



CANNON BEACH COMMUNITY BULLETIN

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January 2023

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



2022: Year in Review

Introduction from City Manager Bruce St. Denis—

As we move into the New Year I wanted to take a moment and highlight just a few of the many accomplishments of city staff and our departments over 2022.

I also wanted to thank the council—both incoming and outgoing—for the great work they've done in moving forward the Elementary School Rejuvenation Project (which we hope to begin construction on in the summer 2023) as well as the continued efforts towards creation of a new City Hall and Police Station."

Another big one is the progress on the water resiliency project, which will replace all the components of our water supply, fortifying the connection from the springs to the city in the event of a seismic disruption.

IN THIS ISSUE:

pg. 1 **2022: Year in Review - A Look Back at the Year's Accomplishments**

pg. 6 **New Mayor, City Councilors Sworn In**

pg. 7 **City Staff Work Through Ice, Storms, Power Outage**

pg. 10 **Holiday Notes from Chief Schermerhorn**

pg. 12 **News in Brief**

- HRAP Seeks Volunteers

pg. 13 **Elementary School Rejuvenation Project: Next Meeting**

pg. 16 **Code Complaint Form**

THIS MONTH'S AGENDA

City Council Meeting - 1/3
City Council Work Session - 1/10
City Council Work Session - 1/11
Parks & Community Services - 1/19
Design Review Board - 1/19
City Council Work Session - 1/25
Planning Commission - 1/26
[FULL SCHEDULE HERE](#)

A Look Back at the Accomplishments of 2022

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The cannon beach staff members are among the best I've ever worked with and I am proud to be part of their team.

- *City Manager Bruce St Denis*



PUBLIC WORKS 2022 HIGHLIGHTS **Director Karen La Bonte**

Phase 1 Water Resiliency Engineering (seismic valves and site improvement at existing tank). STATUS: \$586K funding has been secured and awarded. Engineering in progress, once complete, Windsor will handle construction award and will begin construction.

Secured funding for Phase 2 Water Resiliency project (replacement of lines from springs down to H2O distribution point). STATUS: Funding secured and \$3.2M awarded. Engineering put out to bid and awarded to Windsor Engineering. Engineering currently underway.

Phase 3 Water Resiliency (build new reservoir tank). Secure funding issue engineering RFP. STATUS: Business Oregon has committed to the funds for Engineering only of both the new water reservoir as well as the backbone along HWY 101. Application process to have funding awarded has begun. Once complete, we will issue the RFP for engineering and then award after Council approval. Construction funds are being pursued through FEMA with grant writing assistance.

Matanuska Pump Generator Replacement – moved from natural gas to diesel.

Re-built Oak St. Beach Access stairs.

Finished city-wide water meter module change-out.

Warren Way intersection improvement, addition of 4-way stop.

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A Look Back at the Accomplishments of 2022

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POLICE

Chief Jason Schermerhorn

We were able to resolve several code issues that have been lingering the past several years with successful resolutions.

Our Lifeguard partnership with the Fire District has generated more lifeguards from the Fire Department but also added a great depth to the program.

We began the process of becoming accredited, we will be the first agency in Clatsop County to accomplish this. Accreditation establishes a uniform set of “Best Practices” for police agencies that are consistent on an international scale, measurable, verified by an independent body as to compliance, and creates an accountability to the community, elected policy makers, and the line officers who are performing the day-to-day work.

Officer Rashad Gipson graduated the academy

The officers completed over 1,600 hours of training throughout the year

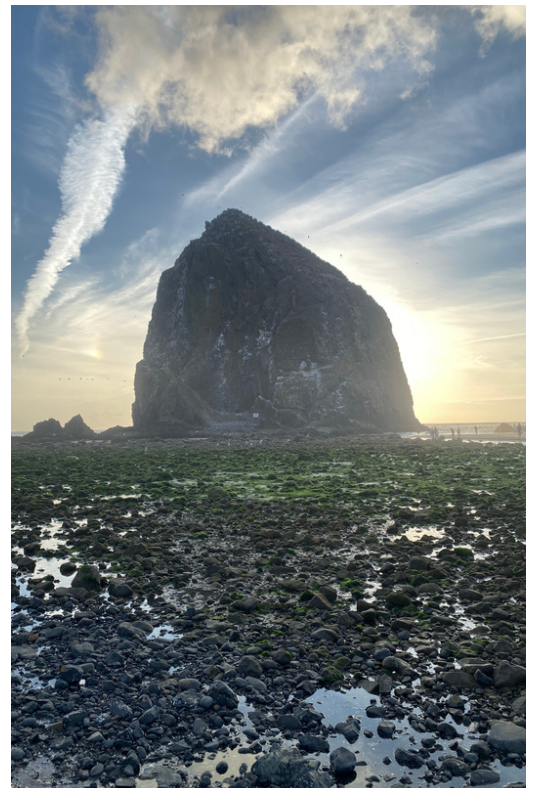
FINANCE

Director Laurie Sawrey

Successfully implemented Prepared Food Tax Collections. Several businesses took us up on our offer to visit their business to assist with collection implementation. We also took many phone calls and inquiry to seek clarification and get determinations and interpretations of the code while working closely with our city attorney.

Conducted a Utility Rate Study. Added this project to the current year budget. A contract was let with FCS Group in December to implement a Water, Wastewater and Storm Drain rate analysis for a period of 10 years. This will continue efforts to make the utilities at the city self-sufficient and able to get Master Plan projects completed.

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A Look Back at the Accomplishments of 2022

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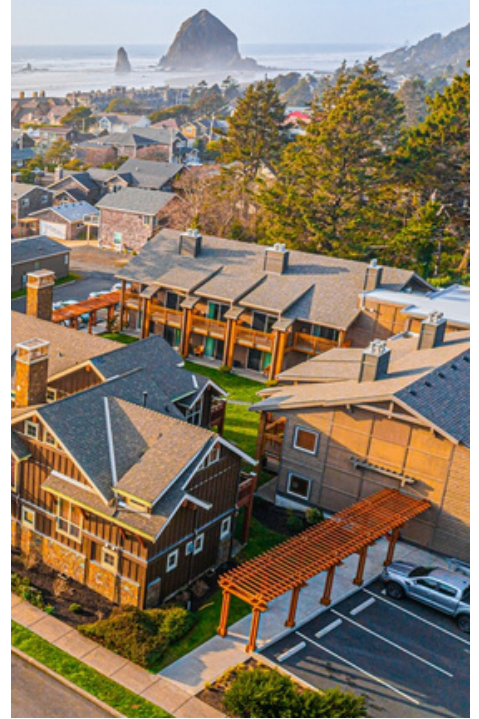
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Director Jeff Adams

The Planning Department shepherded Cannon Beach's first Transportation System Plan to adoption.

Began the code audit process working with the Urbsworks consulting team. The release of the Code Audit report is expected in January. Urbsworks is expected to continue working with the City to provide code amendments in the coming year.

The Planning Department worked with regional partners to launch the Clatsop Regional Housing Task Force, in effort to forward policies, programs and projects in efforts to construct more affordable and workforce housing in the region.



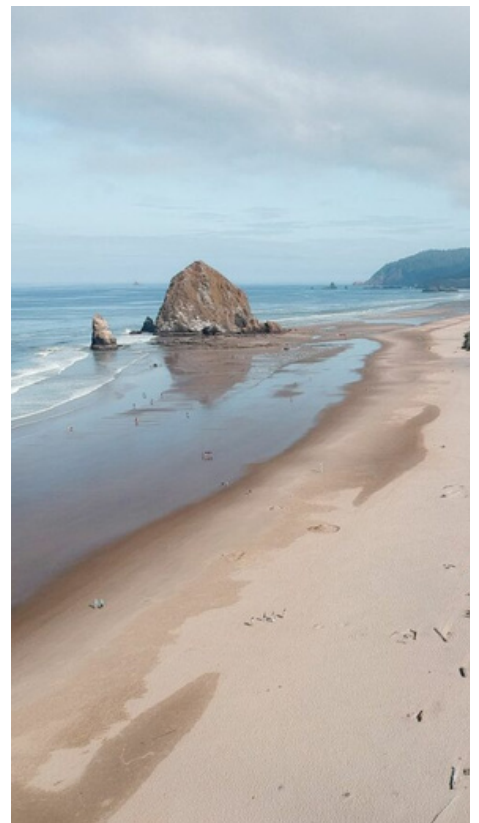
HAYSTACK ROCK AWARENESS PROGRAM

Director Kelli Ennis

A new Online Education Center has been developed and will launch, creating our most extensive free interactive resource for all ages, will enhance virtual field trip and general access to educational materials.

New signage on the beach was tested and successfully decreased incidences of tidepool etiquette behavioral interventions by 80%.

Highest number and most diverse range of species of sea stars recorded since Sea Star Wasting syndrome hit our area in 2013, indicating a potential ecological rebound.



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A Look Back at the Accomplishments of 2022

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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Director Rick Hudson

DOGAMI improvement with maps/signs- community presentations.

Grant awarded for cache site development- with significant progress.

Grant awarded for fuel and water delivery trailers – to be delivered until 2023.

Emergency radio build completed.

Emergency Operations Center at City Hall completed, and back up EOC at Public Works 70% completed.

Emergency volunteer development.

Community outreach and education improvement.



New Mayor, City Councilors Sworn In

On Tuesday, January 3rd, Mayor Barb Knop and City Councilors Lisa Kerr and Gary Hayes took the oath of office and were sworn in for four year terms.

Council then selected Nancy McCarthy to the role of Council President.

Mayor Knop then thanked the outgoing Mayor, Sam Stiedel, and Councilors Robin Risley and Mike Beneifield.



Mayor Knop



The newley seated council



Councilor Kerr



Councilor Hayes

City Staff Work Through Ice, Power Outage and More

When a string of stormy weather--including a freeze, king tides and high winds--hit Cannon Beach in late December, City staff sprang into action.

In fact, the work started days before the inclement weather arrived.

"We monitor weather on a daily basis," says Public Works Director Karen La Bonte. "We got ready and deployed generators before the storm. Those generators go to our pump stations to keep sewage flowing in case power goes out."



And, of course, the power did go out. But the generators were quickly fired up and the water kept pumping.

But keeping the power on at the pumping stations and wastewater treatment plant wasn't the only concern.

With such heavy rains, numerous pumps were operating close to or at 100% capacity--which required members of the wastewater department to stick to the stations like glue, monitoring for any potential overflows.

That in-person monitoring led to some pretty sleepless nights for members of the wastewater team.

"What we try to do is take two-hour sleep breaks," La Bonte says. "For the guys that are local, it's easy to run home and take a catnap." But one team member who lives in Seaside opted to stay all night in his truck at the treatment plant because weather conditions did not allow him to get home and back.

"At some point when Mother Nature gives you inches of rain within an hour, overflows can happen," La Bonte says. "Lucky for us it didn't, and the guys pulled out all the stops to make sure."

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City Staff Work Through Ice, Power Outage and More

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Another job that preceded the arrival of the heavy rains: the cleaning and clearing storm drains of any potential obstructions. The roads team ensures all drains are clear of any obstruction prior to storms rolling through.

And though high winds did topple a number of trees in the Ecola Creek Watershed Reserve, and eventually knock out power all along the North Coast, La Bonte considered the events relatively minor. "Damage this past storm was pretty minimal," she says.

Emergency Manager Rick Hudson shared a similar sentiment: that despite days of significant weather events, Cannon Beach was relatively fortunate.

"Thank god we didn't have cold temperatures during the power outage," Hudson says. "That could've been catastrophic."

Hudson shared preparations for that more serious scenario, when freezing temperatures overlap with a power outage.

Where it becomes too cold for citizens to shelter in place, Hudson said the City is prepared to open generator-powered warming shelters--the primary one being the Cannon Beach Community Church. (City Hall is another potential option.)

There were also contingency plans--in the event of, say, a flood or landslide--for those displaced to shelter at the Tolovana Inn, Hudson says.

"That's one of the benefits we have in a city like this," Hudson says. "We can put a lot of people in hotels here if they must leave their homes. Especially if it happens in the winter months."

Hudson was also prepared with five mobile generators in case residents needed electricity to power medical devices during the outage.

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City Staff Work Through Ice, Power Outage and More

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Throughout the events, Hudson monitored emergency radio channels to see where he could be of assistance.

"Our radio systems worked out extremely well," Hudson says. "Even when we had power out, we were able to communicate."

"If you take this situation that happened in December, and you compare to the 2007 event, which was colder, and had more ice, we had improved communications and better reaction time," he says.

"What we need to do a better job of in the future," Hudson adds, "is to think ahead and have more capability in the event of a freeze--snow tires, chains, and so on."

Hudson praised the police and fire departments, along with their team of volunteers, who acted as the first responders throughout the events, assisting stuck motorists when ice shut down the highway.

The eight-day event underscored the mission for Hudson: self-reliance.

"Almost all the events that are hard to deal with in Cannon Beach are going to be regional, effecting everyone in this county," Hudson says. "So, we need to be self-reliant, having the people and equipment here."

To that end, December's weather events were an encouraging stress-test. The different teams, departments and equipment were prepared, coordinated and ready.

"When it comes to being prepared and self-reliant, I think we're some of the best around here," Hudson says. "We do really well."

Holiday Notes from Police Chief Jason Schermerhorn

We currently have two job openings at the Police Department. One is a Police Officer position and the other is the Code Enforcement Officer. Both will be posted on the website by the end of the week.

We had our annual Holiday Coloring Contest and received 28 entries between kindergarten and 5th grade. We will be getting the winners out in the next week or so.

This year we partnered up with Seaside Police, Warrenton Police, Clatsop County Sheriff's Office, and Gearhart Police to provide a tree for the Providence Festival of Trees on December 3rd. Lieutenant Wilbur and Officer Dietel built the guitar, photo attached and other items that were donated including two nights stay at the Surf Sand and a dinner at the Wayfarer as well as a \$300 donation to Shop with a Cop, a Ride Along with the Warrenton Police Chief and several police ball caps and other items. The guitar was one of a kind built out of 100 year old Burlwood with blue resin in the finish. The tree auctioned off for over \$2,700 with all proceeds going to the Providence Hospital Cardiac Unit.

In December we also had our Annual Shop with a Cop event that is Sponsored by Seaside Rotary, Fred Meyer, and Pig N Pancake.

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Holiday Notes from Police Chief Jason Schermerhorn

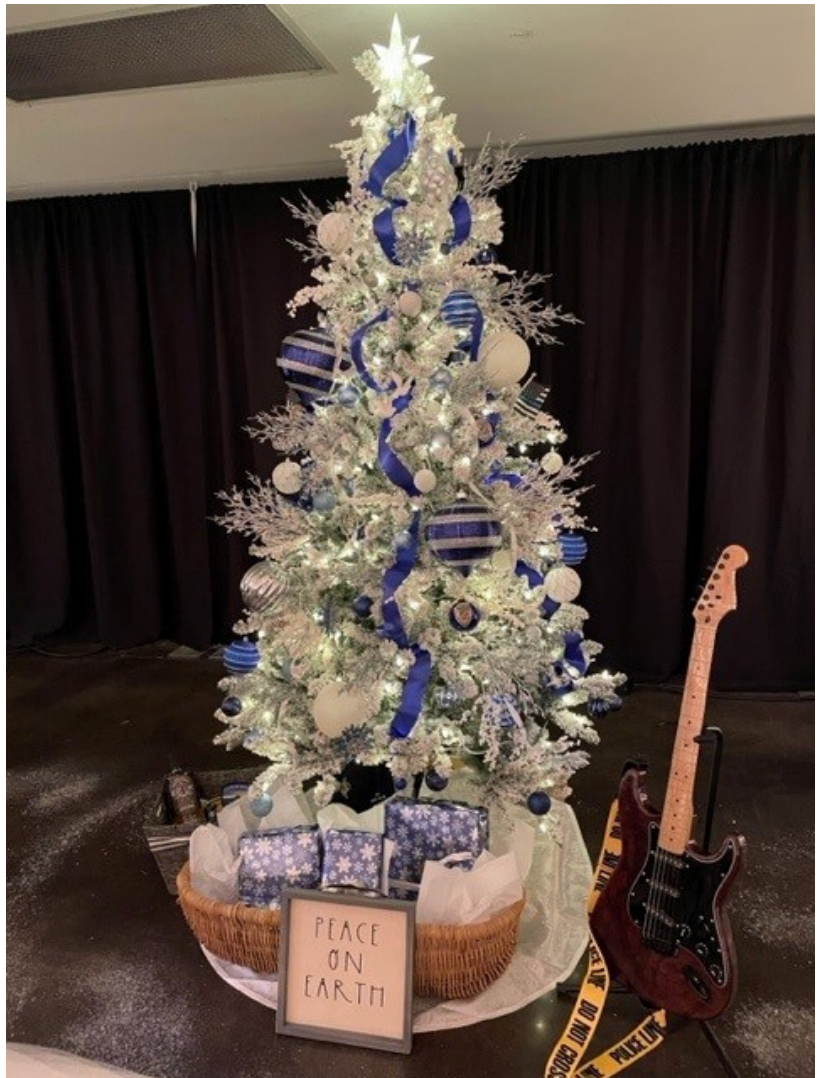
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We meet in the morning on a Saturday and Sunday at the Pig N Pancake in Seaside and have breakfast with a group of selected students. We have a fun breakfast getting to know each other and then drive up to Fred Meyer. The kids then are given \$100 to Christmas shop for their families and the officer is given \$50 to shop for their student. It is a great time and fun to see the kids shop for their families and the thought that goes into it.



The holidays were busy with several weather events. The most important thing that we want to remind people is to listen to the weather alerts and avoid any travelling when the warnings come out. Many people were stuck behind accidents or in Ice for extended periods of time, when they really did not have to be.

-- *Chief Jason Schermerhorn*



News in Brief



HRAP SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

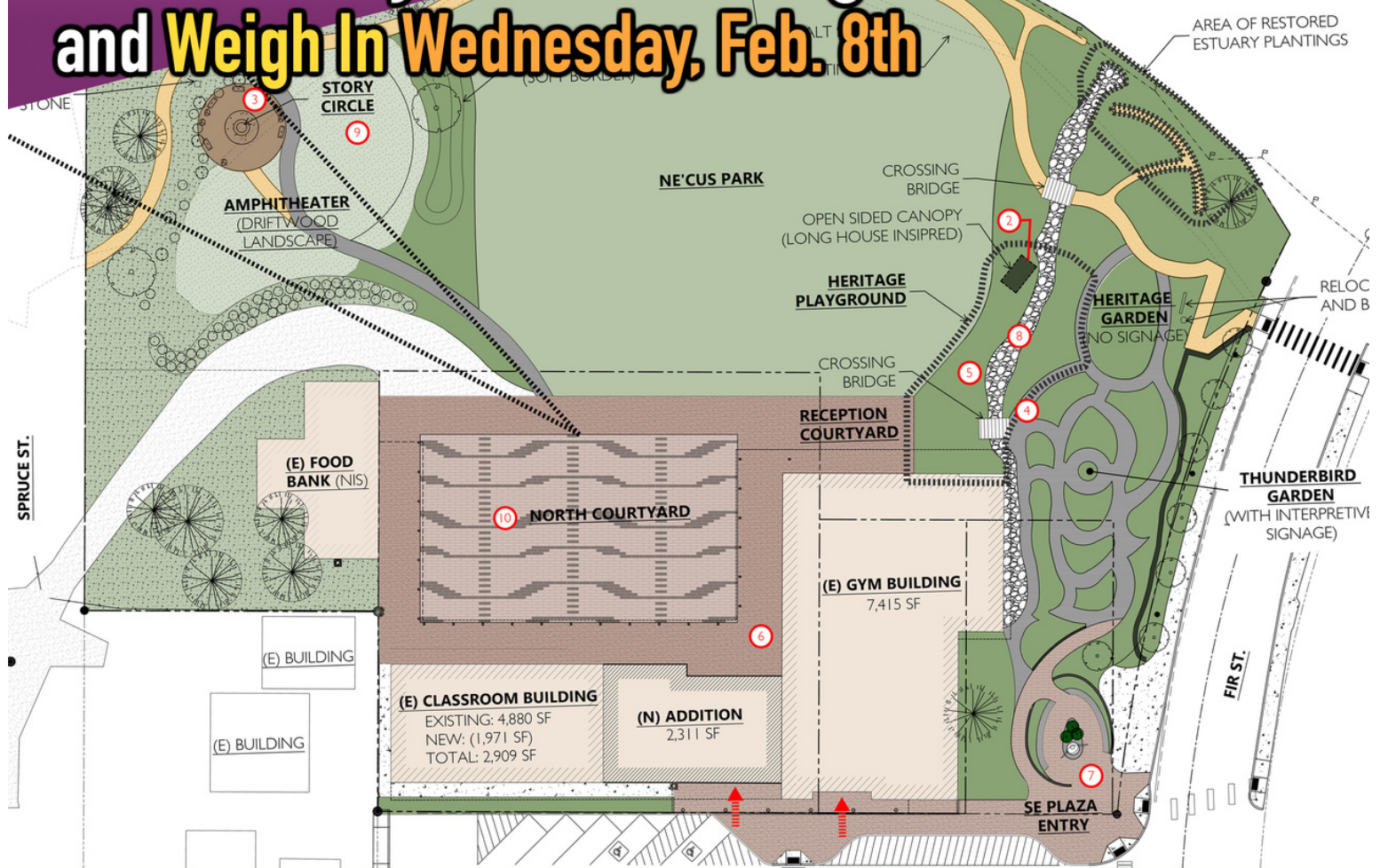
Help protect the vibrant inter-tidal ecosystem at Haystack Rock by volunteering with HRAP.

Learn more and apply at:

haystackrockawareness.com/volunteer

Elementary School Rejuvenation Project

**See the Latest
Elementary School Designs
and Weigh In Wednesday, Feb. 8th**



Make your voice heard! Join us for the next Elementary School Rejuvenation design update at **6PM on Wednesday, Feb. 8th**. More at [ReImagineCBE.com](https://reimagineCBE.com)

reimagineCBE.com

For all the latest on the City Hall / Police Station Project, Visit the City's Website

Shaping City Hall



The planning for a new City Hall & Police Station is picking up steam
For meeting schedules and information: ci.cannon-beach.or.us/city-hall

ci.cannon-beach.or.us/city-hall

Download the EyeOnWater App



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 for free 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. Staff will hold two public demonstration and info sessions to answer any questions and help get the app up and running. They are:

Tuesday, September 6th from 1-5PM @ the Cannon Beach Farmers' Market
Wednesday, September 7th from 5-7 @ outside the City Hall Council Chambers

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>