



Administrator's Letter

August 26, 2011

Dawn Masko, City Administrator



1. Board and Agency Vacancies

The City is seeking interested residents for appointment to the following board and agencies:

- Planning Agency
- Park & Recreation Agency
- Tree Advisory Board

Eligible applicants must be residents of DuPont for at least one year. Please submit a letter of interest that includes your relevant professional experience, your reasons for desiring to be appointed to this position, and your thoughts on the most significant issues relevant to the agency facing the City in both the short and long term. Submit application materials together with a copy of your resume to the City Clerk at DuPont City Hall, 1700 Civic Drive, DuPont, WA 98327.

2. School Supply Donations

The Steilacoom School District is accepting school supply donations for students and families that might not be fortunate enough to afford such supplies. Please consult with school supply lists that are posted on each school's website for suggested items. Donations can be brought to your local school in mid-August or to the District Office at 510 Chambers in Steilacoom during business hours. The School District's website can be accessed [here](#). Thanks to our generous community for helping children in need.

3. North Gate Road (JBLM) Detour

North Gate Road (from Steilacoom-DuPont Highway to Lake City) will be closed to through traffic from August 29th – September 16th. Variable message signage is in place. Drivers who frequent this area should expect delays and alternate routes. Maps of [East Drive Detour](#), [North Gate Road Detour](#), and the [JBLM North Gate & East Drive Overview](#) are available via these PDFs.

The D-St Gate on Lewis-North will remain open. Emergency vehicles will be allowed to transit the construction site. East Drive will close for repair after completion of North Gate. No schedule has been set for that closure but it is anticipated to last 90 days. The D-St Gate on Lewis-North will remain open during these repairs as well.

4. Upcoming Meetings – Week of August 29th – September 2nd

- City Council Workshop Tuesday, August 30th at 6:00 PM

5. Council Workshop Items – August 30th, 2011

- Settlement Agreement

6. Museum Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to be tour guides or help with our history events. If you are interested, please contact Museum Manager Johanna Jones at (253) 964-2399.

7. Parks & Recreation

Please call (253) 912-5245 or go to the City's website at www.ci.dupont.wa.us for registration information, questions on Parks & Recreation activities, or for volunteer opportunities.

- Our local youth will be saying goodbye to summer on Saturday, August 27th with an **End of Summer Dance** from 7:00 – 10:00 PM at the City of DuPont Civic Center. The dance will occur in front of the Fire Apparatus Bay. The cost to attend the dance is \$5.00. Permission slips must be signed and presented at the door for admission – No Exceptions.
- “Zoo-wee-mama!” Join Heffley, Rowley and the gang at Clocktower Park on Friday, August 26th for **Movie in the Park!** This year's feature, “*Diary of a Wimpy Kid*” shows at 8:30 PM with an approximate run time of 90 minutes. Movie concessions will be available at a reasonable price. Be sure to bring a blanket and chairs. This fun-filled evening is proudly sponsored by Northwest Landing ROA.
- Registration is now open for the Fall Kidz Love Soccer program. This program is open to kids ages 2 thru 10 and occurs Wednesday afternoons at DuPont PowderWorks Park. The fall session begins September 14th and runs thru October 26th. Shin guards are required. Interested families are encouraged to register at www.kidzlovesoccer.com. You may also register at City Hall. The cost for this program is \$62 for a 7 week session.
- Fall Dance schedules are now available on the City's website. The City of DuPont is once again partnering with Dance4Life to offer numerous dance classes at our Community Center. This year we are happy to offer tumbling, teen hip hop, tap, ballet and much more. Classes do fill quickly so please register today to ensure your spot.
- Plan to get your holiday shopping done early by shopping at the 6th annual Winter Wonderland Holiday Bazaar being held on Saturday, November 19th from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM at Pioneer Middle School. Vendor applications are now available on the City's website. Booths are 10x10 and are \$25 each. Hand-crafted items have first priority.
- Our second Yard Sale of the year is just around the corner. Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 10th. The sale runs from 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM and occurs throughout the city. Any unsold items will be happily accepted by Tacoma Goodwill's donation trailer at Chloe Clark Elementary. DuPont's Friends of the Library will also be on site to collect any gently used or new books for the library. This event is sponsored by Northwest Landing ROA.
- DuPont seniors continue to enjoy their Friday Senior Socials. Join local seniors every Friday from 9:00 – 11:00 AM at the Community Center for coffee, goodies and conversation.
- *On your mark, get set, Register!* Registration is now open for Fall Cross Country. Our Cross Country season runs September 13th thru November 18th. Coach Mark Brinkhaus will be overseeing the program. We hope that many of our spring track participants will participate in fall training. Ages 7-18 are welcome and encouraged to participate. Registration is \$100.
- Fall Yoga sessions are filling fast! We are pleased to announce a new teen session beginning September 12th. Adult flow yoga classes are available Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays. Registration forms are available at www.ci.dupont.wa.us.
- The 4th Annual Santa Breakfast is Saturday, December 3rd. More details coming soon.
- Want to know more? Like us on Facebook at “City of DuPont Parks, Recreation & Tourism”.

8. After Hours Teen Party at Library

The Friends of the Library are hosting an After Hours Teen Party at the DuPont Library on Friday, August 26th from 6:30 – 9:00 PM. Youth ages 12 thru 18 are invited to eat pizza and cupcakes, play video games, go on a photo scavenger hunt, and listen to local authors speak at the DuPont Library's first ever after hours party for teens. Authors include: *Kimberly Derting*, "The Body Finder"; *Gwen Hayes*, "Falling Under"; *Tom Llewellyn*, "The Tiltting House"; *Megan Bostic*, "Never Eighteen"; and *Danny Marks*, "Velveteen". Registration required at [Teen Party Registration](#).

9. Point Defiance Bypass Rail Project Open House

The WA Department of Transportation (WSDOT) will be holding an informational open house on the status of the Point Defiance Bypass rail project on Wednesday, August 31st from 4:30 – 6:30 PM at Clover Park Technical College, Rotunda Building, 4500 Steilacoom Blvd. SW in Lakewood. Drop by to learn the latest details of the project, view project maps and displays, speak with project staff, and provide comments about the project. This is an open house format – no formal presentations will be given.

The Point Defiance Bypass rail project proposes to reroute passenger trains from the rail line near Point Defiance to the existing rail line that runs along the west side of Interstate 5 through South Tacoma, Lakewood, Joint Base Lewis-McChord and DuPont. Sound Transit will use part of the bypass route to extend Sounder commuter rail to Lakewood.

Information about the project is available at www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/rail/PNWRC_PtDefiance.

10. Heirloom Orchard Committee

The Tourism Board is currently seeking volunteers to serve on a committee to help preserve and protect the City's Heirloom Orchard. Meetings will begin in October. Please contact the City at (253) 964-8121 to volunteer today.

11. Hudson Bay Day

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 25th for Hudson Bay Day and Salmon BBQ at DuPont's 1843 Fort Nisqually Site. This free event is being held from 11:30 AM – 4:00 PM and features live music by *Straw Hats*, kids activities (including an "archeology dig"), historical demonstrations, an antique gun display and more! There will be a salmon BBQ on-site with adult meals at \$12 and kids for \$6. Hot dog meals will also be available. Seating is limited so bring a lawn chair. No dogs are allowed on the site.

For those who want to start their day earlier, a Volksmarch to historic sites begins at 9:00 AM. This year's route will take participants by the first 1833 Hudson Bay Company fort site and the Wilkes Observatory. The Hudson Bay Day is proudly sponsored by the DuPont Tourism Board, and the DuPont Museum & Historical Society and is part of the three day Fall Festival celebrating our rich history in DuPont. For more information call (253) 964-2399 or visit www.dupontmuseum.com.

12. Labor Day Weekend Ferry Service Impact

Low tide could affect large vehicles planning to ride the Pierce County ferry to Anderson Island, Ketron Island or Steilacoom during Labor Day weekend. Load restrictions will be in place for large vehicles (RVs, commercial trucks and trailers) on certain sailings during the morning. Riders with large vehicles are encouraged to consult the time chart online and alter their travel schedule if possible. Ferry staff and crew will work to accommodate all travelers with as little inconvenience as possible. More information, including the sailing schedule and impacted times, is available at www.piercecountywa.org/ferry or contact Marine Superintendent Paul Crow at (253) 588-5290.

13. Tips for Treating Aphids

As summer progresses and our recent warm weather hangs around, we're starting to hear more concerns about insect pest problems bothering trees, shrubs, and other ornamental plants. "Why are the leaves of my trees shiny and sticky? Everything underneath them gets to sticky – what's wrong with them?" One major insect "offender" is aphids. Aphids are often a perennial problem (come back each year) on some types of plants when the weather warms and there has been little or no rain for usually a week or so.

Knowledge of your adversary can give you a tactical advantage in your yard and garden confrontations. Aphids are soft-bodied insects which feed on plants by piercing leaves, stems, or twigs and then sucking out the plant sap. They often suck out more sap than they can use and secrete the excess as a sticky waste called "honeydew". Honeydew is mostly sugar and water and isn't harmful. This sticky goo may be eaten by other insects, or a black mold may grow on it. This black mold, called sooty mold, is not harmful to the plants.

While the City often hears "when will the City be spraying again like last year?" the City does not spray trees for aphids. What we believe initiates the "control" of aphids each year is a rainfall after warm weather or the end of the aphid life-cycle (usually 3 weeks or less). While we all know our sunshine does not last forever, and that the clouds and rainfall will reoccur and provide a natural control, there are also some other fairly innocuous methods that are available for control of the aphids and sticky residue.

1. First look for other signs of natural control. Aphids have a number of natural enemies – ladybird beetles and their larvae, green lacewings, small parasitic wasps, syrphid fly larvae, predacious stink bugs, and assassin bugs. If you're able to find evidence that these natural enemies are present and working, don't do anything unless the aphid population appears to be beyond their control.
2. Dislodge aphids with a fine but forceful spray of water from your hose. Be sure to move the spray back and forth as well as directing it towards the undersides of the leaves. This will kill some aphids and many will not make it back to the plant. Repeat this every several days. This method of control may not be recommended for smaller or tender plants. A spray bottle with mildly soapy water is often best for these smaller plants.
3. On some plants you can simply wipe aphids off of plant stems or buds. However, you may want to wear a pair of garden gloves to do this, especially with roses. Snip off badly infested braches or stem tips.
4. Avoid fertilizing your plants with too much nitrogen. Soft, lush growth encouraged by excess nitrogen is exactly the type of growth that aphids thrive upon.

Aphids can be pesky, but a little knowledge about how they behave and how to safely manage their populations can lead to a truce in your yard and garden. More information on aphids can be accessed through the WSU Extension Campus at [Aphids make things sticky.](#)

14. National Dog Day

National Dog Day is celebrated annually every August 26th and serves to help galvanize the public to recognize the number of dogs that need to be rescued every year, and acknowledges family dogs and dogs that work selflessly each day to save lives, keep us safe and bring us comfort. Dogs put their lives on the line every day – for their law enforcement partner, for their blind companion, for a child who is disabled, for our freedom and safety by detecting bombs and drugs, and pulling victims of tragedy from wreckage. National Dog Day was founded in 2004 to honor dogs and embrace the opportunity for all dogs to live a happy, safe and abuse-free life. Citizens are encouraged to adopt a dog from a local animal shelter and/or consider donating to your local shelter.

