

neighborhood news



November 2019

news for and about
Bellevue neighborhoods

Become a Bellevue Master Naturalist!



Do you have a passion for the environment and for your Bellevue parks? Applications are being accepted until Nov. 30 for a free Bellevue Parks & Community Services Master Naturalist Training



Program, which is designed to build a dedicated group of community volunteers trained in environmental awareness and stewardship.

Master naturalists learn about Bellevue's ecology, geology, wildlife, plant life, cultural history, wetlands, forests and streams from professors, scientists, local professionals and park rangers. Master naturalists focus on restoration and conservation efforts, and help to share this passion by working with and educating their community.

Over the course of the 12-week training program, volunteers will learn from ecological experts in the classroom, at workshops and on field trips. Trainings occur twice a week from Jan. 23-April 9, 2020. The courses run Tuesday and Thursday evenings 5:30-8 p.m. at the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue Southeast. The program is free with a volunteer commitment of 100 hours of service.

Applications must be submitted by mail, postmarked by Nov. 30. For more information or to apply, please contact the program park ranger at 425-452-4195 or parks_stewardship@BellevueWA.gov. You can also visit our website at BellevueWA.gov/master-naturalist.



Join a Fall Tree Tour at Weowna Park

Trees are an important element of Bellevue's neighborhoods, and there's a lot to explore in our City in a Park. The city's Tree Tour program helps participants experience the forests right outside their doors. Join Bellevue's urban forestry specialist for one of the November walking tours to learn about our urban forest, native trees and the surprising history of Phantom Lake. The tree tours will be lighthearted, educational and suitable for all ages.

Saturday, Nov. 9, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 15, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Meet at the west side entrance at 168th Avenue Southeast and Southeast 16th Street

RSVP at BellevueWA.gov/trees



Attendees at the tree tours in Downtown Park in October learned about the history of notable trees and how land use planning downtown has incorporated trees over the years. This month, we're taking the tours to Weowna Park!

For more information, go to BellevueWA.gov/trees or email pmogilevsky@bellevuewa.gov.

Subscribe to Neighborhood News electronically:
BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news

Sustainable Bellevue

Environmental Stewardship Plan update kicks off!

Bellevue's Environmental Stewardship Plan is the city's roadmap for achieving our sustainability goals. The plan consists of five focus areas – climate, energy, waste, mobility and land use, and natural systems. Under the previous plan, which ran from 2013–2018, the city made progress on 96 percent of the strategies outlined. Key accomplishments include installing over 300 solar arrays, reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 9 percent despite increased growth, and registering over 5,000 electric vehicles. We're excited to build on those successes as we launch an updated Environmental Stewardship Plan.



Bellevue has a long tradition of engaging residents in planning for the future. Community engagement is a big part of this process. In the first phase of engagement, we wanted to educate and inform residents about the Environmental Stewardship Plan and understand their core values and concerns.

We heard from over 400 residents via our online survey, at pop-up events and at a community workshop. Some of the main things that residents shared at the workshop:

- Residents believe that Bellevue should be a leader on environmental sustainability.
- Residents believe that environmental stewardship is good for the health and livability of our community.
- Residents want the city to set ambitious goals around environmental sustainability. We also engaged with the business community, environmental non-profits, the Bellevue School District and colleagues in several city departments like transportation, utilities and parks to get a broad range of perspectives. We will take all this feedback and prepare a set of recommended goals for the city council to consider on Tuesday, Nov. 12.

Once we have our goals and targets set, we will be going back to the community in early 2020 to discuss strategies for achieving these goals. If you want to get updates on the Environmental Stewardship Plan, have questions or want to find out about future engagement opportunities you can sign up at [EngagingBellevue.com/environmental-stewardship](https://engagingbellevue.com/environmental-stewardship).

We look forward to hearing from you!

Bellevue Police Department asks you to report crime online



If it's an emergency, you feel threatened or something needs immediate attention, always call 911! But if you experience a

non-emergency criminal situation that doesn't require an officer's speedy response, Bellevue Police still want to hear about it. All you need to do is report the crime online.

There are nine different crimes that you can report online, including car prowls, theft, identity theft, vandalism and suspected bias crimes. You can also report abandoned vehicles, traffic complaints and crime or drug-related tips.

Officers don't want you to think, "it's not worth my time" or, "there's nothing the police will do about it." It takes just minutes, and the police will contact you if follow-up is needed. "We need to know about the crime that's happening in your neighborhood. Our detectives are very skilled at looking for patterns and understanding how criminals work," said Major Andrew Popochock. "Chances are you are not the only victim, and we need to know that."

It's also good to let the police know if you have video or home surveillance of a crime. "A lot of times, people will post their home surveillance video online and not tell the police. As a law enforcement agency, we don't have access to many of those sites, such as Nextdoor and the Ring app," Popochock adds. "So please, send the video our way."

Here's what you do: Go to BellevueWA.gov/police. Scroll down and click on Report a Crime. Fill out the form, and you're good to go! It's important to know that filing an online report creates an official police report.



Thanksgiving safety reminder from the Bellevue Fire Department



[youtube.com/watch?v=kjUynq0HXdQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kjUynq0HXdQ)

Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to gather with family and friends. This often includes hours spent in the kitchen preparing tasty meals to share. This special holiday is also the peak day across the country for home cooking fires. According to the National Fire Protection Association, on Thanksgiving Day in 2016, U.S. fire departments responded to more than 1,500 home cooking fires. Most of the fires were attributed to unattended cooking. While the delicious flavor of deep-fried turkey is undisputed, so is the danger posed by the use of the fryers, particularly when left unattended. The NFPA recommends against using turkey fryers at all due to the large volume of cooking oil needed at high temperatures, which can result in significant burns and property destruction if spilled or if the oil catches fire. Please watch the above controlled demonstration to see how quickly your turkey could turn into a dangerous fireball. For Thanksgiving safety tips from the NFPA, please follow this link: <https://bit.ly/2Qfw5Uh>



Save the Date: Next Cultural Conversations

How a game provides a window to understanding local indigenous culture

Tuesday, Dec. 3, 1-2:30 p.m.

Crossroads Community Center
16000 NE 10th Street, Bellevue WA 98008

Have you ever thought about how games can be a tool to learn about local people, culture, history and tradition? Washington native and retired University of Washington professor, Dr. Jeanette Bushnell will share as educator and



citizen of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians in North Dakota why and how she and her partners developed an educational game, Potlatch: A Game About Economics. Combining storytelling and presentation, Jeanette will provide an overview of Potlatch, and what we can learn about local native people, history, language and cultural values.

Bellevue Essentials

Bellevue Essentials Graduation

Superintendent of Bellevue School District to provide keynote address

The City of Bellevue will graduate 37 emerging leaders from the seventh cohort of its Bellevue Essentials civic engagement program on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 7-8:30 p.m. The graduation ceremony and dessert reception will take place at City Hall, 450 110th Avenue Northeast in the council chambers.

Community members are welcome to join the graduates, their families and friends for an inspiring evening with a keynote address from Dr. Ivan Duran, Superintendent of the Bellevue School District. Dr. Duran will share his personal story of growing up as a Latino student in



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both public and private schools, and how he draws deeply from his personal history to help create welcoming and equitable learning environments for all Bellevue students. He will also speak of his experience in public service and civic engagement. In addition, the evening will feature a speaker from the 2019 graduating class and a speaker from a previous Bellevue Essentials class. The event provides an opportunity to learn more about Bellevue Essentials, the city's 9-week civic engagement program. The next class will commence in September 2020, with applications available in May 2020. To RSVP for the graduation or for information on future participation in the Bellevue Essentials program, please contact Julie Ellenhorn at 425-452-5372 or jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov.

The Bellevue Essentials Class of 2019: Brett Barton, Els Blomme, Krista Capodanno, Margie Chen, Randolph Dearth, Maxim Derkachev, Betty Dong, Deborah Duitch, Brian Fong, Linda Forshaw, Craighton Goeppel, Joydeep Hazra, Christopher Henry, Linda Hoffner, Youxuan Jin, Chiew Jones, Lisa Leitner, Nanette Lescher, Ying Li, Kurt Lutterman, Carla Marrow, Joan Nolan, Leslie Novotny, Eva Orlowski-Emadi, Susan Pietrowski, Scott Pollock, Meenakshi Ramaswamy, Robin Shen, Bina Shukla, Beth Silverstein, Timea Soos, Ashwath Srikanth, Lisa Swan, Kausar Talat, Eloisa Tran, Guang-An Wu and Jun Wu.

110th Avenue Northeast by City Hall is now open

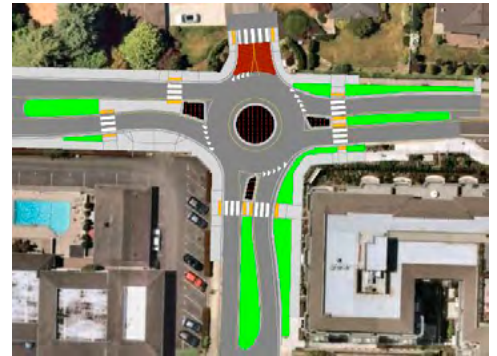
The northern portion of 110th Avenue Northeast between Northeast 4th Street and Northeast 6th Street has re-opened now that Sound Transit's contractor has completed utility work and restored the roadway. Access to City Hall visitor parking is available from northbound and southbound on 110th Avenue Northeast. The East Link light rail project is more than 60 percent complete. To receive project updates, go to SoundTransit.org/subscribe or join the East Link Light Rail Group page on Facebook.



Mini-roundabouts improve flow and safety

To improve traffic flow and safety at certain intersections around Bellevue, the city built its first mini-roundabouts this year. One mini-roundabout was installed in August at 138th Avenue Southeast and Southeast 40th Street, and a second was completed in September at 164th Avenue Southeast and Southeast Newport Way. A third roundabout, at 100th Avenue Northeast and Northeast 10th Street, is projected for completion next year.

Roundabouts – sometimes called circles or rotaries – have been around for decades in other cities. The Washington State



Department of Transportation installed two on West Lake Sammamish Parkway several years ago. A roundabout is a circular intersection that uses a center island and narrow approaches with yield signs in place of stop signs or a traffic signal to control traffic. The center can be partially driven over at smaller intersections, and at larger intersections is typically landscaped. Drivers and bicyclists circulate counterclockwise around the island. Those entering the roundabout yield to those already circulating. Speeds are kept low due to the curved design, and, unlike a four-way intersection with stop signs, stopping is not required unless one needs to yield before entering.

A mini-roundabout is larger than a traffic circle but smaller than a full-size roundabout. The primary difference is that the center island of a mini-roundabout is designed to be driven over by large trucks and buses.

Pedestrians use crosswalks at each leg, many of which include a “refuge island” midway through the crosswalk, between the opposing lanes. The refuge islands improve safety for pedestrians by shortening the crossing distance. Transportation Department staff have determined that roundabouts are safer and promote better traffic flow than the stop sign-controlled intersections they replace. Each of the three new mini-roundabouts is fully or partially funded by the Neighborhood Safety, Connectivity and Congestion Levy, approved by voters in 2016. More information is available at BellevueWA.gov/roundabouts.

Help improve the bike share experience

Bellevue's bike share program is no longer new, having launched in 2018. Now the city is asking for your input on how to improve the system. Here's how you can participate:

- Visit our online, interactive map (bellevuebikeshare.mapseed.org) to suggest locations where new bike share parking should be. These areas provide a convenient place to start and end bike share trips and reduce the number of bikes left in places where they shouldn't be, such as blocking a sidewalk. You can also vote and comment on suggestions submitted by others.
- We also want to know what you think about Bellevue's bike share program in general and invite you to complete an online questionnaire. How have you used the program? If you haven't, why not? What would make bike share more useful to you? Go to surveymonkey.com/r/bellevuebikeshare. The survey is live through Nov. 15.

ORCA-To-Go at Mini City Hall

Who Doesn't Like Quick and Easy?

There's now one more reason to visit Mini City Hall in the Crossroads Shopping Center! King County Metro Transit has selected Crossroads Mini City Hall, along with other locations, to be an ORCA-To-Go outlet equipped with a mobile sales unit. Every second and fourth Monday of the month (1:30-3:30 p.m.), ORCA-To-Go experts will be at Mini City Hall to:

- Issue Adult, Youth and Senior ORCA cards (ID – proof of age required)
- Issue Disabled Regional Reduced Fare Permits (proof of disability required per application)
- Replace lost or stolen cards
- Add funds to your existing ORCA card
- Help you determine which product best fits your needs
- Provide ORCA account administration

Mini City Hall continues to offer information, referrals and convenient services to all Bellevue residents. We invite all to take advantage of the ORCA card program at this new outlet and explore numerous other products and services offered at Mini City Hall. Our friendly staff speaks nine different languages, can assist with water and sewer utility payments, administer pet license

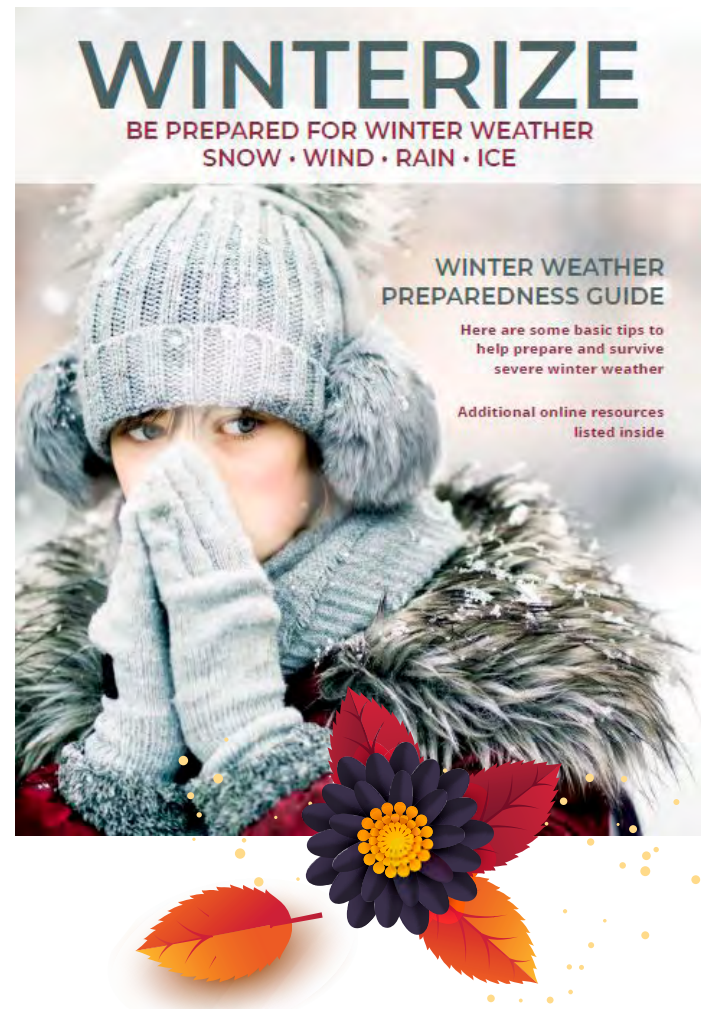
sales and renewals, and offer information and referrals regarding senior services, resources for people with disabilities, children's school issues, Medicaid, Medicare and other services. You may be surprised to know that Mini City Hall also helps eligible residents with discount programs ranging from real property taxes to City of Bellevue water and sewer bills to electric and gas energy bills. As an additional bonus, Crossroads Shopping Center offers a diverse mix of restaurants, shops and entertainment to serve you while you are here!

Come by and visit anytime. For more information, call 425-452-2800 or email: minich@bellevuewa.gov

Winter Weather Preparedness Guide

While we encourage you to prepare for all types of emergencies and disasters, we've put together a handy Winter Weather Preparedness Guide available online with tips and resources: <http://bit.ly/33Mt43t>.

Also, during a snow storm it's important to know how the city prioritizes plowing streets and where your street fits into the mix. We have a map available to show you the details: <http://bit.ly/2MS46sp>



Who to call, where to turn when bad weather arrives

We're about to head into the fall and winter storm season, which can mean power outages and the potential for flooding and snow. The following list of emergency contact information resources can help you be prepared to protect your home and your loved ones in critical weather events. The city is also prepared for snow and ice with seven four-by-four trucks and eight dump trucks that can be configured with plows and sanders to clear roadways.

Who to call:

- For life-threatening emergencies, call 911.
- To report flooding, blocked or hazardous streets and sidewalks, fallen trees, damaged traffic signs or signals, and similar problems, call the city's 24-hour response line at 425-452-7840.
- For power outages, call Puget Sound Energy at 1-888-225-5773.

How to get emergency information:

- Sign up for alerts to receive email or text notification during emergencies or extreme weather situations. The city of Bellevue alert sign-up link is located at BellevueWA.gov/emergency-management. You can also subscribe to Alert King County at norcom.org.
- Follow the city's social media sites: Check your Nextdoor feed or the city's Facebook and Twitter pages for the latest developments.
- Website information: During significant weather events, get information about local impacts, including the city's response, on our homepage at BellevueWA.gov or under the Emergencies and Extreme Weather page at BellevueWA.gov/emergencies. The page also includes Winter Weather Tips with information on preparedness, reporting trouble, driving in difficult conditions, power outages, garbage collection schedules and warming centers. Flood protection information also is available at BellevueWA.gov/befloodready.
- Smart phone information: On the MyBellevue app, click on the Emergencies and Extreme Weather widget.

BSD Girl Scouts video shows how to correctly recycle plastic

Bellevue School District sixth-graders Alina and Sanjana's Girl Scout Bronze Award project began with a big vision. "We were really passionate about helping the environment," said Sanjana. "We want to help Bellevue reuse things." With their interest in ocean health,



the girls landed on one important issue: plastic bag and plastic film waste. Recognizing that most people don't realize what to do with plastic bags, they did a lot of research, including visiting local grocery stores and talking with store managers. The resulting video they produced shows, in a clear, fun way, what types of plastic can be recycled and what can't, and how to recycle plastic bag and film the right way. Not only does their project share the right information, it comes at the right time. Last week, King County and the city of Seattle announced plastic bags and film will no longer be accepted in recycling bins, since they can get tangled with machinery and contaminate recyclables. Instead, the County and local solid waste service providers are partnering to share information about where plastic bags and film can be recycled. Bellevue Utilities is thrilled to include these two young environmental leaders among our partners in spreading the word.

Alina and Sanjana set a goal to reach 1,000 views of their video. Ultimately, their vision for protecting our environment is much bigger. "I want people to learn the right way to recycle," said Alina, "so that we can do everything we can to stop global warming and pollution." But they recognize that if more people take steps just to recycle their plastic, as Sanjana said, "Even that tiny change can make a big impact on the world."

The video project is posted on the City of Bellevue's Facebook page. The website plasticbagrecycling.org shows where to find local plastic bag recycling drop off stations.





Enforcement or Conflict Resolution?

We get a lot of different types of calls at the Bellevue Conflict Resolution Center (BCRC), but many of them boil down to one basic question: "Can I force my neighbor to do things differently?" The answer is: "Maybe." Maybe you can, maybe you can't. But if you could see the possible consequences, you may not really want to force your neighbor to do things differently. There are times when our program provides the best solutions and achieves the best outcomes. There are also times when enforcement options, like Code Compliance or calling the police, are really the way to go. Here are some things to consider.

Choose code compliance or the police when:

- You are worried about someone's health or safety.
- You want information about what the law says, so you can make an informed decision about the next step.
- You have already tried talking it out, and your neighbor just isn't willing to work with you or with a conflict resolution program.
- There is a clear law that addresses the exact problem you have.

Choose BCRC when:

- You value your relationship with your neighbor, but need a particular behavior to change.
- You want help strategizing how to approach your neighbor.
- You need someone neutral to help you and your neighbor talk through the options and come up with creative solutions.
- The code enforcement solution doesn't exist or wouldn't actually solve your problem.

It's normal to feel that asking your neighbor to change is just too hard and can't possibly go well. It's also totally normal for someone facing an enforcement officer to wish that their neighbor would have just come and talked to them first. We are here to help bridge that gap. Contact us at 425-452-4091, or at bcrc@bellevuewa.gov.



Boards and Commissions Meetings

All meetings are conducted at City Hall unless otherwise noted. Agendas are subject to change. If a holiday occurs on a Monday, please check the updated calendar. Agendas can be downloaded from the city's web pages listed below. Meeting alerts are available through subscribing to the City's Special Meeting Notices page. BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/special-meeting-notice

Bellevue Diversity Advisory Network

(6 p.m., Bellevue City Hall) Last Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-managers-office/diversity/bellevue-diversity-advisory-network

East Bellevue Community Council (6:30 p.m., Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd) First Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/east-bellevue-community-council

Arts Commission (4:30 p.m., 1E-109) First Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/arts-and-culture/arts-commission

Environmental Services Commission (6:30 p.m., 1E-113) First Thursday of each month Utilities.BellevueWA.gov/conservation-and-the-environment/environmental-services-commission

Planning Commission (6:30 p.m., 1E-113) Second and fourth Wednesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/planning-commission

Transportation Commission (6:30 p.m., 1E-113) Second Thursday of each month with fourth Thursday as needed. BellevueWA.gov/planning/transportation-commission

Human Services Commission (6 p.m., 1E-113) First and third Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/human-services-commission

LEOFF 1 Disability Board (6 p.m., Room 1E-118) First Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/human-resources/retirees-former-employees/leoff-1-disability-board

Library Board (5p.m., Lake Hills, Bellevue or Newport Way Library) Third Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/library-board

Parks & Community Services Board (6 p.m., 1E-113) Second Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/parks-and-community-services-board

The Bellevue Network on Aging (BNOA) 8:30 a.m., North Bellevue Community Center 4063 148th Ave NE, Bellevue) First Thursday of each month BellevueWA.gov/bnoa

Special Events Committee (8:30 a.m., 1E-112) Second Thursday of each month Parks.BellevueWA.gov/special-events/special-events-committee

Youth Link Board (6 p.m., 1E-120) Second Wednesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/youth-link-board

Bellevue's Neighborhood Services Division offers a variety of programs and partnerships for neighborhood leaders and active residents. To learn more about citizen involvement opportunities and programs to enhance neighborhoods, please visit our website at: BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/neighborhoods or call 425-452-6836 or email: neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov. To subscribe to this newsletter, visit: BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news

City Council Bellevue.Legistar.com/Calendar.aspx

Day	Scheduled Meeting(s)	Location	Public Comment Opportunity
First and third Mondays except in August and December	6 p.m., Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8 p.m., Regular Session	Council Chambers	8 p.m., Oral Communications
Second and fourth Mondays except in August and December	6-10 p.m., Extended Study Session	Council Conference Room	6 p.m., Oral Communications
August – first Monday only	6 p.m., Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8 p.m., Regular Session	Council Chambers	8 p.m., Oral Communications
December – first and second Mondays only	6 p.m., Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8 p.m., Regular Session	Council Chambers	8 p.m., Oral Communications