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Skyline Rural Watch Newsline

Mailbox: newsline@smpdx.org
 Phone: (503) 621-3501
 SRNPDX.ORG | Facebook Group: Skyline Ridge Neighbors



Date: December 6, 2024

Ridge Runner Submission Deadline – December 15th

If you have any ads, calendar listings, news items, stories, letters, photos, etc. that you would like to submit for publication, please email them to ridgerunner@smpdx.org. Or call Miles at (503-621-9867) to let him know you're going to send something for the Ridge Runner. Please note that the Ridge Runner may not reach mailboxes until the middle of the month of publication (April, July, October, January) Deadlines for all ad submissions are the 15th of March, June, September and December.

McCarthy Creek Guided Walk Tomorrow!

What: Metro Guided Walking Tour of McCarthy Creek Natural Area

When: Saturday Dec 7 – 9am-11am

Where: Meet/Park at Grange

Please join Metro staff, Andrea Berkley and Jonathan Soli, for an informative walk (approximately 1 mile on the gravel loop) through the McCarthy Creek Natural Area, Saturday Dec 7, 9am-11am. During this tour, we will share information and answer questions about work Metro has completed at both McCarthy Creek and North Abbey Creek Natural Areas. Rain gear, water, and good walking shoes are recommended. If anyone would like to participate in the tour and has mobility issues, please contact Andrea Berkley, andrea.berkley@oregonmetro.gov. Arrive and park at the Skyline Grange (please carpool if possible as there is another event at the Grange so parking will be limited). We will walk from the Grange to McCarthy Creek entrance on Skyline.

Please email Andrea Berkley, andrea.berkley@oregonmetro.gov, if you have any other questions.

Metro Pets policy

To protect plants, wildlife and people, Metro does not allow dogs or other pets at the McCarthy Creek Natural Area. [Here's more information about their pet's policy.](#)

SRN Website Updates Volunteer

We're still looking for someone to help update the smpdx.org website. This is not website developer level. It would just be updating existing information like the calendar. This may be about an hour a month commitment. Please if your willing and able, reply to this email and join our team of folks committed to keeping our neighborhood connected!

Thanks!



Deer entanglements with yard items increases during the holiday season; Take steps to reduce harm to wildlife

December 4, 2024

SALEM, Ore. – Deck the halls this holiday season, not the deer.

Deer entanglement is a growing concern in Oregon and local ODFW offices are urging residents to take action by cleaning up their yards. Put away any unused items, especially during the late fall and winter months when buck antlers are largest. Keep holiday decorations at least 8-feet high to reduce the risk of entanglement.

One of the main causes of deer entanglement is the presence of items in yards that can ensnare wildlife. Holiday lights are particularly problematic along with hammocks, dog lines, tomato cages, and volleyball or soccer nets. Decorations hung from trees or decks can also pose a threat if they are within reach of bucks.

As bucks shed the velvet from their antlers, they often become itchy and rub their antlers on various objects increasing the risk of entanglement. They also rub to mark their territory during the rut from October into mid-December.

"While it can be amusing to see a deer running around with lights in its antlers, entanglements can have serious consequences for deer," said Mikayla Bivona, ODFW Assistant Wildlife Biologist in Prineville. "Entanglements can obstruct their vision, hinder their ability to eat and drink, and even restrict their breathing."

"By keeping your yard deer-friendly, you can reduce the number of entanglements as well as the number of calls to our offices to untangle deer. It's not always possible to capture these deer, so prevention is key," Bivona continued.

Wildlife entanglement is a preventable problem. Taking simple steps to clean your yard will not only reduce stress on wildlife but will allow biologists to focus on other responsibilities such as habitat enhancement and development of new projects to benefit wildlife.

ODFW's Central Oregon staff, for example, have responded to 113 calls regarding distressed wildlife this year, 90 of which were deer. The leading causes for these calls are entanglement, vehicle collisions, and fence injuries.

People should not attempt to free entangled wildlife, as this can cause unnecessary stress and potentially kill the animal. Instead, residents are advised to contact their local ODFW office for assistance.

Fencing is another significant factor contributing to deer and elk entanglement in residential areas. Certain types of fencing can increase the likelihood of wildlife getting trapped.

For more information about wildlife-friendly fencing, refer to the [Guidebook for Wildlife Friendly Fencing](#). Photos:

[A mule deer buck entangled in holiday lights was darted by ODFW wildlife biologists, cleaned up and safely released. ODFW photo.](#)
[A mule deer buck entangled in wire was darted, cleaned up and released. ODFW photo.](#)

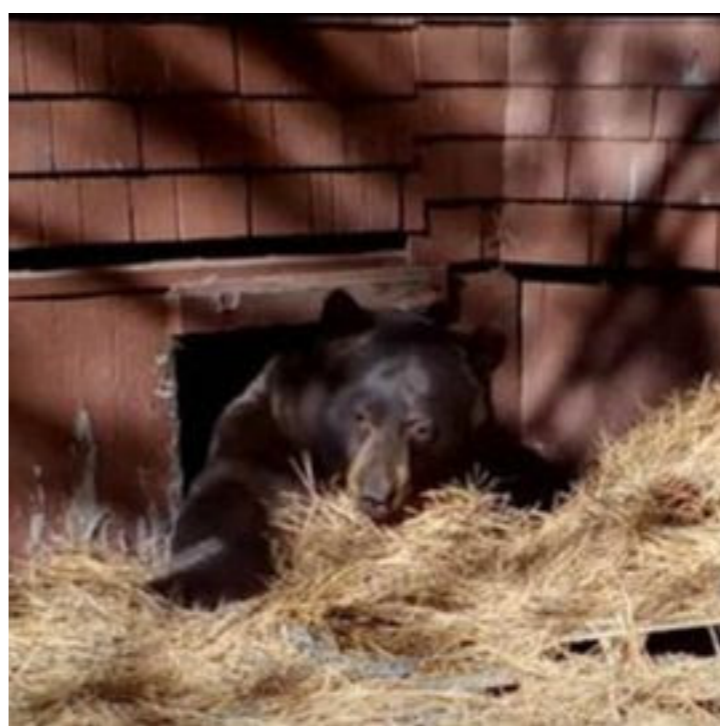
Be Bearwise at Home

Will bears find a good winter den at your place?

source: https://bearwise.org/will-bears-find-a-good-winter-den-at-your-place/?mc_cid=cc8a19af09&mc_eid=d9c6bc562d

These days more places that used to be wildlands are sprouting housing communities and developments. That can make good den sites harder to come by and cause bears in search of a winter den to go searching for suitable alternatives.

It's not unusual for a bear to den up and even give birth under decks, in crawl spaces, or under bushes and brush piles. Old tires, piles of building materials and other debris can offer attractive possibilities. Bears may make themselves at home in vacant buildings, even when they are really garages, storage sheds or vacation homes that are only vacant over the winter.



No Collarbones

To a bear, these areas can seem like the perfect winter home. They're dark, snug and often come with at least one built-in wall. Bears don't have collarbones, so even adult bears can fit through what seems like an impossibly small opening. Like your average dog door. The general guideline is that if a bear can get its head inside, the rest of the bear can follow.

Take Action

Three steps to discourage bears from denning around your home:

1. Close and lock pet doors, sheds, root cellars and outbuildings.
2. Check under porches and decks for areas and openings where bears might curl up. Barricade as best you can.
3. Don't leave garbage, bird feeders or birdseed or food meant for deer or squirrels where bears can access it. Teaching bears to rely on human-provided food is bad for people and bears.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Snow Tires for Sale Pirelli, Rimless 245/46/19. Barely used. Pictures available. \$100. Please text Linda, 503.704.1241.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

What: Metro Guided Walking Tour of McCarthy Creek Natural Area

When: Saturday Dec 7 – 9am-11am

Where: Meet/Park at Grange

What: 2025 Summer Gathering

When: Saturday July 19 2025

Where: Plumper Pumpkin Patch and Tree Farm

If you'd like to help out, reach out to our gathering co-chairs [Brad Gratt](#) or [Tracey Larvenz](#)

Skyline Ridge Neighbors Board Meetings: 2nd Thursdays; Contact srn@smpdx.org for location

Skyline Grange 894 Events

<https://skylinegrange894.org/calendar/> Email: skylinegrange894@msn.com

Yoga - See Calendar for Dates and Times

Grange Meetings: 2nd Mondays; Contact SkylineGrange894@msn.com to confirm

NET Meetings: Contact SkylineRidgeNET@gmail.com

Advertise in the Newsline

We welcome classified ads from individuals, families, and home-based businesses within the SRN boundaries. Ads are limited to 50 words, and be sure to include your contact information. Send them to newsline@smpdx.org and indicate how many times you want your ad to run.

Prices for Newsline ads are as follows:

Families & individuals: First issue is free, then \$5 for each additional repeat of the same ad.

Home-based businesses: \$7.50 per Newsline issue

Commercial businesses: \$10/issue

Please pay for your ad in advance by mailing a check payable to Skyline Ridge Neighbors, Inc. to our Treasurer, Rachael Brake, 14109 NW Rock Creek Rd., Portland 97231. Be sure to indicate which Newsline ad you are paying for.

Skyline Ridge Neighbors, Inc Website

<https://www.smpdx.org/>

About Skyline Ridge Neighbors

SRN is a neighborhood association serving much of unincorporated northwest Multnomah County and some adjacent areas within the city of Portland. (<https://www.smpdx.org/boundary-map.html>) SRN is registered as a neighborhood association within Multnomah County, registered as a non-profit public benefit corporation with the State of Oregon and approved as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization under the IRS Code. SRN is operated by volunteers and with donated funds entirely.

If you would like to donate to SRN in support of its activities, such as this free Newsline service and the publication of its quarterly Skyline Ridge Runner, send your donation to "Skyline Ridge Neighbors", c/o Rachael Brake, 14109 NW Rock Creek Rd., Portland OR 97231. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

About the Newsline

Skyline Rural Watch Newsline is a part of Skyline Ridge Neighbors (SRN) and has been produced since June 1994 as a means to communicate neighborhood information. The Newsline is produced by Laurel Erhardt (editor).

The Newsline depends on you as a source of accurate information about local crimes, upcoming events, and other news pertinent to the area. If you have information you would like considered for the Newsline, you may do so by e-mailing the information to newsline@smpdx.org, or leaving a message at (503) 621-3501.

You can subscribe to the Newsline at SRNPDX.org [Get the Newsline](#) tab.

About the Ridge Runner

The Skyline Ridge Runner is a free quarterly publication mailed to approximately 1400 households in rural northwestern Multnomah County, Oregon. A color version is also distributed via email subscription and is posted on website [smpdx.org](https://www.smpdx.org) website. It is published by Skyline Ridge Neighbors (SRN), an all-volunteer nonprofit neighborhood association, as a public service to provide news and information to residents.

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Community Links

Skyline Ridge Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET): SkylineRidgeNET@gmail.com

Skyline Grange: <https://skylinegrange894.org/>

Forest Park Conservancy: <http://www.forestparkconservancy.org/>

Linnton Community Center: <http://www.linntoncommunitycenter.org/>

Linnton Neighborhood Association: <http://linntonnsa.org/>

West Multnomah County Soil and Water Conservation District: <http://wmswcd.org/>

Skyline School: <http://www.ros.k12.or.us/schools/skyline/>

Skyline School PTA: <https://skylineschoolpta.org/>

Lincoln High School: <http://www.ros.k12.or.us/schools/lincoln/>

