

Powell Valley Neighborhood News

Brought to you by your Powell Valley Neighborhood Association

Spring 2026



East Gresham Park in the springtime!



The Annex, close to Williams Road.



The recently created Rain Garden.

East Gresham Park

East Gresham Park is a 5.6-acre undeveloped park in the Powell Valley Neighborhood. Powell Valley Neighborhood Association has adopted the park as its project. We've been working with permission and supervision from the City of Gresham and with supervision of the Backyard Habitat Program to get three spaces in the park certified through the Backyard Habitat Program. To do this, we remove invasive plants such as English ivy, blackberries, holly, and bindweed, and plant native species in their place, which builds habitat for the native fauna and makes the area beautiful for all of us. The three spaces we are working on for certification are The Annex (along the fence on Williams Road), The Rain Garden (near the street on Williams), and The Bridge. We also maintain trails with wood chips, and opened up an entrance on SE Lovrien which had become overgrown with invasive plants.

Wish List: A steady stream of volunteers to help with our efforts. We encourage folks to join us at work parties. Get to know your neighbors and help us make our neighborhood more beautiful!

Park work parties are held the last Saturday of every month, 9 am until when you want to leave. Address: [237 SE Williams Road, Gresham](#). We often have coffee donated by Starbucks and donuts donated by City of Gresham!

Questions? Contact Park Chair Jennifer Kaiser, jennsabaca@gmail.com

A win for PVNA!

Several PVNA members attended a [Hollywood Signs](#) Open House event to celebrate their new location. Guess who won a \$100 gift card? Powell Valley Neighborhood Association!

Hollywood Signs had donated signs in the past for our park work parties. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Quiz: *What exactly is Powell Valley Neighborhood Association?*

Hint: PVNA is about our neighborhood working together and interacting with the City of Gresham.

Wrong answer: It's a homeowner's association? Nope!

RIGHT answer: PVNA is one of 16 Neighborhood Associations recognized and respected by the City of Gresham. All of the people and businesses in our borders are members.

Our borders are: Division on the North, Gresham city limits on the East, Powell Valley Road on the South, and Burnside and 242nd on the West.

Here's how we can help each other through PVNA:

- Represent our neighborhood at certain city meetings
- Plan gatherings to bring neighbors together
- Review development plans in our area and provide feedback to the city when we have concerns
- Coordinate volunteer activities in our neighborhood
- Provide a larger and louder voice to the city about safety or other concerns
- Pursue grants or donations for special projects that improve our neighborhood

Congratulations, you aced the quiz!

Board Meetings will be held the first Wednesday of each month at Solista of Gresham ([2895 SE Powell Valley Road](https://www.google.com/maps/place/2895+SE+Powell+Valley+Road,+Gresham,+OR+97030/@45.5985,-122.535,15z)) in the library, 6:30-8:00 pm. PVNA residents and business representatives are all welcome to attend. The dates for the next few months: May 6th, June 3rd, July 1st.

Email Updates

We want to keep you informed. However, opting in is required. So let us know you want to be included. (See the email link below) We will send one or two emails per month, usually including a newsletter or update.



A recent work party at East Gresham Park, featuring the new rain garden.



Lots of help with the wood chips!

Stay in touch with us!

PowellValleyNA@gmail.com

Like us and see events on Facebook: [facebook.com/PowellValleyNA](https://www.facebook.com/PowellValleyNA)

Communicate with neighbors on NextDoor: [NextDoor.com](https://www.nextdoor.com)

PVNA page at City of Gresham: [Greshamoregon.gov/Powell-Valley-Neighborhood-Association/](https://www.greshamoregon.gov/Powell-Valley-Neighborhood-Association/)



Red flowering currant, a beautiful spring flowering native plant

From our Land Use Chair

Powell Valley Neighborhood Association is notified of any proposals such as land divisions, community service uses, and commercial construction that are proposed within our boundaries or adjacent to our boundary line. We are also notified of the proposed Pre-App (Pre-Application) and given an opportunity to make comments and/or schedule an Early Neighborhood Notification meeting (ENN meeting) with the applicant to voice our questions and concerns before a formal application with the large, un-refundable fees is submitted and timelines take effect.

Currently, our PVNA has three projects under consideration:

- (1) [PRE-24-00582](#). Reconfiguration and expansion of the Toyota dealership. ENN held on October 23, 2025.
- (2) [PRE-25-00500](#). Three-lot partition at the easterly end of NE 2nd Street, at the termination of NE Lovrien. ENN held via Zoom on February 26.
- (3) [DR-25-00478](#). Proposal to demolish existing Shari's and nearby inline retail space to develop a 3,886 sq. ft In-N-Out restaurant at 1979 NE Burnside Road. ENN and Neighborhood meetings held.

Details about these projects and all active development permits can be found at:

<https://www.greshamoregon.gov/urban-design-and-planning/planning-projects/>

For anyone with **questions about what development is happening** in the City or what may be required for a person's own project, a great place to start is with the Planner on Duty (POD), who can be reached via phone at 503-618-2780 or by email POD@GreshamOregon.gov.

The city has **land use regulations** relating to trees (pruning and removal), fences, earth moving, parking, home businesses, and many other activities that may affect adjoining properties, the neighborhood, and/or the livability of our City.

For more information about requirements relating to what you might be planning on your property, the following link should take you to the Urban and Design and Planning section of the City's website:

<https://www.greshamoregon.gov/urban-design-and-planning/planning-applications-and-forms/>

Powell Valley Neighborhood Association General Meeting

A General Meeting with officer elections was held on February 19, 2026 at the Gordon Russell Middle School library. Guest speakers included:

Jake Fish, Lieutenant at Gresham Fire Department

Gresham is known as the busiest fire department in Oregon. They are also known for highly trained paramedics. The low number of stations and personnel is a result of budget constraints in the City. They have mutual aid agreements with neighboring jurisdictions (Clackamas, Wood Village, Troutdale, Portland).

Mike Whitely, Senior Engineer at City of Gresham

Water sourcing will change for the City this spring. Water is purchased from the Portland/Bull Run system. A ground water system has been developed and will be operational by June 2026. There will be two transitions: surface source to 100% groundwater source (mid-March), and chlorine only disinfection (April). Water costs will be increasing, but not as much as if water was still sourced through Portland. For chemical analysis, one can check the Oregon Health Authority website. See the [CoG Cascade Groundwater Alliance page](#).

Keren Standley, neighbor and member of [Pond Hags](#)

Keren spoke about how native plants are helpful with erosion control, pollinator and other wildlife habitat, are low maintenance, and require less water, etc. The [Backyard Habitat Certification Program](#) was explained and has been used to restore the bridge area of the park and the newly created rain garden.

PVNA Officers elected:

Interim President: Joe Lagerstrom

Vice President: Jim Stanton (appointed at Board meeting 4/1/26)

Secretary: Keren Standley

Treasurer: Karen Pyle

Land Use: Janet Armstrong (we're looking for her replacement)

Park Committee Chair: Jen Kaiser

PS: We're always looking for people to get involved! If you've got an idea or time to give, please let us know. Our email is: PowellValleyNA@gmail.com. You can also attend a Board meeting. Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month in the library of [Solista Gresham \(retirement community\)](#), located behind Fred Meyer on Powell Valley Road, at 6:30 - 8 pm.



Gorgeous spring blooms in our Powell Valley neighborhood



Current walking path in Kane Road Park

Double the fun?

After many years and thousands of hours of volunteer work to open and improve East Gresham Park, the PVNA board voted unanimously on April 1 (no joke) to additionally pursue some sort of effort to improve [Kane Road Park](#).

Kane Road Park is the other city park within the boundaries of our neighborhood. Much like East Gresham Park, it is mostly hidden and unused by even close residents. It's located behind Fire Station #72 at [676 NE Kane Drive](#). While it does have a city-main-tained core including a large grassy area and a play structure, it also has an impressive undeveloped area. That undeveloped area has very primitive walking paths and some amazing trees, but is in very rough shape.

If you have an interest, opinion, or story about Kane Road Park, we would love to hear about it. Please email us at PowellValleyNA@gmail.com. You can also attend our next board meeting. Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at [Solista Gresham \(retirement community\)](#), which is located behind Fred Meyer on Powell Valley Road, at 6:30 - 8 pm.

City of Gresham Resources

Report an issue to the City of Gresham

Report graffiti, animal issues, overgrown vegetation, safety concerns, ask a question, etc.

<https://www.greshamoregon.gov/services/report-an-issue/mygresham/>

Or use the "My Gresham" app

Need assistance with a conflict?

Mediation is a way to work through a disagreement or conflict between two or more people. [East County Resolutions](#) is a nonprofit that offers free conflict resolution services, including mediation, conflict coaching, facilitation, and training, to individuals and communities across East Multnomah County.

Email Info@ECRMediate.org or visit ECRMediate.org

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