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## Skyline Rural Watch Newsline

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[SRNFOX.ORG](http://SRNFOX.ORG) | Facebook Group: [Skyline Ridge Neighbors](#)



Date: 4/8/2022

### NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

**SRN Board Meeting via Zoom - Thu, April 14, 6:30pm – 7:30pm**  
 All SRN Board meetings are open to the public. We invite your input and ask you to consider joining. Contact Brad Graff ([bradgraff@gmail.com](mailto:bradgraff@gmail.com)) for the link to these Zoom Meetings.

### Community Events

**SOLVE Annual Roadside Clean-up, April 23rd**

Please give a couple of hours of your time on Saturday, April 23, to help your neighbors pick up trash along our public roads. SRN appreciates your efforts to give our rural neighborhood a spring cleaning.



Register at the Skyline Grange (11275 NW Skyline Blvd.) between 8:30 - 11 AM to get SOLVE bags and a route assignment of your choosing. Or you can [pre-register online](#). Light refreshments will also be available at the registration table.

**It is important to have your filled bags ready on the side of the road no later than noon**, as pickup crews will come by at that time. Excess tires & hazardous materials will not be accepted this year. Thank you for being a part of what makes our neighborhood such a special place to live!

**SRN Spring Meeting, 7 PM, April 28**

This year our annual spring meeting is focusing on two of the most important issues in our neighborhood: Wildfire Prevention and SRN Internet Access. Please attend your neighborhood meeting to find out the latest information and what you can do individually to make a difference.

The meeting will be held online this year on Thursday, April 28th at 7pm. There will be notifications sent on the Skyline Ridge Newsline with the Zoom link. The link will also be posted here.

After a brief SRN business meeting, the following presentations will follow: Kim Kosmas of Portland Fire & Rescue and Trace Richard of TV&R will provide information on how you can better protect your home from wildfire. Then Sara Ali, Multnomah County's new Digital Access Coordinator, will update us on the latest efforts to improve internet access in the Skyline Ridge area.

**Neighbor Brad Graff Invite to Watch Party**  
 Sunday night watch party!

Sunday night at 5:30 (PST), you are invited to stream a free 30 minute documentary of blind athlete Dan Berlin attempting to run the circumference of Mt. Rainier on the Wonderland Trail. Our neighbor (and long serving SRN board member), Brad Graff, was Dan's guide for this attempt.

Dan Berlin has never let his blindness dictate what he cannot do. He's run Rim-to-Rim-to-Rim in the Grand Canyon, the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu, climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, and completed dozens of endurance events.

This movie was entered in several film festivals and is beautifully shot and creatively told.

If you are interested, please register at <https://www.aspiresadventurerunning.com/watch-party-every-root-every-rock/>.

*Brad has lived in our neighborhood for several years and has been an SRN Board Member since moving up here. Team See Possibilities (TSP) is another non-profit he supports. From TSP's website: OUR VISION is to demonstrate to the world what a person with a visual impairment is capable of achieving, to inspire children with visual impairments and their communities around the world, and to create the next generation of vision impaired role models through education and mentorship.*

**SKYLINE GRANGE #894**  
<https://skylinegrange894.org/>

**SKYLINE GRANGE THANKS YOU**  
 In an effort to bring the community together, we had 2 garage sales and 2 plant sales since February. It was a whirlwind of activity and so good to see people reconnecting and enjoying a little bit of "normalcy." All these sales were very successful both socially and as fundraisers. Thank you for your cheerful presence. We loved hearing about how previously purchased trees and plants are now thriving, but we are still awaiting an apple pie from a purchased apple tree.

These activities were too an opportunity to spread the word about our Capital Improvement Campaign, to provide information about our proposed improvements, and to gather verbal input from our community as to how to make the building more inviting. Like garage sale customers, customers at the plant sale "rounded up" to donate to the capital improvement fund. Of the \$270,000+ fundraising goal, we have raised about \$211,000. \$18,000 of this was matched by a generous anonymous donor who will match up to \$50,000, thus making a donation double in value. See [www.skylinegrange894.org](http://www.skylinegrange894.org) for more details about capital improvement plans.

**TRAVEL THROUGH SOUTH AMERICA at Skyline Grange**  
 Many people are just coming out of their holes as COVID restrictions have eased up. There has been plenty of time to dream about traveling to exotic places and to meet new people. Skyline Grange will make traveling easy for you and for free. We have scheduled the first movie. If this is successful, we will continue showing movies where the culture and landscape play a significant role as a Travel Series.

WHAT: "Motorcycle Diaries"  
 WHEN: Saturday, April 30 at 6:30 p.m. (doors open at 6)  
 WHERE: Skyline Grange, 11275 NW Skyline Blvd.  
 DETAILS:

- Travel through South America in a dilapidated motorcycle in 1952 with innocent young Ernest (Ché) Guevara and his fun-loving friend. Initially a trip for adventure, it exposes two very charismatic, upper class youths to the disparities of social injustice and life-changing experiences. The scenery is breath-taking and the movie filled with the idealism, vigor, humor of youth and discovery. 128 minutes. Spanish with English subtitles. Rated R (mild nudity & some swearing).
- Free.
- Popporn and lemonade available or bring your own movie snacks.

**SKYLINE RIDGE NET NEWS**  
[SkylineRidgeNET@gmail.com](mailto:SkylineRidgeNET@gmail.com)

**NEXT IN-PERSON NET TRAINING COURSE STARTS MAY 14**  
 Become a NET (Neighborhood Emergency Team) trained citizen and part of our community as a member of Skyline Ridge NET. Portland Bureau of Emergency Management (PBEM) has scheduled its next entirely in-person 28-hour course over 3 1/2 days, starting on May 14. Training is free, though 12 volunteer hours/year is required to remain an active NET.

Get the full information at [How do I become a NET member? | The City of Portland, Oregon \(portlandoregon.gov\)](http://How do I become a NET member? | The City of Portland, Oregon (portlandoregon.gov)). There are several steps:

1. Register
2. Take the online introductory level training offering the basics of personal preparedness. Topics include: an overview of hazards in the Portland area, how to assemble an emergency kit, how to make a family emergency plan and how to stay informed. Upon completion of this class, participants will be required to pass a short online quiz.
3. Sign-up and take the Basic Training.
4. Join your local NET team.

Note: The basic training course portion can be taken either online or in-person.



<https://wmswcd.org/>

**Forest Park neighbors join against ivy and wildfire risk**  
 March 30, 2022

(Photo: Sarah Heinicke is leading the charge for her neighborhood to become a Firewise community.)

The Springville area of Forest Park, in the Linnton neighborhood, is a small community of hilly streets tucked up against the eastern edge of Forest Park, across from the St. Johns Bridge.

For several of the residents directly abutting the park, it's impossible to tell just by looking where their properties end and where Forest Park begins. What is clearly visible, however, is the blanket of ivy vines covering the ground in thick entangled layers and growing up the trunks of many of the trees.

English ivy (*Hedera helix*) and its cousin Irish ivy (*Hedera hibernica*) are native to Europe and western Asia and were brought over by colonial settlers. The plants thrive in our mild Pacific Northwest climate and without anything to keep them in check they have become a significant threat to natural areas. They cover the ground, crowding out native flowers, ferns, small shrubs, and tree seedlings, leaving behind a dense monoculture that offers little to no habitat for native wildlife. The vines are also a significant threat to trees. Once a vine reaches the tree canopy, it will grow into a large twisted mass dense enough to block sunlight from reaching tree leaves, eventually weakening infested trees and increasing the risk of tree bark disease and rot. The vine mass can also be heavy enough or large enough to create a "sail effect" that could make a tree more likely to blow over in a strong wind.

Sarah Heinicke, a longtime resident of the neighborhood, spearheaded a community effort to remove ivy and other threatening non-native plants from neighborhood properties. Sarah doesn't like to see ivy slowly consuming the forest around her and she knows it will take a coordinated effort to see real results across neighboring properties.

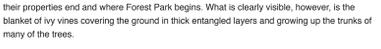
Being so close to a forest, Sarah and her neighbors are also aware of the risk of wildfire. Sarah reached out to West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District to see if there was funding available to help remove ivy and create a visible [Firewise pilot project](#) that would inspire more neighbors to get involved.

Forest Park Conservancy and West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District have worked together for years on the [Canopy Weeds Program](#) to remove ivy and Old Man's Beard/Trevellet's Joy (*Clematis vitalba*) from private properties that share a boundary with Forest Park. This project was a perfect fit for both the Canopy Weeds Program and the Firewise program, where residents could learn how to make their homes safer from wildfire by creating defensible space around homes and removing ladder fuels – burnable organic matter on the forest floor that allows fire to climb up into the tree canopy – like ivy.



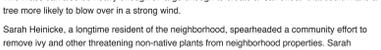
Dan Sisco uses flags to mark his progress on ivy removal

Individually, some neighbors had already been making progress clearing ivy patches on their own. Dan Sisco is one active participant in ivy removal. He regularly spends hours pulling ivy from his property and sees much benefit in doing so, both for the forest's health and for his own health. He's eager to recruit volunteers who happen to be passing by for a hike, and has a clever pitch for people who exercise indoors: "Forget Peloton, they should try 'Pull-a-ton!'" And Dan's efforts are already paying off. He has found solace and inspiration in the fresh air and hard work, and trillium and other native plants are popping back up in spots he has cleared.



Native trillium are returning where ivy has been removed

For this pilot project, our partnering organizations are providing crews to remove ivy and other priority non-native plants, installing native plants, and developing conservation plans for long-term management to help prevent the ivy from returning. Portland Fire & Rescue is part of the pilot team providing home assessments and offering ideas for evacuation plans and actions residents can take to reduce wildfire risk to their homes. Homes that are being in close proximity to the park are at increased risk of destruction by wildfire. All the partner organizations, plus Portland Parks & Recreation, have been key to developing and delivering impactful outreach materials for the pilot. Portland Parks & Recreation is also complementing efforts with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) supported funding to conduct wildfire risk reduction work in high-priority areas in Forest Park near the Linnton and Springville neighborhoods.



Before and after ivy removal

Work crews completed the first large ivy removal in February of this year. They cleared ivy from tree trunks and the ground in an area where the work is visible to the neighborhood. Next up for the project will be outreach to 90 more homes to inform them about the pilot and what people can do to reduce fire risk on their properties. Our partners hope to organize additional projects as groups of neighbors express interest. Sarah is hoping more neighbors with gather around the community effort and work alongside each other at future work events.

[Learn more about ivy](#) and what to do if you have some in your yard. Also, if you don't have ivy where you live, consider volunteering for the [No Ivy League](#) to help remove ivy from Forest Park.

**WMSWCD Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee April Meeting Announcement**

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee of the West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District (WMSWCD) will be holding a public meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 2022 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee is a standing Committee to the West Multnomah SWCD Board of Directors. Comprised of both Board and District staff, the Committee advises the Board on implementation of the District's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiative. The purpose of the Initiative is to ensure the District is a culturally inclusive organization that welcomes and engages everyone in all facets of our organization, activities, and programs.

Due to health and safety measures in place during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will take place online on Zoom. Members of the public are welcomed to attend. An access code will be required to access the meeting. Interested participants may request the code by emailing [scott@wmswcd.org](mailto:scott@wmswcd.org) with the subject line "Request for Conference ID" no later than 3:00 p.m. the day prior to the meeting. Meeting documents will be available for inspection on the District's webpage (<https://wmswcd.org/people-places-things/the-west-multnomah-swcd-diversity-and-equity/>) no later than 5:00 p.m. the day prior to the meeting.

Accommodations for people with disabilities can be arranged with advance notice by calling West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District at (503) 238-4775 x100 no later than 3:00 pm the day prior to the meeting.

At this meeting the Committee will discuss updates on diversity in WMSWCD suppliers and related procurement processes; WMSWCD Board of Directors DEI trainings and the Associate Board Director recruitment process; the DEI-related budget request for fiscal year 2022-2023; and upcoming staff DEI trainings on White Supremacy and tokenism, and Trauma Informed care.

The mission of the West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District is to provide resources, information, and expertise to inspire people to actively improve air and water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and soil health. The District's service territory is Multnomah County west of the Willamette River, all of Sauvie Island, and the Bonny Slope portion of the Tualatin Mountains in Washington County. More information about WMSWCD's investment in DEI, and what materials related to this meeting, can be found on the WMSWCD website: <https://wmswcd.org/people-places-things/the-west-multnomah-swcd-diversity-and-equity/>

###

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[www.wmswcd.org](http://www.wmswcd.org)

*Our mission is to provide resources, information, and expertise to inspire people to actively improve air and water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and soil health.*

*Please note, WMSWCD's office is currently closed to the public due to the coronavirus pandemic. Staff are available remotely and email is the best way to get in touch.*

**Advertisement**

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@srmpdx.org](mailto:newsline@srmpdx.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

Please pay for your ad in advance by either mailing a check payable to SRN to our Treasurer Rachael Brake, 14109 NW Rock Creek Rd., Portland 97231, or via the Venmo phone app to [tcbbrake@hotmail.com](https://tcbbrake@hotmail.com). Be sure to indicate which Newsline ad you are paying for.

**Skyline Ridge Neighbors, Inc Website**  
<https://www.srnfox.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.srnfox.org/about-us/about-us> SRN is registered as a neighborhood association with Multnomah County, registered as a non-profit public benefit corporation with the State of Oregon and approved as a 501(c)(3) not-for-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 the Firewise services and the installation of the 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 Ridge Watch Newsline is a part of Skyline Ridge Neighbors (SRN) and has been published since June 1994 as a means to communicate neighborhood information. The Newsline is produced by Laurel Ethelred Miller. 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 [scott@srnfox.org](mailto:scott@srnfox.org) or leaving a message at (503) 621-3501. You can subscribe to the Newsline at [SRNFOX.ORG](http://SRNFOX.ORG) <http://TheNewsline101>.

**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 [www.srnfox.org](https://www.srnfox.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.

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 [scott@srnfox.org](mailto:scott@srnfox.org). Or call Missa at (503)421-9857 to let her know you're going to send something for the Ridge Runner. Please note that the Ridge Runner is published in support of its activities, such as the Firewise services and the installation of the 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.

Deadlines for all ad submissions are the 15th of March, June, September and December.

**Calendar**  
**Skyline Ridge Neighbor, Inc Regular Board Meeting:** The SRN board meetings are routinely held the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm by Zoom. All are welcome to attend. For Zoom login information please reply to this email.  
 For the community calendar here: <http://www.srnfox.org/calendar/>

**Resource Directory**  
 As a service to neighbors, SRN publishes a listing of local government agencies and businesses in the Skyline Ridge Directory. Follow the link in this section to view the contents and learn how to add a business or agency listing. Listing of organizations and businesses herein does not imply any endorsement of SRN nor does it imply a lack of endorsement for similar organizations or businesses not included.

**Community Links**  
 Skyline Ridge Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET): [SkylineRidgeNET@gmail.com](mailto: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://linntonba.com/>  
 Register Multnomah County Soil and Water Conservation District: <http://wmswcd.org/>  
 Skyline School: <https://www.skyline.k12.or.us/about/skyline/>  
 Skyline School PTA: <https://www.facebook.com/skylinepta/>  
 Lincoln High School: <http://www.usps.k12.or.us/about/lincoln/>



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