

Friday Five

Your weekly Thurston County update



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#1 - Celebrate Thurston County's History and 171st Birthday!

Celebrate with us

LEARN ABOUT PROJECTS
TO PROTECT AND
PROMOTE HISTORY
IN THURSTON COUNTY

HERITAGE DAY

October 14, 2023 10am-1pm

HERITAGE HALL
THURSTON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS



Thurston County is turning 171! Come celebrate our history and heritage, as well as learn about various projects throughout the county promoting and preserving our historic places.

When: October 14, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Where: Heritage Hall - 3054 Carpenter Rd Lacey, WA

Coffee and cupcakes will be served following presentations. Parking will be available in front of Heritage Hall, which is ADA accessible.

#2 - Thurston County Launches Taxpayer Transparency Tool

Thurston County launches:

Taxpayer Transparency Tool



Thurston County launched an online Taxpayer Transparency Tool for taxpayers to see how their county property taxes are distributed across county offices and departments. This new tool covers General Fund spending only; it does not include taxes for county roads, school districts, fire districts, the state, and other taxing jurisdictions.

“The Commissioner’s Budget Office is dedicated to fiscal transparency. The Taxpayer Transparency Tool answers the question posed by citizens, “Where Does my Property Tax Go?”,” said Budget and Fiscal Manager, Nicole Martinez. “Citizens can access the tool directly from the Thurston County budget website. We welcome all taxpayers to see how their property taxes support General Fund public services here in the county.”

The Thurston County 2023 Taxpayer Transparency Tool is now open. Find the tool at <https://thurston.abalancingact.com/fy-2023-thurston-county> or through the Thurston County budget site at <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/departments/board-county-commissioners/budget-office>.

#3 - Ospreys Get a New Home: Thurston County and PSE Partner for Nest Relocation at Glacial Heritage Preserve



Thurston County Public Works Parks & Trails partnered with Puget Sound Energy (PSE) to relocate an osprey nest at Glacial Heritage Preserve. The previous location posed potential risks to the birds and the community. PSE's Avian Protection Program used specialized equipment and wire covers to prevent avian electrocution and adhere to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. PSE's team built a new perch and relocated the nest with no ospreys or eggs present, ensuring a smooth transition. The Parks & Trails team identified land ownership and detected utilities.

This project sets a new standard for community partnerships in environmental stewardship, demonstrating the coexistence of community infrastructure with wildlife conservation. We are making strides in reducing bird-related injuries and improving electrical system reliability in the county. Check out the full-length article on the [Thurston County News webpage](#).

#4 - Board of County Commissioners Proclaim October Domestic Violence Awareness Month



The Board of County Commissioners proclaimed October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Thurston County. The proclamation supports the efforts to promote the safety of victims and others through an increased focus on county-wide cooperative strategies and public awareness. Staff from the Prosecuting Attorney's Office spoke about their extensive work providing justice to domestic violence victims in Thurston County.

To report domestic violence, call 9-1-1, the [Family Support Center](#) or the [SafePlace](#) 24/7 hotline at 360-754-6300.

Watch the proclamation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VsGegQOmcoM>

#5 - Thurston County Launches Pretrial Assessment to Improve Pretrial System

Thurston County Launches Pretrial Assessment to Improve Pretrial System



After more than four years of work on pretrial justice improvements, Thurston County announces the official launch of the Public Safety Assessment (PSA). The purpose of this work is to prioritize community well-being and safety, reduce bias, and ensure pretrial detention is reserved only for those who jeopardize public safety. The PSA will provide additional research-based information to judicial officers, prosecutors, and defense counsel to inform pretrial decisions. While judicial officers will continue to make all decisions regarding detention, release, and conditions of release, the PSA will serve as one more tool they can use to inform their decisions.

The PSA is being implemented as part of the Thurston County's participation in the national Advancing Pretrial Policy and Research (APPR) initiative, a multi-year project to advance fair, just, effective pretrial justice nationwide. Justice experts, researchers, and local justice system members including Pretrial Services, Public Defense, the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, District and Superior Courts, Judges, the Sheriff's Office, local law enforcement, and the Board of County Commissioners participated in this collaborative process.

Read the [full news release here](#).

Stay current on upcoming public hearings, meetings, and work sessions by bookmarking the [Board of County Commissioners' master calendar](#)! Please call the Board of County Commissioners office at (360) 786-5440 if you're having problems viewing the calendar.

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