center at 503.625.4Art

MARJORIE STEWART SENIOR CENTER

Refresh & Renew - Wednesdays in January - 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

A class to start the new year off right! Take stock of your past with your eye on the future to help set you up for your best 2026! This four-week course uses principles of identification and problem solving for personal growth, helping you to find who you want to be. We'll be working at what we want for ourselves this year, creating a cheat sheet to refer to over the next twelve months, and helping to keep you on track. After the four weeks there will be an optional monthly gathering to meet up with the Refresh & Restart coach and other participants.

Cardio Drumming - Thursdays at 2:00 pm

Are you looking for a new way to get a workout? Is your exercise routine getting boring? Are you plain just not excited to work out? Boy, have we got a class for you! Join this upbeat and irreverent class as we beat rhythms on yoga balls along to music. It's a bit silly and a great workout! Seated or standing options.

Polio Support Team (PST) - 2nd Fridays at 2:30 pm (1/9, 2/13, 3/13, 4/10)

Polio survivors are still here and still facing complications from this illness that wreaked havoc on communities. Survivors live with the late effects of polio decades after infection. If you are experiencing complications from polio, join the team! Meet with others who live with the effects of this disease, compare notes, and learn from each other in an environment with others who get it. We'll also have occasional presentations from experts in the field.

Mah Jong 101 Mondays – 2/2-3/2 (No class 2/16) 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Join Bev, Mah Jong teacher extraordinaire, as she breaks down how to play American Mah Jong into bite sized pieces as you learn to play. American Mah Jong uses the tiles that you may be familiar with the solitaire version played on your computer, but this group game is more akin to canasta or gin rummy in its style of play. Join if you're completely new to the game or if you're wanting to revisit how to play. \$25. Includes current Mah Jong card.

AARP Tax Assistance Thursdays starting 2/5, by appointment only.

Starting January 16, you can make your appointment for free tax preparation from trained AARP volunteers! Not available for all tax situations.

Let's Talk: Non-Death Losses – 2/4 - 10:30 am

As we age, we often have to give up activities such as hiking, kayaking, or even driving. How do we deal with these changes? How do we adapt? Let's discuss how we were able to deal with these non-death losses and what did we learn.

Program for Enhancing Rewarding Lives (PEARLS) - By Appointment

Have you been feeling down or blue? Have you lost interest in doing things? If you answered "yes" to one or both of these questions and are 60 years or older, there may be something we can do to help. PEARLS Coaches lead participants who meet the criteria through problem solving treatment to emphasize self-empowerment while being included in the supportive and caring Marjorie Stewart Center community. The PEARLS Program teaches you skills to manage the unpleasant feelings associated with depression. Local coaches meet with you individually to help you identify and solve problems that are linked to feeling the way you do. Learn ways to become more physically & socially active.

AARP SMART DRIVER – 2/10 AND 2/11 - 9:00 am

This course teaches proven driving techniques to help keep you and your loved ones safe on the road. Learn important facts about the effects of medication on driving, how to reduce driver distractions, new technology found in cars today, age-related physical changes and how to adjust your driving to compensate, and more! \$20 AARP member, \$25 non-member. Attendance on both days required.

Please call 503.625.5644, visit [sherwoodoregon.gov/marjoriestewartcenter](#), or stop by the center to register, ask questions, or find out more. All classes and activities are free unless otherwise noted. Are you over 60? Don't forget to make a reservation for one of Chef Dominic's delicious and fresh cooked meals!

PLANNING NEWS

Business License Renewal Now Open for 2026

The City of Sherwood's 2026 Business License Renewal period is now open, and we appreciate the continued investment our local businesses make in strengthening our community. All existing businesses are encouraged to use their custom renewal link to complete the renewal process for the upcoming calendar year and remain in good standing.

New businesses are reminded that a City of Sherwood business license is required to operate within the city. Whether you are opening a storefront, running a home-based business, or expanding operations, obtaining a license ensures that your business is properly registered and connected to available city services and resources. The licensing process helps the City maintain accurate records, provide timely support, and foster a healthy business environment.

Access the business license application portal at: [sherwoodoregon.gov/business-development/business-license](#)

The 2026 fee schedule has been updated to better align with the cost of providing services, and the City offers a 10% fee reduction for businesses physically located or headquartered within Sherwood. In addition, Sherwood provides a wide range of business resources, including tools for finding property, guidance for launching a business, and connections to local partners like the Sherwood Chamber of Commerce.

If you have questions or need assistance, the Community Development Department is available to help at businesslicensing@sherwoodoregon.gov or 503.625.4202. We are proud to serve Sherwood's business community and look forward to another successful year ahead.

Have a Planning Question? We're Here to Help.

Have a question about development, zoning, permits, or long-range planning in Sherwood? The City's Planning team is ready to help residents, property owners, and businesses navigate the process and understand local requirements. Whether you're in the early idea stage or preparing an application, a quick conversation with a planner can save time and provide clarity.

Contact the Planning Division at planning@sherwoodoregon.gov or call 503.925.2308 to get connected.



THE Sherwood ARCHER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2026

WWW.SHERWOODOREGON.GOV

- IN THIS ISSUE
- 1 CITY NEWS
COMMUNITY NEWS
 - 2 LIBRARY NEWS
POLICE NEWS
 - 3 COMMUNITY NEWS
CITY NEWS
FEATURED PARTNER
 - 4 PLANNING NEWS
CALENDAR

Metro Community Enhancement Program

The Metro Community Enhancement Program is now accepting applications through April 15, 2026.

The Community Enhancement Program (CEP) is an exciting opportunity for citizens to participate in making Sherwood a place where families and businesses thrive.

This program derives its funding from a partnership between Sherwood and Metro and is generated by a \$1.00 per ton surcharge collected at the Pride Recycling Company transfer station located at 13980 SW Tualatin-Sherwood Road, in Sherwood, Oregon.

The program is open to non-profit groups, organizations, and City Advisory Committees. We encourage you to let us know your ideas and plans for enhancing the community.

Whether you have big ideas, small ideas, or ideas somewhere in-between, you can be sure they will be considered.

For more information about this program and to learn about future grant cycles, go to: [sherwoodoregon.gov/community-enhancement-program](#)

Community Enhancement Program

Grant \$\$\$ available to local groups and non-profits.

Go to [www.SherwoodOregon.gov/Community-enhancement-program](#) for complete details.

Application period ends April 15th.

PROTECT YOUR PIPES THIS WINTER

As we spend more time indoors and settle into winter routines, it's important to remember that what goes down your drain can have a big impact on your home and on Sherwood's wastewater system. Fats, oils, grease (FOG) and so-called "flushable" wipes are two of the biggest causes of sewer clogs and costly plumbing issues this time of year.

During the holidays, many favorite dishes leave behind cooking byproducts that can stick to the insides of your pipes. Meanwhile, bathroom and cleaning wipes continue to be marketed as "flushable," even though they don't break down once they enter the sewer system. Together, these items can create major blockages that are expensive to repair for both homeowners and the City.

Why FOG Causes Problems

When fats, oils, and grease are washed down the sink, garbage disposal, or dishwasher, they don't stay liquid for long. As they cool, they harden and build up on the walls of plumbing lines. Small amounts build up over time, restricting flow until the pipe becomes fully blocked.

Common sources of FOG include:

- Turkey drippings and pan juices
- Gravy, sauces, dressings, and mayonnaise
- Cooking oils, butter, margarine, and shortening
- Meat scraps, poultry skin, and cheese
- Dairy products like milk, cream, and sour cream
- Deep-fried or oily foods

A blockage in your private sewer line can cause raw sewage to back up into your home. When this buildup reaches the main sewer system, it can also cause overflows into streets and waterways - problems that are both unpleasant and expensive to clean up.

Safe Ways to Handle FOG and Prevent clogs with a few easy steps:

- Pour liquid fats, oils, and grease into a lidded container and freeze until solid. Then toss it in the trash.
- Scrape and wipe plates and pans into the trash before rinsing.

The Truth About "Flushable" Wipes

Despite the labels, most wipes do not break apart in sewer lines. Items like baby wipes, disinfecting wipes, mop refills, and paper towels can remain intact for months or even years after being flushed. As they move through the system, they tangle together and combine with grease - creating blockages that can lead to sewer backups and increased maintenance costs. To protect your plumbing system, throw all wipes in the trash (even those labeled "flushable.") Or, choose reusable cleaning cloths!

A Small Effort Makes a Big Difference

By keeping FOG, wipes, and bulky food scraps out of your drains, you help prevent sewer backups, reduce maintenance costs, and protect our environment. These simple steps keep wastewater flowing smoothly through the system and help safeguard public health.

Thank you for doing your part to keep Sherwood's sewer system running cleanly and reliably this winter season.



Home of the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge

PRST STD
US Postage
PAID
Sherwood, OR
Permit No. 16

*****ECRWSSDDM***
POSTAL CUSTOMER
SHERWOOD, OR 97140

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

January/February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5	6 City Council 7:00 pm	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Planning Commission 7:00 pm	14 Senior Advisory Board 5:00 pm	15 Police Advisory Board 7:00 Youth Advisory Board 4:30	16	17
18	19 Cultural Arts Commission 6:30 pm	20 City Council 7:00 pm	21 Library Advisory Board 6:30 pm	22 Traffic Safety Board 5:00 pm	23	24 Council Goal Setting 9:00 am -1:00 pm
25	26	27 Planning Commission 7:00 pm	28	29	30	31
February 1	2 Parks & Recreation Board 7:00 pm	3 Planning Commission 7:00 pm	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 City Council 7:00 pm	11 Senior Advisory Board 5:00 pm	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Library Advisory Board 6:30 pm	19 Police Advisory Board 7:00 Youth Advisory Board 4:30	20	21

SPOTLIGHT ON CITY STAFF

Welcome back to Spotlight on City Staff! In this edition we want to not only put the spotlight on a member of Sherwood's hardworking City Staff, but also to highlight a program that we are proud of. In this edition we want to introduce you to our Communications and Engagement Coordinator, Sarah Lopez.

Q. How long have you been with the City of Sherwood and how long in your current position?

I joined the City of Sherwood in July 2009 and I have been working in my current position since August 2025.

Q. What does an average day look like for you?

One of the things I appreciate most about this role is the variety. On an average day, I respond to emails, monitor City social media, support communication efforts, and work on a range of cross-departmental projects. I also focus weekly on Sherwood Broadband marketing and outreach. Because this is a new and evolving position, my daily routine continues to take shape as the role grows.

Q. What are some of your favorite things about working for the City?

I truly enjoy the people I work with - some of whom I've had the privilege of working with since 2009. It has been rewarding to watch the City evolve over the years, especially in how forward-thinking and technologically focused we've become. I also value the work-life balance the City provides. Time with family and friends is very important to me, and I feel fortunate to work in a place that supports that.

Q. What are some typical challenges of this position?

Because I'm still new in the role, I'm continuing to learn where the challenges may be. One area I anticipate is balancing deadlines while serving as a connector - coordinating information between departments and ensuring everyone has what they need. With clear communication and strong relationships, I'm confident this is a challenge that can be managed well.

Q. What advice would you give someone who is just beginning in Communications & Engagement?

Since I'm also still early in this role, I can share what has helped me so far: building relationships with others in similar positions. There's so much to learn from other agencies that already have Communications and Engagement programs in place - both their successes and their lessons learned. I've also found it helpful to work closely with leadership to understand priorities and shape the role together.

Q. What experience do you feel helped prepare you for your current role?

My background has been rooted in marketing and communication. I graduated from Oregon State University with a degree in Business Marketing, and early in my career I worked in sales at Nordstrom, where I completed several training programs that strengthened my communication, customer service, and relationship-building. When I transitioned to the public sector in 2009, I joined the City in Utility Billing, and over the years I gained extensive experience working in both Utility Billing and Public Works. I've always been eager to take on new projects and say "yes" to opportunities to learn more about City operations. Working for a smaller city has allowed me to wear many hats and discover where my strengths and passions align. I also consider active listening one of my strongest skills - something that has already proven valuable in this role.



LIBRARY NEWS
A New Year at the Library

Thank you, voters. Measure 34-345, the library levy for countywide library services, passed in November with 59.28% yes votes. Thank you to everyone who voted. We're happy to have another five years of revenue to help fund open hours, reading support for kids at our library the 15 other WCCLS library locations, as well as the central services that efficiently link these libraries into one cooperative system. Our goal at Sherwood Public Library is to be a good steward of those public funds for all our community members.

Come visit us in person or preview the library at sherwoodoregon.gov/library/tours to find out more about what we can do for you.

Events & Activities

Birthday Party Month!

- Our building turns twenty this month and we're celebrating the milestone with a variety of activities for all ages.
- Join us on January 15, at 4:00 pm to hear live music from the beloved Renaissance Singers, enjoy refreshments, and learn more about what it took to build this building.
 - On January 24 from 11:00 am. to 12:00 pm, we're hosting a special guest of Taco Dragon from the popular Dragons Love Tacos books. Enjoy fun family-friendly activities, refreshments, and photo opportunities.
 - All month long we'll have trivia and a chance to win prizes. Come flex your knowledge and nostalgia with us!

22560 SW Pine Street 503.625.6688

Adult Winter Reading Challenge

Cozy up with good books this winter and join our annual reading challenge. Participate by reading a book in each challenge category. Submit your log by February 28 for a chance to win a \$50 Powell's gift card.

This year's challenges are:

1. Re-read a childhood favorite (or find a new favorite children's book).
2. Read a book featuring immigrants or refugees.
3. Read a book by a Pacific Northwest author.

Sound Bath Meditation

Relax and rejuvenate with Melissa Felsenstein of Inner Sounds Meditation. Specially tuned crystal bowls and gongs create a sound bath to help alleviate stress and ease listeners into meditative states. No yoga is practiced. Just sit or optionally bring your own mat. Join us on January 11 from 3:00 pm to 4:00 p.m.

Cybersecurity Basics

Learn about online safety and protecting yourself from scams. On January 17 from 8:30 am to 10:00 am. Registration encouraged.

Teen Volunteer Club

A club for 7th-12th grade teens who want to make a difference in their community. Projects include decorating the library, craft prep, creating displays, board game inventory, and more! Reach out to askusSPL@sherwoodoregon.gov to let us know you're coming. On January 15 from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm, and continuing 1st and 3rd Thursdays.

www.sherwoodoregon.gov/library

More About Visiting the Library

All library events are free and open to the public. Library cards are not required to attend. See more events and activities, including book groups, and registration information, at sherwoodoregon.gov/library.

Preview our space at Sherwood Public Library with virtual tours at sherwoodoregon.gov/library/tours.

Sherwood Public Library, a Washington County Cooperative Library Services member library and department of the City of Sherwood, is located on the first floor at 22560 SW Pine St., Sherwood, OR. All parking is free in downtown Sherwood.

Holiday hours: The library will be closed on Thursday, January 1 for New Year's Day, and Monday, January 19, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The Pine Street bookstore will be open and e-books and accounts are available at wccls.org.

Sign up for our monthly e-newsletter at sherwoodoregon.gov/library/newsletters to learn about even more events and get reading recommendations delivered to your inbox. Contact us at askusSPL@sherwoodoregon.gov or 503.625.6688.

Sherwood Public Library is a Washington County Cooperative Library Services member library. Hours: Mon-Thu 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Fri-Sat 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Sun 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

MAYOR UPDATE

A New Year Message to the Sherwood Community

As we welcome a new year, I want to share a clear view from the cockpit about where Sherwood has been and where we are strategically headed. The past twelve months brought major progress, and the year ahead offers even more opportunity. Sherwood continues to climb because our community shows up, leans in, and works together. That spirit is the engine that powered our accomplishments this year and will drive everything we build next.

Charting Our Course: Sherwood West and Local Control

Over the last year, we achieved a significant milestone: Metro approved our request to expand the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB), adding approximately 1,200 acres west and south of the high school.

We now have a strong, community-shaped plan for Sherwood West. This plan reflects our priorities:

- Protecting 500 acres of natural spaces and trails.
- 350 acres for Sherwood housing including options for first time home buyers and those that want to age in place.
- 200 acres for family-wage jobs.
- 60 acres for a hospitality district. (Think Gateway to Wine Country)
- Land for future schools.

As Salem pursues legislation that overrides local planning, we are committed to defending this vision. Sherwood's residents built this plan, and we will continue fighting to ensure state mandates do not replace it. The City Council has sent Charter Amendments to the voters that protect resident involvement in land-use decisions and maintain Sherwood's authority over annexations. These vital protections ensure our residents stay engaged in decisions that shape our future. You will have a chance to vote on these amendments in January, ensuring our local planning decisions reflect the community's vision.

Strengthening the Core: Water Infrastructure

We significantly strengthened our city's backbone: safe and reliable water. Sherwood, with the City of Wilsonville, completed a major upgrade to the Willamette River Water Treatment Plant, increasing our capacity to 6.7 million gallons a day. We improved seismic readiness and upgraded essential components.

This was achieved without raising water rates or creating new taxes. The investment was

funded entirely through a forward-thinking fund, built from a small portion of each month's water bill. This foresight secures our water future for generations, demonstrating our commitment to disciplined financial planning.

Investing in Mobility: Safety and Connectivity

Transportation safety improvements also advanced. The Edy Road MSTIP project secured 14 million in county funding, with planning underway to deliver sidewalks, lighting, and bike lanes—a complete street program.

The safe routes to school project at SW Sunset Blvd and SW Timbrel Lane is on track. This includes the installation of a red light that will require cars to stop.

We also completed Sherwood's new pedestrian bridge, which connects our high school area and growing trail system. It is already a favorite route for students, families, and runners. This project was funded with state and regional dollars, without raising local taxes or fees.

Collaborative Public Safety

Public safety and community wellness made important strides. Sherwood joined with Tualatin and Tigard to launch a Regional Mental Health Response Team. This new model pairs police officers with behavioral-health professionals to de-escalate crises and connect individuals to long-term services. This team ensures our officers have immediate access to specialized crisis intervention expertise, strengthening our regional response to the mental health crisis and ensuring residents receive care when needed.

Building Our Digital Future

We continued rolling out the Sherwood Fiber to the Home initiative, our community-owned broadband system. More homes come online every month, providing reliable speeds and stronger service. This community-owned system is essential for remote work, supporting virtual learning, and ensuring equitable access to digital resources. In 2025, we will keep building until every household in Sherwood has access to this state-of-the-art system. This investment positions Sherwood far ahead of other small cities.

Conclusion

Sherwood is strong because its people care deeply about the future of this place. As mayor, I will keep us focused on clarity, accountability, and long-term value. Thank you for the trust you place in me, the Council, and our staff.

Here's to a new year filled with continued progress, thoughtful planning, and a shared sense of pride in the community we are building together.

Mayor Update articles are written by the Mayor and reflect his opinion, and may not reflect the opinions of any Councilors.

YOUR MAYOR & CITY COUNCILORS



MAYOR TIM ROSENER
rosenert@sherwoodoregon.gov



COUNCIL PRESIDENT
KIM YOUNG
youngk@sherwoodoregon.gov



COUNCILOR RENEE BROUSE
brouser@sherwoodoregon.gov



COUNCILOR TAYLOR GILES
gilest@sherwoodoregon.gov



COUNCILOR KEITH MAYS
maysk@sherwoodoregon.gov



COUNCILOR DOUG SCOTT
scott@sherwoodoregon.gov



COUNCILOR DAN STANDKE
standked@sherwoodoregon.gov

TIPS TO ENJOY YOUR NEW GIFT SAFELY

BY TVF&R

Did you give or receive a lithium-ion battery-powered device?

As we enjoy the gift-giving season, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue wants to bring lithium-ion battery safety to everyone's attention. Lithium-ion batteries power phones, laptops, scooters, and more — and in residential neighborhoods, one unsafe battery has the potential to start a fire that spreads quickly and endangers many lives.

Local residents should know the risks, prevention steps, and safe purchasing practices to protect themselves and their communities.

Purchase lithium-ion battery devices from reputable retailers only. Look for UL or other recognized safety certifications. Avoid counterfeit or cheap knockoffs. Many fires start with poorly made batteries and chargers sold online. Match the charger to the device. Using the wrong charger can overheat batteries and trigger fires.

E-bikes and electric scooters pose the highest risk due to large battery packs. Charge in a location that is ideally outside your home and does not block exit paths, including multifamily housing complex hallways. Create a designated charging/storage area for e-bikes and electric scooters in a safe place away from extreme temperatures, direct sunlight, heating sources, and flammable materials.

Charge devices or batteries safely by following manufacturer guidelines. Remove devices from chargers once they are fully charged.

When damaged or defective, stop using a battery if it smells odd, leaks, changes shape, overheats, or makes unusual noises. Regularly inspect devices for any signs of damage, such as swelling or punctures.

Thank you for helping prioritize safety in your community! For more fire and life safety tips, visit tvfr.com.



20495 SW Borchers Drive 503.625.5523
www.sherwoodoregon.gov/policedepartment

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Have you ever thought: "the police have better things to do than to deal with my call" or "I didn't want to bother anyone" or "there is nothing they can do about it, they're already gone". We hear this often, please understand: we want you to call us and there is no call too small.

If you see or hear something that seems suspicious, and you're unsure if you should call, please call us. Especially when it comes to potential domestic violence situation. You are the eyes and ears of the community! Unfortunately, we can't be everywhere at once. So the best way we can respond to a situation is if you let us know what's going on while it's happening. Catalytic converter thefts and car prowling happen so fast, that the best chance we have to catch them in the act is if you call us right away.

We often see posts on social media and the Nextdoor App instead reporting it directly to us. The posts are made right after the fact by community members reporting crimes and / or suspicious activity that they witnessed. We also have community members report the crime / suspicious activity to us several hours and even several days later, even though they were a direct witness to it when it was happening. This causes an issue because we couldn't do anything about it while it was in progress because we didn't know it was happening.

People often think nothing can be done because the person just left but the opposite is true. When you call dispatch, the information gets broadcasted in multiple jurisdictions throughout the metro area. So even if the vehicle or person left, dispatch can quickly give that information to agencies throughout Washington county, Clackamas County, Yamhill County, Multnomah County, etc.

The best thing you can do is be a great witness. Give dispatch the current location, descriptions of the involved subjects, along with vehicle description and license plate information if it's safe to do so.

A small tip can lead to a big arrest and we see that happen all the time. A great example is an alert community member called in a suspicious person in a neighborhood at 1:00 am. We conducted a K-9 track and arrested him for multiple charges including Attempted Burglary 1. We discovered he was a suspect for 4 other residential burglaries and none of that would've been accomplished if it wasn't for the alert community member calling us.

If you see unsafe, distracted, or reckless driving, absolutely give us a call. Traffic safety is super important to us and your information could lead to stopping a crash or saving a life because the driver is Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII).

Non-Emergency Dispatch 503-629-0111: suspicious activity, persons, or vehicles, cold thefts, extra patrol requests, noise disturbances, questions for an officer, and anything out of place.

9-1-1: serious injuries, missing children, endangered persons, crimes occurring now, and immediate threat of harm or danger.

If in doubt, call 911 and we'll sort it out.

Call us! We're here to serve the community and ready to respond.



COUNCIL CORNER

Keith Mays, City Councilor

As winter descends upon us, bringing the close of another remarkable year and the warmth of the year-end holidays, I extend my heartfelt wishes to every member of our community. I hope that you all have been enjoying, or are currently enjoying, precious time spent with family and friends. It is a season of joy, reflection, and gratitude. For all the children (and perhaps a few deserving adults) who have been good this year, I sincerely hope that Santa brought you something special from your wish lists.

This year's Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting ceremony in Old Town was, in my opinion, the best one yet. The atmosphere was simply magical, with Old Town bustling with individuals and families, and smiles lighting up every face. It was a true testament to the spirit of our community.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to Santa Claus for making a special appearance, the dedicated volunteers of the Robin Hood Festival Association, the hard-working staff of the Sherwood Police and Public Works

departments, all the wonderful parade participants, talented singers, event sponsors, and every single volunteer who helped make this event an unforgettable success. Your efforts made our town shine brightly.

I hope that most of you can look back on this past year, 2025, and genuinely say it was a good one for you and your family. I wish everyone the very best for a healthy, happy, and prosperous 2026.

The year 2025 marked our first implementation of a biennial budget cycle. This strategic change means that in 2026, city staff and city councilors will have more time to focus on other crucial initiatives—such as implementing new tools and programs designed to improve efficiency and enhance the services we provide to you.

We had many wonderful achievements to celebrate in Sherwood this past year. I would like to highlight a few that truly made a difference: the expansion of our public holiday art and light display in Old Town, notably with the addition of charming snowflakes on half of the blue light poles; the much-anticipated completion of the road construction projects on Roy Rogers Road and Tualatin Sherwood Road, improving connectivity and safety;

the installation of the very first bronze art pieces in our town—the beautiful Deer family sculptures gracing the Oregon Street roundabout (I still think the deer need names!); and the highly anticipated opening of the Sherwood pedestrian bridge on 99W, which provides a vital new link for our residents. Each of these projects has turned out even better than I had initially envisioned.

We can expect more public community art initiatives to unfold throughout 2026.

If you have ideas on how to improve any aspect of our community, please do not hesitate to reach out to me, any member of the City Council, or a member of a city advisory committee. We are here to serve you and welcome your perspectives.

I am always available to listen. Please reach out to me with any ideas, questions, or concerns you might have. MaysK@SherwoodOregon.gov.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season and a fantastic start to the new year.

FEATURED PARTNER: TUALATIN RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

"Why We Bird"

I have been fascinated by the natural world for as long as I can remember, but have only considered myself a "birder" for the past few years or so (more on this later). Every day at the refuge, I interact with birders who stop by with their scopes and binoculars; we even have a wildlife observation board at the visitor center to track sightings. Lately, friends have been sending me comedic videos about how birding is reaching newer audiences, particularly catching on with younger demographics — this has made me think about the appeal of birding, and why we choose to bird.

One of the biggest draws is that is a meditative practice; birding requires us to be quiet, and to move slowly; it necessitates sharp observation and concentration. When I'm identifying a bird, especially a small songbird, I find myself completely honed in; everything else, like life stressors, quietens or falls away. Birding allows us to slow down and focus, a luxury that continues to be rarer and rarer.

But make no mistake, birding is not just a passive stroll (or, it could be if one wanted it to be). While it requires us to be quiet and focus, it also has an extremely strong addictive quality to it. Let this serve as a warning that once you experience the thrill of seeing your first lazuli bunting or cinnamon teal, there is no going back. You can spend hours, days, years, looking for a bird, and then one day, boom, you see the harlequin duck. It is a beautiful convergence of research, intuition, timing, luck, and fate. I think it's for this reason, that we are always at the mercy and timing of the natural world, that birding is one of the few activities when I feel closest to nature. It isn't about the remoteness or lack of other humans, but the fact that I have very little control over when I might get to see a great grey owl.

There is a lot of misconception that you have to be some sort of expert on bird identification, or have a super fancy spotting scope in order to bird. I'm here to tell

you that the only thing you need is an interest in birding — you like birds? You are a birder. The truth is that birding is easy and birding is for everyone. Look outside your window and observe a bird for a couple of minutes — there you go, you just birded. Identification skills can develop over time, but it all starts with a passion for birds and a genuine interest. Admittedly binoculars and spotting scopes can make birding easier, but here at the visitor center at Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge, you can borrow binoculars for free! At the refuge, we get over 200 different species of birds throughout the year, some who call the refuge home, and others who are just visiting. The refuge changes between the seasons and years, and offers different birds every visit. Whether you come here to bird, or just take a walk, remember - birding isn't about racing to see a super rare bird; it is about reminding us of awe and wonder, and that we can still be surprised and humbled by the natural world.

For more information on visiting Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge please visit fws.gov/refuge/tualatin-river.

