Volume 3 Issue 5

"Lot Whitcomb"
• PUBLISHED BY THE CITY OF MILWAUKIE •

May 1993

## Step on It — Sidewalk Program Shows Concrete Results

Let's take a walk around the City. Something's missing. The streets. The lawns. The houses. They're all the same, but somehow there's a missing item in the picture.

You blink, and then the light goes on. Where have all the barricades and signs gone? You can actually walk a whole block on the sidewalk in your neighborhood.

All over town, concerned property owners have taken the responsibility to make your walk safer and more pleasant. Neighbors are taking great pride in the appearance of their City. For example, 160 permits were issued for voluntary sidewalk repairs. Forty-five of these property owners were eligible for grant funds. We also had 25 new wheelchair ramps installed for members of our community unable to navigate over 6" curbs.

Contractors moved in to repair walks at various sites.

# **Composting Workshop**

More than 128,000 tons of yard waste go into the metro area trash each year. That is quite a burden on our landfills. It is a waste of a usable resource.

You can help relieve that burden by composting at home. Put your yard waste back to work for the earth.

Register for a free home composting workshop. Learn the basic principles and methods of composting, bin design options, and trouble-shooting. The nearest workshop location for Milwaukie residents is Clackamas Community College. Workshops are scheduled for Saturday, May 8, and June 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., or 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

To register or for more information, call:
Metro Recycling Information 234-3000

A domino effect followed. People saw work being done next door.

In many cases, the contractor was approached about the cost of repairs. Once approved, work continued in this fashion along the street. Harrison Street, between 42nd Avenue and Highway 224, served as a good example of the dramatic change in one particular neighborhood.

Tim Corbett, Public Works Director, observed "I'm overwhelmed by the great response we've had. It just reinforces my feeling that people want to do their part in making the City a safer, more pleasant place to live. When property owners were informed of their potential liability for hazardous sidewalks in front of their homes, they took immediate action to correct the situation."

According to Corbett, "We've made more progress in the last year through voluntary compliance than we have in the last ten years through code enforcement. I'd like to say the job is done, but we still have a ways to go. When we get a complaint or report

of an accident, we have to resort to code enforcement to get the walk fixed. We encourage voluntary compliance because it costs everyone less money."

The City wants to thank those of you who have made the needed repairs to your sidewalks. The success of the program was your doing! If you have questions or concerns, the Public Works Department will be happy to visit with you at your property and assess the condition of your sidewalk. Give us a call at 652-4410.

## **Managing Stormwater**

### **Becomes County-wide Issue**

Milwaukie is now an active partner with Clackamas County in dealing with stormwater management.

This partnership came from two sources:

- 1. Necessity compliance with federal "National Pollutant Discharge Elimination" (NPDES) laws which govern stormwater quality; and
- 2. Effectiveness since we share the drainage Basin, thus impacting each other, a cooperative effort is sensible.

Milwaukie has, in addition, a significant internal stormwater system to maintain and manage. In comparison to many cities, portions of our stormwater system such as drywells are not designed to handle increased flows during major storms. This results in flooding, erosion and related water quality issues.

We lack the money to handle the program. We are presently focusing on establishing a dedicated funding source to support, maintain and improve this system. It is an integral part of our management strategy.

Neighborhood meetings will be conducted this Spring to involve our citizens. The meetings should prove vital to further decisions.

It is easy to talk about the need for stormwater management. The tough part, however, is converting the talk about improved water quality and reduced nuisance flooding into actual implementation. This can only be achieved through public education, capital improve-

ment planning, financial analysis, ordinance development and maintenance scheduling. All are necessary components of a comprehensive stormwater program like the one we are trying to implement here.

We feel our program will take advantage of regional problem solutions.

## **Dogwood City Turns 90!**

June 2, 1993, marks a unique date in the history of our community. It is the 90th Anniversary of the first Milwaukie City Council meeting.

The Milwaukie City Council is extending a special invitation to join them in celebration. The festivities will be held on Wednesday, June 2, 1993, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Milwaukie Masonic Lodge, 10636 SE Main Street.

Council plans a re-enactment of that first meeting. Did you know the first councilors dug into their pockets for \$1 each to get the City into business? Join us if you would like to learn more.

Relive some Milwaukie history, share stories, and

visit with friends. Chris McDonald of the Milwaukie Museum will display memorabilia, antique fire equipment will be on hand and refreshments will be served.

## Mark Your Calendar...

Saturday, May 15

Clinic on Common Sense Gardening – Nancy Bond will present "A Guide to Alternative to Pesticides" at 9:30 a.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber, 10722 SE Main (please use the back entrance). Space is limited, so call Darrell at 659-5171 to reserve, soon.

## Earthquake Education — Be Aware, Be Prepared

earthquake on March 25 sent a message to us to prepare for earthquakes. The South Metro Fire Prevention Office is providing brochures on safety tips for earthquakes. They are available at City Hall and Ledding Library.

#### **Earthquake Survival**

Prepare Yourself and Your Family Now!

- DO have an earthquake survival kit on hand.
- DO make sure all family members know how to turn off gas, water, and electricity.
- DO plan family emergency procedures and plans for reuniting your family.
- DO know emergency phone numbers (doctor, hospital, police, etc.).
- DO anchor heavy objects to walls (bookshelves, wall units, cupboards, etc.).
- DON'T place heavy

Outside: Stand away from buildings, trees, telephone and electric lines;

or glass dividers;

objects over bed.

During an Earthquake -Stay Calm

Inside: Stand in doorway,

or crouch under a desk or

table, away from windows

On the Road: Drive away

from under-passes/ overpasses; stop in safe area; stay in vehicles.

#### After an Earthquake

- Check for injuries provide first aid
- Check for safety check for gas, water, sewage breaks, downed electric lines and shorts; turn off appropriate utilities.
- Check for building

damage and potential problems during after shocks.

- Clean up dangerous spills.
- Wear shoes
- Turn on radio and listen for instructions from public safety agencies.
- Don't use the telephone except for emergency use.

## **Public Safety Building** Work Progresses Despite Rainy Weather

April showers might bring May flowers, but they also mean wet workers. Raincoats have been the predominant fashion for the last month. In fact, the first section of the roof was just applied on April 7.

The wet stuff slowed the brick work, although most of it is finally done. All that remains is some detailing and brick work on the second floor curved wall. Even the welding of the steel was delayed by too much water on the steel decking.

Workers have made progress inside the building. Many second floor walls have been framed. The majority of the

ductwork is in place. Plumbing pipes and most sprinkler lines are installed.

Wiring has been run through the electrical conduits on the first floor. Despite the messy conditions, the quality of work remains very high.

We look forward to getting a watertight roof in place and

windows installed. Only then can sheetrock be nailed up and kept dry. Sheetmetal workers will follow closely behind the roofers, applying flashing to protect tops of walls and openings in the roof. Inside, electrical "rough-in" work will move to the second floor.



**Street Patrol Steps Up Pace** 

The Police Department reports that Officer Matthew Gilbert has been assigned to full time duties in traffic accident investigation and enforcement. He will be working particularly on speeding offenses in residential areas of the City.

According to Police Chief Charles Mansfield, the department will be adding another traffic officer later in the year in response to recommendations of the Public Safety Advisory Committee and citizen requests for increased enforcement.

Mansfield commented that the Urban Speed Law, enacted by the Legislature in 1990, makes any speed in excess of the posted speed on most city streets a violation. Court bail on speeding citations ranges from \$90 - \$278.

"Milwaukie citizens consistently tell me they want traffic offenders cited, and that's what we intend to do," Mansfield commented. "The public can expect to see more red and blue lights working on city streets.

### Fire Department - Safety Trailer

Milwaukie firefighters, under the direction of Fire Captain, Ron Moran and Fire Lieutenant, Wes Johns are in the process of constructing a trailer for public safety training.

The 36-foot long trailer will allow fire and police personnel to provide training in home safety to children and school demonstrate the effectiveness of residential fire sprinkler systems to adults. This specially designed and equipped facility will serve as classroom, puppet theater, demonstration and simulation training room.

The skills taught to children will show how to properly escape from a house fire, telephone 9-1-1 dispatch operators, handle strangers trying to gain entry to their homes and other safety practices.

Adults can view demonstrations on fire sprinkler, fire and burglar alarm systems. In addition, methods to make their homes more entry-resistant and improving security through lighting techniques will also be presented.

safety trailer constructed by Milwaukie firefighters is a joint venture with the South Metro Fire Marshal's Office, the Clackamas County Fire Prevention Co-Op, and the Milwaukie Police Department. It will be utilized throughout the region for teaching safety skills. The Oregon Burn Center, located at Emanuel Hospital, has provided a \$5,000 grant to initiate the project. Completion is scheduled for this Fall.

### **Technical Rescue Training**

Selected members of the Milwaukie Fire Department are participating advanced training specialized rescue skills. The members make up the Technical Rescue Team under the direction of program manager Lieutenant/Paramedic Bob Dixon. The Technical Rescue Team (TRT) will spearhead rescue efforts involving structural collapse, cave-in, confined space and a variety of emergency situations requiring specialized skills in rope work, shoring, stabilization,

extrication, and removal of trapped and injured victims.

This specialized training includes sessions at the Regional Training and Simulation Center operated by the Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue Department.

A trailer, equipped with equipment and materials to support the Technical Rescue Team, is being prepared by Team members and will be placed into service by this summer.

Printed on Recycled Paper

MAILING LIST: This newsletter is published by the City of Milwaukie. It is distributed at City Hall, the Milwaukie Center, Johnson Creek Permit Center, Library, Police and Fire Stations. If you would like a copy mailed to you, send a note to Pat DuVal, City Manager's Office, 10722 SE Main, Milwaukie, OR 97222 or call 659-5171.