



# Administrator's Letter

November 4, 2011  
Dawn Masko, City Administrator



## 1. Mayor Signs Letter to Governor

DuPont Mayor Tamara Jenkins was among 115 mayors who signed a letter to Governor Gregoire expressing their disappointment with her budget adjustment alternatives. The letter, drafted by the Association of Washington Cities, calls the Governor's proposed cuts "intolerable" and criticizes her decision to end the State's 70 year old practice of distributing liquor taxes and profits, as well as other state-shared revenues, to cities and towns. The mayors who signed the letter believe more negotiations are needed and are calling for the Governor to meet with a delegation of city representatives to further discuss the issue. A signed copy of the letter can be viewed at [AWC - Mayor's Letter to Governor Gregoire](#).

## 2. Department of Defense Grant

The City of Lakewood received a \$5.7 million grant from the Department of Defense to improve traffic circulation at Madigan Army Medical Center. The City of Dupont, along with the other members of the South Sound Military & Communities Partnership, strongly supported and advocated for this grant project which will help relieve specific access, circulation and congestion issues throughout multiple peak hours of the morning, mid-day, and evening. Lakewood was one of eight successful applicants across the country that received a portion of the \$300 million allocated by Congress for competition for transportation projects to improve access to military medical facilities affected by the most recent Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) round. Joint Base Lewis-McChord was formed as part of the BRAC's recommendations.

## 3. Election Day

This year's general election is Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. State law has permanently closed all polling places and all voting is now by mail. However, Pierce County has established Voting Centers that are satellite Elections offices open on Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM to help assist voters. Voters may also drop off their ballots at Ballot Deposits sites by 8:00 PM on Election Day (no postage required). DuPont's ballot box is located in Ross Plaza at 1500 Wilmington Drive. Make sure you submit your ballot by 8:00 PM to Make Your Vote Count! Initial election results will be posted on the Pierce County Elections [website](#) at 8:15 PM (includes ballots processed through Election Day) and 9:30 PM (Voting Center results) on November 8<sup>th</sup> and at 4:00 PM on weekdays after that. Election results will be certified on Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.

## 4. "Fall Back" This Weekend

It's almost time to set your clocks back one hour and gain another hour of sleep! Daylight Savings Time (DST) ends at 2:00 AM this Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. DST began the second Sunday in March when clocks were set forward one hour. When we "fall back" this weekend we'll return to Standard Time. The concept of Daylight Savings Time stretches back centuries, perhaps first suggested by Benjamin Franklin in 1784. The thought was that Americans would appreciate an extra hour of sunlight and energy could be conserved, but it wasn't until World War I that the United States adopted DST to save energy for war production. It has been instituted and repealed over the years and the date has changed several times. We now reset to Standard Time at 2:00 AM on the first Sunday of November by setting clocks back one hour. Enjoy your extra hour of sleep!

## 5. Upcoming Meetings – Week of November 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>

- Parks Agency Meeting Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM
- Tourism Board Meeting Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM
- City Council Executive Session Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM
- City Council Meeting Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM
- City Hall Offices are closed on Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> in observance of Veterans Day.

## 6. Council Agenda Items – November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011

- Presentations: Ecology Briefing – Arsenic and Lead Clean-Up; Eagle Scout Project
- Public Hearings: 2012 Budget and 2012 Revenue
- Consent Agenda Items: Claims Vouchers; Humane Society Contract Renewal
- Discussion: Settlement Agreement
- Unfinished Business: Civic Center Financing
- New Business: Ordinances Adopting 2012 Property Tax and 2012 EMS Property Tax – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading; Adoption of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Budget Adjustment

\* Council Agenda Packet is available on the City's [website](#).

## 7. Parks & Recreation

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

- Many thanks to our local businesses for helping to make downtown trick or treating such a success! It was great to see so many families enjoying our local businesses. Special thanks to Anytime Fitness, America's Credit Union, and PJ's Sweets Factory for their leadership.
- Youth basketball registration closes on Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Families who plan to register on the final day MUST drop their registration in the drop box as City Hall will be closed for the Veteran's Day Holiday. Registration forms are available on the City's website.
- Plan to get a jump start on your holiday shopping at our Annual Winter Wonderland Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM at Pioneer Middle School located at 1750 Bob's Hollow Lane. This year's bazaar will host over 38 arts and handmade vendors. Proceeds from this event will help support and maintain community programs and activities. Admission to the bazaar is free.
- Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> for two special family events in DuPont.
  - Our annual Santa Breakfast begins at 9:30 at the Fire Department. Tickets are currently on sale at City Hall. Don't delay as tickets sell out fast to this popular event!
  - At 5:00 PM that evening we will be lighting the City Christmas tree at Ross Plaza.
- Local youth who are interested in participating in the Youth Council are encouraged to watch the City's website for applications which should be available beginning November 14<sup>th</sup>. Parent volunteers are also needed. Please contact Parks & Recreation for more information.
- 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.
- Visit our website for information on other programs and events including Fitness Boot Camp, Yoga, Track, Kidz Love Soccer, Dance4Life, and more!
- Want to know more? Like us on Facebook at "City of DuPont Parks, Recreation & Tourism".

## 8. Community Development Update

- Staff from the Department of Ecology will brief the City Council regarding arsenic and lead contamination and cleanup programs at the November 8<sup>th</sup> televised City Council meeting.
- The Northwest Landing Owners Association Office will be moving to 1495 Wilmington Drive, Suite 110 in the America's Credit Union Building.
- Barghausen Consulting Engineers, on behalf of Commencement Bay Development, submitted a sensitive area application for the Creekside Village project to construct a left turn lane in the Center Drive right-of-way that crosses over Sequelitchew Creek. The notice of land use application can be viewed on the City's [website](#). The comment period closes November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
- Evergreen Valley Tree Farm has been approved to sell holiday trees on a vacant lot behind America's Credit Union.
- DuPont issues a SEPA decision on the Water Comprehensive Plan Update. The decision can be viewed on the City's [website](#). The comment period closes on November 10<sup>th</sup> and the appeal period closes November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

## 9. "Coats for Kids" Coat Drive

The DuPont Fire Department and DuPont Lions Club have partnered together to hold a "Coats for Kids" coat drive during the month of November. Drop off boxes have been placed at DuPont City Hall, DuPont Fire Department, and the DuPont Community Center for citizens to drop off new and/or clean, gently used coats of any size. Please contact Heidi Wisner at (253) 964-8414 or via email at [hwisner@ci.dupont.wa.us](mailto:hwisner@ci.dupont.wa.us) for more information or if you have a coat but need an off-duty firefighter to pick it up. All coats will be given to "Caring for Kids" – a non-profit organization that provides services to children in need in the Steilacoom and Clover Park School Districts. The firefighters and Lions thank everyone in advance for donating to this worthy cause.

## 10. Museum Gift Shop Offers Unique Holiday Gifts

Looking for a unique Christmas or hostess gift? Visit the DuPont Museum! The expanded gift corner carries a variety of unique and reasonably priced gifts including: old-time toys for kids; coffee mugs & totes; DuPont Dynamite note cards; PJ Sweets chocolate toffee "Dynamite Bites"; DuPont polo shirts, pullovers, baseball & stocking caps; books about the Historic Village, Native Americans and DuPont area history; hand carved walking sticks; DuPont Christmas ornaments; hand painted miniature houses; and DuPont photos & post cards. All proceeds benefit the DuPont Museum.

## 11. Steilacoom High School "Beyond High School" Event

The Steilacoom High School "Beyond High School" event will be held on Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. The event will have a broad focus which includes the college-bound student as well as students who will attend other additional schooling or start careers. There will be speakers on financial aid, NCAA requirements, four-year colleges, two-year community or technical colleges, apprenticeship programs, scholarships, and military careers. All parents and students are encouraged to attend.

## 12. Heirloom Apple Orchard

The DuPont Tourism Board is seeking volunteers to serve on a committee to help preserve and protect the City's heirloom apple orchard. Please contact (253) 912-5245 if you are interested.

### **13. Tacoma Smelter Plume Cleanup Plan**

The Washington State Department of Ecology has a draft plan for cleaning up parts of the 1,000-square-mile Tacoma Smelter Plume and managing risk in the geographically largest contaminated site in Washington. It includes a proposed yard sampling and cleanup program for the most contaminated areas of the plume. It also continues [education and outreach](#), and the [Soil Safety Program](#) for play areas at schools, childcares, and parks.

The public is encouraged to review and comment on the draft cleanup plan. Ecology will accept comments on the plan through December 20, 2011. Ecology also will hold public meetings on the plan. The comment period and public meetings offer opportunities for area residents to help shape how Ecology prioritizes its resources and plans its work.

The highlight of the draft plan is a new yard sampling and cleanup program for Ruston, southern Vashon-Maury Island, and parts of north and west Tacoma and University Place. The plan also aims to reduce risk in other areas by educating people about the contamination and by encouraging cleanup work during property development.

Ecology has scheduled the following public meetings:

- November 9<sup>th</sup>                      6:30 – 8:30 PM                      McMurray Middle School – Vashon Island
- November 16<sup>th</sup>                    6:30 – 8:30 PM                      Curtis High School – University Place
- December 6<sup>th</sup>                     6:30 – 8:30 PM                      Des Moines Activity Center – Des Moines

For additional information, please contact Cynthia Walker, Project Manager at [Cynthis.Walker@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Cynthis.Walker@ecy.wa.gov) or (360) 407-6245 or visit the following sites:

#### **Comment period information and cleanup plan:**

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites\\_brochure/tacoma\\_smelter/2011/iap.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites_brochure/tacoma_smelter/2011/iap.html)

#### **Tacoma Smelter Plume website:**

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites\\_brochure/tacoma\\_smelter/2011/ts-hp.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites_brochure/tacoma_smelter/2011/ts-hp.htm)

### **14. Tree Board Vacancy**

The City is seeking interested residents for appointment to the Tree Advisory Board. The Tree Board advises and provides information to the Mayor, City Council, and City staff on matters related to urban forestry. Eligible applicants do not need to be residents of DuPont, but should have an interest in or knowledge of trees and associated resources. Please submit a letter of interest that includes your relevant professional experience, and your reasons for desiring to be appointed to this position. Submit application materials together with a copy of your resume to the City Clerk at DuPont City Hall, 1700 Civic Drive, DuPont, WA 98327.

### **15. Planning Agency Vacancy**

The City is seeking interested residents for appointment to the Planning Agency. 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.