Vol. 64 Week of November 3, 2026 FREE

NEWSBERG



An overhead view of Newberg's water treatment plant, featuring two oxidation ditches, clarifers, and compost facility. (Photo courtesy City of Newberg)

Newberg Wastewater Plant Expansion Estimated at $32 Million

The city expects to pay for the project with wastewater reserves and System Development Charges, with construction projected to run from 2028 through 2029.

By Audrey Grice
Junior Reporter

NEWBERG, Ore. — Most residents of any municipality interact with wastewater by pressing the toilet handle and hearing it flushed down the pipes and out of our minds.

But behind the scenes, hundreds of pipes in Newberg are carrying that waste beneath our feet to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. There, it undergoes a nearly three-month purification process that ends with the clean water deposited into the Willamette River and the solids sold back to the public in the form of Grade A compost.

The City of Newberg expects to spend an estimated $32 million expanding its wastewater treatment plant, with construction projected to start around the beginning of 2028 and finish near the end of 2029, according to a city presentation and City Manager Will Worthey.

The expansion is the City of Newberg's largest capital improvement project, according to Worthey. It is meant to increase the wastewater treatment plant's overall capacity and its winter flow capacity.

To expand capacity and allow for more development, the city plans to add a third oxidation ditch and an additional secondary clarifier, expand the chlorine contact basins, and switch to 100% aerated static piles for solids. The project is calculated to handle winter flows expected in 2037.

Oxidation ditches aerate wastewater so microorganisms can break down waste, secondary clarifiers separate solids from liquids, and chlorine contact basins give chlorine time to treat the water before it is released into the Willamette River. Aerated static piles are a composting method for the plant's solids.

"This project is not simply replacing old equipment; it is positioning Newberg's wastewater system for the next several decades," according to a presentation at the Sept. 21, 2026, Newberg City Council meeting.

The project comes amid a wave of new housing developments in Newberg, including Springbrook Apartments — which opened for rentals in February 2026 — and other developments currently under construction: Collina Housing, West Branch Apartments, and Crestview Crossing. According to a 2024 letter from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to the City of Newberg, the wastewater treatment plant was already near or at its winter flow capacity. Worthey said the city's population is growing by an estimated 1% to 1.5% annually.

From Sitting In The Improvement Pipeline To Biggest Project Yet

According to multiple city documents, improving the wastewater treatment plant to accommodate growth and adjust to additional infrastructure has been an identified capital improvement project for multiple years, including in the 2018 City of Newberg Wastewater Master Plan.

The plan identifies secondary clarifier rerating as a level 1 priority, the highest priority level. Oxidation ditch expansion and chlorine contact basin expansion are listed as level 2 priorities, and adding a fifth secondary clarifier is identified as a level 3 priority, the lowest priority.

According to a motion at the April 20, 2026, Newberg City Council meeting, city staff initially believed the additions were not necessary until around 2034 to 2035.

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City Begins Main Street Waterline Improvements Nov. 3

Construction is scheduled to run from Nov. 3 to 27, barring weather delays. The city also announced an extension to the Springbrook Rd. closure.

By Branden Andersen
Founding Editor

NEWBERG, Ore. — North Main Street will undergo construction for nearly a month, according to the City of Newberg website.

Construction is scheduled from Nov. 3 to 27 but may be delayed because of inclement weather or unforeseen circumstances, according to a press release from the city. Work will occur overnight from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. One lane will be open, with flaggers directing traffic during those hours.

According to senior project manager Trevis Smith of Keller Associates, the engineering firm contracted by the City of Newberg, the cast iron water main that sits under North Main Street has an "extensive history of leaks" that caused engineers to prioritize replacement.

Outside of the main line replacement, the project will also include tie-in connections to existing water services and water branch connections; fire hydrants, air release valves, and flushing assemblies; asphalt restoration; and the abandonment or removal of existing mains and services.

The 6-inch-diameter cast iron pipe will be replaced with an 8-inch-diameter ductile iron water main alongside the existing alignment, Smith said.

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Vote by 8 p.m. on Nov. 3

Ballot Drop Box Locations

Newberg Public Safety: 401 E 3rd Street

Newberg Jaquith Park West: 1215 N Main Street

PCC - Newberg Center: 135 Werth Boulevard

Dundee City Hall - 620 SW 5th Street, Dundee

See events on page 2

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Newberg Sports Roundup: Amadeus Woody Scores Touchdown, 8th Grade Boys Advance in Playoffs

Newberg High School, Newberg eighth-grade, and George Fox University teams competed in football, soccer, volleyball, cross country, and swimming — here's how each fared.

By Branden Andersen
Founding Editor

Sports Section Presented by Oregon Sports and Family Health

NEWBERG, Ore. — Over the weekend, Amadeus Woody, who uses a wheelchair, carried the football down the field and scored a touchdown during a Newberg 5/6 youth football game between Newberg and Sherwood, according to Julie Petersen, special services supervisor for the Chehalem Parks and Recreation District (CPRD). Petersen said players from both teams ran alongside him, and the players signed the football for him to take home.

Amadeus's father, Blake Woody, is one of the coaches, and his brother, Bodhi-Ray Woody, is on the team, Petersen said. Newberg 5/6 Blue beat Sherwood 5/6 Black 25-14 at Sherwood Middle School on Saturday, Oct. 31, according to CPRD Sports Coordinator Nicole Lewelling.

In other local sports news, George Fox University football team beat Willamette University 55-0 on Friday, and the men's and women's cross country teams each won Northwest Conference titles on Saturday, according to George Fox Athletics.

The Newberg eighth-grade football team beat McKay 22-12 in the first round of the playoffs on Saturday and plays Century for the championship on Nov. 7.

In local high school action, the Newberg High School Tigers football team lost 49-19 at Glencoe High School, and the boys and girls cross country teams placed third and fourth, respectively, at the Pacific Conference Championships.

George Fox teams also took the field, as the volleyball team lost 3-0 to Whitworth University and beat Whitman College 3-2, the men's soccer team lost 4-0 to Whitman and beat Whitworth 1-0, the women's soccer team lost 3-2 to Whitman and tied Whitworth 0-0, and the swim teams won dual meets against Pacific University and Willamette University.

Read the short recaps below:

Newberg Middle School

Information provided by Newberg Youth Football eighth-grade coach Bryan Long.

Newberg Eighth-Grade Youth Football beat McKay 22-12 in the first round of the playoffs on Saturday, Oct. 31, 2026, according to coach Bryan Long. Newberg was the No. 1 seed and McKay the No. 2 seed. Long said McKay had height, a large offensive line, and a quick passing attack that had been effective this season.

Long said the game was a defensive battle early, and Newberg scored first on a run by Graydon Wright, who also had two interceptions. James Whitmore later had a run of more than 60 yards, and McKay answered with a kickoff return for a touchdown but missed its two-point conversion, making the score 16-6. After halftime, Long said, Newberg's running game and linemen took over, with Wright, Hayes Stewart, and Greyson Kropf moving the ball down the field and Max Anderson scoring Newberg's final touchdown. McKay scored in the final minutes.

Newberg plays Century for the championship on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2026, and Long said the time and location have not been set.

Read the rest of the recaps by scanning the QR code below.

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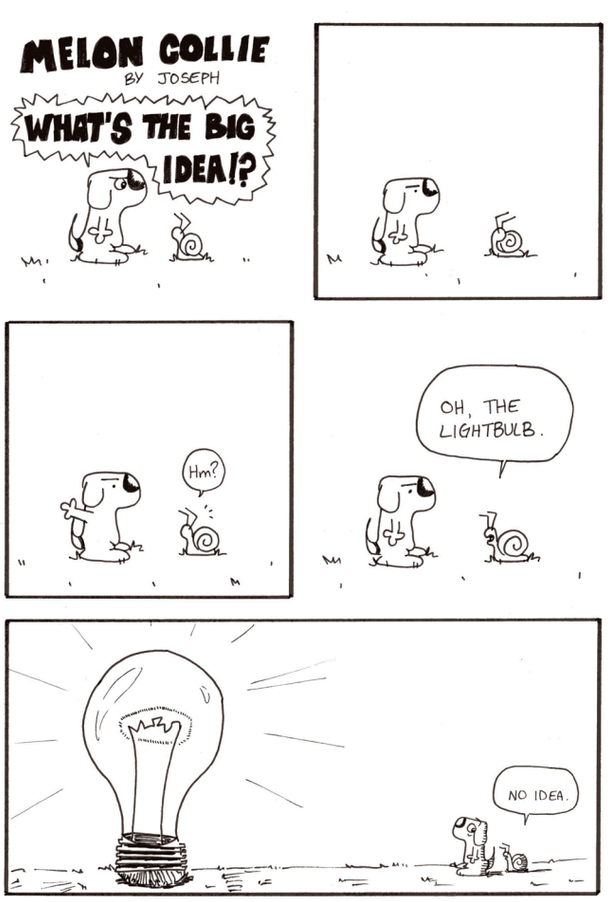
Melon Collie Ep. 111 Created by Joseph Hampton



See more of the Newsberg Funnies at Newsberg.org

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 3

2026 Midterm Election

NOVEMBER 5

10 a.m. — Alcohol Inks Workshop
Chehalem Cutural Center, 415 E Sheridan St

5 p.m. — Pop & Pour
Miss Hannah's Gourmet Popcorn, 200 OR 99W

6 p.m. — Improv with Donna
CPRD Aquatic & Fitness Center, 1802 Haworth Ave

7 p.m. — NHS Theater Presents: Annie the Musical
Newberg High School, 2400 Douglas Ave

NOVEMBER 6

4:30 p.m. — Plastics Recycling Event
Newberg First United Methodist Church, 1205 Deborah Rd

5 p.m. — Live Music: Rob Rainwater
Domaine Lumineux, 115 N Washington St

5 p.m. — First Friday ARTwalk
Downtown Newberg

7 p.m. — NHS Theater Presents: Annie the Musical
Newberg High School, 2400 Douglas Ave

NOVEMBER 7

9 a.m. — Shop, Connect & Support Love INC
Love Inc of the Newberg Area, 200 S College Street

9 a.m. — Holiday Bazaar
St. Peter Parish, 2315 N Main Street

10 a.m. — Holiday Hopen House
Pulp & Circumstance, 117 S College Street

10 a.m. — Chehalem Valley Food & Wine Showcase
Chehalem Cultural Center, 415 E Sheridan St

4 p.m. — Curio (Women's) Songwriter Showcase
Newberg Public LIbrary, 503 E Hancock St

Scan me on your phone to see more events.