



City of Medford

Working for You

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CITY OF MEDFORD



Community Emergency Response Team: The City of Medford invites the public to participate in a FREE Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training course.

CERT members are community volunteers who undergo approximately 24 hours of basic training on assessing hazards, fighting small fires, light search and rescue, and first aid. Members acquire skills that are beneficial to their families and neighbors, and prepare them to respond to emergencies throughout their own and neighboring communities. Active members of organized local teams are provided basic equipment for their safety and identification as part of the CERT team.

Participants will work closely with local law enforcement, fire rescue, emergency medical, emergency management, and other agencies, as well as CERTs already established in Ashland, Central Point, and Jacksonville.

Although graduates of CERT training are welcome to join an organized team, they are not obligated to do so. Many community members complete the training to prepare themselves and their families for emergency situations.

The next course begins March 19th and continues through March 28th, with classes held Thursday and Friday evenings, as well as Saturdays.

For more information on this FREE training, please contact Nicolas Petersen, CERT Coordinator, at Nicolas.Petersen@cityofmedford.org or via phone at (541) 774-2090.

Citizen Alert: Is your family signed up to receive emergency alerts? You could be. You should be. It's free and easy.

The Citizen Alert system notifies you in the event of any emergency, such as storms, fires or floods in your area, evacuation notices, and other dangerous events.

Settings can be customized to notify you in the ways that work best for you: voice message, text, or email.

Signing up online only takes a few minutes. Visit the City of Medford's website at www.ci.medford.or.us and click the Subscribe to Citizen Alert! button on the homepage.

For more information on this program, please contact Larry Masterman, City of Medford's Emergency Coordinator, at larry.masterman@cityofmedford.org or via phone at (541) 774-2000.

Remember, we can't warn you if we can't contact you!

Emergency Preparedness Tip of the Month: To be prepared in the event of an emergency, individuals and families should have enough food and supplies to last for at least three days.

Drinking water is one of the most essential survival supplies. We each need about a gallon daily for drinking and sanitation.

Lots of people know that the water in our toilet tanks (not bowls) is safe for consumption, but most people never think about the largest supply in our homes... our water heaters. Most of us have 40 gallons or more of fresh water stored there, easily retrieved from a spigot near the bottom of the tank.

Next month: Landline telephone use during emergencies.



Greyhound Portal: If you have been downtown and attended the Saturday Farmers' Market, the Pear Blossom Festival, or visited the new Lithia headquarters building, you may have noticed the green tile Greyhound Portal at the corner of Fifth and Bartlett Streets.

The portal is the original entrance to the Pacific Greyhound Bus Depot, constructed in 1949. The depot was razed in 2012 to construct Pear Blossom Park. The Greyhound Bus Depot served Rogue Valley travelers for more than 60 years. This landmark is a reminder of a time when Riverside Avenue, then U.S. Highway 99, was the major route through Oregon, making Medford a hub for a number of transportation-related uses, including auto repair and sales, hotels and restaurants that served the traveling public.

The City's Landmarks and Historic Preservation Commission recognized this structure for excellence in historic preservation in 2014. The Commission's award will include photographs of the building and an explanation of the significance of the Greyhound Bus Depot Portal. Look for the interpretative sign/award in the coming months.

For more information, please contact the City's Planning Department at (541) 774-2380.

Vacant/Foreclosed homes: Medford continues to experience a significant level of vacant/foreclosed homes. Medford Police Department advises that numerous phone calls are fielded each week regarding people who are camping in and around these properties. Unfortunately, some homes have been broken into or have had significant damage to the homes and/or outbuildings, garages, etc.

To report suspicious activities at vacant homes in your neighborhood, please call the Medford Police Department at (541) 770-4783.

Interstate 5 Pillar Art Project: In December, the Medford Arts Commission requested proposals for art and art installation on, around or between the Interstate 5 pillars adjacent to Medford's Hawthorne Park.

The Interstate 5 Pillar Art Project is a part of the Bear Creek Master Plan, an action plan for redeveloping Bear Creek within the City limits. The I-5 viaduct pillars were selected as an opportunity for a public art project, among other ideas.

The funding for the project is paid in part by The Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation, which donated \$25,000 in a matching grant program, sponsored by the Medford Arts Commission.

The foundation has allocated over \$10 million for community economic development endeavors in a seven county area of southern Oregon. For more information about the Foundation, please visit its website at www.cowcreekfoundation.org.

For more information about this project, please contact Rich Rosenthal at (541) 774-2483.



Master Recyclers: The Jackson County Recycling Partnership is seeking Medford residents to become Master Recyclers. Participants gain a broad understanding of home waste prevention strategies, the local solid waste infrastructure, hazardous waste avoidance, composting, plastics, e-waste and much more.

The annual course offers an extensive training manual, discussion-based classes, presentations from regional experts, and field trips to the regional landfill, waste-to-energy plant, and composting facilities. To complete the training, Master Recyclers provide 40 service hours in their neighborhoods, workplaces and schools, and support countywide waste prevention projects, over the course of a year. Since 2008, nearly 200 volunteers have become waste prevention ambassadors in Jackson County.

Classes are held Tuesday evenings from March 10th through May 19th, 5:30–8:30 p.m. at Rogue Disposal & Recycling, at One West Main Street, Medford.

Enroll online at www.jcmasterrecyclers.org or call the Jackson County Recycling Partnership at (541)494-5488 for more information.