

neighborhood news



September 2019

news for and about
Bellevue neighborhoods

WELCOMING WEEK



City of Bellevue Events

Sept. 13-22

Welcoming America is a nonpartisan and nonprofit organization launched in 2009 to foster the growth of welcoming, vibrant and inclusive communities. Welcoming America is leading a movement where inclusive communities become more prosperous by making everyone who lives there feel like they belong.

More about Welcoming America at eastsidewelcomes.org

Botanical Gardens: Cultivating a Culture of Discovery, Inclusion and Access

Friday, Sept. 13, 6:30-8 p.m.

Host: Bellevue Botanical Garden

Location: Bellevue Botanical Garden Education Center, 12001 Main St., Bellevue

Bellevue Welcomes The World

Saturday, Sept. 14, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Hosts: Bellevue Diversity Advisory Network, Eastside Race & Leadership Coalition, Crossroads Bellevue

Location: Crossroads Bellevue, Market Stage, 15600 NE 8th St., Bellevue

Performances, Crafts and Martial Arts From Around The World

Saturday, Sept. 14 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Hosts: City of Bellevue, English Language Learners Alliance, Turkcha, Popcorn Play Party and Cook, Boundless Parenting Group, Echo Pipa Studio, Mariko

Location: Highland Community Center
14224 BelRed Rd., Bellevue

Today's Special: Taking Root at Bellwether

Wednesday, Sept. 18, 1-2:30 p.m.

Host: City of Bellevue, Cultural Conversations

Location: Bellevue Arts Museum
510 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue

Introduction to "We are History Keepers" Workshops

Wednesday, Sept. 18, 6-7:30 p.m.

Host: City of Bellevue, Ethnic Heritage Council of the PNW and University of Washington Libraries

Location: Crossroads Community Center
Community Room: 16000 NE 10th St., Bellevue

The Power of Masks: Faces of Diversity

Friday, Sept. 20, 6-8 p.m.

Host: City of Bellevue Northwest Arts Center

Location: Northwest Arts Center
9825 NE 24th St., Bellevue

register.bellevuewa.gov

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Celebrating Chinese Culture at Bellevue Botanical Gardens

Sunday, Sept. 22, 1-4 p.m.

Host: Bellevue Botanical Garden

Location: Bellevue Botanical Garden,
Education Center: 12001 Main St., Bellevue

More event details at: ERICmembers.org/events

Welcoming is more than a week of celebrations! Join the movement and contact Debbie Lacy at the Eastside Refugee and Immigrant Coalition for more information: debbie@ERICmembers.org.



A new season of Cultural Conversations begins!

Welcoming Week: "Taking Root" at Bellwether Arts Week

Wednesday, Sept. 18, 1-2:30 p.m.

Bellevue Arts Museum
510 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue

Cultural Conversations will kick off a new season of storytelling and connection at the **Bellevue Arts Museum (BAM) Wednesday Sept. 18, 1-2:30 pm.** in conjunction with Bellwether (bellwetherartsweek.org) Arts Week, "Taking Root."

Sharing her story during Bellwether's Today's Special will be artist Minhi Winkempeck, a Seattle-based artist who works primarily in glass and metal. Minhi was born in Germany and raised in upstate New York by her Korean mother and American father. After graduating in 2010 with her BFA from Alfred University, Minhi moved to Seattle, yearning to make a home surrounded by diversity and culture. At an early age she discovered the soothing nature of repetition in creation.



Today's Special: A Bellevue Cafe plays with the history of the museum's former café space, riffing on the

restaurant tradition and serving up an art-infused twist on the daily special. The artwork, food sharing, artist performances, community conversations and hands-on engagement elements will explore identity, roots, cultural heritage and navigating the intersections where foodways connect us all.

Cultural Conversations, a program entering its tenth season, has transformed relationships and perspectives among diverse women in our community through education and storytelling. Please join us for tea, conversation and a cultural treat, and be inspired to connect with others in your community.

This free event and Bellwether and open to all the public. Carpooling or public transportation is encouraged as limited parking is available at the museum. To fully participate in the sharing, attendees should plan for childcare.

RSVP appreciated, NeighborhoodOutreach@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6836.

Bellwether ART+EXPERIENCE:

Taking Root

Sept. 13-22

Host: City of Bellevue in collaboration with Bellevue's arts community

Location:

Various locations in downtown Bellevue

Come experience 10 days and 10 nights of art and experiences in downtown Bellevue! Join us for site-specific installations, live music, talks,



culinary events and more. This year's theme is Taking Root, activated by a team of curators and artists who explore notions of identity and cultural exchange.

From its beginnings in 1992 as the Bellevue Sculpture Exhibition, Bellwether has attracted makers from around the region to contribute creative vitality to Downtown Bellevue. Bellwether is free and open to the public. Visit bellwetherartsweek.org to learn more.

Now held annually, Bellwether features site-specific installations in all media, as well as an expanded slate of programming that includes music, talks, culinary

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events and much more. This year, Bellwether is organized by a team of curators, each bringing their unique expertise to the festival. Join us for 10 days and 10 nights as we push the creative limits of the city!

Schedule Of Events

Opening Party

At Bellevue Arts Museum

Friday, Sept. 13, 6:30 p.m.

Soul Selections Showcase

At Meydenbauer Center

Saturday, Sept. 14, 7 p.m.

While Supplies Last

Pop-up art market at Bellevue Arts Museum

Saturdays, Sept. 14 and 21, 1-5 p.m.

Conversation on Art & Culture

At Bellevue Arts Museum

Sunday, Sept. 15, 3-5 p.m.

Conversation on Bellevue as a Place

At City Hall, 3-5 p.m.

Reception & Performance at City Hall, 5-6:30 p.m.

PNW Super Soul All-Star Revue

At Meydenbauer Center, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 21

Today's Special: A Bellwether Café

An interactive space around food, art and culture

At Bellevue Arts Museum

Sept. 13-15 and 18-22



Lake Hills NEP Open House

Thursday, Sept. 12, 6:30-8 p.m.

Lighthouse Center

(Lake Hills Village)

15530 Lake Hills Blvd.



We're thrilled to announce that we received over 180 project requests for Lake Hills!

The Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) team has used the past few months to evaluate the accessibility, feasibility, cost and maintainability of each request in order to determine which proposals are eligible for the ballot. Popular project requests in the Lake Hills neighborhood area include crosswalks, streetlights, landscaping, wetland improvement and traffic calming measures. Popular project locations include Main Street, NE 6th Street, Phantom Lake Park and the Lake Hills Greenbelt.

The Lake Hills NEP Project Open House will be held on Thursday, Sept. 12, 6:30-8 p.m. at the Lighthouse Center. The meeting will showcase visuals that describe and exhibit each of the 24 projects that are included on the ballot. It will also give Lake Hills residents the opportunity to speak directly with city staff. All open house materials, including the project description boards, will be available on the NEP website (BellevueWA.gov/nep) the week of Sept. 12.

Lake Hills residents should expect to receive a Voter's Pamphlet and ballot in their mailboxes in early September. Voting is limited to one ballot per household, and by mail only.

The Neighborhood Enhancement Program is a \$5 million, city-funded, capital improvements program that offers residents the opportunity to propose and select moderate projects that improve the quality of life and enhance the character of their neighborhoods. The program rotates through the city's 14 NEP Neighborhood Areas over the course of seven years, beginning in 2015, and serving two neighborhood areas each year.

To find out which NEP Neighborhood Area you call home, when NEP will be in your area and how much funding your area will receive, please visit BellevueWA.gov/nep

For more information about the Neighborhood Enhancement Program, please visit the website or contact Theresa Cuthill at tcuthill@bellevuewa.gov, or 425-452-4186.

Preparing for Disasters

如何为突如其来的灾难做好准备

Preparación para desastres

Neighborhood Leadership Gathering

Tuesday, Sept. 17, 7-9 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers, 450 110th Ave NE

Fire Chief Jay Hagen will welcome the community to City Hall to learn about emergency preparedness and responding



to disasters. Feature presenter Curry Mayer, Bellevue's Emergency Manager will demystify emergency operations in the city, followed by three interactive stations to help you to prepare for any type of disaster – from too much snow to a major earthquake. Attendees will tour the Emergency Operations Center, and even participate in two hands-on exercises that will help prepare you and your family.

The event is open to all who are invested in the quality and health of their neighborhoods. Interpretation in Mandarin and Spanish are available. Please reserve an interpretation headset in your language when you RSVP to neighborhoodoutreach@bellevuewa.gov.

BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/neighborhoods/classes-and-events/neighborhood-leadership-gathering

It's back to school time – slow down and watch out!

As more than 20,000 Bellevue students head back to school on Sept. 4, it's time to slow down and pay attention in school zones. Bellevue Police remind drivers that the speed limit is 20 mph in school zones with flashing yellow lights. In school zones without flashing lights, the speed limit is 20 mph when children are present. Increased congestion and the unpredictability of younger children make school zones particularly dangerous.

There are three school zones in the Bellevue School District with photo enforcement cameras. If you are caught going faster than the 20-mph posted limit in those zones when the yellow lights are flashing, you'll receive a \$124 fine in the mail. The photo enforcement cameras are located at Stevenson Elementary School, Lake Hills Elementary School and Sunset Elementary School. Last year, the photo enforcement cameras resulted in over 5,000 citations.



Also, school buses will be on the roads carrying precious cargo. You must stop for school buses when lights are flashing, or the stop sign is out. That applies to both directions of traffic on a two-way road. Oncoming traffic on a four-lane street can proceed with caution.

Here are some safety tips for drivers and pedestrians from the Bellevue Police Department:

- Slow down in school zones. The stopping distance of a vehicle traveling 30 mph is nearly twice the stopping distance of a car traveling 20 mph.
- Pick your children up at the designated area, not in the street.
- Pay attention while driving. It is illegal to drive and use a personal handheld device under Washington's distracted driving law, even when stopped at a traffic sign or signal or stuck in traffic. These fines are moving violations and are reported to insurance companies.
- Watch for pedestrians when entering a school driveway or turning a corner.
- Stop for children and other pedestrians getting on and off school buses. It's unlawful to pass a school bus when the red lights are flashing.
- Stop behind the crosswalk at intersections to allow room for pedestrians. Pedestrians should use crosswalks and cross with the crossing sign or light.
- If your kids walk to school, make sure they know the rules of the road and your expectations.

Have a great school year and be safe!

**WE NEED
YOUR
FEEDBACK!**



Parks Survey

We need your feedback! Bellevue Parks & Community Services is seeking input on the community's recreation programming needs. Our 5-minute survey gives you the opportunity to share your favorite recreation activities. You also have the chance to share your ideas for how to make Bellevue's recreation programs more exciting and accessible.

Your responses to the survey will help Bellevue update its Recreation Program Plan, which will be used to develop recreation activities designed with your interests and needs in mind. First developed in the late 1990s, the plan is revised every five years and guides the Parks Department's investment in recreation programming. Parks & Community Services is one recreation provider among many in Bellevue, and the plan defines the city's role within this larger system. Click the link to take the survey: surveymonkey.com/r/C2LMKPR

Forgiveness

At the Conflict Resolution Center, we often hear the phrase: "I just can't believe..."

"they called the police."

"they destroyed my tree."

"they didn't talk to me first."

"I just can't believe it!"

The biggest challenge to neighborly relationships can be the idea of forgiveness.

From the University of California, Berkeley:

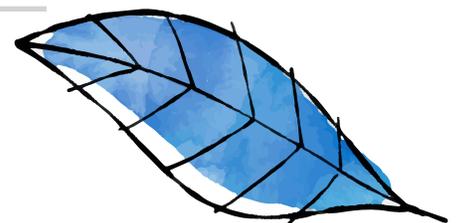
"Psychologists generally define forgiveness as a conscious, deliberate decision to release feelings of resentment or vengeance toward a person or group who has harmed you, regardless of whether they actually deserve your forgiveness."

Your relationship with your neighbor cannot begin to improve without letting go of the past. The future discussion about the fence won't go well if neither of you have gotten over the hedge issue. Resentment that is reinforced every time you are confronted with your neighbor can destroy your sense that home is a place of safety and peace.

Forgiveness is a gift you can give yourself. Forgiveness also lowers hostility, which can lead to health benefits. From improved lung function to lower blood pressure and a stronger immune system. Refusing to forgive has been shown to slow healing and has even been linked to increased cancer levels. Learning to forgive benefits mental health by increasing self-esteem while lowering anxiety and depression.

A simple note or call can do it: "I'm not happy with how this went, but I value you as a neighbor, and I'd like us to find a way to get past it."

Looking to forgive or to be forgiven? Not sure that a note will get the job done? Let's talk things through at the Bellevue Conflict Resolution Center! 425-452-4091; bcrc@bellevuewa.gov.



Environmental Stewardship Initiative Strategic Plan Update: We want to hear from you

By Jennifer Ewing, Environmental Stewardship Program Manager

Bellevue is surrounded by trails, parks, wetlands and urban forests. Whether it's kayaking in Mercer Slough, hiking in Coal Creek or going further out to ski or camp in Snoqualmie National Forest, Bellevue residents have many opportunities to enjoy nature.



A core value for "The City in A Park" is stewardship and Bellevue is committed to preserving and enhancing our environmental resources. Through the Environmental Stewardship Initiative (ESI) we coordinate a wide range of programs to help community members and businesses reduce their impact on the environment, save money and greenhouse gas emissions.

The ESI Strategic Plan is the city's roadmap for achieving our environmental goals and we are beginning the process to update our plan and chart a course for our future environmental efforts. A key component of the update is community engagement. Earlier this year, the ESI team conducted a Neighborhood Leadership Gathering on the topic of trees. Over 80 community members came together to learn more about what the city is doing to protect our tree canopy and to brainstorm ideas for preserving and growing our tree canopy.

The ESI team is excited to continue this work! Beginning in September, we will be surveying Bellevue residents to learn more about what environmental stewardship means to them and conducting a public workshop to discuss our goals and priorities. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 1, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Bellevue City Hall. This event is open to all community members and you can RSVP by going to our Eventbrite invitation at [bellevue-wa-esiplan-communityworkshop.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bellevue-wa-esiplan-communityworkshop).

To learn more about the Environmental Stewardship Initiative, participate in the survey, share your vision for environmental stewardship and to get updates, we invite you to check out our project page on [EngagingBellevue.com](https://www.EngagingBellevue.com) to learn more and get involved.

We look forward to collaborating with the community to build on our success and we invite you to join us!

Free Kitchen Composter

There's an easy, FREE way to live greener.

No need to dump food scraps into the garbage to become landfill – or worse, feed them into the garbage disposal and risk a future sewage backup.

Instead, use your FREE kitchen composter to turn your food waste into a valuable resource.



You can line the composter with a compostable bag to hold all your food scraps. Once the bin is full, place the compostable bag with food scraps in your organics cart. It's that easy and mess-free.

Instead of sitting in a landfill forever, your food will become rich compost that will feed gardens around Bellevue.

All single-family residences are eligible for the free composter. Just call Republic Services at 425-452-4762.



TRAFFIC CORNER

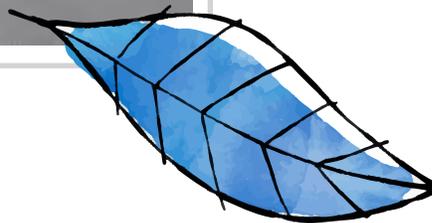
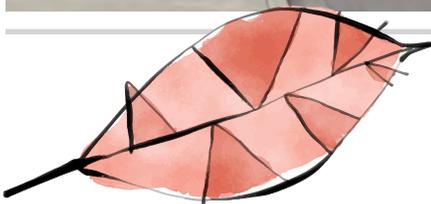
Neighborhood congestion reduction studies posted

As part of an effort to ease traffic congestion around neighborhoods and make it easier for people to get to homes, jobs, schools and shopping, the Transportation Department has completed 10 congestion reduction studies. The reports are now posted online.

Funded by the voter-approved Neighborhood Safety, Connectivity and Congestion Levy, the following project areas were studied through an evaluation of current traffic conditions, future traffic volumes and feedback from users. Final traffic analysis reports, which summarize findings and recommended alternatives for improvement, are posted online at BellevueWA.gov/levycongestion.

1. 140th Avenue NE at NE 8th Street
2. 148th Avenue NE at NE 8th Street
3. 148th Avenue at Main Street
4. 148th Avenue SE at Lake Hills Boulevard
5. 156th Avenue SE (Lake Hills Boulevard, SE 16th Street and SE 24th Street)
6. SE 8th Street and Lake Hills Connector
7. Eastgate Transportation Study
8. Lakemont Boulevard SE and SE Newport Way
9. Lakemont Boulevard SE at Forest Drive SE
10. Lake Washington Boulevard/SE 60th Street

Approximately \$2 million of levy funding supports the Neighborhood Congestion Reduction program annually. Improvements identified through these studies will be evaluated by the Transportation Commission to determine which projects will be funded for design and construction. For more information, contact Chris Long, P.E., traffic engineering manager, at 425-452-6013 or clong@bellevuewa.gov.



Boards and Commissions Meetings

All meetings are conducted at City Hall unless otherwise noted. Agendas are subject to change. Agendas can be downloaded from the city's web pages listed below. Meeting alerts are available through subscribing to the City's Special Meeting Notices page. BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/special-meeting-notice

Bellevue Diversity Advisory Network

(6 p.m., Bellevue City Hall) Last Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-managers-office/diversity/bellevue-diversity-advisory-network

East Bellevue Community Council (6:30 p.m., Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd) First Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/east-bellevue-community-council

Arts Commission

(4:30 p.m., 1E-109) First Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/arts-and-culture/arts-commission

Environmental Services Commission

(6:30 p.m., 1E-113) First Thursday of each month Utilities.BellevueWA.gov/conservation-and-the-environment/environmental-services-commission

Planning Commission (6:30 p.m., 1E-113) Second and fourth Wednesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/planning-commission

Transportation Commission (6:30 p.m., 1E-113) Second Thursday of each month transportation. BellevueWA.gov/planning/transportation-commission

Human Services Commission (6 p.m., 1E-113) First and third Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/human-services-commission

LEOFF 1 Disability Board (6 p.m., Room 1E-118) First Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/human-resources/retirees-former-employees/leoff-1-disability-board

Library Board (5p.m., Lake Hills, Bellevue or Newport Way Library) Third Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/library-board

Parks & Community Services Board

(6 p.m., 1E-113) Second Tuesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/parks-and-community-services-board

The Bellevue Network on Aging (BNOA) 8:30 a.m., North Bellevue Community Center 4063 148th Ave NE, Bellevue) First Thursday of each month BellevueWA.gov/bnoa

Special Events Committee (8:30 a.m., 1E-112) Second Thursday of each month Parks.BellevueWA.gov/special-events/special-events-committee

Youth Link Board (6 p.m., 1E-120) Second Wednesday of each month BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/city-clerks-office/boards-and-commissions/youth-link-board

Bellevue's Neighborhood Services Division offers a variety of programs and partnerships for neighborhood leaders and active residents. To learn more about citizen involvement opportunities and programs to enhance neighborhoods, please visit our website at: BellevueWA.gov/city-government/departments/community-development/neighborhoods or call 425-452-6836 or email: neighborhoodoutreach@BellevueWA.gov. To subscribe to this newsletter, visit: BellevueWA.gov/neighborhood-news

City Council bellevue.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx

Day	Scheduled Meeting(s)	Location	Public Comment Opportunity
1 and 3 Mondays except in August and December	6 p.m., Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8 p.m., Regular Session	Council Chambers	8 p.m., Oral Communications
2 and 4 Mondays except in August and December	6-10 p.m., Extended Study Session	Council Conference Room	6 p.m., Oral Communications
August - first Monday only	6 p.m., Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8 p.m., Regular Session	Council Chambers	8 p.m., Oral Communications
December - first and second Mondays only	6 p.m., Study Session	Council Conference Room	None
	8 p.m., Regular Session	Council Chambers	8 p.m., Oral Communications