



River News Digest April 29, 2011

The River News Digest is a compilation of interesting items and announcements relating to rivers—with a focus on better understanding, enjoying, and caring for our local rivers, while touching on items from around the country and the world. Please note much of the information is from sources other than the City of Portland [like news media, non-profit organizations, and other government agencies]. The Rivers Office lists these items for information purposes only and is not responsible for their content

[Rivers Office Annual Report to Portland City Council](#): On April 27th, the Rivers Office reported to Council, describing the City's river context, the Office mission, and the broad outlines of the Office's work program. (Scroll down and click on Item 396; requires Adobe Flash Player, available for free download [here](#).)

1. In Our River Neighborhood...



[Willamette River Recreation Survey still open!](#) The City of Portland is updating its plans for river-based recreation—and invites the boating public to take a short on-line survey to better identify trends, needs, and priorities relating to recreating on the Willamette River as it flows through the city. Closes May 6.

[Willamette Trails—Present and Future](#): May 17 brownbag: Come hear Metro's Trail Troika describe current efforts and future plans regarding trails to, and along, the Willamette.

[Pharmaceutical Take Back—APRIL 30TH](#): 14 sites in Metro area will take back prescription meds to make the community safer and help our local streams and rivers.

[Alder Creek's Spring Paddle—April 30 & May 1](#): According to Alder Creek—"This is the best opportunity in the Pacific NorthWest to test paddle new kayaks and canoes. Join manufacturers representatives for one day on the beach and then one day dedicated to furthering paddling skills and understanding through instruction, all for free. (\$3 Parking fee)"

[Ospreys at South Waterfront](#): Portland Parks and Recreation's blog describes a remarkable pair of osprey who have taken up residence the past 5 years at Portland's newest waterfront neighborhood. (Park Talk, April 4)

[Future of Our Salmon: A Vision of Restoration in the Columbia River Basin-- June 1-2, 2011](#): The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission is organizing this conference based on its belief that "the region needs a vision based on practical management, habitat protection and restoration, and innovative supplementation programs aimed at restoring naturally spawning populations. The ... conference is for federal, tribal, state, and city representatives; Indian, sport, and commercial fishers; environmental organizations; and the public to create a shared strategy for salmon recovery."

Subsurface History of Portland. Presentation by Stuart Albright, June 15th, Noon to 1 pm, Portland Bldg Auditorium, 1120 SW Fifth Ave. 97204. The majority of the Portland Metro area has been reshaped by man since the earliest days of urban habitation. This cut-and-fill history impacts many aspects of living and working in the City. Stuart will present historic maps and photos that can be used to evaluate the location and extent of the earthwork and land-filling that has shaped Portland.

Lake Oswego, Portland move forward proposal for riverside streetcar line: “Portland City Council endorsed the Portland-Lake Oswego streetcar extension [on April 19th, which] means that the up to \$458 million streetcar project is the city’s preferred option to address the demand for transit along the Oregon Route 43 corridor. Lake Oswego City Council endorsed the Portland-Lake Oswego streetcar extension [earlier] with a 4-3 vote.” (Daily Journal of Commerce, April 19)

2. Up the Willamette and Columbia...and beyond

Willamette Falls Locks—Closed This Year: “Maintenance crews will try to accommodate a small number of commercial lockages that coincide with regularly-scheduled maintenance activities, and lockages requested by proper authorities to deal with emergency situations.” (Albany Democrat-Herald, April 25)

Columbia Basin Water Supply—in great shape: “[The Northwest River Forecast] Center issued its mid-month forecast, which predicts runoff past The Dalles would be ... 121 percent of average” (Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Bulletin, April 22)

Sparky the Eagle: KGW covers the story of Corvallis 3rd graders publishing a book about an injured bald eagle rescued from the Willamette River.

Sammie the Salmon: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has begun an eight- week “Sammie the Salmon” social media campaign, with a [facebook page](#) that follows a spring chinook released from Winthrop National Fish Hatchery, near the Canadian border, as she travels 600 miles and passes nine dams on her two-month journey to the Pacific Ocean. (Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Bulletin, April 22)

If you ever wonder why cleaning your boat is so important and invasive mussels so bad: “The ongoing spread of non-native mussels in the Great Lakes has caused “massive, ecosystem-wide changes” throughout lakes Michigan and Huron, two of the planet’s largest freshwater lakes, according to a new University of Michigan-led study.” (Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Bulletin, April 22)

For more river-related news and information, visit www.portlandonline.com/river