



CANNON BEACH COMMUNITY BULLETIN

163 E. Gower Street
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Cannon Beach, OR 97110

503.436.1581

May 2023

For the latest, visit www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us



Ram Papish, USFWS

Tufted Puffins Return to Haystack Rock for Breeding

Many visitors to Cannon Beach consider the early sunrise hours to be the quietest and calmest time of day, but veteran birders might state otherwise.

The early hours at Haystack Rock are often bustling with activity, Oystercatcher pairs darting across the marine garden as their signature trill echoes, Gulls dropping mussels or picking at Dungeness Crabs, Common Murres circling the perimeter, Pigeon Guillemots bobbing in the surf, and of course, Tufted Puffins stoically looking around from the grassy meadows in front of their burrows.

April and May mark the beginning of nesting season for many sea and shore birds, the iconic Tufted Puffin is no exception. Every March the Staff Interpreters at the Haystack Rock Awareness Program (HRAP) make picks at when they think the first sighting will be and which of them will snap a photograph first.

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THIS MONTH'S AGENDA

- City Council Work Session - 5/9
- Budget Committee Meeting 5/11
- Coffee With Councilors - 5/15
- Public Works Committee - 5/16
- CH/PD Community Outreach - 5/16
- Parks & Community Services - 5/18
- Design Review Board - 5/18
- City Council Work Session - 5/24
- Parks & Community Services- 5/25
- Planning Commission Meeting - 5/25
- CITY HALL CLOSED 5/29 MEMORIAL DAY**
- [FULL SCHEDULE HERE](#)

Tufted Puffins First Sighted on April 4th

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HRAP Volunteer and Education Coordinator Lisa Habecker explains, "We are always on high alert from April 1st until the 15th, mostly the first week where we sit on pins and needles, waiting to see who will be the first interpreter to bag a puffin - figuratively of course!"

According to officials from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the 2022 breeding season saw an estimated 98 individual Tufted Puffins at Haystack Rock, down from the previous years of about 120. The downward population count is part of a multi-state trend seen along the California Current. The Tufted Puffin was recently denied Endangered Species Act (ESA) protections in 2020, but that hasn't stopped efforts from organizations such as Friends of Haystack Rock and National Audubon on working towards boosting conservation and protective efforts.

Threats to the Tufted Puffin include climate change, fisheries bycatch, oil spills, decreasing forage fish populations, and natural predation from birds of prey such as the Bald Eagle. Many birders will note the increased predation activity from the latter at Haystack Rock making spotting Tufted Puffins an increasingly elusive task; the Bald Eagle itself is an icon of the success of the ESA having been removed from the list in 2007 due to increased and stable population growth.

Despite these challenges, the Tufted Puffin can still be spotted, though often with great patience, at Haystack Rock. HRAP staff can help keep you updated on recent activity and assist in sharing techniques to spotting the bird in flight or on the rock. HRAP Director Kelli Ennis tells us, "We celebrate the return of the puffins every year, aside from being an icon of Cannon Beach, we are genuinely worried for the year they never return. It is always a sigh of relief, and a most strikingly beautiful one at that." ■



Susan Glarum

Mike Benefield, A Familiar Face in a New Role



Public Works Director Karen La Bonte with new Project Manager Mike Benefield

After ending his nine-year tenure on the City Council, Mike Benefield can still be seen around City Hall, but now with a new title – Project Manager and Engineer.

“People were worried what I’d do when I was off the council, I said I’d fill up the days, but I didn’t know it would be this.” Benefield explains that the new role is evolving, initially he began as a volunteer. “When I was on council, we approved the position and budget, but nobody qualified applied, so I said I would be happy to help.”

The new position focuses on Public Works Water Resiliency Projects, intended to strengthen, and prepare the City’s water infrastructure against natural disasters such as earthquakes. Benefield acts as a link between the City and Windsor Engineering, ensuring someone is always available to review plans, oversee the project, and ask or answer questions.

Benefield explains, “My role is as a liaison, not an inspector. I observe and provide my expertise. I’m also here to make sure we stay within budget and identify anything we can do better or more efficiently.”

Benefield’s professional and technical background qualifies him for this unique position, and it allows him to continue to learn how the field has changed. “I’ve been retired for 25 years – it’s different now, many things are the same and familiar, but I’m also learning new things.”

He is also learning to work within a new professional landscape that many workers have been adjusting to in the past few years, “There’s a bit of remote work which is new to me. Usually, I’m with the crew in the field or in the office planning, now I’m kind of in between those two.”

Learning something new isn’t unfamiliar to Benefield who has spent his entire life being active and adaptable, “My whole life I’ve been a problem solver; I never once stepped into a job that had actually existed before I got there, it always came about because someone needed help, or something needed solving.”

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From Counselor to Project Manager Engineer

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Benefield goes on to explain his inquiring nature, "as the project moves on, I know I'm going to get pulled in deeper and deeper, if something doesn't make sense to me, I'm going to follow up."

This role fills the ever-growing list of activities Mike Benefield has been a part of during his retirement. From consulting to skiing, hiking, kayaking, off-roading, traveling, restoring cars, and moving to Cannon Beach where he joined the planning commission and later city council, Benefield has never been an idle-minded person. "Am I enjoying it? I'd say it's interesting, I find most things in life interesting. Never thought I'd seek employment, but I see opportunities and find myself thinking 'oh I should do this, or I should do that.'"

Benefield doesn't hesitate to share his fondness for the team he works with, "The Public Works people, I just think they're the greatest. These are the City's ambassadors; people see them out all the time. The City has an excellent crew in finance, and we have a City Manager who I think is a real visionary." He also goes on to explain the importance of this work, "This master plan is great. As Rick Hudson [Emergency Manager] and Bruce St. Denis [City Manager] have said multiple times, you can live for a while without food, but not water, we need resilience." ■

Meet Jett Johnston, the Newest Member of the Public Works Team

With a bright smile and friendly demeanor, Jett Johnston reflects on his past month as the newest Wastewater Utility Worker at the City of Cannon Beach, "Overall it has been really fun, I'm now starting to get familiar with the basics, the maintenance, and what problem to be on the lookout for."

Johnston has been in this role since April 3rd, but public works isn't a new to him, between his previous work with Advance Excavation, Nehalem Telecom, and Public Works at the City of Wheeler Johnston has a range of field experience.

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Jett Johnston Joins Public Works Wastewater

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"I was a bit of a Swiss Army Knife [at Wheeler], did a little bit of everything depending what was needed. Cannon Beach is much bigger comparatively, it's an insane difference, I loved it there, but this is a nice step up."

While he may be a new face in town, Johnston is quite familiar with the coast, "I've lived here my whole life. I love to go fishing at Barview Jetty, especially night fishing." Though he admits not being quite as familiar with Cannon Beach itself, "If people see me, please come say hi! I always love meeting new people and would really enjoy learning more about Cannon Beach, since I'm from farther south I don't really know anything yet, I'd be happy to become familiar with the restaurants and learn more about this community."

When he's not out harvesting rockfish, Johnston can be found hiking with his young dog, a 2-year-old Siberian Husky named Maverick. And in case you're wondering, "Yes, he is named after Top Gun; I recently rewatched the original before seeing the new one and knew my dog had to be named Maverick."

When it comes to identifying his favorite thing about his new role, Johnston doesn't hesitate, "For sure the staff no question, they have made the transition so enjoyable. Mike Brown, Marty Parsons, Trevor Mount, and Karen La Bonte, they all have really helped me so much. They've been so pleasant to work with and have all been incredibly patient. Great people." ■

Water Shut Off Moratorium Ending

Since early 2020 in response to the economic impacts of the Covid-19 Pandemic, the City of Cannon Beach has been observing a moratorium on water shutoff notifications and fees on past due utility bills.

Per the May 2nd Council Meeting, the city will end the temporary moratorium and begin observing Ordinance 13.18.050 within the Municipal Code. The first water bill to be impacted will be June 2023. Notices will be sent by e-mail.

Residents should make sure their current contact information including mailing address, phone number, and e-mail are provided to the City Finance Department.

Any having difficulty paying their water bill should contact the Finance Department at City Hall to set up a payment plan at (503) 436-1581, Ext 0.

For additional information, please visit [Utility Billing](#).



Notice: Updated Deadlines



Public Input for Council Meeting Deadlines

- To include in the Council packet, you must submit your items **the Monday eight days before the council meeting.**
- Once the packet has been distributed, the deadline for written public comment for non-hearing items is **3:00 pm the day before the meeting.**

** Written comments received after the deadline will be forwarded to Council and included in the record. They will not be read prior to the meeting and will not be posted on the meeting page of the website.**

Application Deadline for a City Committee, Board, Or Commission

- The deadline to apply for a vacancy is the **Monday, eight days before the regular council meeting.**

For a full meeting schedule, please visit www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us/meetings

CITY HALL COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENT

SHARE YOUR IDEAS:

Which site would allow the new City Hall to best serve Cannon Beach?

Priorities Include:

- Accessibility of City Hall
- Connection to Midtown
- Safety of the Community
- Financial Responsibility

COMPARTE SUS IDEAS:

En cual ubicación podría servirle mejor a la comunidad de Cannon Beach el edificio municipal?

Prioridades Incluyen:

- Accesibilidad al edificio municipal
- Connexión a Mitown
- Seguridad de la Comunidad
- Responsabilidad Financiera

LOCAL CASCADIA
MAXIMUM XXL LINE

TOLOVANA
CACHE SITE

GOWER SITE

MAY/MAYO 16, 2023

6:00 PM

In person/en persona:
Cannon Beach City Hall:
163 E Gower Ave

Join Zoom Meeting/ Únete a la
Cita de Zoom:

[Click Here/ Oprima Aquí](#)

Meeting ID: 992 6108 4699

Password: 365593

+1 669 900 6833 US

+1 253 215 8782 US



CIDA



R&W
ENGINEERING, INC.
"Engineering Integrated Solutions"

RED PLAINS
PROFESSIONAL, INC.

*Joyce Jackson,
Landscape Architect*



News in Brief



HRAP IS HIRING SEASONAL ROCKY SHORE INTERPRETERS

Help protect the vibrant inter-tidal ecosystem at Haystack Rock.

Learn more and apply at:

<https://www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us/jobs>



THE CANNON BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT IS HIRING A POLICE OFFICER

The City of Cannon Beach is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Police Officer.

To learn more and apply, visit:

<https://www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us/jobs>



PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE SEEKING NEW MEMBER

The Parks and Community Services Committee seeks to fill one vacancy to fill a four-year term beginning immediately.

Learn more and apply at:

<https://www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us/volunteer-committees>



Haystack Rock Awareness Program



PHOTO: Andrew Tonry

WE ARE HIRING

Join Our Team



OPEN POSITIONS



Rocky Shore Interpreter

Help inspire future environmental stewards by educating the public about intertidal and seabird ecology at Haystack Rock, assisting school field trip programs, redirecting visitors engaging in prohibited activities, and participating in citizen science surveys and outreach events.

Compensation: \$15-22/hour; depending upon education and experience. This Position is part-time (up to 29 hrs./ week) and (February – November 2023) and not eligible for benefits.

Requirements: High School graduate, valid driver's license, good communication skills, exercise of judgment, initiative, and teamwork. Relevant experience in education, interpreting, environmental science, oceanography, ecology, and other related biology fields preferred.

Interested? Visit www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us/jobs to apply!

APPLY NOW

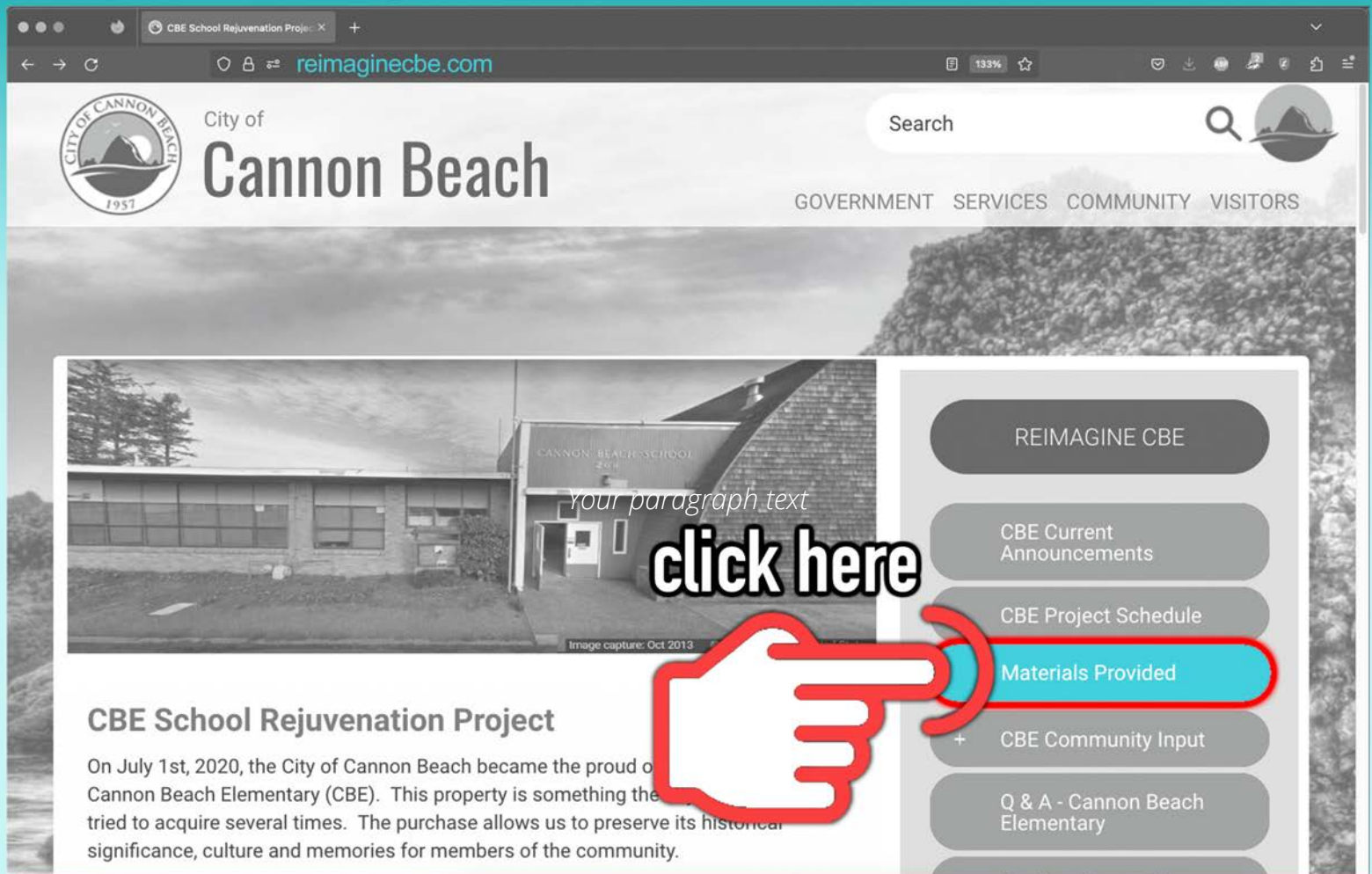


SCAN ME

Where are the documents?

Elementary School Design & Construction Proposals

Available at **ReImagineCBE.com**



Visit **ReImagineCBE.com** and click the **"Materials Provided"** button on the right sidebar for a list of all the latest design and construction documents

**All Elementary School Rejuvenation Project info
available at:**

[ReImagineCBE.com](https://reimaginecbe.com)

SPOTTED A PROBLEM? FILE A **CODE COMPLAINT**



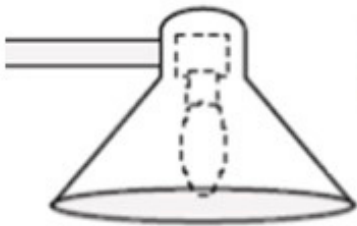
COMMON CODE VIOLATIONS:

PARKING ILLEGALLY
HIGH GRASS, UNKEMPT GROUNDS
EXCESSIVE NOISE
STRUCTURE IN DISREPAIR
UNSAFE OR UNSECURED STRUCTURE
UNLICENSED SHORT-TERM RENTAL



**FILE A COMPLAINT USING THE P.D.'S
ONLINE FORM AND OFFICERS WILL
INVESTIGATE**

Is Your Home Lighting in Compliance with the Dark Sky Ordinance?



**Residential Lighting
Must be
Fully-shielded &
<1,260 lumens EXCEPT:**

1

One partly shielded or unshielded luminaire at the main entry, **not** exceeding 630 lumens.



Your paragraph text
All other partly shielded or unshielded lighting must be below 315 lumens.



Landscape lighting must be below 2,100 lumens & directed away from adjacent properties.



Flood-lights must be below 2,100 lumens & not visible from adjacent properties.



All sensor lighting must extinguish after 15 minutes.

Open flame gas lamps are cool.



Learn more about the Dark Sky Ordinance:

<https://www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us/planning/page/dark-skies-cannon-beach>



Got a Leak?

EyeOnWater will find it



Download on the **App Store** | Get it on **Google play**

The **EyeOnWater** app, a free leak detection and usage monitoring system, is available to all water customers in Cannon Beach. City staff encourage all homeowners to install the app on their smartphone or access it via desktop computer. It's a great, easy to use, and valuable tool!

If you need assistance installing or accessing the app on your phone or desktop computer, contact City Hall and a member of the water team will help get you up and running.

Download the EyeOnWater App

WANT TO ATTEND A LIVE CITY MEETING VIRTUALLY?



1. Click Agenda and Minutes from the City's Website.
2. Find your meeting and click View Details.
3. Click on the Zoom link.

<https://www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us/meetings>

CODE ENFORCEMENT



Did you know the City has a Code Enforcement Complaint Form on their website?

1. Find Services from the menu on the City's Website.
2. Click Code Enforcement Complaint under Police Department.
3. Complete the form to submit your complaint.

<https://www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us/police/webform/code-enforcement-complaint-form>

COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION LIST SIGNUP

Want to receive emergency or important notifications from the City? Click the link below to be added to the Community Notification List.

<https://www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us/emergencymgmt/webform/sign-community-notification-list>

COMMUNITY BULLETIN SIGNUP

Sign up here to get the Community Bulletin delivered to your Inbox

Subscribe

CLATSOP ALERTS



Clatsop Emergency Notification & Community Information

BE IN THE KNOW... We can't alert you if we can't reach YOU!

Community members and visitors can **CHOOSE UP TO 3** ways to receive emergency notifications and community information from Public Safety, City, Tribal and County Officials for Clatsop County, Oregon.

1. Residential and business landline numbers are automatically included in the emergency contact list and do not require any action.
2. Address specific numbers such as mobile numbers, mobile texts, e-mail, and fax numbers are not included in the emergency contact list and require a manual sign-up.

SIGN UP at <https://www.co.clatsop.or.us/em/page/clatsopalerts>