

### **Data Logger in Greasy Creek**

The Marys Creek Watershed Council has been monitoring water temperature in Greasy Creek for the past several summers. One of their data loggers (a device that stores the measurement data) has disappeared from its spot at the confluence of Greasy Creek and Rock Creek. If you have seen it, or have any knowledge of where it might be, please contact Kathy Westly at Kathleen@mrwc.org or 541-609-0442. No questions asked! The watershed council just wants the data logger back!

*(posted 10/23/17)*

### **Weather station repaired!**

The personal weather station at Lot 57 has been repaired, so the wind direction is now being measured and reported correctly. You can access current and past data at [www.wunderground.com](http://www.wunderground.com). Look for KORPHILO16 or PVHA57.

*(posted 10/23/17)*

### **Pioneer Village Weather**

A personal weather station at Lot 57 provides local weather information. It is the only weather station in Pleasant Valley (our little valley where Greasy Creek flows down to the Marys River). You can access current and past data at [www.wunderground.com](http://www.wunderground.com). Look for PVHA57 or if that doesn't show up, search for KORPHILO16.

Please note that the wind direction has been problematic, and seems to show winds from the north all night long. That is due to a flaw in the anemometer which we are working on correcting. Consequently, wind direction and wind speed have been off-line for about a week. A new instrument will be installed soon, and wind direction/speed will be back on line.

*(posted 9/28/17)*

### **Firewise**

Thank you for another successful (i.e., uneventful) fire season. A significant amount of brush clearing, grass mowing, and roof cleaning took place which helps provide defensible space and less burning material around our homes. One home replaced old, flammable cedar shingles with a metal roof, further reducing fire risk. And thank you for observing the restrictions of chainsaw use, etc. posted at the mailboxes by Oregon Department of Forestry.

*(posted 9/28/17)*

### **Bear Seen in the Village**

A bear has been observed on Clark Place, near Greasy Creek Road. Please follow best-practices and keep your garbage cans securely covered and near the house (or better yet, in the garage). Keep an eye out on bird feeders as well, as bears like to eat the seeds. Bobcats also have been observed, working the field in the evenings to find mice, gophers, and voles to eat for dinner. And, of course, it's the time of year when does are out with their fawns so be aware as you drive the roads.

*(posted 7/1/17)*

### **It's Fire Season!**

Fire season is officially underway throughout Oregon, including western Oregon where we live. The late spring rains helped keep things moist longer than usual, but this also allowed for a build up of fuel. Now that the dry season is here and the forest is drying out, please remember that outdoor burning is NOT allowed (except in BBQs or controlled fire pits). We all live close together in the forest, so fire safety is a community concern. You can call the Philomath Fire Department burn line (541-929-5903) for more information, or check out the ODF website at: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Fire/Pages/default.aspx>.

*(posted 7/6/17)*

### **Field mowing**

Thanks to Riley Watkins (Lot 7) for mowing the field. Keeping the grass mowed helps reduce fire danger and also keeps dogs from getting lost in the grass (or full of burrs!). A bobcat and great horned owl (as well as multiple vultures) have been seen working the newly mowed field for voles, mice, and gophers. Thanks, Riley, for helping to keep the Village safe and the dogs and wildlife happy!

*(posted 7/6/17)*

### **PVHA Annual Meeting Minutes Available**

Click [here](#) to read the minutes from the annual homeowners meeting.

*(posted 6/8/17)*

### **PVHA Annual Meeting -- May 30th at 6:30 pm in the Westwood Community Church**

Come and meet your neighbors! The annual homeowners meeting is required by the PVHA bylaws for approving the next year's budget. Bring your ideas of volunteer projects to make the Village a better place to live and to reduce fire danger through the summer season. Don't forget that to pay your \$303 annual assessment (due by June 30, 2017).

*(posted 5/23/17)*

### **Be Firewise! FREE workshop to learn how to live more safely in the wildland-urban interface**

[Both workshops have the same content]

Thursday May 25th 7pm -- Homegrown Gardens, 4845 SE 3rd St., Corvallis. RSVP: 541-766-0119

Sunday June 4th 10:30am -- Shonnards Nursery, Philomath Blvd.

*(posted 5/23/17)*

### **Brush Chipping**

Brush chipping will occur the first week of May. Please have all your brush on the pile by the school bus turnaround no later than **April 30**. Please put brush on top of or to the right of the pile. Oregon Department of Forestry will do the chipping for free, as part of their fire prevention work. They ask that all branches are **less than 6" diameter** and that you **DO NOT** put the following on the pile:

- **poison oak**
- **blackberry**
- **scotch broom**
- **nails or any other metal**
- **painted or pressure treated lumber**
- **construction debris**

*(posted 3/31/17)*

### **Road Repairs**

If it's Spring, it must be road repair season! ED Hughes is busy filling potholes and will be present over the next several weeks to grade the roads and regravell sections, as needed. Later in the season, they will provide brush control alongside the roads. Please be aware of the possibility of trucks, graders, and other equipment as you drive the roads this Spring!

*(posted 3/23/17)*

### **CPI (Electricity)**

CPI has been working in the Village for the past several weeks to reduce problems causing electrical interruptions. Apparently, Pioneer Village has had more than the acceptable amount of such problems during the past 5 years, so CPI has determined that repairs are needed. They are

injecting a fluid material into the underground electrical conduits that will harden and then conduct electricity the same way as copper wires. This automatically repairs breaks or small areas where the wires were frayed. Please be on the look-out for CPI trucks as you drive on the road, as they frequently are stopped by the main junction boxes.

*(posted 3/23/17)*

### **Greasy Creek update**

The Marys River Watershed Council has completed clearing brush and planting trees along Greasy Creek next to the PVHA field. You will see wire cages with little seedlings inside (conifers such as spruce and fir, as well as some hardwoods). The wire cages are meant to keep the deer from eating the trees as they grow. Hopefully, enough of the trees will survive and grow up to shade the Creek. The shade will cool the water and make better habitat for the native cutthroat trout.

*(posted 3/23/17)*

### **Village Clean-up**

Spring is coming and it is time to think about cleaning up after the winter storms and blow downs. We will be working with the county again this year to chip up all the woody debris. The date has not yet been set but will likely be in May. Woody debris can be placed on the pile by the school bus turn-around. Please do NOT include poison oak, construction materials, or anything with nails or other metal items in it; these are a safety hazard for the chipper.

Also, please do not leave items out by the road or highway for sale or "free." This is a visual distraction and reduces the aesthetics of the Village. Thank you.

*(posted 3/14/17)*

### **Glass recycling**

Republic Services will now pick up glass for recycling on Thursday in the fourth week of each month. Click [here](#) for a schedule (we are the blue weeks).

*(posted 3/14/17, updated 3/24/17)*

### **Firewise™**

*It is never too early to start thinking about fire prevention!*

We have received our recertification as a Firewise Community - look at the sign by the highway where it says "Residents reducing wildfire risks." Thanks to all who participated in the community clean-up and chipping day last year, and kept brush, trees, and other burnables away from structures. Looking forward to another successful year in 2017!

*(posted 2/23/17)*

### **Neighbors helping neighbors**

During the recent snow and ice event, several incidents occurred of cars sliding off into the ditch (including the small school bus!). It was heartwarming to see neighbors coming out to help in any way they could, and graciously detouring around the blockage. We can continue to help by keeping our roads in good condition as all the snow and ice melts. Please be sure to clear any blockages from culverts or ditches so the water flows off properly and doesn't wash out the road bed.

*(posted 1/18/17)*

**Bear in the Village (update)**

In case you haven't hear... Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife captured the bear that had been roaming around the village. Sadly, they had to euthanize it as bears are territorial and not easily relocated. Luckily, this does not happen very often. But remember to stay vigilant - in addition to bears, mountain lions (cougars) and bobcats have been seen around the Village.

*(posted 1/18/17)*