



# THE DUPONT DISPATCH

September 2020

## September is here!

Fall is around the corner which means leaves changing colors, crisp air, and pumpkin everything. Many of us will be missing the fall sports season. There is a bit of a Husky versus Cougs rivalry at City Hall but I think we can all agree that the Oregon Ducks are far superior.

So don't put away those jerseys and t-shirts, wear them on Fridays with your team mask and share your photos with us using the #MaskUpDuPont.

After reading this newsletter, please let us know your thoughts! Is this valuable? Helpful? Interesting? Would you like to see it continue? [We want to know!](#)

## Sources for City Information

[City of DuPont Website](#)

[City of DuPont Facebook](#)



Fall foliage on Palisade Blvd.

## DID YOU KNOW...

*During the gray squirrel's fall caching season, when the critters bury nuts and seeds in hundreds of scattered caches to serve as emergency winter larders, a typical squirrel shows a 15 percent increase in the size of its hippocampus—the memory and emotion center of the brain—compared to the rest of the year.*

## COVID-19

As the current situation unfolds, information is being updated regularly. The City of DuPont is working hard to keep you informed. Below are hyperlinks to COVID-19 resources on the City website. Stay home, stay healthy, and we'll see you soon.

[COVID-19: Status updates, safety precautions, and links to more information.](#)

[Resources for Businesses Impacted by COVID-19](#)

[COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[COVID-19, Community Resources](#)

# ATTENTION DUPONT RESIDENTS



## Parks & Recreation

### Programming Survey

Parks & Recreation wants to hear from you! While we cannot gather together, we can still be a part of the community. This fall, we are rolling out virtual events and programming which practice social distancing. Please take a couple of minutes to complete this survey to assist with fall programming. We have already heard from many of you with your great ideas! Please keep them coming! [Click here to fill out the comment form.](#)

### Teen Art Competition

Teens unleash your inner artist! Are you more creative with a paintbrush or a pen, a camera or a journal?

Share your creations with us! There are four categories: painting, photography, poetry, short stories. Prizes will be awarded for the best entry.

Email submissions to [ewiegand@dupontwa.gov](mailto:ewiegand@dupontwa.gov) by September 7th!

### Parks & Recreation Auction

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, October 17th for the Annual Parks & Recreation Auction. This year we are going 100% virtual. Please watch your email and city website for additional details.

[Check out all of our Parks & Recreation programs & activities!](#)

## Bear Sightings

Bear sightings are still being reported in and around DuPont.

**To report dangerous wildlife sightings, please call 9-1-1 immediately and report the location of the sighting.**

For all other non-emergency dangerous wildlife complaints, call 877-933-9847, or [submit an online report.](#)



## Sellers Park Butterfly Watch

Paint wooden butterflies to be hung in a tree at Sellers Park for all to enjoy!

RSVP by September 7<sup>th</sup> for butterflies to be delivered on your doorstep on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

On September 14<sup>th</sup> bring your dry painted butterflies to City Hall and put it the box at the front door.

Head to Sellers Park from September 16 – 23 to see the butterflies in action!

RSVP by emailing Emma at [ewiegand@dupontwa.gov](mailto:ewiegand@dupontwa.gov) with name and address.

**Dr. Kathi Weight, Superintendent**  
**Steilacoom Historical School District No. 1**

Although this summer has not been a typical one, I hope your family has had wonderful things to celebrate. My husband and I moved one daughter to Charleston, South Carolina for nursing school, had another daughter get married, and our oldest daughter took her vows to become a nun at Sisters of St. Mary's of Oregon in Beaverton. There is been a great deal of live streaming involved in these celebrations, but I am grateful for these joyous events in this time of uncertainty.

As you know, the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department determined it was unsafe to fully open schools due to the growing number of COVID-19 cases in our region. SHSD, along with the other 14 Pierce County public school districts, were disappointed and concerned when Tacoma-Pierce County Health determined there is no safe way to reopen schools in September with in-person instruction. As a school district, we have to comply with the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department's recommendations for safety – both because we have legal requirements and because we care about our students, staff and community.

We know opening school with a fully online model on September 3<sup>rd</sup> creates many concerns and challenges for our families and we wish the situation was different. While we know that starting school remotely is a disappointment for many of our students, educators and families, we will comply with county health officials and state department of health directives. This summer, we have been busy planning for a remote learning program, which will look dramatically different than it did last spring. The shift to a fully online program has allowed us to devote all of our time, resources and training to plan for improving students' online learning experiences. Parents can expect a more structured and consistent learning experience, with technology devices provided to all students.

At the same time, we have been planning for in person instruction to begin as soon as health officials indicate it is safe to do so.

*Dr. Kathi Weight, Superintendent*

## Car Prowls

There have been a number of car prowls reports. Car prowls are crimes of opportunity—don't it make it easy for them!

### Remember...

- 1) **Roll up your windows.**
- 2) **Lock your cars.**
- 3) **Shut your garage doors.**
- 4) **Keep your vehicle uncluttered. Avoid leaving anything visible in your car—especially valuables!**
- 5) **Report break-ins. Call 911 immediately!**

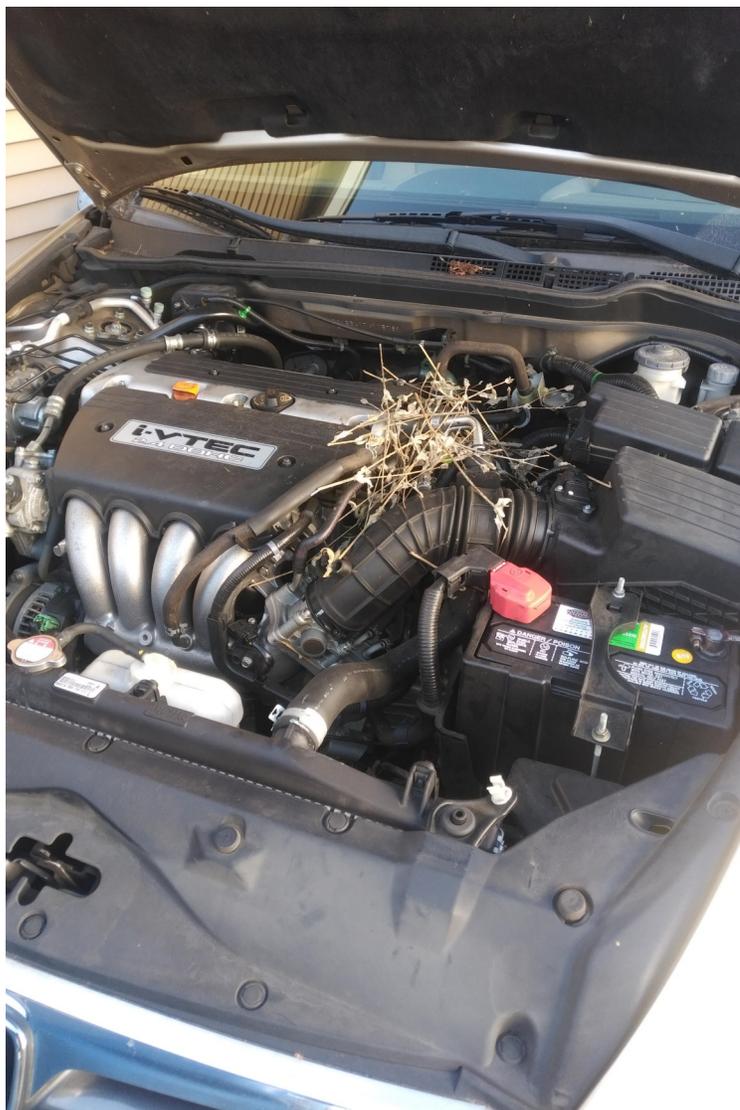


## Be on the Lookout for Car Pests...

As more people work from home, they're using their car less, and it's parked on the street or driveway more than usual. There are several internet articles available for mechanical maintenance, tire care, and cleaning of the car while in this pandemic. This will focus specifically on finding pests nesting inside the vehicle.

Before you begin to drive your vehicle, check underneath and inside of the car for any nesting material such as straw, dried vegetation, leaves, or fibers. Inspect for items that looks like dark grains of rice, or dark jelly beans, these are droppings.

The photo below is an example of dried vegetation found under the hood, and further inspection around the car engine, droppings were found. Removing the vegetation and cleaning is straight forward. Best to drive and inspect your vehicle at least once a week to prevent nesting inside of your vehicle.



**Who you gonna call...**

**City of DuPont!**

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**DuPont City Hall:  
(253)-964-8121**

**Police & Fire Non-Emergency Line:  
(253)-798-4721**

**Lakewood Animal Control: (253)-830-5010**

**LeMay Trash Service:  
(253)-875-5053**

**Northwest Landing ROA:  
(253)-964-1289**

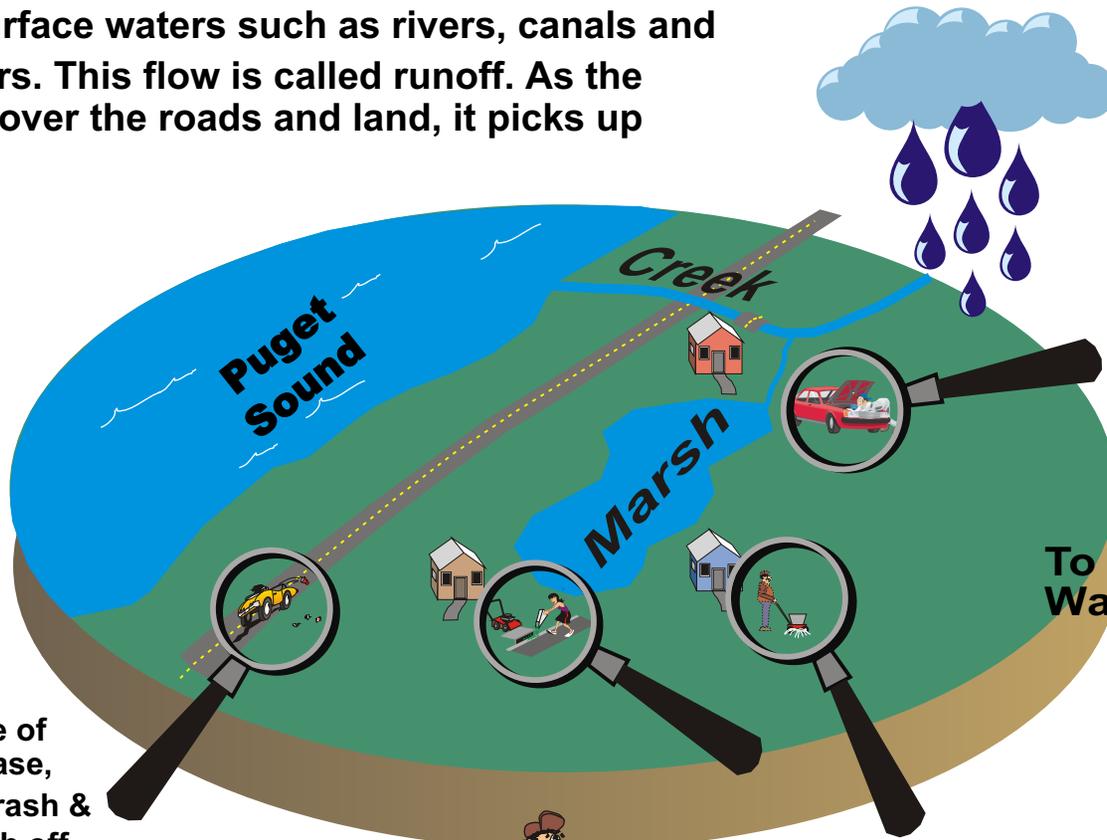
Looking for the  
City Calendar?

[Find it here!](#)

# Stormwater Pollution CULPRITS



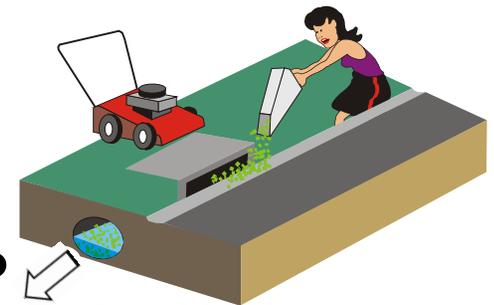
When it rains, water that is not absorbed into the ground, intercepted by vegetation, or evaporated flows into surface waters such as rivers, canals and coastal waters. This flow is called runoff. As the runoff flows over the roads and land, it picks up pollutants.



Surface water can be polluted through groundwater.



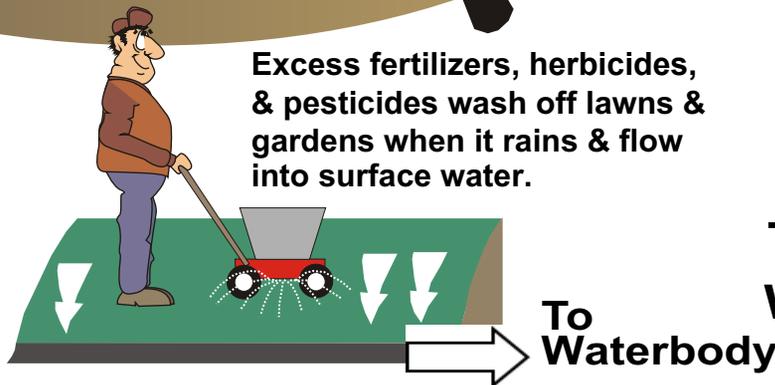
Things put into storm drains and on the street can end up in our rivers, canals, & coastal waters.



Roads are a source of pollution. Oils, grease, construction dirt, trash & cigarette butts wash off roads when it rains.

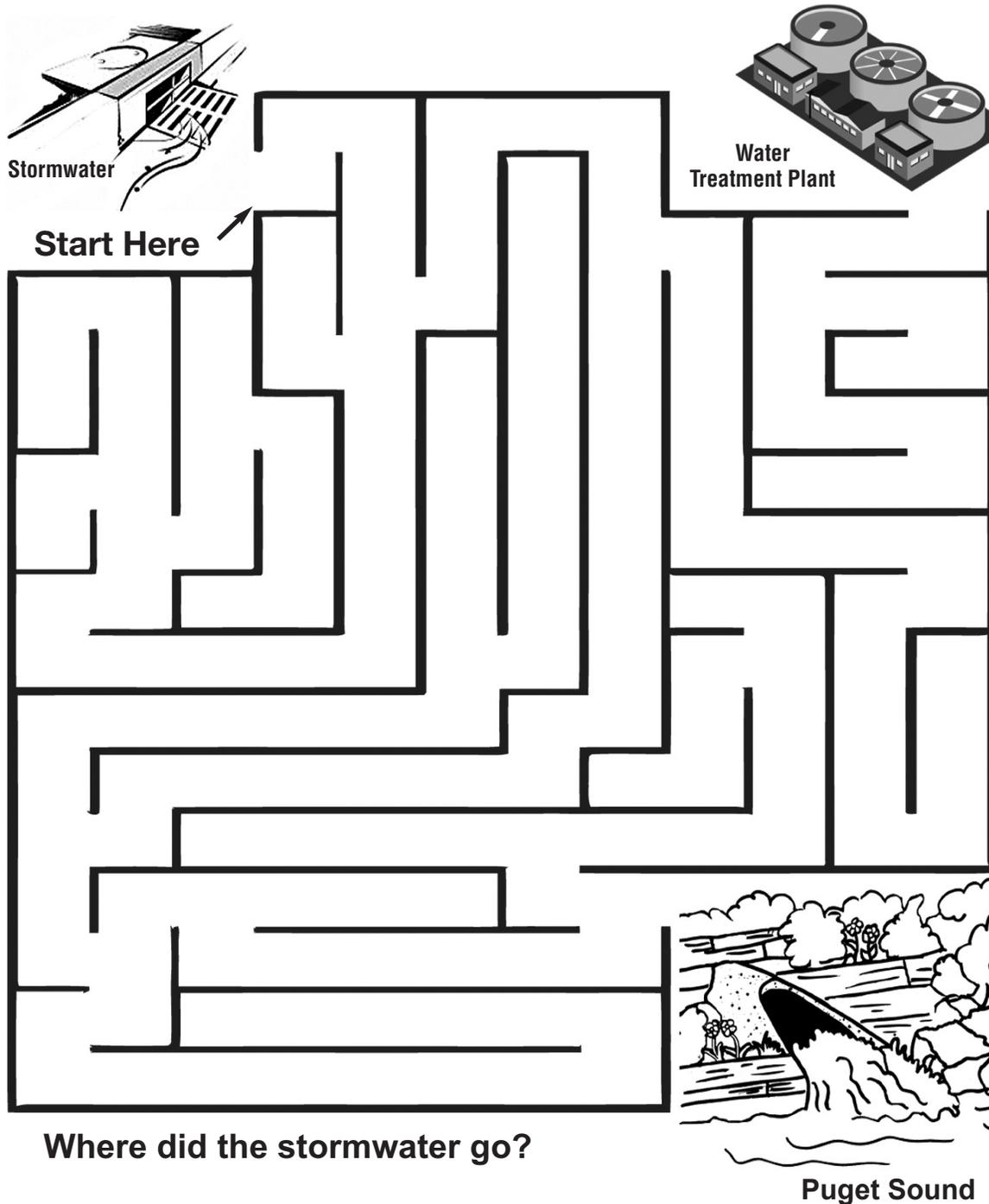


Excess fertilizers, herbicides, & pesticides wash off lawns & gardens when it rains & flow into surface water.



# The A-Mazing Stormwater Mystery

Everyone knows that water flows. But who knows where the water goes? Follow the gutter through the storm drain system to find out.



Where did the stormwater go?

**Stormwater runoff** happens when rain and snowmelt flows over land and does not soak into the ground. As the water flows over the land or a hard surface (paved streets, parking lots, and building rooftops), it picks up trash, chemicals, dirt or other pollutants that get washed into nearby streams, rivers and lakes.



Source: Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council

