



PATEROS PARKS

WINTER 2014 NEWSLETTER

2013 IN REVIEW

What an *event-full* year for Pateros Parks! Memorial Park hosted several large events in 2013. Most notable was the 2013 Centennial Celebration and the Apple Pie Jamboree. The historic event honored Mayor Joe Medina and his council of Pateros, Philippines; Chuck Borg, the grandson of the first mayor; and Mathew Brideson the great-great grandson of Charles Nosler, who named Pateros. A large Pateros crowd and Philippine delegation signed a sisterhood agreement. Jet-ski races, 3 on 3 basketball, arts and crafts, food vendors, and famous apple pie was all part of the successful Jamboree/Centennial event.

Other events in the city parks included Spring Fling with an Easter egg hunt and the Bike Rally, held in June. In August, Mayor Howe and daughter, Lena Howe, hosted Movie in the Park. The movie, Reflections on Pateros, was produced by the city and the Pateros Historical Society and is of professional quality. The movie event was well attended, and the DVD, available at city hall, has become a popular gift item, supporting the museum.

Also in August, Memorial Park hosted the Hydro Classic event. Hydro weekend – sun, races, and vendor food – drew a large crowd. The Hawk Festival was in September. Every hawk tour this year was full and the event organizers were thrilled with turnout. An additional day of hawk tours may be planned for next year.

Memorial Park saw several improvements in 2013.

- The biggest was a purchase, made possible by Douglas PUD, of our new lawn mower and pesticide sprayer.
- Portable picnic tables were purchased for the playground area and events
- Electrical repairs and upgrades were made to gazebos and restrooms
- Energy efficient trail lights and restroom lights were installed
- Upgrades were made to pet-waste bag dispensers.

The new swim beach at Peninsula Park has become a favorite destination during swim season. Douglas PUD has sprayed for aquatic weeds the last two years and swimmers have noticed less weeds in the swim area. Upgrades and maintenance projects continue to take place at the park

- Douglas PUD funded the installation of automatic irrigation at Peninsula Park.
- A new composition roof was put on the gazebo
- The sump pump at the main gazebo was replaced.
- Trees pruned and elms removed
- A new fence and landscape was installed

SPECIAL THANKS TO DOUGLAS PUD
The City works closely with the Douglas PUD and appreciates all the help and assistance they provide throughout the year to help us provide high quality park and recreation facilities.

The Tennis Courts are a popular park, but this year it attracted some unwanted attention. The park is tucked away, and hidden. The Sheriff's Department was called in on several cases of vandalism. *Be proactive if you see questionable behavior at your park facilities. Vandalism*

costs! Improved security measures are planned for the coming year. Several improvements were made to the tennis court facility this year.

- New and repaired fencing and gates were installed for added security.
- New LED, energy efficient, lights were made installed by an energy efficiency grant.
- Repairs to the court surfaces were made.
- Brush and trees were removed along water's edge for better fishing and paddler access to the river.

The splash pad continues to attract the *small crowd*. Young families and moms find it an ideal, safe place for the little-guys to cool off during the summer. Portable picnic tables were purchased, and a new stone bench was installed this fall. The bench is made of local stone found just south of town. The bench will provide additional seating and will help in reducing the loss of water. The Mall and downtown area saw several improvements and upgrades this year.

- Flag holders and seasonal flags were purchased and installed on the Mall.
- New banners on US-97 and in the downtown area were purchased
- Tree maintenance and care continues to be a high priority.
- New picnic tables on the Mall outside the library were made possible by a NCW Community Foundation Grant
- A new bike rack installed

In addition to the 2013 improvements and upgrades to the downtown area, there are planned

enhancements to improve the downtown image.

- Way-finding signage for tourist will arrive for installation in the spring. Steelhead cutout signage will direct visitors to our park facilities, visitor center, and museum. The signage will also direct tourist to our business district.



- Also for spring installation is apple signage for businesses on the Mall.



- The city has been working on developing city welcome signs and enhancing the image from US97. The process has included design, permitting, and coordination with the railroad, Douglas PUD, and WSDOT. An important part of the project has been securing funds using hotel/motel tax funds. The design and permitting process should be completed by early 2014 with hopes of installation in the spring of 2014. BTO Construction removed the trees in the ditch between the railroad and US-97 in preparation of this project.

City Arbor Day, April 5th, 2014



Be a 2014 City Volunteer! Contact City Hall for Opportunities. 923-2571

PARKS DEPARTMENT CHANGES

It has been a little over a year since the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission issued a relicense to Douglas PUD for the Wells Hydroelectric project. The original license was from 1962 to 2012 and the new operating license will allow Douglas PUD to operate the Wells Project until 2052.

Since 1962, Douglas PUD has made improvements to city parks and paid for large maintenance projects, however routine maintenance and operation was paid for by the City. The city worked hard to get the changes in the new license. Douglas PUD will continue to make improvements and pay for large maintenance tasks as they had previously; in addition, Douglas PUD will pay the City approximately \$65,000 per year for operation and maintenance costs for parks that fall within the Wells Hydroelectric Project Boundary.

The city views the parks as a vital component to economic activity, and the new stipend, dedicated to the parks, enhances the city economy and secures a bright future for our parks.

The new stipend has allowed the City to form its own Parks Department with Jord Wilson, MLA, as the Parks Supervisor. Mr. Wilson comes to the Parks Department with a Master of Landscape Architecture, and a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Design. Mr. Wilson also has training and experience in city and regional planning and grant writing.

In addition to maintenance and operation of parks, Mr. Wilson's responsibilities will include park planning, administrative and budgeting tasks, grant writing, and also City planning and design tasks.

The new license agreement and the restructuring of the Parks Department has been a positive change for the City.

-Mayor, Gail Howe

\$500 PESTICIDE GRANT

Thank You! - Okanogan County Noxious

Weed Control Board

BECOMING A TREE CITY

Why are we pursuing becoming a Tree City USA Community?

Benefits of a Healthy Urban Forest

- Trees save energy costs by reducing cooling and heating needs.
- Trees reduce storm water run-off and erosion management costs by intercepting, storing, and using rainfall.
- Trees increase economic stability by attracting businesses and customers.
- Encourages better care of trees throughout the city.

Tree City USA is a Cooperative Effort with the US Dept. of Natural Resources, US Dept. of Ag, US Forest Service, and other groups providing technical assistance, educational and grant programs.

For additional information on Tree City USA visit: www.arborday.org/TreeCity

Checkout - Pitfalls to Tree Topping by Dr. Tree on youtube.com

On November 18th the City of Pateros adopted an ordinance establishing a tree board.

Appointed to the Tree Board:

Jord L. Wilson, MLA as Designated Staff

Brenda Brady

Gary Ogden

Angela Van Eysinga

Responsibilities of the Tree Board:

1. Develop a plan for care and preservation, enhancement and disposition of trees in our parks and public property
2. Develop educational information
3. Make comments and recommendations regarding plans and development proposals on City property.

Do you qualify?

Okanogan PUD Tree Replacement Program? Go to Okanoganpud.org and look under the environmental tab.

Purchase a tree for your City Arbor Day Celebration

Contact City Hall for more info