Mayor’s Corner

Tigard has reached two historic milestones that will require making important decisions in the next few months.

For the first time ever, we will secure our own water source by partnering with Lake Oswego to tap the Clackamas River for our drinking water supply. Secondly, after decades of rapid growth, and the near build-out of the remaining buildable land within our borders, the economic slow-down has given us a one-time opportunity to acquire some of the last remaining green spaces for parks.

There will be significant costs associated with both milestones. We will face steep water rate increases over the next several years to fund the new water system. Also, Tigard voters will have an opportunity this fall to approve a bond measure to fund the acquisition of key green space to add to our existing park system. I think we need a chance to sit down and talk so we can make informed, practical, long-term decisions when choices have to be made.

Let’s get together on Tuesday night, October 5, at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall at City Hall. I will be there, along with other City Council members. We’d like to hear your ideas and concerns, and we will share the same with you.

Spread the word—we can’t solve our problems if we don’t work together. If you can’t make it, or if you’d like to present your ideas or questions in advance, email me at craigd@tigard-or.gov.

Craig E. Dirkson, Mayor

Wanted: Input on Capital Improvement Projects
Comments and Suggestions Welcome Until October 31

What’s a Capital Improvement Plan?

The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is Tigard’s 5-year plan for matching the cost of large-scale improvements—like roads, water and sewer systems—to anticipated revenues, like taxes and bonds.

What Makes a Project CIP-Eligible?

☑ The city defines a CIP project as any public facility project that improves or adds value to Tigard’s infrastructure (roads, sewers);
☑ Costs $50,000 or more;
☑ Has a useful life or extends the useful life of a facility for five years or more.

The 5-year CIP document includes plans for construction of streets and sidewalks, land or right-of-way purchases, rehabilitation and construction of sanitary sewer, storm, and water systems, public building renovations and park development or improvement of park facilities.

How are CIP Projects Chosen?

Projects are prioritized beginning with the current year and projected for four additional years. The CIP is updated every year, with final approval by Council, through a process that is separate from, but parallel to, the development of the city’s annual budget.

The CIP is updated and coordinated by a city management team which engages all departments in identifying vital public projects. Whether or not each capital project outlined in the CIP can be funded depends upon the budget. However, money is allocated to projects that are considered high priority or have available grant funding. Typically, the further out projects are scheduled beyond the current year, the less likely immediate funding will be available.

Does the Public Get a Say? Yes!

Log onto the Neighborhood Network web page at www.tigard-or.gov/neighborhood. From there, you can recommend new projects and provide input on future projects within the CIP document. Nominations for new and comments on existing projects will be accepted until October 31.

If you have questions or comments, please contact City Engineer Ted Kyle at TedK@tigard-or.gov or 503-718-2759.
The Road to a Secure Drinking Water Future

Tigard continues to implement the Lake Oswego • Tigard Water Partnership to assure a water supply for the future. A project of this magnitude requires a plan. The project has an engineering roadmap for planning, design and construction and a Water Financial Plan to identify the funding necessary to complete the partnership project.

When we finally reach our destination—construction complete and water flowing—we will no longer need to purchase water from Portland. The Lake Oswego • Tigard Water Partnership offers the most beneficial option at the least cost to ratepayers. Instead of paying Portland $2.5 million each year for water, that money will help pay for an ownership share in a high quality drinking water source, along with an ability to control future costs.

The Water Financial Plan Answers Four Key Questions:

1. Where are we now? We currently buy most of our water from the City of Portland. One-third of every customer dollar goes to Portland to purchase water for the Tigard Water Service Area (TWSA). We appreciate Portland’s commitment to providing water to Tigard, but their costs will increase over the coming years and the TWSA would be unable to provide input on how Portland’s water system is managed.

2. Where do we need to be? In 2016, we will reach our final destination: delivering great tasting water to customers via the Lake Oswego • Tigard Water Partnership. The partnership offers TWSA customers more control over their future water needs.

3. What’s the best route to get there? Tigard’s share of the project costs will be financed through the sale of water revenue bonds to be repaid over 20 to 25 years. The best route is borrowing funds at a low interest rate over a long period, distributing repayment costs fairly between today’s customers and future customers. Rates must rise significantly in early years to set aside reserve funds required by bondholders.

4. How much will it cost to get there? Our current best estimate is $118 million for TWSA’s portion. As we travel down the road toward a secure drinking water future, initial cost estimates will be updated as we better understand design and construction needs.

Open House: Protecting Tree Groves in Tigard

Are you interested in learning more about efforts to protect the city’s remaining tree groves while balancing property rights? Stop by the Tree Grove Protection Program Open House, Wednesday, October 6, anytime between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. in the Library Community Room. You’ll find information and answers about Tigard’s Tree Grove Protection Program and other urban forestry programs.

Why now? During the Urban Forestry Master Plan process, residents identified “Developing a Tree Grove Protection Program” as a top priority for the community. That includes finding a way to preserve remaining groves of native trees through a flexible and incentive-based program.

An inventory of publicly and privately owned tree groves is underway. Property owners with a tree grove or portion of a tree grove on their land have been alerted to the process. The open house on October 6 provides landowners and residents a chance to talk with staff and consultants about the details of the project and learn about incentives for protection.

The Tree Grove Protection Program is one piece of a broader effort to update the city’s code provisions relating to urban trees and forests. For more information visit www.tigard-or.gov/trees or contact Darren Wyss at darren@tigard-or.gov or 503-718-2442.

Update: Wall Street Extension

On October 18, 2010, the Tigard Planning Commission will examine a revised staff report regarding the proposed extension of Wall Street over Fanno Creek which requires removal of significant wetlands. The Planning Commission delayed a decision on this matter from August 16, 2010 to allow for the submittal and consideration of new evidence as requested by the applicant. The revised staff report addresses information heard at the August 16 hearing and material received during the extended comment period. The Planning Commission is charged with making a recommendation on this application to the City Council for a final decision. The Tigard City Council public hearing has not yet been scheduled.

More than 50 comments were received regarding this proposal prior to the September 10, 2010 deadline for new evidence indicating broad public interest in this proposal. The city’s Planning Commission plays an integral role in the growth issues of the city. For more information about the Planning Commission visit www.tigard-or.gov/city_hall/boards_committees/planning_commission. Contact Associate Planner Cheryl Caines at 503-718-2437 or cherylc@tigard-or.gov for more information about this project.
Q&A about Library Levy Renewal on November Ballot

What is Measure 34-180?
It is a levy to maintain services for public libraries throughout Washington County. Election Day is Tuesday, November 2.

Why is this levy renewal on the ballot?
A five-year local option levy is proposed to replace the current four-year levy, which will expire in June 2011. This measure would provide funding from July 2011 through June 2016.

How would a countywide levy affect Tigard residents?
Although Tigard has its own library, it is a member of the countywide library cooperative that provides funding to 12 libraries. Tigard residents pay both city and county taxes that fund the library’s operational costs. Approximately 80 percent of levy funds would be distributed to support these 12 libraries.

What would happen at the Tigard Library if the levy renewal is approved?
If the levy is renewed, the Tigard Library would:
- Decrease current service levels and hours.
- Reduce the purchase of books and other materials.
- Reduce the number of children's programs, including story times and literacy programs.

What else would renewal of this levy do?
- Support central and outreach services that link libraries together throughout the county and serve all residents.
- Maintain daily book deliveries among libraries to fill patron requests.
- Maintain the Washington County Library Services (WCCLS) website and shared library catalog used by approximately 255,000 active library cardholders.
- Maintain outreach services to special populations such as mail delivery of books to the homebound and literacy training in English and Spanish to instruct child care providers and parents.

How would this renewal affect taxes?
- The 17¢ rate per $1,000 of assessed value would remain unchanged from the current rate.
- Owners of a home in Washington County with an average assessed value of $215,089 (not market value) would pay about $37 in 2011–2012. Taxes in future years would depend upon changes in assessed value.

What can you get more information including sources for statistics?
- Call or stop by the Library Welcome Desk 503-684-6537.
- Log onto www.WCCLS.org/levy or call WCCLS at 503-846-3222 for county information.

Parks Bond on Ballot
Measure No. 34-181:
A measure to acquire, preserve and protect open spaces, water quality, habitat and parks

The citizens of Tigard will have an opportunity to decide the physical landscape of the place we call home this November. Measure 34-181 will be on the November 2 ballot to obtain funds for the city to purchase land that’s currently available and transform it into parks and open space.

The city also intends to seek matching funds from other sources. This matching technique was recently used by the city on the 43-acre Summer Creek site—a future city park. New money from a bond would help fund the Summer Creek purchase.

If this $17 million bond measure is approved on November 2, at least 80 percent would be used to acquire, preserve and protect open spaces, fish and wildlife habitat, water quality in creeks and streams, and parkland. About 100 properties have been evaluated.

The remaining 20 percent of the bond money could be used to create and improve community parks, recreational areas and trails. Up to $1.7 million would be directed to downtown park space.

To repay the bond over 20 years, Tigard property owners would pay $0.29 per $1,000 assessed value in the first year. For the owner of a $207,000 home, the total cost would be approximately $60 per year.

All spending would be subject to oversight by regular city audits to ensure all funds are spent efficiently.

For more information, view the “Parks Bond Frequently Asked Questions” page on the city’s website at www.tigard-or.gov/FAQ.
**RULES of the ROAD: LEARNING FROM OLDER DRIVERS**

About 40 million Americans, or one-eighth of our population, are 65 years of age or older. As still more members of the baby-boomer generation cross that threshold, we’ll all have to adjust to the effects of aging on our vision, hearing, reaction times and general driving ability.

About one-fifth of licensed drivers in the U.S. are 65 or older, and they have a certain reputation for being inattentive and even unsafe. Yet many studies suggest that these older drivers are safer and more responsible than their younger (and less experienced) counterparts.

According the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 183,000 older drivers were injured, and about 10,000 killed, in traffic collisions in the U.S. during 2008. When older drivers are involved in fatal crashes, however, the younger driver is twice as likely to be at fault. Female drivers over 65 had by far the lowest fatality rate of any group surveyed in the NHTSA analysis. Male drivers aged 20 to 24 were twice as likely to be involved in fatal collisions than men over 65, and nine times more likely than women over 65.

The NHTSA study also concluded that “older drivers involved in fatal crashes… had the lowest proportion of intoxication [5 percent] of all adult drivers.” About 60 percent of all impaired drivers involved in fatal collisions were under the age of 34.

One reason for the higher survival rate of older drivers is the greater likelihood that they’ll use safety belts. Nationally, about 78 percent of drivers over 65 used safety belts, compared to 63 percent for younger adults.

Of the 519 Oregon drivers involved in fatal collisions in 2008, 65 (or 12.5 percent) were older drivers. The vast majority (80 percent) of these collisions took place during daytime hours and on weekdays (72 percent), perhaps because older drivers are less likely to drive at night and on weekends.

Despite the familiar stereotypes about older drivers, the numbers show that younger drivers might learn something from them.

*By Judge Michael J. O’Brien
Tigard Municipal Court*

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**Paving Season Wraps Up**

Thanks to careful planning and funding from federal stimulus dollars and Tigard’s Street Maintenance Fee, many streets received upgrades in condition and appearance. Pavement overlays have been completed on almost five miles of road along 72nd Ave., Durham Rd., Bonita Rd., Upper Boones Ferry Rd., Sequoia Pkwy., Pfaffle St., 121st Ave., and Garrett St.

Crews also completed 13 miles of slurry seals on streets in southern and northwestern Tigard. Slurry is the most cost-effective treatment for residential streets and has helped us make significant progress towards our goal of good pavement condition throughout Tigard.

Although we’re closing out a successful paving season, progress continues on construction projects on Pacific Hwy., Main St., Greenburg Rd., Hall Blvd., Burnham St. and Ash Ave. Finishing touches are being made on newly completed sidewalks along Burnham St., Ash Ave., Garrett St. and Barrows Rd.

The city offers a sincere “thank you!” to residents for their patience during construction. We also thank our contractors, Asphalt Maintenance Associates, J&S Concrete, Kerr Contractors, Knife River, Kodiak–Pacific, and S-2 Contractors for their efforts to work responsibly and minimize the inconvenience and noise caused by paving work.

City staff have worked diligently to anticipate and minimize the negative impacts of construction. We appreciate your tolerance of the dirt and disruption that accompanies most summer paving construction. **Thank You!**
Neighborhood Network News

Area 5—Home of the Halloween Canine Costume Contest

It’s become a signature event at Potso Dog Park that’s guaranteed to make you smile!

The Tigard Dog Park Committee is hosting the ninth annual Halloween Canine Costume Contest on Saturday, October 30, at Potso Dog Park. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. with judging at 11 a.m. The park is located off Hunziker Street at Wall Street, behind the former Coe Manufacturing building.

Start planning your canine’s costume and join in the fun. Human escorts are welcome to dress up too! A celebrity panel of judges will award prizes for the best costumes and all participants will be eligible for great raffle prizes!

For more information on Tigard dog parks, email the Tigard Dog Park Committee at tigarddogparks@yahoo.com or log onto the city’s website at www.tigard-or.gov/community/parks.

Thank You Neighborhood Photographers!

We received an amazing group of images from the place that you call home! Work begins on assembling the images and formatting the 2011 calendar. Once decided, we’ll publish a list of the winning photographers. Calendars will be distributed free to area residents.

YoooHooo! Future Area 13 Web Administrator—Call Me!

The West Tigard Neighborhood (Neighborhood Network Area 13) is searching for a new site administrator—it could be YOU!

Do you live within the boundary of Area 13? Are you interested in what’s happening in and around your neighborhood? Do you want to get involved in your community (from the comfort of your Lazy-Boy?)

Then team with Tigard’s fun and knowledgeable staff to learn everything you need to know to administer your neighborhood site—and the training only takes about 30 minutes!

This is a great opportunity to get involved in your neighborhood. Contact Joanne if you want to try it out ~ Joanne@tigard-or.gov or 503-718-2476.

Recycle! 1-Day, 2-Ways 5th Annual E-Waste Collection Event

Mark Saturday, October 30, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on your calendar. The city is teaming with Pride Disposal Co. and Pride Recycling Co. to host a recycling event in the Fowler Middle School parking lot (10865 SW Walnut St.) Bring your e-waste and sensitive documents to this one-stop recycling/shredding event. Payment by cash or check only.

Items for E-Waste Recycling

Disposal FREE: All items that have a screen (including laptops, TVs, and computer monitors) are accepted at no charge.

Disposal Fee: $5 for peripherals (desktop printer/copier/fax machine, UPS battery backup, VHS/DVD player) and 50¢ for fluorescent tube lights 4’ or shorter and $1 for fluorescent tube lights longer than 4’ and compact fluorescent light bulbs.

Paper Shredding and Food Drive

Securely dispose of printed materials containing sensitive information and support the Oregon Food Bank too!

One brown paper grocery bag of documents will be shredded and recycled FREE with donation of two (2) non-perishable food items. Limit one free bag per car. Disposal Fee: $10 for each additional red recycling bin of shredding (minimum fee of $10).

Is Public Service For You?
The city is seeking volunteers to serve on four different boards. How do you know which one is right for you? Consider the following...

Getting to Know You...
Whether you’re a seasoned volunteer, or making your first foray into public service, tell us about yourself! To be considered for any of these appointments, you’ll need to fill out a Citizen Committee Interest application. Find one in the City Hall lobby at 13125 SW Hall Boulevard or on the city’s website at www.tigard-or.gov/volunteer.

Some positions will require the applicant to be a resident or business owner within the Tigard city limits. In some cases, certain professions must be represented, or excluded either by state enabling act or local ordinance.

City Center Advisory Commission (CCAC)

Mission: The CCAC advises the City Center Development Agency on urban renewal projects in downtown.

Time Commitment: Approximately 2.5 hours each month, with an hour per month to review material. Voting positions serve a 3-year term while alternate members serve a 1-year term.

If You Like... forging public and private partnerships, finding innovative ways to advance urban renewal, have expertise in urban planning or design, affordable housing creation or real estate development.

Interested? Three (3) voting positions will be filled as well as two (2) alternate positions. Applications must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday, October 29. If you have questions about CCAC activities, contact Sean Farrelly, Redevelopment Project Manager, at 503-718-2420 or sean@tigard-or.gov.

Planning Commission

Mission: The Planning Commission advises the City Council on general land use and transportation planning issues, long-range community investment programs, and acts as a hearings body for certain land applications. Commissioners contribute to the city’s Comprehensive Plan, assist City Council in the formulation of community investment plans, apply development regulations, and advance cooperative relationships within the community.

Time Commitment: Expect to meet up to two Monday evenings per month for approximately two hours. Commissioners serve a 4-year term.

If You Like... Guiding land use and development at the municipal level, applying and interpreting Municipal Code to real proposals, or if you have a background or interest in planning, engineering or law.

Interested? Two (2) voting positions and up to two (2) alternate positions will be filled. Applications must be received by 5 p.m. on Monday, October 25. If you have questions about the Planning Commission, contact Susan Hartnett at 503-718-2427 or SusanH@tigard-or.gov.

City of Tigard

Tigard Transportation Advisory Committee (TTAC)

Mission: The TTAC advises the City Council and staff on transportation matters within the city.

Time Commitment: Expect to meet one evening a month for approximately two hours, with opportunities to participate in additional transportation-specific activities. Appointees serve 3-year terms.

If You Like... long-range planning, transportation alternatives and the effects upon growth, working with agencies at all levels of government, bringing realistic advice to City Council for consideration.

Interested? Three (3) vacant positions will be filled. Applications must be received by 5 p.m. on Monday, October 25. If you have questions about TTAC activities, contact Judith Gray at 503-718-2557 or judith@tigard-or.gov.

Tree Board

Mission: The Tree Board develops and administers a comprehensive community tree management program for trees on public property and develops a citywide tree stewardship and urban forest enhancement program.

Time Commitment: Expect to meet one evening a month for 90 minutes. Appointees will serve a 4-year term.

If You Like... Trees! and educating residents on their importance to Tigard’s economic and aesthetic values, preservation and planning and playing a vital role in the city’s Comprehensive Plan, Urban Forestry Master Plan, Tree Code, Heritage Tree and Tree City USA programs.

Interested? Two (2) vacant positions will be filled. Applications must be received by 5 p.m. on Monday, October 25. For more information about the Tree Board, contact Todd Prager at 503-718-2700 or todd@tigard-or.gov.
Minds at Play: Gaming @ the Library

Murder Mystery Party
Saturday, October 2, 2–5 p.m.
Community Room, Adults
A “murder” has occurred in the library! Adults are invited to join us for this interactive event featuring classic literary characters. You are encouraged to mingle, question your fellow “suspects” and “witnesses,” uncover clues and compare notes with other sleuths to solve the crime. The first to solve the whodunit will win a mysterious prize. Light refreshments will be provided.

Family Game Fest
Friday, October 22, 2–4 p.m.
Community Room, All Ages
School’s out! Bring the whole family and get your game on! We’ll provide board games, Twister®, Lego Rock Band®, video games on the big screen and snacks.

Medieval Madness
Friday, October 29, 5–8 p.m.
Community Room, Teens
Come for LARP (Live Action Role-Playing) at the library! Knights and knaves alike are invited to an evening of festivities straight from the Middle Ages. Costumes are strongly encouraged! Sample medieval flavors and games. Make your own boffer, while supplies last. “What’s a boffer?” Come to the program to find out!

International Celebration Day
Sunday, October 10 | Noon–6 p.m. | Community Room

- Noon–1 p.m. Ronnie Robins: Jazz samba band
- 2:30–3:15 p.m. Giti Najafi: Persian music and dance
- 4:30–5:15 p.m. Andean flute music

Three musical performances from different cultures will brighten your Sunday afternoon. Come for one performance or stay all afternoon! Sponsored by Friends of the Tigard Library.

Rock ‘N’ Roll Kindy with Mo Phillips
Tuesday, October 12, 7–8 p.m., Community Room
All Ages

Families are invited to join musician Mo Phillips for a chance to form a super crazy onetime band that will write, perform and record a couple of tunes in about an hour. Don’t think we can pull it off? Check out the music page at rocknrollkindy.com and listen to some of the crazy cuts from past Rock ‘N’ Roll Kindy shows!

Discovering Finches
Saturday, October 23, 1–3 p.m., Community Room

Finches are among our most beloved backyard summer feeders, but can you recognize them in the winter? Discover identification tips and explore their habits and migration. Local birding expert Doug Robberson will provide a lecture and slide show to teach you about this family of birds.

Tales That Go Bump in the Night with Anne Rutherford
Friday, October 15, 7–8 p.m., Community Room
Ages 10–Adult

Take a walk on the shivery side! Enjoy a show of chillers and thrillers, told with ghoulish gusto by master storyteller Anne Rutherford. Anne mixes original and vintage ghostly tales with spooky songs and poems in a spine-tingling (and funny-bone tickling) performance. Sponsored by the Friends of the Tigard Library.

A Hepkitten’s Teen Read Week Celebration
Thursday, October 14 | 5–7 p.m. | Community Room

Join author Christine Fletcher as she gives a presentation (A Hepkitten’s Guide to the War: Teens, Taxi Dancing and WWII) based on her fabulous book, Ten Cents a Dance. Hear about what happens to 15-year-old Ruby when, in an attempt to escape poverty, she falls into the seedy yet deceptively fun world of Taxi Dancing.

After the author’s presentation, a local dance instructor will teach some of the most popular dances from Ruby’s era, including Swing and Jitterbug. Those who survive the speed dance marathon will win prizes! Attendees can enter a drawing for our musical door prize, an iPod shuffle.

Re-Boot Camp
Tuesday, October 12 AND Wednesday, October 13
4:30–6 p.m., Technology Room, Grades 4–5

Want to learn computer and research skills while having fun at the same time? I can’t hear you! Did you say YES!? Use the skills you learn at this two-day camp for a specific school assignment or just stick them in your back pocket for later. Registration required. To register, call the Children’s Desk at 503-718-2656.

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All Ages

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Ready, Set, Plant!
Tree for All event on Summer Creek at Mary Woodward Elementary School

The city and Friends of Trees are teaming up to plant 800 native trees and we need YOUR help! Join our regional challenge to plant two million trees in the Tualatin River Watershed over the next 20 years. Tigard and her volunteers have planted nearly 83,000 trees and native plants since the “Tree for All” challenge began in 2005.

Planting season is here! Let’s get started!

✦ Saturday, October 16, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
✦ Where: Mary Woodward Elementary School
  (12325 SW Katherine St., Tigard)
✦ What: Plant native trees and shrubs. Bring mud boots for the wet areas.
✦ Registration: Required for groups over three or more. For more information, contact Environmental Coordinator Carla Staedter at 503-718-2788 or carla@tigard-or.gov.

Branching Out
A Message from Your Tree Board

People enjoy the beauty of trees in our city, but there are many other benefits to having trees in the community. Trees help clean the air and water by reducing smog levels up to six percent, and rain runoff by over 327 gallons per mature tree.

Studies show:
✦ trees add between 3 and 7 percent to the value of a home;
✦ decrease annual cooling and heating costs by an average of 4 percent; and
✦ add social benefits by giving neighborhoods a sense of place.

For more information on the benefits of trees, contact City Arborist Todd Prager at 503-718-2700 or Todd@tigard-or.gov.

Leaf & Food Collection Event

It’s back! The city has four dates for the Free Leaf Disposal event. This year the event moves to Cook Park (at the end of 92nd Avenue off of Durham Road)

Drop your leaves any time between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. on these Saturdays:

November 6, November 20
December 4, December 11

✦ Leaves can be loose or bagged. We will accept plastic, but paper bags are preferred.
✦ A donation of two non-perishable food items is recommended. Donations will be forwarded to Tigard area residents through Tigard’s St. Vincent de Paul food distribution facility.

Questions?
Contact Rob Block at 503-718-2607 or Rob@tigard-or.gov.

Fall Native Plant Sale

Looking for beautiful, drought tolerant plants that require fewer chemicals and protect water quality? Visit the Tualatin Hills native plant sale:

✦ Saturday, October 2
  10 a.m.–2 p.m.
✦ THPRD Nature Park, 15655 SW Millikan Way, Beaverton
✦ Phone: 503-629-6350

A large selection of native plants will be available for purchase. Select from a wide variety of trees, shrubs, and flowering plants in all price ranges. Once established, native plants need little water and are easy to care for.

Before you shop, check out the Native Plant Finder online tool to help you decide which plants will suit your landscape: www.cleanwaterservices.org/Residents/ToolsAndTips/NativePlantFinder.