

Background

This document provides a high-level update of monthly implementation activities for the [Environmental Sustainability Action Plan \(ESAP\)](#). The ESAP is the City's strategic roadmap to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and enhance Redmond's natural resources for future generations.

Key priorities for 2023-2024 include:

- **High Impact Initiatives:** Implement high impact programs and policies that advance progress towards ESAP goals.
- **Lead by Example:** Continue to drive rapid progress towards the Climate Emergency Declaration goals.
- **Sustainability Programming:** Run a transparent and inclusive sustainability program.

Updates

High Impact Initiatives

- City Public Electric Vehicle (EV) Rate Impact Monitoring: A new fee for public EV charging was put into place at the end of July to reduce long dwell times, increase the availability of the chargers, and reduce complaints to staff. Council requested staff report on charging trends on a quarterly basis to monitor the impact on the desired outcomes. Between August and September 2023, the average dwell time went down to 2 hours and 40 minutes, with just 18% of sessions exceeding the posted three-hour limit. During the same period in 2022, the average charging time was 3 hours and 3 minutes, with 26% of sessions exceeding the three-hour limit. As anticipated, charging sessions declined from 791 sessions in 2022, to 433 sessions in 2023. The fee has generated \$1,373, which is returned to the Parks budget for ongoing operation of the chargers, including electricity costs.
- Sustainable Living Classes: Fall Sustainable Living Classes are now open for registration. Class topics include safer cleaning, sustainable holiday meals, waste free holiday giving and more. These free virtual classes are interactive and taught by a live instructor. Class participants will receive emailed resources covered in the class. More information in the Upcoming Events section at Redmond.gov/sustainableliving.
- Bear Creek Planting: In October, a group of Scouts planted 900 native trees on 2-acres of Bear Creek buffer. Prior to the Scouts planting the trees, the City's Stormwater crew mowed invasive blackberries covering the site. Volunteers from Amazon, Microsoft and the WCC crew helped prepare the site by digging out blackberry roots.
- Fleet Study: Phase 1 of the Fleet Study is underway with a focus on right sizing, utilization, space planning, and fleet shop needs to inform the MOC master planning process. The second phase of the study will include electrification, decarbonization, and replacement planning. This is a critical plan to strategically transition the fleet to low carbon sources. The project is on schedule and expected to conclude by Q3 2024.

- Fleet EV Infrastructure Installations: One dual head fleet charger was installed in October at the MOC to support the City's growing fleet of EVs. Two fleet chargers (four heads) are now available at the MOC. Fleet chargers are also being installed at the City Hall parking garage, but that work is delayed until late 2024 due to supply chain issues with electrical switch gear. This project is the first phase of a long-term project to install EV charging infrastructure in support of fleet electrification efforts.

Sustainability Programming

- Environmental Sustainability Action Plan Newsletter: The October Sustainability eNewsletter was distributed to more than 2,000 subscribers and highlighted community programs and resources (Appendix A).
- Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC): The Committee held its regularly scheduled meeting on September 28 from 5:30-7. The committee welcomed new members and provided feedback on the draft Climate Resilience and Sustainability element of the Redmond 2050 Comprehensive Plan update. The meeting minutes can be found on the ESAC webpage.
- Overlake Green Building Tour: The ESAC and city staff partnered to host a tour of Verde at Esterra Park on October 18. Verde is a new all-electric multifamily building in the Overlake neighborhood that's targeting LEED Zero Carbon certification. 20 attendees (maximum allowed) learned about the sustainable practices used to build and operate the building, while connecting with other members of the community and ESAC.
- Smith Woods Tour: The ESAC and city staff partnered to host a walk around Smith Woods in September to learn about the city's restoration efforts and stormwater pilot projects. 10 community members were in attendance. This is part of an ongoing ESAC effort to increase opportunities for community members to learn more about the City's sustainability efforts and connect with ESAC members.



IMAGE 1: PETER HOLTE (RIGHT) AND TOM HARDY (SECOND FROM RIGHT) SHARING INFORMATION ABOUT STORMWATER AND HABITAT RESTORATION EFFORTS IN SMITH WOODS.

- Annual Report: The City is working with Cascadia and the Eastside Climate Partnership to prepare an updated greenhouse gas inventory for city operations and the community for calendar year 2022. Staff will present the 2022 GHG inventory and other ESAP key performance indicators in a staff report at the November 21 Council Business meeting.

Environmental Sustainability Newsletter - October 2023

City of Redmond Washington sent this bulletin at 10/13/2023 08:12 AM PDT

CITY OF REDMOND Environmental Sustainability



Enjoy a Green Building Tour in Overlake

Join the City of Redmond's Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC) and city staff from 4 - 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 18, for a tour of Verde at Esterra Park. Verde is a new all-electric multifamily building in the Overlake neighborhood that's targeting LEED Zero Carbon certification. We'll learn about the sustainable practices used to build and operate the building, while connecting with other members of the community and ESAC. Space is limited, so please register.

[Register today!](#)



AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps Fellows Support Environmental Goals

The City's environmental sustainability efforts would not be possible without the dedication of numerous volunteers and city staff. Redmond is fortunate to have AmeriCorps and Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) fellows serving alongside staff and the community to support the implementation of the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP) through electric vehicle infrastructure planning, planting native trees in critical areas, and more. We recently welcomed our new 2023-2024 fellows, Bridget (AmeriCorps), Audre (WCC), Dalyna (WCC), Josie (WCC), Maddie (WCC), and Tiffany (WCC). Kelaya (WCC) is returning for her second full year as the WCC crew supervisor. We're grateful for their service to the Redmond community!



Scouts Plant Native Trees Near Bear Creek

This month, a group of Scouts led by Troop 520 will plant 900 native trees on two acres of Bear Creek stream buffer. Prior to the Scouts planting the trees, the City's Stormwater crew mowed invasive blackberries covering the site, and groups from Amazon, Microsoft, and the WCC crew helped prepare the site by digging out blackberry roots.



Take Free Sustainable Living Classes

The City of Redmond is offering free classes to help residents live more sustainably. Class topics include safer cleaning, sustainable holiday meals, waste free holiday giving, and more! All classes are interactive and taught by a live instructor. Class participants will receive emailed resources covered in the class. All classes are virtual and are free, but registration is required.

Register today!



Happy Halloween from Redmond's Sustainability Team!

Ghosts and pirates are not the only scary aspects of Halloween. Keep waste in check this fall with these simple **eco-friendly practices**:

- **Be pumpkin smart.** When carving your pumpkins, try not to let anything go to waste! You can bake the pumpkin seeds for snacks or use the flavorful interior of the pumpkin for sweet breads, blends, or other goods. Make sure to compost any pumpkin scraps (either during the carving process, or the old jack-o-lantern), and keep them out of the trash.
- **Reduce and reuse.** For decorations or costumes, consider buying second-hand or repurpose old clothes. Explore your local buy-sell groups for more ideas.
- **Prepare sustainable trick-or-treat baskets.** Whether it's for going around the neighborhood or holding candy at the door, find a basket or bag around the house instead of purchasing something new.
- **Host sustainable parties.** Plan your meals and snacks to avoid excess food and use reusable food ware!



Adopt Your Neighborhood Storm Drain!

Join 170+ neighbors who volunteer to help keep the storm drains near their home or business —the grates at the edge of the road—clear of falling leaves, tree limbs, and debris. Redmond's volunteer-powered Adopt-a-Drain program helps prevent localized flooding and keeps pollutants and litter out of our streams, lakes, and wetlands.

Sign up today!



Participate in a FREE Virtual Recycling Center Tour

Become a recycling expert and get all your questions answered by attending Waste Management's virtual recycling center tour. During the tour, you'll learn what happens to your recycling when it leaves the curb, why it's so important to recycle right and more. This quarter, we'll have a focus on what to do with some holiday items, like jack-o'-lanterns. The virtual tour is free, but registration is required.

Register today!

Welcome New ESAC Members

The City of Redmond hosts an Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC) made up of Redmond community members. The ESAC advises and supports the City's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create a thriving and resilient landscape. This month, the ESAC welcomed two new members, **Mike Vermeulen** and **Nancy Logan**, to help inform and guide as representatives of their community. Welcome, Mike and Nancy!

Learn more about the ESAC

Council Items Supporting Environmental Sustainability Initiatives

[June Environmental Sustainability Action Plan Implementation Update](#) – June 27

[Adoption of a Resolution Amending the City Fee Schedule to Include Fees for Electric Vehicle Charging](#) – July 5

[Award Bid to Apex Mechanical, LLC, in the Amount of \\$323,469 for the Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Project](#)

– July 5

[Approval of the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Contract for the Perrigo Park Field Lighting Energy Efficiency Conversion](#) – July 18

[Approval of Consultant Agreement with Urban Forestry Services - Bartlett Consulting, for the Tree Health Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan](#) – July 18

[Approval a Contract Amendment to the Comprehensive Garbage, Recyclables, and Organics Collection Contract](#) – July 18

[Approval of the AmeriCorps Fellowship Agreement with CivicWell for \\$62,000](#) – July 18

[Safer Streets for All \(SS4A\) Consultant Agreement](#) – Oct. 3

[Redmond 2050: Phase 2 Policies](#) – Oct. 3

[Approve \\$282,420 Washington Conservation Corps \(WCC\) 2023-24 Agreement between the City of Redmond and the Washington State Department of Ecology](#) – Oct. 3

[Redmond 2050 Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement](#) – Oct. 3



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