

Central Point City News

October 2023

Updates on the Regulation of Camping Ordinance: What You Need to Know

Greetings residents of Central Point,

In response to recent federal court decisions and the enactment of Oregon House Bill 3115 (HB 3115) by the Oregon legislature, our City has been working diligently to update and revise our local ordinances concerning public spaces and homelessness. This is an important process that balances the “small-town” feel our residents expect against the need for compliance with federal and state laws.

Federal Court Decisions

The U.S. 9th Circuit Court ruled in *Martin v. City of Boise*, that cities cannot criminalize sleeping outside on public property if no adequate alternatives are available. In *Johnson v. City of Grants Pass*, the court expanded this decision, stating that cities violate the Eighth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution if they punish a person for sleeping outside when there are no alternative places to sleep.

HB 3115

The Oregon legislature passed HB 3115 in 2021, which mandates that any city or county law regulating sitting, lying, or sleeping in public must be “objectively reasonable” based on the totality of the circumstances. This law took effect on July 1, 2023.

Central Point Ordinance No. 2103

In compliance with these decisions, Central Point City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 2103, regulating camping on public property (Title 7 of the City’s municipal code). This Ordinance outlines where people experiencing homelessness may sleep or rest, but also specifies areas where camping and camping materials are prohibited.

Prohibited Locations for Camping

1. City Hall/Central Point Police and adjacent sidewalks, 140 S. 3rd St and 155 S. 2nd Street;
2. Bear Creek Greenway;
3. Don Jones Memorial Park and adjacent sidewalks 223 W. Vilas Road;
4. Mae Richardson Elementary School playground and ballfields, 200 W. Pine Street;
5. Twin Creeks Park, 555 Twin Creeks Crossing;
6. Areas that obstruct emergency or non-emergency ingress, egress, or access;
7. Vehicle lanes, bicycle lanes, or roundabouts;
8. Streets closed for construction or other specific uses.

Allowed Locations and Rules

For all other City properties, camping materials may be placed for up to 24 hours, following the ordinance guidelines. These guidelines include:

- No open flames, fires, or cooking stoves
- No unauthorized connections to electrical or utilities
- Animals must be leashed or crated
- Additional safety standards must be followed



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Enforcement

If someone is found in violation of this code, the City will work to remove or relocate such individuals in compliance with state law. Efforts will also be made to connect them with service providers for assistance.

Looking Forward

As laws continue to evolve, the City anticipates making updates to our local codes. We are committed to managing our public spaces effectively—to protect the quality of life in Central Point—while respecting the rights and dignity of all our residents, including those experiencing homelessness.

For more information, you can visit the City's website or contact the City Recorder's Office.

**Boes Property Conceptual Plan – Open House
(Creekside Natural Area Conceptual Plan)
October 18, 2023 at 6:00 to 8:00 pm
Central Point City Hall – City Council Chambers
140 S. Third Street, Central Point**

The City of Central Point owns a 34 acre park site located at 3000 Boes Avenue just north of the Upton Road overpass. The City is collaborating with Direct Involvement Recreation Teaching (DIRT), a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, to develop the site as a natural area to be used primarily for educational purposes. The City has contracted with Scharen Design Studio to develop conceptual plans for the area. For this open house, a DIRT representative will provide an overview of their plans for the site and Shelby Scharen will review site designs options. We are inviting the public to attend this meeting to provide comments on the project.



Tree Donation Program **to honor our local heros.**

For a tax deductible donation of \$450, this program offers residents the opportunity to celebrate a veteran/hero in their life through the purchase and planting of a tree at Don Jones Memorial Park. Each tree donation will include a 3" by 3.5" metal plaque attached to a post near the tree. The plaque will provide the name of the veteran and a QR code that will link to a city webpage providing biographical information and a photo of the veteran.

For More Information Contact
Dave Jacob at (541) 423-1012



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**Central Point – Bear Creek Greenway Master Plan –
Open House
Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 6:00 to 8:00 pm
Central Point Library – Community Room
116 S. Third Street, Central Point**

(This meeting is not sponsored nor endorsed by the Library)

Following the September 2020 wildfire that devastated the Central Point section of the Bear Creek Greenway, the City of Central Point took over ownership of the 52 acre site. The City has implemented regular maintenance measures to minimize the risk of future fires and have increased police patrols to improve public safety. For the next step in the management process, the Central Point Parks Department has contracted with Scharen Design Studio to develop a master plan for the area. At this open house, attendees will be able to view and comment on several different park design options created as part of the planning process.

Your opinions matter, so please attend if you are able.

If you are unable to attend either of these meetings, contact Dave Jacob, Parks Planner, with questions or comments at (541) 423-1012 or dave.jacob@centralpointoregon.gov.

Central Point Chamber

TRICK-OR-TREAT

Treasure Hunt



OCT
28th
11AM - 1 PM

Pine Street in Central Point

For children of all ages

while supplies last

For more information visit centralpointchamber.org

SPONSORED BY



GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY: THE CITY OF CENTRAL POINT AND PINE STREET PROPERTY HOLDING LLC

“Only Rain in the Storm Drain”

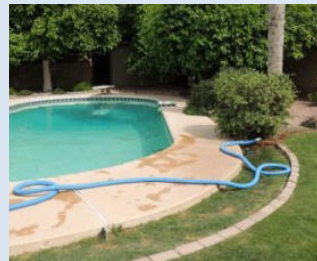
Please do not release swimming pool water into the storm drains!

Before you pour that chlorinated water down your storm drain, think about the consequences. Many people may not know it, but it is illegal to discharge chlorinated swimming pool water directly into the street, gutter or storm drain.

Stream systems are balanced by natural processes which allow them to incorporate very small amounts of pollutants. But when a lot of those pollutants build up over time, it causes harm to the aquatic life in the creeks, streams and rivers.

In order to prevent such contamination, let your pool set without chlorine being added back in the water. After several days the chlorine will dissipate out of the water due to the sun. Test your water to ensure that chlorine is not present prior to discharging. Discharge your pool filtration unit into the sanitary sewer clean-out at your home or drain the water into your lawn so the sunlight can help dissipate the chemicals.

Pool owners can discharge chlorinated, salt or filtered backwash water into a vegetated area on their own property. When discharging on your property, make sure the area is large enough to avoid any adverse impacts from runoff and puddles of standing water and remember that high chlorine levels and salt content can potentially damage vegetation. Pool water can be safely used to irrigate salt-tolerant plants. However, since it does contain more salt and chlorine than tap water, you should use caution when using pool water on certain areas of your landscape. Avoid spraying pool water directly onto leaves or watering the same area repeatedly. Pool water may be discharged to the storm drainage system **ONLY** if it is free of pollutants and if certain conditions are met, such as de-chlorinating the water. Direct hose connection to the storm drain system is prohibited.



YES!

Use pool water or backwash in your landscape or sanitary sewer clean-out.



LIAM'S TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 21ST

TWIN CREEKS PARK | 4:00-6:00PM

FREE
EVENT!

To celebrate the life of Liam, a spunky-feisty little 2 year old, his family came together to find a way to honor his life. They wanted to see the smile of little Liam on all the faces of the children on Halloween. Thus began our event, Liam's Trunk or Treat, a free family-friendly event for children in our community. Liam's Trunk or Treat could not be possible without the generous donations from the community. If you are interested in donating or being a part of our event, please reach out to Central Point Parks & Recreation.

DONATIONS
APPRECIATED!



To REGISTER YOUR VEHICLE VISIT
WWW.CENTRALPOINTOREGON.GOV/LIAMS

Dates to Remember

October

- 3 - Planning Commission (6 pm)
- 10 - Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting (6 pm)
- 12 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 16 - Council Study Session (6 pm)
- 26 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)

November

- 7 - Planning Commission (6 pm)
- 10 - Veteran's Day Observed*
- 16 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 20 - Council Study Session (6 pm)
- 23 - 24 Thanksgiving weekend*

* = City Hall Closed

Meetings are subject to change. Please check our website www.centralpointoregon.gov for more information.

City Directory

City Manager
541-423-1026

Building Permits
541-423-1973

Code Enforcement
541-664-5578

Community Development
541-423-1973

Library (Central Point Branch)
541-664-3228

Police - (Non-Emergency)
541-664-5578

Parks & Recreation
541-664-3321 ext 130

Public Works
541-423-1021

Public Works - (After Hours)
541-326-3682

Utility Billing
541-664-3321 ext 204

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

City Hall is open 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Monday - Friday.

Feel free to drop in with questions,
to pay a bill, or just to say "hello".

Contact your **Council**

info@centralpointoregon.gov



Mayor

Hank Williams
541-944-0066



Ward I

Neil Olsen
541-664-7935



Ward II

Kelley Johnson
541-499-8977



Ward III

Melody Thueson
503-856-6822



Ward IV

Tanea Browning
541-890-8377



At-Large

Mike Parsons
541-554-3892



At-Large

Rob Hernandez
541-840-1841

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

Fall Leaf Collection

Fall is fast approaching and the leaves will soon be dropping. In an effort to keep the storm drains and streets clear, Rogue Disposal has partnered up with the City of Central Point, once again. Leaves will be picked up on Monday, November 20th, Tuesday, November 21st and Friday, December 15th. Please allow a couple of days for them to get to everyone before calling. Residents within the city limits can place their tied, heavy duty yard bags on the curb or just off the roadway prior to 6:30 a.m. on the day of pickup. Bags over 40 pounds or bags that contain other lawn debris or trash will not be picked up.

For more information, please visit www.roguedisposal.com or call 541-779-4161.