

City of Central Point NEWS FROM CITY HALL

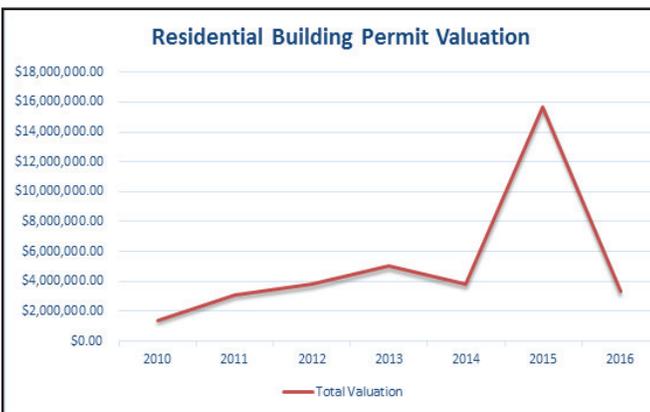
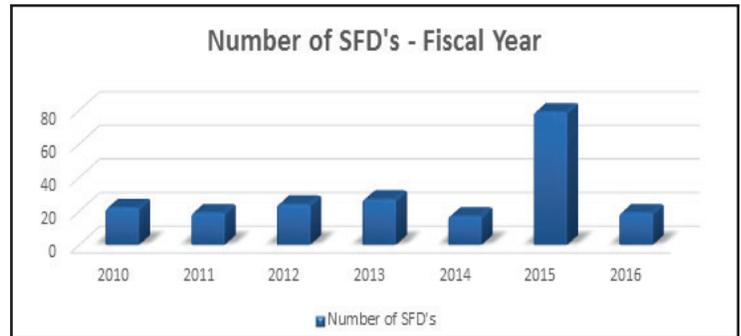
City Manager's Note:

Building Activity Continues Positive Trend

The City of Central Point building permit activity showed significant positive growth during the last six-months of fiscal year 2015 (January - June, 2015) and the first six-months of fiscal year 2016 (July – December 2015). Our 5-year growth pattern indicates positive and stable building activity, with the exception of 2015 when the city realized a significant “upswing” in residential construction. Below are the actual single family dwelling (SFD) building permit numbers and valuation.



Fiscal Year	Permits Issued	Permit Valuation
2010	22	\$1,404,258.33
2011	19	\$3,087,155.48
2012	24	\$3,770,830.00
2013	27	\$5,001,355.55
2014	17	\$3,778,834.55
2015	79	\$15,682,949.15
2016 (6 months)	23	\$4,852,316.00



In addition to the more than 450% increase in residential growth last year, commercial growth values, inside and outside of the City's Urban Renewal District, are helping the city's tax base recover from the economic recession. The graph below represents a recent history of Central Point's commercial building permit valuation.



While still far below the construction/building activity that was seen prior to 2007, these numbers are very encouraging. As always, the City of Central Point remains committed to maintaining a positive relationship with local builders and developers in order to promote sustainable economic investment in our community. If you or someone you know is interested in starting, growing, or relocating a business in the Rogue Valley, talk with our Community Development staff about the mutually beneficial opportunities available in Central Point.

Fertilizer Impacts

When we apply fertilizer to our yards, we are adding nutrients, which all plants need to survive and grow. What we don't always consider, though, is that our soils may already have sufficient levels of these nutrients. Brand-new lawns or areas with very poor soils might be lacking in nutrients, but most established lawns are not. When we over fertilize these areas those nutrients run off with the next rain and end up in our streams and reservoirs where they feed algae. In addition to giving the water a greenish hue, algae also robs the water of oxygen, which can be harmful to fish and other aquatic life. The algae can also produce potential algal toxins and taste and odor compounds in the water.

TYPES OF FERTILIZERS

There are many different types of fertilizer available today, and it can be confusing trying to understand which type, if any, you need. Below are a few key facts that can equip you to make the right choice for your yard and the environment.

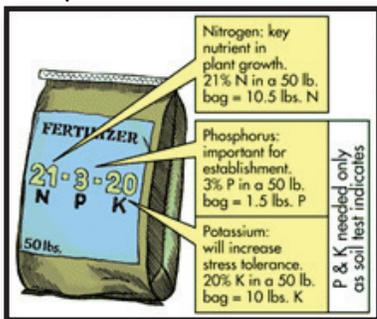


SOIL TESTING

First, you'll need to find out if your lawn needs fertilizer or not. A soil test is the best way to determine this. Soil testing means taking a sample of your lawn's soil to a place that will test your soil to learn what levels of nutrients currently exist. The test results also provide recommendations on what your lawn needs (in terms of pH, phosphorus, and potassium) to be healthy. Home test kits can be purchased at your local home improvement store for around \$10-\$20.

READING FERTILIZER LABELS

If your soil test results indicate that fertilizer is still needed for your yard, you'll need to know how to read and



interpret the fertilizer labels. All bags of fertilizer should have three numbers displayed prominently on their labels. These numbers represent the percentage by weight of nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), and potassium (K), respectively.

If your soil test results say that your yard is sufficient in phosphorus but does need some added nitrogen and potassium, you will want to buy a fertilizer with a zero (0) in the middle, meaning that there is no phosphorus in the product.

What can I do as a homeowner that will help reduce phosphorus levels in our waters?

Keep leaves, grass clippings, and dirt/sediment off of driveways, sidewalks and the street. Rains wash these nutrient rich materials into our storm sewers that lead directly to our streams, rivers, and lakes. Maintain healthy green spaces (trees, landscape and lawn) to capture rainfall and prevent run-off and sedimentation. Use a zero-phosphorus fertilizer unless a soil test shows a need for more.

For more information go to <http://indiana.clearchoicescleanwater.org/lawns>

CITY WIDE YARD SALE

Central Point Spring Clean Up!

Saturday May 7th, 2016

8am - 3pm

You know what they say... Out with the old and in with the new! What a perfect opportunity to make that true!

If you're planning on having a sale, don't forget to place your address on our official list that will be posted on our website!

We will also have copies of the list available at City Hall.

THE DEADLINE FOR LISTING YOUR ADDRESS IS

MONDAY, MAY 2nd AT 4PM

CALL 541.664.3321 x 130

KidVenture Wish List for Class Projects

KidVenture Preschool provides the opportunity to expose youngsters to numbers, letters, and shapes but more important, they learn how to socialize with their classmates. Children learn how to raise their hand, take turns, and share the attention of the teacher. KidVenture is in need of the following items:

- Small wooden row boat - no fiberglass please
- 2 guitars
- Colanders - Stainless steel or plastic
- Big plastic bowls
- Wooden coffee or end tables - solid wood
- Shovels and rakes - not fiberglass
- Plain no pattern sheets, pillow cases, or plain fabric - for making capes



Please call Jennifer at 541-423-1042 or email Jennifer.boardman@centralpointoregon.gov to let her know if you can donate any of these items.



Committee Vacancies

Central Point is currently accepting applications from residents for three vacant positions on the Multicultural Committee. These appointments require a minimal amount of time and commitment, but the work is important to the citizens of Central Point.

The mission of the Multicultural Committee is to create a focused assembly to organize, coordinate, research make recommendations and manage actions regarding diverse cultural, economic and social issues within our community. This committee strives to raise awareness, promote tolerance, create cohesion within the community and improve livability for all its citizens.

For an application please contact City Recorder Deanna Casey at 541-423-1026 or Email: deanna.casey@centralpointoregon.gov.

Dates to Remember

April

- 5 - Planning Commission Meeting (6 pm)
- 6 - Arbor Week Tree Planting project on Daisy Lane (10 am - 11 am)
- 12 - Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting (6 pm)
- 14 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 18 - Urban Renewal Budget Meeting (6 pm)
- 29 - Arbor Day

May

- 3 - Planning Commission Meeting (6 pm)
- 7 - City Wide Yard Sale (8 am - 3 pm)
- 12 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 16 - Council Study Session (6 pm)
- 19 - Parks & Rec Commission Meeting (6:30 pm)
- 26 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 30 - Memorial Day ★
- 30 - Memorial Day Commemoration at Don Jones Park (9 am)
- 28 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)

★ = City Hall Closed

Meetings are subject to change, please check our website for more information.

Why Topping Hurts Trees

Learn why topping is not an acceptable pruning technique and discover recommended alternatives.



Topping is perhaps the most harmful tree pruning practice known. Yet, despite more than 25 years of literature and seminars explaining its harmful effects, topping remains a common practice.

What is Topping?

Topping is the indiscriminate cutting of tree branches to stubs or to lateral branches that are not large enough to assume the terminal role. Other names for topping include “heading,” “tipping,” “hat-racking,” and “rounding over.”

Topping is often used to reduce the size of a tree. A homeowner may feel that a tree has become too large for his or her property, or that tall trees may pose an unacceptable risk. Topping, however, is not a viable method of height reduction and certainly does not reduce future risk. In fact, topping will increase risk in the long term.

Topping is cutting branches back to stubs or lateral branches not large enough to sustain the remaining branch.



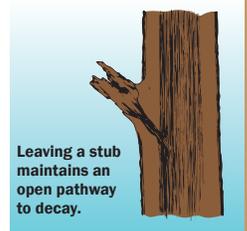
Topping Stresses Trees

Topping can remove 50 to 100 percent of a tree’s leaf-bearing crown. Leaves are the food factories of a tree. Removing them can temporarily starve a tree and trigger various survival mechanisms. Dormant buds are activated, forcing the rapid growth of multiple shoots below each cut. The tree needs to put out a new crop of leaves as soon as possible. If a tree does not have the stored energy reserves to do so, it will be seriously weakened and may die.

A stressed tree with large, open pruning wounds is more vulnerable to insect and disease infestations. The tree may lack sufficient energy to chemically defend the wounds against invasion, and some insects are actually attracted to the chemical signals trees release.

Topping Leads to Decay

Correct pruning cuts are made just beyond the branch collar at the point of attachment. The tree is biologically equipped to close such a wound, provided the tree is healthy enough and the wound is not too large. Cuts made along a limb between lateral branches create stubs with wounds that the tree may not be able to close. The exposed wood tissues begin to decay. Normally, a tree will “wall off,” or compartmentalize, the decaying tissues, but few trees can defend the multiple severe wounds caused by topping. The decay organisms are given a free path to move down through the branches.

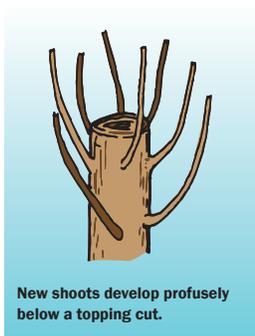


Leaving a stub maintains an open pathway to decay.

Topping Can Lead to Sunburn

Branches within a tree’s crown produce thousands of leaves to absorb sunlight. When the leaves are removed, the remaining branches and trunk are suddenly exposed to high levels of light and heat. The result may be sunburn of the tissues beneath the bark, which can lead to cankers, bark splitting, and death of some branches.

Topping Can Lead to Unacceptable Risk



New shoots develop profusely below a topping cut.

The survival mechanism that causes a tree to produce multiple shoots below each topping cut comes at great expense to the tree. These shoots develop from buds near the surface of the old branches. Unlike normal branches that develop in a socket of overlapping wood tissues, these new shoots are anchored only in the outermost layers of the parent branches and are weakly attached.

The new shoots grow quickly, as much as 20 feet (6 m) in one year in some species. Unfortunately, the shoots are prone to breaking, especially during windy or icy conditions. While the original goal was to reduce risk by reducing height, risk of limb failure has now increased.

Topping Makes Trees Ugly

The natural branching structure of a tree is a biological wonder. Trees form a variety of shapes and growth habits, all with the same goal of presenting their leaves to the sun. Topping removes the ends of the branches, often leaving ugly stubs. Topping destroys the natural form of a tree. Without leaves (for up to six months of the year in temperate climates), a topped tree appears disfigured and mutilated. With leaves, it is a dense ball of foliage, lacking its simple grace. A tree that has been topped can never fully regain its natural form.

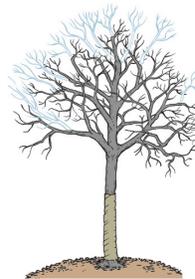
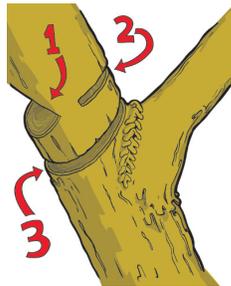
Topping Is Expensive

The cost of topping a tree is not limited to only the job cost. Some hidden costs of topping include:

- Increased maintenance costs. If the tree survives, it will likely require corrective pruning within a few years (e.g., crown reduction or storm damage repair). If the tree dies, it will have to be removed.
- Reduced property value. Healthy, well-maintained trees can add 10 to 20 percent to the value of a property. Disfigured, topped trees are considered an impending expense.
- Increased liability potential. Topped trees may pose an unacceptable level of risk. Because topping is considered an unacceptable pruning practice, any damage caused by branch failure of a topped tree may lead to a finding of negligence in a court of law.

Alternatives to Topping

Sometimes a tree must be reduced in height or spread, such as for providing utility line clearance. There are recommended techniques for doing so. Small branches should be removed back to their point of origin. If a larger limb must be shortened, it should be pruned back to a lateral branch that is large enough (at least one-third the diameter of the limb being removed) to assume the terminal role. This method of branch reduction helps to preserve the natural form of the tree. However, if large cuts are involved, the tree may not be able to close over and compartmentalize the wounds. Sometimes the best solution is to remove the tree and replace it with a species that is more appropriate for the site.



Proper branch reduction preserves natural form.

This brochure is one in a series published by the International Society of Arboriculture as part of its Consumer Information Program. You may have additional interest in the following titles currently in the series:

- | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Avoiding Tree and Utility Conflicts | Mature Tree Care | Pruning Mature Trees | Trees and Turf |
| Avoiding Tree Damage During Construction | New Tree Planting | Pruning Young Trees | Tree Values |
| Benefits of Trees | Plant Health Care | Recognizing Tree Risk | Why Hire an Arborist |
| Buying High-Quality Trees | Proper Mulching Techniques | Treatment of Trees Damaged by Construction | Why Topping Hurts Trees |
| Insect and Disease Problems | Palms | Tree Selection and Placement | |

E-mail inquiries: isa@isa-arbor.com

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Developed by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), a non-profit organization supporting tree care research around the world and dedicated to the care and preservation of shade and ornamental trees. For further information, contact: ISA, P.O. Box 3129, Champaign, IL 61826-3129, USA.

E-mail inquiries: isa@isa-arbor.com



www.isa-arbor.com • www.treesaregood.org

City Directory

City Manager
541-423-1026

Building Permits
541-423-1973

Code Enforcement
541-423-1034

Community Development
541-423-1973

Library (Central Point Branch)
541-664-3228

Police (Non Emergency)
541-664-5578

Parks and Recreation
541-664-3321 ext. 130

Public Works
541-423-1028

Public Works After Hours
1-844-620-9905

Utility Billing
541-664-3321 ext. 204

**CALL 911
for Fire, Medical and
Police Emergencies**

City Hall hours are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Monday – Friday. Feel free to drop in
with questions, pay a bill, or just say
“hello.”

Central Point Parks and Recreation

Upcoming Parks and Rec Classes

Sign up at 541-664-3321 ext. 130

Evening Pickleball Tuesdays, April 5 – 26

Join Joel Heller for evening pickleball at Don Jones Park. This class is open to both beginners and intermediate level participants. Learn the basics or improve your pickleball skills. All needed equipment will be provided or bring your own. Please wear athletic shoes.

Location: Don Jones Park

Ages: 16 and up

Cost: \$29



Emergency Preparation Workshops, Thursdays, April 7 - 28

This is a series of four, one-hour workshops on self-reliance and family emergency preparedness which will include: Creating a Family Emergency Plan; Emergency Supply Kits; Disaster & Communication, and Mental Health First Aid for Families. This series is brought to you by the Central Point Emergency Response Team (CERT). No individual class registration.



Location: Computer Classroom

Ages: 12 and up Cost: Free

Time: 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Herbal Adventures for Children and Parents, Saturday, April 16

Children and parents will learn about common edible and medicinal plants and “weeds” found in Southern Oregon while exploring Flanagan Park. We will read an herbal story, discuss basic botany skills to aid in plant identification, do a scavenger hunt, and create an herbal craft. Art supplies provided.

Location: Flanagan Park

Ages: 5 and up - Cost: \$14

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm



For more information and additional classes check out the RECreate Guide on our website.

Contact Your Council

email: info@centralpointoregon.gov



Mayor
Hank Williams
541-994-0066



Council President
Bruce Dingler
541-324-1842



Ward II
Michael Quilty
541-621-4853



Ward III
Brandon Thueson
503-930-7057



Ward IV
Allen Broderick
541-951-7253



At-Large
Tanea Browning
541-890-8377



At-Large
Rick Samuelson
541-664-1878

If you are not sure who your representative is call 541-423-1026