

SWNI News March 2018 Collins View Article due Feb 15

Neighborhood Association Elections are held on May 2, 7:00 PM, Riverdale High School. All positions are open for nominations. Do check collinsview.org for the election slate and information about every position. All Collins View residents are encouraged to consider candidacy.

First Wednesday Events 7pm Riverdale High School:

- **March 7, 2018 Earthquake Preparedness How to Get Ready.** Presenter Rick Eilers, founder of Prepared Northwest
- **April 4, 2018. Zero leading address changes and 911 Wayfinding.** Presenter Andrew Aebi, City of Portland Local Improvement District Administrator, will share with us the purpose, plans, execution dates and benefits of the upcoming address changes scheduled and planned for our neighborhood.
- **June 6, 2018 Crime Prevention Office of Neighborhood Involvement.** Presenter Mark Wells, City of Portland, Crime Prevention Program Coordinator, will discuss setting up Neighborhood Watch and crime prevention strategies specific to our neighborhood.

Our Natural Areas

The Westside Wildlife Corridor is the forested spine of the west hills that helps protect remaining natural habitat, protect headwater streams, and create a continuous wildlife migration corridor from Forest Park south along the west hills. Portland's Special Status Habitats – (recognized by state and federal agencies as being ecologically important)- include "Strategy Habitats": herbaceous wetlands, upland prairie and native grasslands, oak woodlands, interior forests (especially late successional conifer forests), bottomland hardwood forest, and riparian habitat. (*Portland Parks* <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/article/204516>). How many of these are included in the neighborhood's confluence of Tryon Creek with its headwater springs, newly enlarged Marshall Park, and River View Natural Area? We are blessed. And the ecological protection aspect of these areas is ever more critical with the increased stresses of the city's emphasis on increased density and infill.

March, especially, is when the amazing fecundity of our area is on display. Speak softly as you use your senses – eyes, ears, yes, even nose – and situational awareness to explore these habitat preserves above you, around you and on the ground. Snow melt and rain runoff pool in vernal ponds. These seasonal temporary pools provide habitat for a biodiversity that includes invertebrates and amphibians. Frogs, toads and salamanders LOVE vernal pools. No egg-eating, tadpole-eating fish!

What's blooming and hatching in March

Vine maple, big leaf maple (tree), hazelnut, red flowering currant, Nootka rose, yellow violets, Oregon grape, skunk cabbage, indian plum, trillium (first weekend in April is Tryon Creek Trillium Festival), red elderberry, salmonberry, frog eggs, salamander jelly (eggs), virtually all songbird chicks, owlets, eaglets, eyas (gotcha? they're baby hawks).

Dixie Johnston, Brendan McGillicuddy and Mary Verilli contributed to this article, submitted by Maryellen Read