

APRC Spring & Early Summer Look Ahead
By Dorinda Cottle, Executive Analyst for APRC
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While life has started to return to some sort of normal, APRC is forging ahead to bring you a modified version of what we offer the citizens of Ashland. One of our goals is to safely stay connected while offering opportunities for mental and physical well-being. We are kicking off this spring and early summer with a full line-up!

On Monday, May 31, Memorial Day Weekend, break out the swimsuits, because the beloved **SPLASH PAD at Garfield Park** will open for the season. Garfield Park is a 3-acre park located in the middle of town and it packs a punch... offering a playground, basketball and sand volleyball courts, a bike station and areas to have a picnic. The splash pad will be open daily this season from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. More info at ashland.or.us/Garfield.

And, speaking of swimsuits, on June 1 the **Daniel Meyer Memorial Pool** will open for the season. We will offer swim lessons throughout the summer months and a variety of swim programs, from Recreation Swim to Lap Swim, with opportunities for all ages to enjoy! Complete info at ashland.or.us/Swim, including information on the pool rebuild project.

Also, on Memorial Day Weekend, the 6th Annual **Ashland World Music Festival** will take place. This free, hybrid event will feature musical artists and *HeartBeat* stories on Friday, May 28, from 3:30 to 8:30 p.m., and will be live-streamed from our *partner website at RogueWorldMusic.org/AWMF* or the event Facebook page [@ashlandworldmusicfestival](https://www.facebook.com/ashlandworldmusicfestival). Self-guided *SoundWalks* will be available from Saturday, May 29 through Monday May 31. This event is a fundraiser for the Unete Farm Workers and Immigrant Families Alameda Fire Relief Fund. Donations through Rogue World Music will qualify for a tax credit if matched with a gift to the Oregon Cultural Trust. Complete info at RogueWorldMusic.org/AWMF.
“Renewing Connections with Community & Culture!”

The annual **Rogue Valley Bike Swap** will take on a different form this year. We are collaborating with the *Rogue Valley Transportation District (RVTD)* to facilitate a **bike donation drive**. Donated bikes will be distributed to local organizations with the aim of getting bikes in the hands of those affected by the Alameda Fire, veterans and low-income community members. If you have a bike that you are able to donate, we will be accepting donations on June 18, 1 to 4 p.m., and June 19, 9 a.m. to Noon. Donations will be accepted in a drive-through format at these times at the parking lot of The Grove, 1195 E Main St, Ashland. Bikes should be in working order, but those in need of minor repairs are welcome. For questions contact Sulaiman Shelton, 541.552.2264, Sulaiman.shelton@ashland.or.us.

As we wrap up the 2019-2021 Biennium, our five-member, elected Commission has selected **goals for the upcoming 2021-2023 Biennium**, which will officially begin July 1, 2021. Learn more at ashland.or.us/APRCgoals. Since 1908, APRC has been overseen by an elected Commission, when the City of Ashland set aside property for parkland and authorized a permanent tax levy to fund Parks, and appointed members of the first Commission. These actions were part of a City Charter amendment, overwhelmingly adopted by Ashland voters!

The **Ashland 4th of July Run** will take place virtually this year for the second straight year. Run one of three distances: 1-mile fun run, 5k or 10K. The event is offered at no charge; however, donations

will benefit the Phoenix High School Cross Country Team. ***T-shirts with this year's logo are available for \$25/each. Be sure to take a selfie on your run in your commemorative t-shirt and share your photo/s*** on the event Facebook page, [Facebook.com/groups/AshlandJuly4thRun](https://www.facebook.com/groups/AshlandJuly4thRun). #Ashland4thJulyRun. **Donate, buy a shirt and learn more at [ashland.or.us/JulyRun](https://www.ashland.or.us/JulyRun).** (*T-shirts will be available for sale through June 10.*)

Our **2021 Summer Community PlayGuide: "What to Do!"** is out and registration is open. You can view our summer guide at [AshlandParksandRec.org](https://www.AshlandParksandRec.org). And, as the weather warms up, keep in mind the **780+ acres of parkland** that is available to you! This land is comprised of **18 parks, open space and 53 miles of trails**; all of which give you and yours the opportunity to get outside and enjoy nature.

We are not out of the woods just yet. Public health guidelines are still in place and we will continue to find ways to engage with the citizens of Ashland. For information on current health guidelines, and info on APRC in general, please visit [AshlandParksandRec.org](https://www.AshlandParksandRec.org). Follow us on social media @AshlandParksandRec and use the hashtags, #AshlandParksandRec #APRC #AshlandWhatToDo #FunItsInOurNature