Powell Valley Neighborhood News

Brought to you by your Powell Valley Neighborhood Association **Fall 2026**



East Gresham Park color in the Fall.



Restoration project near the bridge entrance.



The Rain Garden, at Williams Road entrance.

East Gresham Park Update

After another year of work parties, there is less ivy, blackberry and other invasive plants in the park and more native species, notably in the Annex and the Rain Garden at the SE Williams entrance. We have been clearing the sides of the trail starting at the Williams entrance to allow us space to plant more natives purchased with a Neighborhood Matching Grant awarded to us by the City of Gresham.

At the SE 2nd Terrace entrance, also known as the bridge entrance, neighbors have planted native species. Lots of blackberry have been cleared with neighborhood help to open up the area for the new plantings. The native plants we put in the ground are thriving, thanks to the expertise of Keren Standley and the hard work of Keren and all the park volunteers.

We received a grant from Friends of Trees, which involves their crew working in the SE Greenway entrance area, clearing the area of invasives, and planting native plants.

The ivy, blackberry and other invasives will continue to challenge us, and we'd like to invite scout groups or other youth, or adult groups, to work along with us in this removal effort.

One much needed addition to the park is noteworthy. The City of Gresham installed a vehicle barrier at the SE Williams entrance. This will alleviate vehicles from having access to the park now, as damage had been done by a vehicle months ago.

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

Our next East Gresham Park work party will be Saturday, October 31st at 9 am until you want to leave. Meet at the Williams Road picnic table. Bring gloves, shovels, even your costume if you'd like! Coffee and doughnuts will be provided.

We're NOT a Homeowners Association, so what IS PVNA?

Powell Valley Neighborhood Association (PVNA) is about our neighborhood working together and interacting with the City of Gresham.

We're one of 16 Neighborhood Associations recognized and respected by the City of Gresham. All residents 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.

We are not a homeowner's association.

What we do:

- 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 neighbors have concerns.
- Coordinate volunteer activities in our neighborhood.
- Provide a larger voice to the city about safety or livability concerns.
- Pursue grants or donations for special projects that improve our neighborhood.

Interested in knowing more or getting involved with our neighborhood? Reach out with an email to PowellValleyNA@gmail.com or drop into our next board meeting!

Board Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at Solista of Gresham (2895 SE Powell Valley Road) in the library, 6:30 - 8 pm. PVNA residents and business representatives are all welcome to attend. Meetings in the next few months: Nov 5th, Dec 2nd, Jan 6th.

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, removing invasives together.



Getting instructions on our tasks.

Stay in touch with us!
PowellValleyNA@gmail.com
Like us and see events on Facebook: facebook.com/PowellValleyNA
Communicate with neighbors on NextDoor: NextDoor.com
PVNA page at City of Gresham: Greshamoregon.gov/Powell-Valley-Neighborhood-Association/

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.



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 Design and Planning section of the City's website:
https://www.greshamoregon.gov/urban-design-and-planning/planing-applications-and-forms/



At the Water Treatment Facility Tour.

Water Treatment Update

The City of Gresham held a recent Water Treatment Facility Tour and Q&A on September 24th. The staff asked public customers to contact them directly if we have issues with the water. They can flush things out where necessary. Contact them at Water Services on the City's website. greshamoregon.gov

Stark Street Bridge Replacement Project

Multnomah County is sharing its initial Stark Street Bridge Replacement Project design option recommendation with the community after months of public outreach, engineering and environmental analysis. The County is recommending to preserve the existing bridge and build a new seismically-resilient bridge downstream.

Visit the project link for more information.

Powell Valley Neighborhood Association General Meeting

A General Meeting was held on September 17th at the Gordon Russell Middle School library. Guest speakers included:

Lt. Troy Grundmeyer, Liaison at Gresham Police Department, plus **Jayme Wantowski, Community Outreach Coordinator**
They discussed ways of partnering with neighbors to make our neighborhood safer, and how to contact the Police Department with concerns or issues.
Contact info: Lt Troy Grundmeyer
Office: 503-618-2318
Troy.grundmeyer@greshamoregon.gov
Important note: *This contact info should not be used for reporting crimes, suspicious activity, or complaints requiring a police response.*



Lt Grundmeyer and Jayme Wantowski from Gresham Police Department.

Alice Busch, Emergency Manager at City of Gresham
Alice said the best thing to do to prepare for an emergency is to get to know your neighbors and create a diverse bunch of friendships. Think potlucks, neighborhood parties, etc. She also had some helpful and informative handouts to pick up.



Alice Busch, Gresham's Emergency Manager.

To that end, your neighborhood group is hosting a **block party** in the spring of 2027. If you've got some good ideas, join us and we'll create a memorable event together.
Contact info: PowellValleyNA@gmail.com

Keren Standley, neighbor and member of Pond Hags
Keren gave us updates on East Gresham Park: We have such exciting things happening at East Gresham Park! On October 9th, we picked up four habitat kits from The Xerces Society in Corvallis, for a total of 160 brand new native plants that we will be planting at our next work party. Please come join us on October 31st at 9 am, and help us get these wonderful additions in the ground. Check out our Facebook page for more information regarding the planting party.



Our recent meeting at Gordon Russell Middle School.

This previous Spring, we were notified that Friends of Trees had applied for and received a grant to do some restoration work in the park. They will work at the South entrance to remove invasives, and then on March 6th, they will have a large-scale planting party to get a massive number of plants in the ground. To sign up, click here. We hope to see you at some of our upcoming work parties. Our park is already fabulous, and it's just going to keep getting better as we find more resources to help us improve it.

Stay in touch with us!
PowellValleyNA@gmail.com
Like us and see events on Facebook: facebook.com/PowellValleyNA
Communicate with neighbors on NextDoor: NextDoor.com
PVNA page at City of Gresham: Greshamoregon.gov/Powell-Valley-Neighborhood-Association/



Ridding the park of invasives!



One of our neighbors hard at work at a recent work party.



Large pile of ivy and debris. See story of the month.

Kane Road Park Update

On April 14, 2026, seven neighbors met at Black Rock on Burnside to discuss Kane Road Park as no volunteer work had been done in this park for a number of years. We have since established a Facebook page, have met with four City of Gresham Park staff members, and have had three monthly work parties to remove invasive ivy and blackberry. The City Staff has been providing us with refreshments of cookies, water, coffee, plus a few tools.

Based on our feedback and requests, the City of Gresham opened up the 5th Court entrance, allowing and encouraging neighbors to access their park. Prior to our actions, the city stafff was not aware that entrance even existed because of how badly the overgrowth had become.

The next Kane Road Park work party will be November 14th at 9 am. Meet us at 500 NE Kane Drive. Join the fun of making this place better!

Questions? Contact Kane Road Park Chair Stella Funk Butler, stellafbutler@gmail.com

Kane Road Park Story of the Month

Our pile of vines of ivy attracted four toddlers found climbing on top of the tall pile and dragging some of the vines away. Two wore Burger King paper crowns. A call to the parks department got the pile picked up right away. *At least the kids were playing with nature!*

Powell Valley Neighborhood Association is for and about our neighbors. We all live here and want a great neighbohood. Get involved! Help out! *Thanks for reading!*