



# Grapevine

Winter 2016

## A Word From the Mayor

Another GREAT year begins for Dundee and its citizens. The year 2016 will see our city start to show the sprouts of growth that will shape it for years to come. In coming years, the City of Dundee will be making various infrastructure improvements, and designing ordinances that will permanently affect the future look of our town.

Now is your chance to help shape that future! In 2016, the Planning Commission will be involved in drafting Industrial Zone Design Standards and Marijuana Facilities Standards. Also, as developers begin to make plans for building in the Riverside District our Planning Commission will be instrumental in shaping those new neighborhoods and their supporting infrastructure. The City of Dundee is currently in desperate need of a few good Planning Commissioners to help make these decisions. If you, or someone you know, are interested in joining the Dundee Planning Commission, you can pick up an application at City Hall. It is a great way to help shape and support your home town.

Another way to help Dundee be a great place to live, and to make sure that everyone in Dundee has a great 2016 and beyond, is to volunteer to help in Dundee. You can volunteer for the Dundee Fire Department, Promise Pantry Food Ministry, the Dundee Woman’s Club/Community Supper, Dundee Elementary, or by volunteering for various Yamhill County programs that support the citizens of Dundee. Even just stepping out and lending a hand to a neighbor can cause an infinite ripple effect of great things.

Here's wishing you a fantastic New Year, and a prosperous future for all!

*David Russ*

## City Volunteers Needed

### Planning Commission

The City of Dundee is accepting applications to serve on the Planning Commission. The position is for a four year term expiring on December 31, 2019.

Applicants must have at least one year of residency in Dundee prior to the appointment, except one member on the Planning Commission may be a non-resident owner of real property in Dundee for at least one year prior to the appointment.

Download the application below and return it to Dundee City Hall, 620 SW 5th Street; or mail to City of Dundee, PO Box 424, Dundee, Oregon 97115.

If you need an application mailed to you, please call 503-538-3922.



### Budget Committee

The City of Dundee has openings for the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee is an advisory group established by statute. The committee is made up of the governing body of the local government and an equal number of appointed members. The appointed members must be registered voters and cannot be employees, officers, or agents of the local government. They are appointed for staggered, three-year terms.

The Budget Committee has several purposes. It conducts public meetings to hear the budget message and review the budget proposed by the officer. One of its most important purposes is to listen to comments and questions from interested citizens. It considers this public input as it deliberates on the budget. It can revise the proposed budget to reflect changes it wants to make in the local government's fiscal policy. When it is satisfied, the committee approves the budget.

Meetings for the Budget Committee begin in April. If you would like to be considered, complete an application and return it to City Hall by February 23, 2016 . Applications may be obtained at Dundee City Hall, located at 620 SW 5th Street, Dundee, by calling 503-538-3922, or by downloading it from the City's website [www.dundeecity.org](http://www.dundeecity.org) .

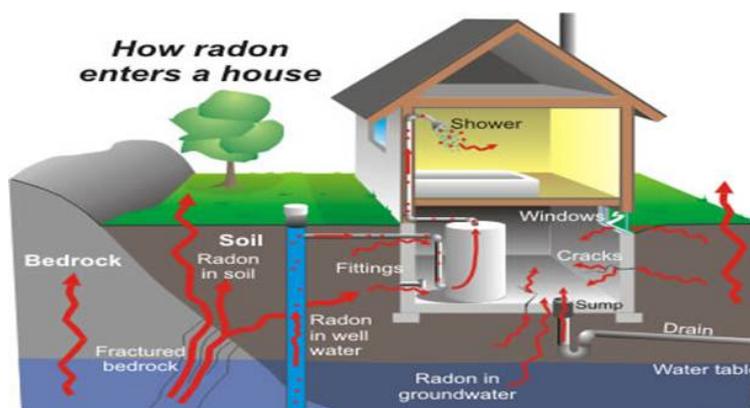
## Radon: The Silent Killer - Part 2

Written by Melody Osborne

(Part one of this article can be found in the October 2015 edition of the City's newsletter <http://www.dundeeecity.org/newsletter> )

Radon levels are measured in picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L). A picocurie is one trillionth of a unit of radium. The national average of outside radon levels is 0.4 pCi/L and it is estimated by the National Academy of Sciences that outdoor radon levels cause approximately 800 of the 21,000 radon induced lung cancer deaths in the US each year. Radon Act 51 passed by Congress set the natural outdoor level of radon gas (0.4 pCi/L) as the target radon level for indoor radon levels. Unfortunately two-thirds of all homes exceed this level.

The EPA was assigned the job of setting guidelines and recommendations for the United States. The EPA set an action level of 4.0pCi/L. At or above this level of radon, the EPA recommends you take corrective measures to reduce your exposure to radon gas. However, this does not imply that a level below 4.0pCi/L is considered acceptable. It is estimated that a reduction of radon levels to below 2.0pCi/L nationwide would likely reduce the yearly lung cancer deaths attributed to radon by 50%. However, even reducing the action level to 2.0pCi/L, the cancer risk presented by radon gas is *still hundreds of times greater* than the risks allowed for carcinogens in our food and water.



It took about a week and a half to get our test results back via email. Our friend's house had test results of 0.5pCi/L. Our house, on the other hand, had test results of 2.1pCi/L. Although we are not panicked by this result, we will be retesting again this month. Since we originally tested in early spring when the revolving door to our house turns on-- thanks to pets, sports, and a generally chaotic lifestyle—I want to know what levels we are breathing when we are trapped in our house in the winter. As I stated in part one, the best time to test is now.

In the event of a higher result, or a growing discomfort with our test result, I needed to know more. How do we lower levels of radon in our home? What is the cost? And, is it possible to narrow down the homes and areas more susceptible to high levels of radon? For answers to these questions and more, and for information needed to write this article, I turned to Jim Bittner of Cascade Radon located in Portland, Oregon ([www.cascaderadon.com](http://www.cascaderadon.com)). He responded via email.

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## Radon: The Silent Killer (continued from page 3)

***I'm familiar with the process of using activated charcoal for testing, however not with the electronic method mentioned on your webpage. Can you tell me what is involved and the approximate cost? Is this the most effective means of testing?***

Electronic (continuous recording) monitoring gives the radon professional more diagnostic information concerning a home (temperature, humidity, hourly data tracking, graphing of data). It is most commonly used during real estate transactions, where time is of the essence (we have results onsite after 48 hours, with no need to ship a test kit to a lab for analysis).

Costs range from \$125-\$180 for this service. It is the most effective method in terms of saving time and information generated, but not necessarily "accuracy." Home test kits, properly deployed, can provide similarly accurate (though less detailed) results.

***How often would you recommend someone test their home if the first test was normal? Or is it unlikely that radon levels change over a period of time?***

Radon levels vary hourly, weekly, monthly. There is a seasonal cycle to radon levels, with most homes exhibiting a "highest in winter, lowest in summer" pattern. It is recommended homes be tested using a long-term measurement device (i.e. an AlphaTrack kit), ranging from 91 to 365 days in duration, to account for this seasonality. If a short-term (2-5 day) test is to be used, it is best to test during the winter months, as opposed to summer.

***Are there specific homes at an increased risk? (I have heard that the biggest concern is newer homes because they are more insulated and tightly "closed" than older homes, and therefore are at an increased risk. Is that accurate?)***

All homes are susceptible to having high radon levels, regardless of their age or construction style. The greatest factor is the soil found beneath a given home, and how much radon it is capable of producing. This varies within neighborhoods, between communities, and from home to home. Houses act like convective "chimneys," drawing radon upwards. Yes, homes that were previously tested below 4.0 pCi/L frequently can be higher after significant improvements are made in energy efficiency (new windows, added insulation, caulking, weatherization of attics).

Additionally, seven Oregon counties now require radon-resistant new construction (RRNC) techniques be utilized during the construction of new homes. While this can help lower levels, the radon profession has determined through test data, such "passive" approaches may not always ensure low, safe levels. New homes should be tested as part of the inspection process prior to occupancy, to know whether or not any further mitigation steps may be required.

***How is mitigation done?***

There are a variety of techniques available to radon professionals, but the most commonly used is Active Soil Depressurization (ASD), which involves creating a small sump ("suction point") beneath a home (whether under a basement slab, beneath an attached garage slab, or within the soil in a

## Radon: The Silent Killer (continued from page 4)

crawlspace). This suction point creates negative pressure beneath the home to offset the negative pressure found within the home (which is what naturally draws radon up into the living space). An ASD system convinces the gas, being created by the decay of uranium in the soil, to remain in the soil (given radon is heavier than air, this is where it would actually prefer to be). An ASD system then draws radon through the soil to the suction point, routing the gas to above the roof line via vent pipe driven by an inline electric fan (about the size of a basketball).

***How long does it take to install mitigation devices? Is it a one day job, or something that takes several days to accomplish?***

For most single family homes, the installation process takes a single day. Obviously, for multifamily, large, or complex projects (apartment buildings, assisted living facilities, schools, and the like), the project may take several days or weeks.

***Is there an average cost or price range to mitigate a 1500sqft home?***

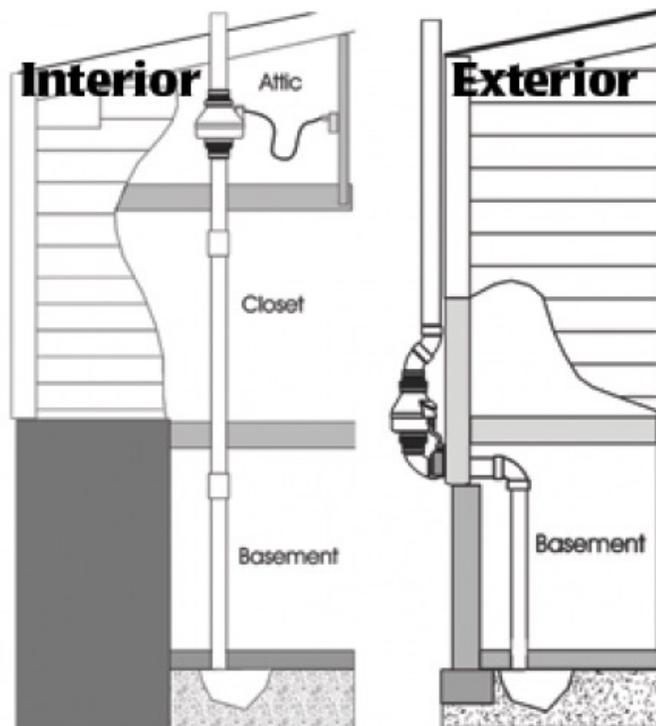
A typical range would be between \$1,500 to \$2,000 assuming no complexities (i.e. tile roof surfaces, extra tall exterior lifts, multiple zones due to foundation construction and footings, and the like).

***There are a number of photos on your webpage showing different areas of homes that have fans being installed. How is the area of a home chosen? Are there specific variables you use to determine that answer?***

There are a number of national protocols and standards (initially issued by the Environmental Protection Agency, but now governed and amended by the American Association of Radiation Scientists and Technologists, commonly known as AARST). Radon system fans are either installed outside the home (typically just above ground level), or in an unconditioned space above living space (such as an attic, or loft over a garage). They are not to be installed beneath or in living space, so cannot be placed in a crawlspace or basement. The design phase is critical, and should only be conducted by a certified radon professional.

***As you are probably aware, Dundee was named number one for radon in Oregon recently. Is there any other information that you think would be helpful to our citizens?***

Although Dundee, Newberg, and Sherwood certainly have a number of homes testing above 4.0 pCi/L, the highest levels recorded in the state have been in Lake Oswego, Salem, and Gresham (with some homes being over 500pCi/L). The most recent test data released by Portland State University states:



## Radon: The Silent Killer (continued from page 5)

*“Oregon’s areas of highest risk for radon are in Scappoose, Banks and North Plains, as well as Boring, Parkdale, Dundee, Turner and La Grande, according to the data published on the Oregon Radon Program website, [www.healthoregon.org/radon](http://www.healthoregon.org/radon). A large swath of Portland, particularly in the north, northeastern and southeastern parts of the city, also was found to be at high risk.”*

So, while I would agree Dundee has become an area of interest and concern, I wouldn't necessarily encourage you to label it as #1 in Oregon with your readers. The strongest message is for folks to TEST their homes, regardless of location, in order to know whether or not there's an issue, given how widespread the problem is in the state.

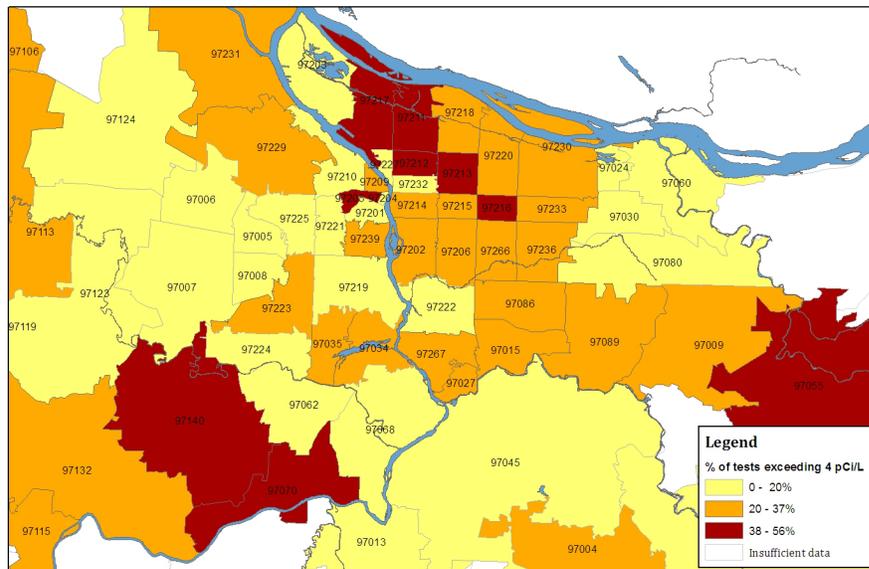
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I've learned a lot since the original apocalyptic article was published naming Dundee a top location with the silent killer named Radon. And, after everything I have found out, at the end of the day, at the end of my research, at the end of testing our house, I leave you with this message and this advice.

### TEST YOUR HOME.

The best time to do it is now.  
It might save the life of someone you love.  
It might save *your* life.

Radon hazard potential in the Portland Metropolitan area



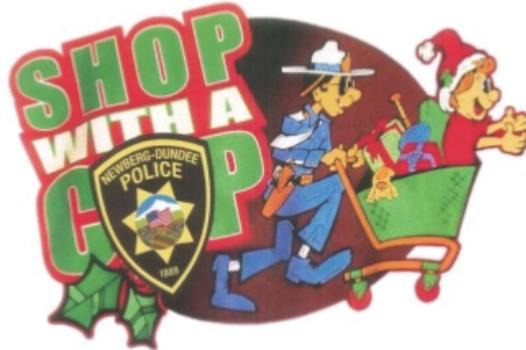
Long term radon test data were provided by test kit manufacturers to the Oregon Radon Program and analyzed at Portland State University's Department of Geology. Zip codes are classified by the number of tests exceeding 4 pCi/L, the level for which the Environmental Protection Agency recommends mitigation. For detailed results please visit [healthoregon.org/radon](http://healthoregon.org/radon).



## Shop-With-A-Cop, Polar Plunge, Public Safety Reminder

### Shop-With-A-Cop

The 2015 Shop-With-A-Cop was another huge success. Twenty-five Newberg-Dundee Police Officers accompanied a record fifty kids this year who shopped for their family members. When they completed their shopping they received a hand knitted cap made by the Partners Behind the Badge support group and a gift from Fred Meyers. A great big "Thank You!" to Reserve Sgt. Van Horn and Fred Meyers for their continued work and support of this incredible program.



### Polar Plunge for Special Olympics

Newberg-Dundee Police will once again be participating in the annual Polar Plunge to support Special Olympics. The 2016 Polar Plunge will be held on February 27<sup>th</sup> 2016. We will be having a fund raising night towards the end of January at Burgerville, so plan on coming out to support us. We are looking forward to jumping into to the freezing cold waters of the Columbia River to support our Special Olympic athletes of Yamhill County.

### Protect Your Valuables

Remember to take your valuables out of your vehicle. Never leave your purse or wallet unattended in your vehicle. If you have valuables in your vehicles sure you put them out of sight. GPS units, radar detectors, mp3 players and similar items should be removed from the dash and put out of sight. Items that look like they contain valuables should also be put out of sight. You might know the backpack only has some old books in it but the car prowler may very well bust your window to see if the backpack has a laptop computer in it. Keep your vehicle locked. Most car prowls happen to unlocked vehicles. If your vehicle is locked and nothing of value is in view, the prowler is likely to just move on.

## Sump Pumps 101

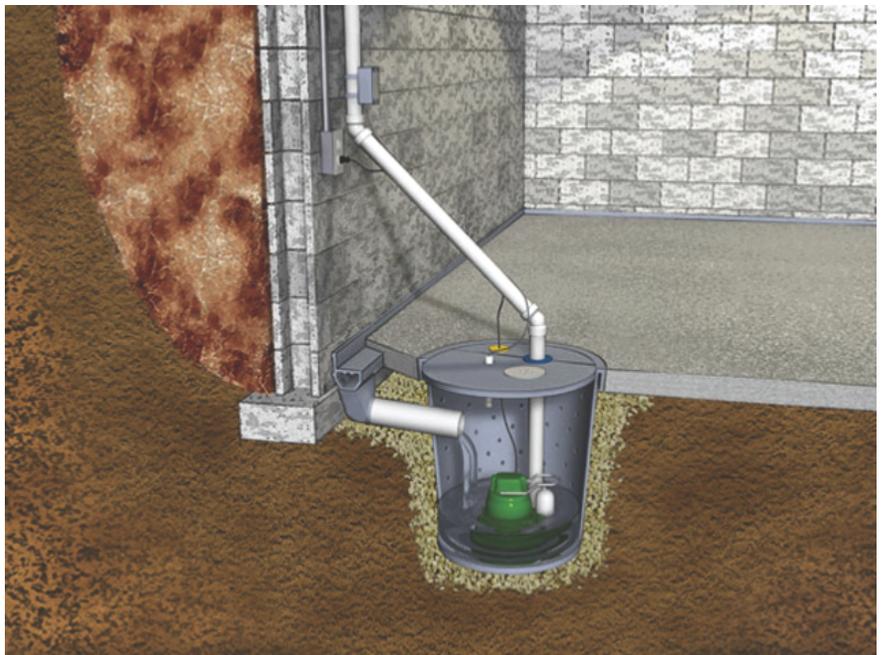
**W**ith the heavy rains we have had this fall many people have been asking what can be done about flooding in crawl spaces. The first thing to do is to make sure that any drains already built into the foundation are working correctly. These drains can become plugged or blocked over time so check to make sure that they are clear. Another solution is to install a sump pump.

A sump pump is a pump almost specifically used to remove water that has accumulated in the basement of a home or a crawl space. A sump pump typically stands in a hole with a gravel base about 2-feet deep that is dug in the lowest point. As the hole fills with water, the pump turns on. It moves the liquid out of the hole through pipes that run away from your home to a location where the water can drain away from the foundation of the house.

Most sump pumps turn on automatically with the use of a float activator or pressure sensor. The float activator works much like the one inside the toilet tank. When the water reaches a certain height the float moves up activating the pump. The pressure sensor works because water exerts more pressure than air and the pressure causes the pump to activate.

Should you decide to use a sump pump to keep the area under your home free of water make sure to keep these guidelines in mind:

- 1) Install the sump pump in lowest area under the house.
- 2) Make sure that water is pumped to either the storm drain or away from your foundation.
- 3) Do not hook up to the sewer drain! This is illegal and can cause the wastewater plant to flood.
- 4) Make sure to pump the water away from your neighbor's house.
- 5) Once installed, check it regularly to make sure it's working.



## Green Resolutions From Waste Management

**T**he new year is a time to set goals and aspirations. With these simple waste-reduction tips, you can easily resolve to be a greener you this year.

### Super Bowl Sunday

While enjoying the Super Bowl, consider buying beverages in bulk instead of individual containers, serving guests with reusable dishes and utensils and buying fresh, local ingredients with less packaging.

### Opt-Out

Start this year fresh and save time, energy and waste by lessening your junk mail. You can remove your name from credit lists, catalogs and more. Visit <http://www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-living/garbage-and-recycling/reduce-waste-home/stop-junk-mail> for instructions about removing your name from the list.

### Technology

If you were lucky to receive electronics during the holidays, you might have an older version to recycle. Electronics can be recycled at the Newberg Transfer Station. Recycling electronics helps to give precious metals and plastics a new use.

### Holiday Clean-Up

Take foam peanuts to a mailing store, like UPS. Reuse ribbon, wrapping and decorations. If every family in the U.S. reused just 2 feet of holiday ribbon, we could save 38,000 miles of ribbon.



## Dundee Fire Department news

### January 27 is Fire Service Appreciation Day

In 2007, the Oregon legislature passed House Joint Resolution 25, establishing January 27 each year, as Fire Service Appreciation Day in Oregon. The Legislative Assembly encourages all Oregonians to recognize and honor fire service members for their efforts to keep our citizens safe from the ravages of fire.

### Dundee Fire Department Toy and Joy

Dundee Volunteer Firefighters assisted 30 families by providing toys to 90 children this Christmas. Thank you to everyone that gave donations and special thanks to the Fox 12 News Toy Drive for their large donation of toys.



### Dundee Fire Department Calls for Service Increase 14.2% in 2015

A total of 732 calls were responded to in 2015 which was up from the 641 handled in 2014. This is an average of just over 2 emergency responses a day.

## Dundee Fire Department News *(continued)*

Fire

### Donate your Inoperable, Unusable vehicles to Dundee Volunteer Firefighters

The Dundee Volunteer Firefighters are in need of your inoperable, unusable, junk vehicles. These vehicles will be utilized to help train emergency responders. Every year Dundee Firefighters respond to vehicle fires and accidents where patients must be extricated from crumpled vehicles with rescue tools (known as the Jaws of Life).

We need every opportunity we can to train for these types of incidences; with your donation you can help make this possible. Contact the Dundee Fire Department to donate your inoperable, unusable, junkie vehicle, which is fully tax deductible as well. We'll arrange to have the vehicle picked up (at no cost to you) and provide you with a receipt for tax purposes. Call us today @ 503-554-8442.



### Volunteer firefighters take the opportunity to do it all.

They protect lives, homes, and dreams. Volunteer firefighters help friends and neighbors through their times of need. Get involved and join the team!

Additional information on how you can become a Volunteer Firefighter call Chief Stock @ 503-554-8442 or stop by Dundee Fire Station

## Dundee Community Center *by Betty Foufos, MA, LPC - DWC President*

The Dundee Woman's Club started as a Community Hall, a public gathering place to meet social, civic, and cultural needs of the community. Last year DWC celebrated its Centennial, and now is ready for a busy new year to continue its mission.

This year DWC continues to host the Community Clothes Closet, started and coordinated by Debbie Russ. The Closet is open twice a month on first and third Sundays, upstairs at the DWC building, noon to 3 p.m. Clothing, hats, shoes, coats and more - all for \$ 1.00 each.

Beginning January, the center is hosting a Community Supper on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month, starting at 5:30 p.m. Janis Timlick is the Coordinator of this program. Meals are free, and everyone is welcome to stop by and enjoy good food, company and a night off from cooking.

Our building manager Debbie Sasser coordinates building rentals, available to the public as well as other non-profits seeking a central location to hold events. You may call 503 400-8032 to inquire.

Thanks to program coordinators, DWC has an active team of volunteers, with opportunity for others to participate. We plan our first Volunteer Orientation and Appreciation dinner on January 21, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. We ask that volunteers plan to attend.

Currently the DWC meets once a month, the second Thursday at 6:30 p.m. After a light supper hosted by members, business and featured topics are covered. Typically there is a guest speaker to cover a topic of interest, history, civic, and cultural. Your participation is welcomed!

In this El Nino year with projected extreme weather and polarities, hopefully the DWC community center offers our diverse community a place to find respite and common ground.



# January

- 5 – City Council Meeting, 7:00pm at the Dundee Fire Station
- 12 – Municipal Court, 5:30pm
- 18 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day, City Offices Closed
- 19 – Tourism Committee Meeting, 10:00am
- 19 – City Council Meeting, 7:00pm at the Dundee Fire Station
- 20 – Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00pm

# February

- 2 – City Council Meeting, 7:00pm at the Dundee Fire Station
- 3 – Parks Committee Meeting, 7:00pm
- 9 – Municipal Court, 5:30pm
- 15 – President's Day, City Offices Closed
- 16 – Tourism Committee Meeting, 10:00am
- 16 – City Council Meeting, 7:00pm at the Dundee Fire Station
- 17 – Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00pm

# March

- 1 – City Council Meeting, 7:00pm at the Dundee Fire Station
- 2 – Parks Advisory Committee Meeting, 7:00pm
- 8 – Municipal Court, 5:30pm
- 15 – City Council Meeting, 7:00pm at the Dundee Fire Station
- 16 – Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00pm
- 21 – Tourism Committee Meeting, 10:00am

**SAVE THE DATE!!!!**

**April 3rd 2016**

**Is the Volunteer Firefighters Pancake Breakfast**

# In This Issue



PO Box 220  
620 SW 5th Street  
Dundee, Oregon 97115

Mayor's Report..... p1  
Radon: Silent Killer..... p3  
Police News..... p7  
Sump Pumps 101..... p8  
Recycling the Holidays.....p9  
Fire Department News.....p10  
Community Center..... p12  
Community Calendar.....p13

Box Holder or  
Occupant  
Dundee, Oregon 97115

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## IMPORTANT CITY PHONE NUMBERS

### Phone Numbers:

503/ 538-3922 City Hall  
503/ 538-3922 Complaints  
503/ 538-6700 Public Works  
503/ 538-8321 Public Works (after hours emergency)  
503/ 554-8442 Fire Department Business  
503/ 538-4182 Burn Information  
503/ 538-8321 Police Department Business  
503/ 538-1958 fax (for all departments)

**911** Fire Department **EMERGENCY**  
**911** Police Department **EMERGENCY**

### Email Addresses:

Rob.Daykin@dundeecity.org – City Administrator  
Melody.Osborne@dundeecity.org – Utility Billing / Planning  
Sheryl.Hart@dundeecity.org – Finance  
Debra.Manning@dundeecity.org- Court/General Business  
DundeeAlan@comcast.net – Public Works Supervisor  
dpd@ci.newberg.or.us – Police Department

[www.dundeecity.org](http://www.dundeecity.org)

### To Contact your Mayor and City Councilors:

Mayor David Russ  
David.Russ@dundeecity.org

Councilor Storr Nelson:  
Storr.Nelson@dundeecity.org

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Tim.Weaver@dundeecity.org

Councilor Kristen Svircarovich:  
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