The Green River is in our care

Stormwater pollution and its impact on Puget Sound was the focus of a City of Tukwila presentation on May 15, 2012 to the 5th grade science classes at Tukwila Elementary School. The students learned about storm drain systems and then had an opportunity to clean up trash from five sites all over the city. The students were well prepared for the presentation because Tukwila Elementary science teachers had already taught them about the Green River; now they knew “Puget Sound Starts Here” right in Tukwila.

The fifth graders were taught one of the simplest things they can do to prevent stormwater pollution is to pick up pet waste and discard it in the proper waste receptacles. The students learned it is harmful to the environment if their pet’s waste was not scooped up because, when left behind, it eventually makes its way through the drainage system to the waters of the Green River and the Sound.

The presentation was part of the City’s ongoing community awareness program to educate the public about stormwater and to encourage people to become active in preventing pollutants from getting into our area’s storm drain systems and ultimately into Puget Sound.

To get involved contact the City’s Stormwater Utility Program at 206-433-1800.

2012 Annual Overlay & Repair Program

The City’s Annual Overlay and Repair Program rehabilitation of roadway surfaces throughout the City. This year there will re-pave Tukwila Parkway and Anderson Park West, from Midland Drive to South 80th Street. Construction is anticipated to begin in early August and be completed by the end of the year.

2012 Annual Small Drainage Program

The City’s Annual Small Drainage Program is designed to correct isolated drainage problems within the City. Work on this year’s projects is anticipated to start in July and be completed by October.

Specific locations for 2012 projects include:
- Gilham Creek, Southcenter Boulevard
- South 136th Street/137th Avenue South pipe repair

Tukwila Parkway

- Rain Harbor
- Fort Dent outdoor improvements
- S 10th Street Drainage Extension (at Beacon Ave S)
- S 22nd Avenue S/S 23rd Street Drainage Extension
- South 80th Street

City project wins award

On May 2, the American Public Works Association recognized the City of Tukwila with its 2012 Washington Chapter of the Year Award for the Tukwila Urban Center Accessway (UCA) Project. This road project won the category of Transportation, $5-$25 million range. The City of Tukwila, Sound Transit, and CH2M HILL, Inc., were acknowledged for their outstanding achievement in managing and constructing this regionally significant road project.

Fireworks Reminder

Fireworks of any kind are strictly prohibited in the City of Tukwila. It is illegal to possess, make, transport, or display fireworks including those termed “safe-and-sane.” It is also NOT legal to purchase fireworks outside the City of Tukwila. The City of Tukwila enjoys a public fireworks display with your family – like the Family 4 event at Fort Dent – and avoid the dangers and fines associated with fireworks possession and discharge. Thank you for helping us keep the 4th of July safe in Tukwila.

Southcenter Parkway extension update

Construction of the Southcenter Parkway extension, which began on May 4 between South 80th Street and South 200th Street, is nearing completion. The project included demolition of the golf driving range, import of soil to create a new 200,000 square foot, full regulation-size, asphalt pavement; concrete curbs; and sidewalk; street lighting systems; new traffic signals; landscaping and irrigation systems; a new sanitary sewer pump station; and new sanitary sewer, water mains, and storm drainage systems. There are now two large new areas of mitigation for stream and wetlands. Rainy weather conditions have slowed the final paving process, but once completed with paving, the storm road should be reopened to the general public in early July.

Restoration of Tukwila’s trail

In 2009 temporary emergency flood control measures were installed in response to concern brought about by damage to the Howard Hanson Dam, which is run by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) to regulate flooding along the Green River. Now that the COE has completed repairs to the dam and removed the emergency measures, the City of Tukwila will soon announce a construction and engineering plan to remove the temporary flood control measures. In June 2012, the flood District approved funding to cover 75% of the removal and reestablishment costs with the remaining costs to be funded by the affected jurisdictions. Restoration work is expected to begin in late July and is scheduled to be completed by November, 2012.

Work will consist of removing the barriers from both the west and east side of the Green River, restoring the traffic lanes on West Valley Highway, repairing the trail and other restoration work. The Green River Trail will remain closed even after the flood measures are removed since the existing pavement has been extensively damaged and will require significant repairs before reopening to the public.

TUKWILA CITY PAGE

Tukwila’s first Community Emergency Response Team class

On May 17, the City’s first Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) class graduated after successful completion of eight weeks of training. The students were trained to keep pollution out of the City’s storm-drain system.

At a recent City presentation, three 5th grade science classes at Tukwila Elementary learned about stormwater issues. At the end of each presentation, the students were given the opportunity to clean up trash from five sites around the city.

Come enjoy 23rd annual live summer performances

Is your family looking for an affordable form of entertainment this summer? The Tukwila Recreation and Cultural Arts Department has a variety of performances that are sure to please and are included in the price of the admission.

The plays are also part of the “Live at the Pavilion” series, the theme for this year’s CAST plays. CAST (Community Awareness through Summer Theatre) is a one-act play format featuring one-night shows. CAST plays are performed at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday and Monday of each week, May 27 and 28.

The plays this year include an elementary school cast doing an adaptation of the mechanics scene from Shakespeare’s Midsummer Night’s Dream. Ever wonder where the characters get their shoes? This one-act play gives a look at an elementary student aspiring for a career in directing. One of the tests: can the cast not only do the steps of the dance together?

We’re Not Making This Play Up To We Go Home!

Brady Poitras, a 7th grade student, is playing a role about what happens when the cast gets sick and stage crew has to fill in for the act. It is a very funny show about what happens when stage crew finds the only way to get the show going is to literally do it all themselves. The show is appropriate for all ages and class participants.

The City appreciates the dedication and the leaders of the CAST and of these first volunteers for CERT graduates for helping the City in a better prepared to respond to disaster events!

Interested in taking the CERT class? The next class will be held in the fall, specific dates are yet to be determined. Contact Mary Hobley, Emergency Management/Public Health at 206-433-1800 or email CERT@TukwilaWA.gov.

Programs, activities, recreation, and more… get the most current information at TukwilaWA.gov!