



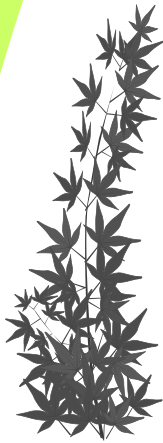
# Fairmount Neighbors

Fall 2013

## APPLE CIDER PRESSING DAY

On September 22, the autumnal equinox, households that are part of the lower Fairmount Map Your Neighborhood disaster preparedness group came together at Josh and Nancy Reckords' house, bringing their apples and leaving with apple cider. They used a beautiful hand-operated press loaned by Camilla and Bill Bayliss. Neighbors contributed delicious apple and pear pastries prepared from the neighborhood bounty, and local UO student residents provided lots of help. Photos: Josh and Nancy Reckord (left); the Bayliss's cider press (right).

—Sandra Austin



### Inside this issue:

Be Prepared	2
Volunteer?	2
Student Neighbors	3
Neighbors	3
Facebook	4
Golf Course	5
History Corner	6
Board Members	6
Kids' Corner	7
Work Party	8



## FAIRMOUNT NEIGHBORS GENERAL MEETING

November 19, 2013, 7–9 p.m.  
Laurelwood Golf Course, Fireside Room

### Agenda may include:

- Update on R-1 code amendments
- Emergency preparedness
- Neighborhood matching grants
- Neighborhood Social Event

## DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Every issue of the Fairmount Neighbors news will contain articles on disaster preparedness. It has been shown in recent years that preparedness and community cohesiveness contribute to an increased rate of recovery from disasters.

**What to do with utilities if a major disaster, such as an earthquake, occurs.**

**GAS:** KNOW WHERE your gas meter is. Keep an adjustable pipe or crescent-type wrench and instructions in a plastic bag next to your meter if possible.

In an emergency:

- Locate the shutoff valve on the riser pipe from the ground to your meter (**Figure A**). On newer meters, it is on the service line going from your meter into the house (**Figure B**).

- Use an adjustable pipe or crescent-type wrench to turn the valve a quarter turn in either direction. When the valve head is parallel to the pipe, it is in the **OPEN** position.

- Turn the valve head crosswise (perpendicular) to the pipe, and it will be in the **OFF** position.

There are also natural gas shutoff valves on the lines fueling individual pieces of equipment.

For more detailed explanation and diagrams, check NW Natural's website and type in "disaster preparedness."

**WATER:** Know where your water turn-off valve is. Turn off water main to the house to trap water in your home and to keep pollutants out of possible drinking water—in your hot water heater, for example. Also, turn off the water to your hot water heater if it has a turn off valve. This will allow you to drain water from the bottom spigot to use if necessary. (Check out EWEB's website, and type in "disaster preparedness.")

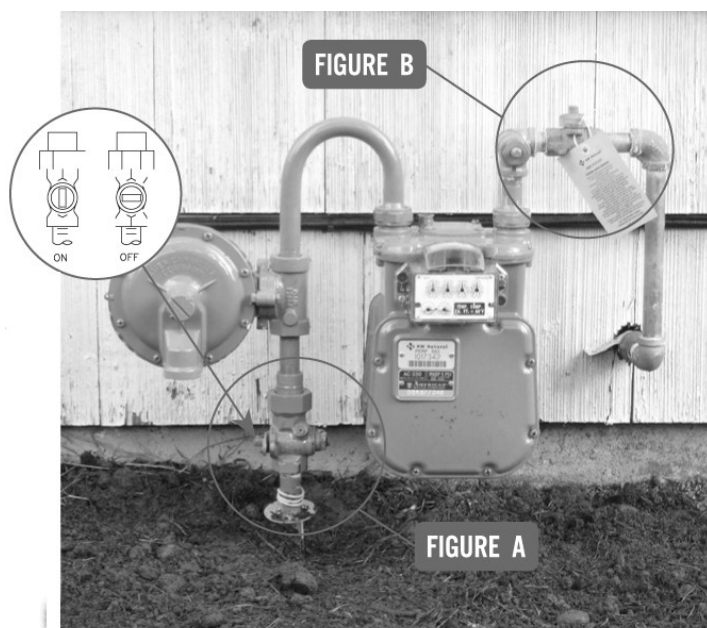
**ELECTRICITY:** Locate your electrical circuit box. Shut off the individual circuits before shutting the main circuit breaker. Electricity sparks can set off natural gas leaks. (Check out EWEB's website and type in "disaster preparedness.")

—Sandra Austin (Information compiled from NW Natural, EWEB websites and Oregon Emergency Management materials.)

## COULD YOU VOLUNTEER IN HENDRICKS PARK?

Ever since *Friends of Hendricks Park* was founded in December 2001, a group of dedicated volunteers has been weeding, pulling ivy, maintaining trails, getting to know each other and eating pastries at the monthly (more or less) Saturday morning work parties in the forest. But some of those volunteers have 'retired' or moved to Norway, so the group is getting smaller. If you'd like to help, just show up at the next work party on November 9, from 9 a.m. to noon, at the Wilkins Picnic Shelter. If you need more information, please contact Sandra Austin, [freda@efn.org](mailto:freda@efn.org), or Mieko Aoki, 541-510-4636.

—Sandra Austin



## LIVE NEAR A STUDENT-OCCUPIED HOME?



Students bring a welcome energy to our neighborhood, and many are simply looking for a nice, safe and quiet place to live. Regarding the few students who cause problems, here are some tips for homeowners:

**1. Communicate.** Get to know your student neighbors before any problems occur. Many issues can be prevented upfront by learning about each other and exchanging contact information. Students might not realize they're living near small children with early bedtimes or retirees. Let students know you also personalize their roles in the neighborhood. Be sure to share your expectations, and explain what type of activities will prompt you to call the police.

**2. Report parking issues.** Cars are not allowed to be parked on lawns, across sidewalks or on other landscaping. Any parking complaints should be directed to Eugene Parking Compliance at 541-682-5729.

**3. Report noise and party problems.** If illegal activity is suspected (excessive noise, underage drinking, trespassing), call the Eugene Police Department's nonemergency line at 541-682-5111. **Be sure to give the exact street address**, and let the police know you're willing to sign a complaint. Having the exact street address allows the University of Oregon to track and follow up on complaints.

Within 24 hours of the incident, send an e-mail to [goodneighbor@uoregon.edu](mailto:goodneighbor@uoregon.edu). This will allow the University of Oregon to follow up on the incident and track any problems in our neighborhood.

Your e-mail should include

- The exact street address of the incident
- The time and date of the incident
- A brief description of the incident
- Names of any students involved, if you have them
- Whether Eugene Police was called.

**4. Know density limits.** Our neighborhood's infrastructure is not designed to accommodate excessive density, which can cause many issues, including parking problems, excessive noise and trash. "Stealth dorms" for six or more unrelated people built on single-family-zoned lots are not allowed. Additionally, landlords in our area are not allowed to profit by renting to more than five unrelated students per dwelling. If you are aware of violations, report them to <http://ceapps.eugene-or.gov/PDDOnline/CodeCompliance/ComplaintStart>.

**5. Report land-use concerns.** Two things that make our neighborhood wonderful are the historic homes and beautiful yards. For complaints related to land use, including garbage, discarded indoor furniture in yards and unmowed lawns, complete the confidential form at <http://ceapps.eugene-or.gov/PDDOnline/CodeCompliance/ComplaintStart>. It helps speed the process if you can take a photo to attach to the complaint.

### Other useful contact information

For issues relating to the Arena, send an email to [fn.UOArena@gmail.com](mailto:fn.UOArena@gmail.com).

For neighborhood issues not relating to the Arena, send an email to [fn.board@gmail.com](mailto:fn.board@gmail.com).

Fairmount Neighbors' website lists other resources for neighborhood and public safety: <http://sites.google.com/site/fna411/safety>.

*Steven Asbury*

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS: AMY MCCANN AND MATT SCHEIBE



Amy McCann and Matt Scheibe moved to the Fairmount Neighborhood 4 years ago from the Ferry Street Bridge Neighborhood. With their two children—Cameron 3 years old and Elliott 1 year old—they live in a house on Orchard Street built in 1927. Matt is a landscape architect working for Cameron McCarthy, and Amy works for a software company, Local Food Market Place, which develops technology for local food distributors.

Amy and Matt love living in the Fairmount Neighborhood for many reasons, which include walkability, ability to bike, community and lots large enough for gardening. Amy says, "It still feels like a neighborhood: people look out for each other, neighbors help neighbors, and we have social events such as cider pressing parties and share garden produce." They also love the diversity of ages and the energy the university gives the neighborhood.

Amy is a master gardener and master food preserver. Their yard is in transition as they remove lawn and build garden space. They have a vegetable garden, numerous fruit trees, two chickens—Rhodie and Yellow Girl—and a beehive. Their fruit crop includes strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, plums, currants and more. They have planted all this since moving in 4 years ago. They use sustainable and organic practices in their garden. It is wonderful to have young families moving into the area and adding to the Fairmount Community.

—Sandra Austin

### WE'RE ON FACEBOOK

Want to keep up with the latest news and events from Fairmount Neighbors? Just "Like" our Facebook page at [facebook.com/fairmountneighbors](https://www.facebook.com/fairmountneighbors), and we'll keep you updated.

Our Facebook page is a great way to meet and connect with your neighbors. It also includes

- historical information and photos
- tips on how to handle noise and land-use complaints
- notices of important public hearings that impact our neighborhood
- announcements of events
- and more!

Don't have a Facebook account? Send your email address to [fn.board@gmail.com](mailto:fn.board@gmail.com), and we'll add you to our e-newsletter list.

*Don't be fooled by imitators attempting to misrepresent our organization! There is only one official Fairmount Neighbors website, and it can be found at [www.FairmountNeighbors.org](http://www.FairmountNeighbors.org).*

—Steven Asbury

### A HELPING HAND



Isabel enjoyed sprucing up Fairmount Park during the spring 2013 work party.

## CHANGES AT LAURELWOOD GOLF COURSE

If you golf or walk at Laurelwood, you may have noticed the grassy areas that are no longer watered and mowed, the woody areas that are now mulched with leaves to keep down weeds and the quiet electric golf carts that have replaced gasoline-powered carts. Less easy to notice are the new methods being used to keep the turf healthy.

When Will Benson became manager of Laurelwood Golf Course 6 years ago, the standard methods for maintaining golf course turf included frequent application of synthetic chemical fertilizers and fungicides. Unfortunately, the fungicides kill mycorrhizae, microscopic structures formed by a plant's roots and certain fungi. This association is beneficial: the plant provides sugars to the fungi, and the fungi enhance the uptake of water and soil minerals by the plant's roots. After fungicide applications, mycorrhizae must be added back to the turf in a never-ending cycle. Will began to wonder if more sustainable management methods were available.

Recently, Will began some online research. He quickly discovered that little was happening on U.S. golf courses, though an Austin, Texas, public golf course was using alternative techniques. He also discovered that a number of people in Britain have been using sustainable methods to grow sports turf for years, so he contacted British consultants Ian MacMillan and Andrew Turnbull. Their approach relies on understanding turf grass physiology and tries to enhance beneficial microbial populations in the root zone to provide high-quality, hard-wearing turf while reducing environmental impacts caused by synthetic chemicals.

Every 1-2 weeks, Will brews compost tea and applies it to the greens to encourage healthy mycorrhizal growth. The brew, a mix of compost from Corvallis and other ingredients, is designed to produce a group of fungi beneficial to turf.

Will also switched from synthetic chemical-based fertilizers to organic products designed especially for golf courses. These preparations are balanced to provide a better soil environment that encourages growth of beneficial microorganisms. Bi-weekly during the growing season, Will applies organic fertilizer, along with seaweed and blackstrap molasses, on the greens and tee boxes to encourage beneficial fungal growth and help reduce plant stress. Every 6 weeks, he applies organic granular slow-release fertilizer.

Will tested his compost tea and organic fertilizers on trial plots for a year before applying them to the golf course. He has reseeded some greens with a mix of three perennial grasses that are more resistant to common diseases and have deeper roots (up to 12 inches) than the standard annual grasses.

Will is passionate about this new focus on helping rather than killing soil microorganisms. He is currently taking an online course on soils from Elaine Ingram, former OSU professor, who is a world leader in soil microbiology and soil ecosystems. Will puts in many hours each week brewing tea, making compost and inspecting the golf course for signs of disease. He is very excited about the results he has achieved so far. Previously, he had to apply fungicide 20-30 times per year. So far in 2013, he has made three applications. The greens and fairways require less water to keep them in good shape. The turf grass is also sturdier so it can be cut to a longer length, which reduces the number of times it needs to be mowed.

In the future, Will hopes to replace gas-powered mowers, blowers and weed whackers with electric ones. He also plans to reestablish open waterways to improve drainage on the course. Neighbors benefit from his efforts in experiencing less noise, fewer toxic chemicals, reduced synthetic fertilizer runoff and reduced emissions. We are fortunate to have Laurelwood in our neighborhood and to benefit from the more sustainable methods Will is implementing.



*Judi Horstmann*

## HISTORY CORNER

***“Hendricks’ Park Will Overlook Eugene From Fairmount Heights,”*** read the headlines Saturday, November 3, 1906. Thomas G. Hendricks and his wife, Martha, printed the Deed of Dedication of a public park as a “great public benefit to the inhabitants” of Eugene. The Hendricks purchased 47 acres of land chosen by and donated to the city of Eugene. The city purchased an additional 31 acres adjoining the donation with the understanding “that the City of Eugene should own, keep up and control such a park...preserved for future generations of the city of Eugene as a public park, open to all the inhabitants...for the purpose of recreation...realizing the future growth and greatness of the city of Eugene and the necessity of procuring such a park at the present time.”



Hendricks Family. L to R. Seated Martha, Ruby, Thomas. Standing Ida, Ada. Date unknown



T.G. Hendricks was a prominent business man who co-created Eugene’s second bank, Hendricks and Eakin, in 1883. By 1886, the bank had been nationalized and was renamed **First National Bank of Eugene.**

The night before, Nov 2, 1906, the matter of creating Eugene’s first city park was settled at the meeting of the city council, when a Deed of Dedication was accepted for 47 acres near Judkin’s Point (Hendricks donation) and a deed was taken over by the city from Colonel Smith for 31 acres in the same tract. The negotiation between Hendricks and the City was aptly brokered by F M. Wilkins, prominent Eugene business owner, family friend of Hendricks and Mayor of Eugene.

—Heather Kliever

### FNA BOARD MEMBERS

David Sonnichsen and Steven Asbury, co-chairs  
 Darell Jones, treasurer  
 Camilla Bayliss, secretary  
 Sandra Austin, newsletter  
 John Barofsky, Patrick Deegan  
 Lucia Hardy, Sue Jakobosky, Daniel Klute  
 Kay Porter, Nancy Reckord, Kay Rose



# My Neighborhood

by Sofia Megert

There are many reasons why I like my neighborhood. When I first moved here, we were always taking walks and always ended up at the ice cream parlor, Prince Pucklers. It is usually peaceful and quiet. Sometimes, it is also exciting. Like when we had the big snowstorm. (Watch out for snowballs!) That's why I love my neighborhood. Don't you love it too?



Sofia Megert made this drawing in March 2013, when she was 8 years old. She's now 9.



Above: cleaning up old tree sites and dressing with loam

Right: prepping bench bases for wood chips

**UO Student Community  
Volunteer Day  
Washburne Park  
April 2013**

