



City of Millwood Newsletter



Volume 3 , No. 2, Spring 2008

The Town of Millwood Becomes a City !

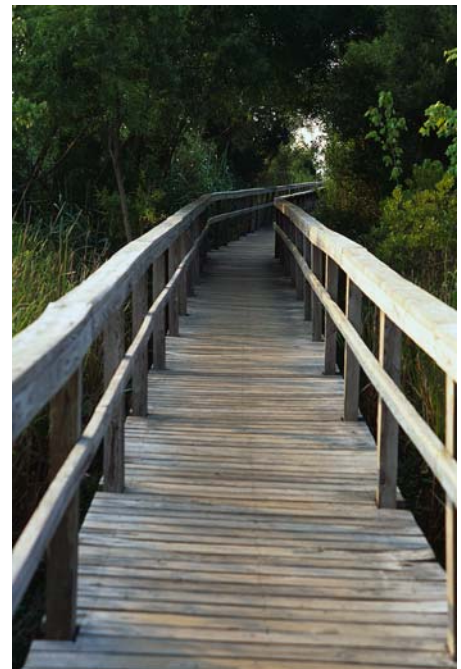
After eighty years as a town, Millwood has become a Washington State non-Charter Code City! What does this mean? Millwood has joined hundreds of other cities across the state. While the changes will be subtle, we now have the same governance powers as the cities of Seattle, Spokane, Tacoma, and Moses Lake.

Despite the change, Millwood's form of government remains the same: a strong Mayor-Council structure. The mayor performs the public duties on behalf of the city, is in charge of city staff, and carries out the decisions of the City Council. The City Council sets all ordinances and steers the direction of the city.

Additionally Millwood city government can now create referendums and more easily set regulations within the city. Under the town structure, some proposed changes had to be submitted to the state legislature for approval.

Millwood's Town Council is to be commended for taking this step, with special thanks to Councilmember Dick Schoen, who researched and recommended this transition for several years.

To mark the Town-to-City transition, the City of Millwood will soon adopt a new logo for use on official correspondence, city signage, and city equipment and vehicles. Design efforts for the new logo are underway and will be finished soon.



Calendar of Events

- April 26:** Arbor Day Celebration & Dedication of Mayor Jeanne Batson Arboretum
Millwood City Park, 9:00 AM
- April 28:** Planning Commission Meeting
6:00 PM
- May 5:** City Council Meeting
7:00 PM
- May 17:** Millwood Clean-up Day
9:00 am —12:00 noon

Water Meter Insulation!

In the past, water-meter-well insulation needed to be removed each spring to allow for meter reading. However, because meters are now read via computer, you don't have to wrestle with meter insulation any more!

If you have any questions re: your water meter, please contact City Hall at 924-0960.



MILLWOOD BEAUTIFICATION & TREE BOARD

ARBORETUM DEDICATION AND TREE CITY USA DESIGNATION CELEBRATION

APRIL 26, 2008, 9am, at Millwood City Park

The City of Millwood is the first city in 2008 to earn the designation of Washington State Tree City USA!

Your city has earned the status of a Tree City USA! We have achieved this by:

- ◆ Establishing a Tree Board
- ◆ Establishing a Tree Ordinance
- ◆ Establishing a Community Forestry Program reserving \$2.00 per citizen for tree care
- ◆ Hosting an annual Arbor Day celebration; on April 26, 2008, Millwood will host its third!

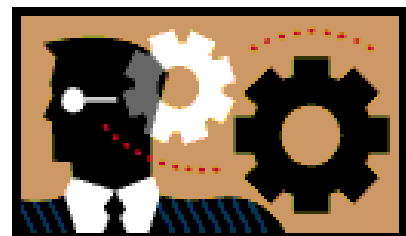
Tree City USA status draw public attention to a city's urban forestry efforts and can become a source of civic pride. You, the citizens of Millwood, have made this happen! Millwood has always been proud of its trees, thank you!

At our April 26th celebration, Millwood will officially be designated a Tree City USA by Garth Davis, of the Spokane County Conservation District. In addition we will be dedicating the Mayor Jeanne Batson Arboretum on Empire Way! Please join us for this important event. Those attending will receive a Tree USA pin to honor the occasion.

Welcome to Millwood's New City Council Member

Please join me in welcoming Brian Ellingson to the Millwood City Council! Brian has been very interested in Millwood's progress, business, and community. Brian will replace the position vacated by Joyce Kiphart in 2007. For those of you who applied but were not selected, thank you for your interest in your City. I was very impressed with all six candidates and you will be considered for future positions with the City.

-Mayor Mork



Millwood's Spring Clean-Up Day

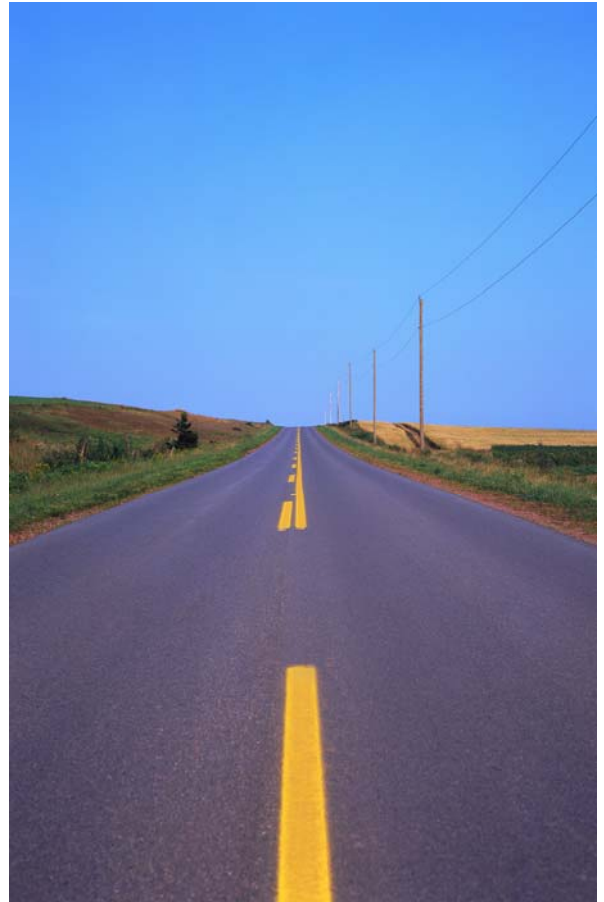
SAVE THE DATE!!

The Millwood Historical Society is sponsoring this year's spring clean up, to be held Saturday, **May 17th**, from 9 am to noon.

Volunteers will meet in City Hall council chambers, where work teams will be formed and snacks and beverages will be served. Wear appropriate clothing, bring gloves, and come spend a spring morning sprucing up the downtown!

This is the third annual spring clean-up, and every year it gets better! So join us, and bring along a neighbor or two to help make our new city shine!

Thanks to Melissa Spivey for coordinating the event, and to the mayor, city staff, and the Millwood Tree and Beautification Committee for supporting it. This is a great event demonstrating pride and responsibility for our community.



Argonne Corridor Project Update

We're on the Web!
www.townofmillwood.org

At the April 8 City Council meeting, plans were enacted regarding the engineering for the Argonne resurfacing project, which will start in early 2009. Engineers from Welch-Comer were given the following criteria*:

- ◆ Complete sidewalks from the Spokane River Bridge to Trent Avenue on both West and East sides, incorporating ADA access and appropriate high-visibility crosswalks throughout their length.
- ◆ Install components and facilities for the eventual re-location of all utilities underground along the Argonne Road Corridor.
- ◆ Relocate utility poles on the east side of Argonne Road north of Euclid/Empire, and replace the existing sidewalk with a six-foot bike/pedestrian lane connecting to the Centennial Trail at Maringo Drive.
- ◆ At Trent, eliminate the third (east-most) lane on Argonne Road heading north, and reduce the speed limit on Argonne Road from 30 MPH to 25 MPH.

* **Note:** While the above criteria are goals of the project, they are outside the current budget for the primary task for 2009, which is resurfacing Argonne Road. Additional sources of revenue are being sought to make this happen. Stay tuned for further news regarding this ongoing effort to revitalize our city.



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LOOK INSIDE FOR

Millwood is a Tree City USA !
New Council person selected
Millwood's change from a Town to a Washington State Code City

Mayor Mork's Message

One of my favorite sayings is a quote by Vernon Howard: "We are exactly where we have chosen to be."

Responding to Millwood's move from Town to City, most of the comments I have received have been positive and encouraging. Your City Council is energetic, excited, and looking to the future. The climate of Millwood has changed; citizens know what they want and are proud to proclaim it. We are a Washington State City, a Tree City USA, and we are also working hard to fix one of our most pressing problems: the negative affect Argonne Road has on our community.

At this time, Millwood has obtained the funds necessary to pay for the entire reconstruction/resurfacing of the Argonne corridor, from Trent Avenue to the Spokane River. Cleve McCoul has done an outstanding job locating the monies needed for the road construction and sidewalk work scheduled for 2009, which means there will be no new taxes or charges levied on Millwood residents for this work. Although additional items such as illuminated crosswalks, new bike lanes, and new sidewalks are not yet funded, Millwood City Council is working to identify sources for financial assistance. In addition, Council member Doug Morton has worked on the design and implementation of signage that will define the City of Millwood: soon new, bright blue street signs that are uniform in design will be located throughout the city. The objectives identified in the 2006 survey responses are on their way to being achieved!

Faith is based on the evidence of things not seen. I have faith that Millwood will be able to obtain as much as possible to fund the additional enhancements identified to make Argonne work as well as it can. Undertaken with careful planning and foresight, the decisions we are making today will impact the next 20 to 30 years.