



TUKWILA CITY PAGES

The city of opportunity
The community of choice

Tukwila Police Department Tips

Stop thieves from casing your GIFTS

Most of us enjoy the fun of post-Christmas shopping when the prices are right. Unfortunately, thieves also find this to be a great time to "shop," but for them that means in your house. Here's a couple of things to think about as you unwrap and assemble your gifts:

Can that big-screen TV be easily seen by someone walking or driving by your house?

If so, think about ways to make it harder for a potential thief to easily spot a desirable target, such as keeping curtains or blinds partly closed or changing the location of the TV or gaming system.

Do you put those large new-item boxes out at the curb for recycling, or overfill the garbage can with styrofoam packaging?

This shows the bad guys exactly what they can expect as a "reward" for breaking into your house. Consider either:

- recycling only the number of boxes that fit in your bin each week until they are gone, doing the same with bulky packaging, or
- taking them to Ikea, who takes cardboard and all that styrofoam packaging for free and recycles it.

Winter Driving Tips

Keep your gas tank at half full or more, in case you get stuck in traffic caused by "snowflake panic".

If you need to warm up the car in the driveway, be in your car to prevent theft. It is pretty embarrassing to admit to an officer taking a theft report that the thief has keys because you left the car running!

When you need to scrape ice off your windshield, also pay attention to your headlights and taillights, to prevent them from being dimmed by frost affecting precious visibility.

If there are freezing temperatures and/or ice on your car windows, anything on the roadway that looks wet is probably ice.

Even if everything else is clear, bridges and on/off ramps are often icy.

Consider filling the windshield washer reservoir with de-icing cleaner.



Slow down!

Tukwila GreenWorks recipients

The King County Housing Authority, located at 600 Andover Park West, has been selected as a Tukwila GreenWorks member for 2013. Tukwila GreenWorks is the City of Tukwila's recycling recognition program for businesses. The program identifies a select group of Tukwila businesses who practice excellent recycling, waste reduction and resource conservation techniques. 2013 is the second year that KCHA has been a GreenWorks member.

You can find more business recycling information at TukwilaWA.gov/recycling/BusAssistRecog.html



Angela Wallis and Jenna Higgins of King County Housing Authority receive the Tukwila GreenWorks certificate.



Winterizing water pipes

Follow these tips to prevent water damage during our cold weather:

Turn off outside faucets and disconnect the hoses from them.

Protect vulnerable water pipes with insulation or a faucet cover.

If you have exposed plumbing in an attached garage, keep its doors shut.

Leave open cabinet doors which have exposed pipes (such as under sinks). This allows household air to keep plumbing warm.

If your home will be vacant for several days, keep the thermostat set above 55 degrees. If vacant for several months, properly winterize your home.

For properties within the City of Tukwila's water jurisdiction, a broken water pipe may qualify for a credit on the water bill. However, it qualifies only on pipe breakage between the meter and the house, and is subject to other limitations. You'll find the City's Leak Adjustment Policy on the City's website at www.TukwilaWA.gov; select "Utility Information" under the gold "Residents" tab.

Volunteers take on environmental restoration

This past summer and fall, dedicated individual and corporate volunteers worked at several Tukwila sites to restore degraded habitats and improve them for people, fish and wildlife. Among these volunteer efforts are:

- Tukwila Target employees worked to clean up Tukwila Pond Park and restore small wetlands in the park.
- Puget Sound Stewards (sponsored by Earth Corps) continued their work to maintain the restored shoreline plantings at Codiga Park.
- Many volunteers worked at the Duwamish River shoreline at regular monthly work parties and special events led by the Restore the Duwamish Shoreline Challenge partners (BECU, Forterra, City of Tukwila and other businesses). In addition to individuals, groups pitching in to help included Starbucks, Microsoft, CBRE, Pepsico, Up With People, Seattle Central Community College, and the US Air Force.
- The Homeschool Stewardship Squad of children and parents helped remove invasive plants at the Restore the Duwamish Shoreline Challenge site.
- New Puget Sound Stewards were trained for the Restore the Duwamish Shoreline Challenge and started work during the summer.

Learn more about: Restore the Duwamish Shoreline Challenge, visit www.RestoreTheDuwamish.org

Puget Sound Stewards Program, visit www.EarthCorps.org/PugetSoundSteward.php

If your business (or you as an individual) would like to help out on any of these ongoing projects, please contact Volunteer Superintendent Tracy Gallaway by calling 206-767-2305, or email Volunteer@TukwilaWA.gov.



Starbucks volunteer clean-up crew

Holiday miracles made possible

The compassion and support coming from the Tukwila community to make the 2013 Holiday Giving Program a success is amazing. Each year, Tukwila's Parks and Recreation Department, along with the Tukwila School District and the Tukwila Children's Foundation, coordinate the Spirit of Giving program to provide local children and families with gifts, food, and a lot of hope going into the holiday season.

We thank the businesses, community organizations and local citizens for their generosity in helping make this program possible. Because of their contributions, we were able to help 300 local children have a wonderful holiday. Our special thanks go out to those identified here, and the countless volunteers, citizens and anonymous donors!

- Barnes and Noble • California Pizza Kitchen
- City of Tukwila Employees • Dialysis Consulting Group
- Fatigue Technology • Insurance Professionals of South King County
- Macy's Operation and Logistics Department
- Member Access Pacific, LLC • The Rayner Family
- Riverton Park Methodist Church • Safeguard/Advent
- Southgate Garden Club • Strong-Bridge
- Tukwila Children's Foundation • Tukwila Firefighters Local 2088
- Tukwila Library Advisory Board • Tukwila Parks Commission
- Tukwila Police Department • Tukwila School District Employees
- Westfield Southcenter • Zee Medical

Cold weather creates increased use of fires for heating. Tukwila's Fire Department reminds you to stay aware of whether a burn ban is in effect.

Tukwila city offices will be closed
Wednesday, December 25 and
Wednesday, January 1

Citizens helping government

The City of Tukwila is assisted in its operations in several areas by our citizen Boards and Commissions. Residents of the City serve an important function by volunteering their time and expertise as members. Citizens interested in serving on a Board or Commission can complete an application and submit it to City Hall. Applications are reviewed and appointments are made by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. There are currently vacant positions on the following Boards and Commissions:

- Arts Commission
- Civil Service Commission
- Community Police Advisory Board
- Equity and Diversity Commission
- Parks Commission

Information about the City's Boards and Commissions along with the Boards and Commissions application form can be found on the City's website at www.TukwilaWA.gov/Mayor/Boards.html.

The future of City's parks and more – we're making a plan!

The City of Tukwila is updating its Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan. This plan will be the culmination of inventory and needs analyses, along with public input, that will help guide the Parks and Recreation system in Tukwila for the next 6-10 years.

If you are interested in knowing about the projected needs, goals and policies, funding and implementation strategies, and other elements of this plan, the draft document is currently available for review on the City's website:

TukwilaWA.gov/recreation/PROpenSpacePlan.html

The City is accepting public comment through January 13, 2014. For more information or to provide comments, please email Dave Johnson, Recreation Superintendent, at Dave.Johnson@TukwilaWA.gov, or call 206-768-2822.



Need a perfect gift for your favorite swimmer?



4414 South 144th Street
206-267-2350
www.TukwilaPool.org

\$50 OFF
any 12-month
Tukwila Pool
membership pass
purchased between
12/15/13 and 01/15/14

For information about indoor & outdoor burning regulations, burn bans and more, please visit www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/airhome.html

Free Auto Leaks Workshops

Does your car drip automotive fluid? Ever wondered if a 'spot' on the ground came from your car? Want to learn how to properly maintain your car? Come to a FREE Auto Leaks Workshop given by professional instructors. Sponsored by the Department of Ecology and Seattle Public Utilities, the workshops (valued at \$125) are open to everyone.



At the Auto Leaks Workshop, you'll get a free professional inspection from a certified automotive instructor, learn how to identify and prevent leaks, learn preventive maintenance for your vehicle, and leave the class with a FREE Vehicle Maintenance Check Kit and the confidence to talk to your mechanic. Taking care of your vehicle helps keep the Green River, Duwamish River and Puget Sound pollution-free.

These free 4-hour Saturday workshops consist of one hour in a classroom session and the remaining time in the shop. Workshop locations closest to Tukwila are Renton Technical College (3000 NE 4th Street) and South Seattle Community College (6000 -16th Ave SW).

Space is limited to only 15 participants per session, so register now. For schedule of dates, times and locations, go to www.ecy.WA.gov/washington_waters/fixcarleaks.html

These workshops are supported by Tukwila's Surface Water Management Program. If you have any questions, please contact NPDES Coordinator Greg Villanueva at 206-431-2442 or email SWMP@TukwilaWA.gov.

COUNCIL VOICE

Looking back at a year of moving forward

2013 has been a busy and productive year for the Tukwila City Council, and we take pride in our accomplishments.

Following extensive outreach to different community groups and staff, the City of Tukwila created its first Strategic Plan which was adopted in December of 2012. The Council and City Administration were committed to the fact that, once adopted, this Plan would not just sit on the shelf. In March of this year, the Council had its first ever joint meeting with Executive Staff to develop an Implementation Plan that would establish priority areas for 2013 and beyond.

Concern for safety in our neighborhoods, along Tukwila International Boulevard in particular, was a common theme raised by almost all of the stakeholder groups and thus became our highest priority. The successful crime reduction measures along Tukwila International Boulevard – re-establishment of the Neighborhood Resource Center, more Police officers on bicycles and in vehicles, increased efforts in trash removal, and the multi-jurisdictional enforcement raid in hotels along this corridor – have already made a significant difference.

During the spring, the Council engaged in a hiring process for a Council Analyst to replace Kimberly Matej, who moved into a new position in the Mayor's Office. In May, Laurel Humphrey joined our staff, bringing her expertise from working with the Seattle City Council. Besides handling the day-to-day responsibilities of her job, Laurel has been busy assisting us with drafting, revising and updating the Council's operating procedures and guidelines. The process of revising Council policies and adding some new ones will continue in 2014 until completed, with future updates to be addressed as needed.

At the beginning of this year, we began identifying goals and work plans for our four Council sub-committees: Community Affairs & Parks, Finance & Safety, Transportation, and Utilities. This has been a great way to assist the Council in the proactive shaping of policy. For example, the Finance and Safety Committee worked diligently to create consistency in

our financial policies, and worked with the Finance Department to enhance the clarity of our budget documents.

During 2013, the Council and the Mayor's Office renewed their efforts to collaborate with the Tukwila School District on shared issues. An item addressed at a joint School Board/City Council meeting was the desire to increase student involvement in our city government processes. As a result, we are creating more opportunities for Tukwila youth to participate on the City's advisory boards and commissions.

School superintendent Nancy Coogan, along with the Foster High School Civics class, hosted a Socratic Seminar in November. Elected officials were invited to come to the classroom and listen to students voicing their experiences and opinions on the topics that were of importance to them. It was an enlightening and informative session, and we look forward to the process continuing.

Another shared concern was traffic around school properties, especially at the start and end of each school day. City staff is now working with the school district administration to address these issues.

In addition to working with the schools, City administration is partnering with *Global to Local* to utilize various community representatives. These liaisons will facilitate broader and more effective outreach within the richly diverse communities of our city. Using these resources, the Council seeks to increase our involvement in these communities in 2014.

These are just some of the highlights of the past year. As I finish up my tenure as the 2013 Tukwila City Council president, I am thankful to have had the opportunity to serve in that capacity. These are exciting times for Tukwila. We live in an area that is changing rapidly and that has great potential. I am proud to be part of a Council who is committed to the City's Vision Statement: *Tukwila – the City of Opportunity, the Community of Choice.*

– Kathy Hougardy