

# Calendar of Community Days

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in January [www.mlkday.gov](http://www.mlkday.gov)
- Great American Cleanup**  
March 31-May 1 [www.kab.org](http://www.kab.org)
- Oregon Arbor Week**  
1<sup>st</sup> week of April [www.arboday.org/oregon](http://www.arboday.org/oregon)
- National Volunteer Week**  
April [www.handsonnetwork.org/nationalprograms](http://www.handsonnetwork.org/nationalprograms)
- Youth Service Day**  
last week of April [www.ysa.org/nysd](http://www.ysa.org/nysd)
- Earth Day**  
April 22 [www.earthday.gov](http://www.earthday.gov)
- Arbor Day**  
last Friday in April [www.arboday.org](http://www.arboday.org)
- Join Hands Day**  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of May [www.joinhandsday.org](http://www.joinhandsday.org)
- Down by the Riverside**  
3<sup>rd</sup> week of May [www.solv.org/programs](http://www.solv.org/programs)
- National Night Out**  
1<sup>st</sup> Tues. in August [www.cityofsalem.net/NNO](http://www.cityofsalem.net/NNO)
- National Neighborhood Day**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in September [www.neighborhoodday.org](http://www.neighborhoodday.org)
- World Water Monitoring Day**  
September 18 kick off [www.worldwatermonitoringday.org](http://www.worldwatermonitoringday.org)
- National Public Lands Day**  
last Saturday of September [www.publiclandsday.org](http://www.publiclandsday.org)
- Make A Difference Day**  
4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of October [www.makeadifferenceday.com](http://www.makeadifferenceday.com)
- National Family Volunteer Day**  
Saturday before Thanksgiving [www.pointsoflight.org/events](http://www.pointsoflight.org/events)



# *Beatification* **NEIGHBORHOOD** Opportunities

## A Resource Guide



For more information, contact City of Salem, Neighborhood Services  
503-588-6207 or [www.cityofsalem.net/neighbor](http://www.cityofsalem.net/neighbor)



# Make a Difference in **YOUR** Neighborhood

When a neighborhood is well-cared for, it shows. Organizing a beautification project is an excellent way to get to know your neighbors while increasing the safety, beauty, and livability of your neighborhood. It doesn't hurt property values either.

This beautification booklet explains resources the City of Salem can provide for various kinds of projects.

## 1. Choose a Project

What does your neighborhood need? Is there a playground that could use some extra attention? Maybe there is a particular area plagued by litter. Perhaps some education needs to happen around proper use of a stream or storm drain. Talk to your neighbors to help you decide what would work best in your neighborhood. Attend your Neighborhood Association meetings, they are wealth of information!



## 2. Coordinate with the City

The City staff listed in each section can help you plan a safe, timely and properly equipped project. We love to work with you. Also, make sure to get a volunteer sign in sheet so you can keep track of your volunteers.

## 3. Make it Happen

Invite Your Neighbors! City of Salem Neighborhood Services can provide a packet of invitations for you to deliver to neighbors. Staff will make your invitation specific about what time and place to meet, types of tasks, how to dress, tools needed, minimum age (if applicable), food and water provisions, etc. Staff can even help advertise your project.

## Need More Ideas?

### Go to your Neighborhood Association Meeting.

Go to [www.cityofsalem.net/neighbor](http://www.cityofsalem.net/neighbor) or call 503-588-6207 to find out when and where your neighborhood association meets. If you live, work, or own property in Salem, you are already a member.

**Contact local businesses** to find out if they might be able to donate snacks or provide additional resources to support your project.



**Be inspired by local efforts.** Over the years, Salem neighborhood associations have coordinated a variety of unique projects including:

- SESNA, Highland and NESCA neighbors schedule regular litter pick-ups at their neighborhood school and along the streets.
- Volunteers in West Salem organized clean-ups over a series of weekends focusing on garbage and junk hauling, bush and tree branch trimming, lawn mowing and edging and painting of a neighborhood house.
- Grant and NEN have sponsored Spring clean-up days with free dumpsters provided by local businesses. In NEN, a neighborhood rummage sale was held on the same day and funds raised went back into the community.
- Northgate neighbors identified a house in need of paint. The owner was unable to afford the work, but neighbors successfully applied for a SOLV grant ([www.solv.org](http://www.solv.org)) to pay for the paint and volunteered to do the work together.

**Talk to your neighbors.** Find out what's important to them while making connections and finding support for potential projects.





# Salem Police Department

## Graffiti

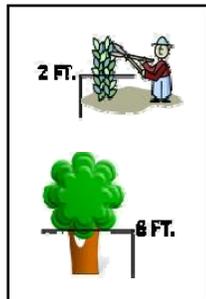
If you see someone applying graffiti, call 911 immediately! Report all other graffiti to the 24-hour Graffiti Hotline at 503-371-4264. Before removing any graffiti, take a picture of it and write down its exact location and approximate size. Send the picture to [graffiti@cityofsalem.net](mailto:graffiti@cityofsalem.net). Remember not to remove or cover graffiti without the property owner's permission.

For more information about reporting or removing graffiti, go to [www.cityofsalem.net/graffiti](http://www.cityofsalem.net/graffiti).

## Crime Prevention Information

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) suggests the arranging of buildings and open spaces can either encourage or discourage crime.

Criminals generally seek the path of least resistance and CPTED principles can deter them. Things like natural surveillance



(trimming bushes and trees in front of windows so no one can hide behind them gaining access) and access control (designing a yard in a way that directs visitors to the proper entrance and away from private areas) can help. Plus, a well-maintained yard shows a would-be criminal that someone cares about the property and creates an unfriendly environment for them to prowl.

For more information, please call the Salem Police Department Crime Prevention Unit, 503-588-6175 or go to [salempd.info/preventcrime](http://salempd.info/preventcrime).

Residents and business owners with security cameras can now register their exterior surveillance systems with the Salem Police Department's new Surveillance Camera Registration & Mapping program. Known by its acronym, SCRAM, the program is a way for security camera owners to share their video recordings with police if a crime occurs at or near their location. Contact 503-540-2466.

# Public Works, Parks Division



## Neighborhood Parks

Helping to take care of your neighborhood parks is a great way to spruce up your neighborhood, get to know your neighbors and make your parks safer, more enjoyable places.

Whether you are interested in planning a onetime event or in making a longer-term commitment by signing up as a Park Partner, there are many opportunities available through Parks Maintenance Management to make a difference in your park including:

- Maintaining or restoring trails
- Checking and painting play equipment
- Removing invasive species
- Picking up litter and yard debris
- Painting over graffiti
- Cleaning picnic tables and other hard surfaces



## Fire Hydrant Painting

You can help keep the City's fire hydrants visible and safe with a fresh coat of paint. All equipment to scrape, clean, and paint the hydrants are provided.

For more information about City parks projects or fire hydrant painting, contact Parks Volunteer Coordinator, at 503-589-2197 or [parksandrecreation@cityofsalem.net](mailto:parksandrecreation@cityofsalem.net) to get started. Some of the best ideas and work performed in our parks to help keep them safe and clean come from neighbors like you!

## Public Works, Streams Section

### Storm Drain Marking

Help keep pollutants out of our streams by marking storm drains with the “Dump No Waste-Drains to Streams” message. This is a great summer or early fall activity for ages eight and up (adult supervision is required for younger volunteers). This project can be planned as a one-time or on-going event. Supplies are provided by the City of Salem.



### Creek Clean Ups

Cleaning debris from the stream in your neighborhood not only makes it look nicer, but also makes it a healthier habitat for



wildlife. Adult volunteers are encouraged to work with a Public Works project on coordination to plan a one-time event or series of clean ups during the summer or early fall. The project coordinator

can help with safety considerations and special equipment available for your creek or stream.

### Leaf Ranger

Keeping leaves out of the storm drains make them work more efficiently and avoids the winter problem of clogged storm drains and lake-size puddles in the street. Volunteers ages six and up (adult supervision is required for younger volunteers) are encouraged to spend a few hours each month raking leaves away from the curbs and catch basins during the fall and winter. Be sure to wear bright-colored clothes and be aware of traffic.

For more information on storm drain marking, creek clean ups and leaf rangers, contact Public Works Natural Resources Outreach Specialist, at 503-588-6211 or email [publicworks@cityofsalem.net](mailto:publicworks@cityofsalem.net).

## Public Works, Streets Section

### Adopt-A-Street

This Public Works program enables groups and individuals to take charge of a chosen street section and organize litter pickups or mural. Your commitment is publicized with a roadside sign and you are provided fluorescent safety vests, gloves, and bags. The garbage you collect is taken away by City crews. Be part of the solution, call 503-589-2195.



West Salem neighborhood street mural project.

### Litter Pick-Up

If you and your neighbors would like to spend a few hours picking up trash along streets in your neighborhood, the Public Works Department can provide you with trash bags (they'll even pick them up when you're done), gloves, safety vests, litter sticks and orange and black “Volunteer Litter Pick Up” signs for your safety. Contact the volunteer coordinator at 503-589-2197.

### Traffic Circle Beautification

Salem's traffic circles (also called “roundabouts”) rely on volunteers. If you are interested in helping to beautify a traffic circle near you, the City can provide safety equipment and signs.

### Fall Leaf Haul



Join your neighbors at Fall Leaf Haul on the first Saturday in November and December. Drop-off sites for bagged leaves are listed on the City's website. Fall Leaf Haul is made possible by volunteers who unload leaves, collect donations for Salem Parks and Marion-Polk Food Share and help with other tasks.

For more information about any of the programs on this page, contact Public Works Streets Project Leader, at 503-589-2195 or [publicworks@cityofsalem.net](mailto:publicworks@cityofsalem.net).