

The Community Unity Initiative is Proud to Present the:

COMMUNITY UNITY PLEDGE

What is the Community Unity Pledge? The Community Unity Initiative **Pledge** is a pledge by Individual Citizens of any age or any Organized Private Groups or Public Bodies to follow proper and respectful Civil Discourse in dealing with issues that affect our community and surrounding communities of North Coos County. The Unity... is the Pledge.

What does all this mumbo jumbo mean? This **Pledge** simply means that parties to disagreements of issues affecting our communities agree to play nice. It means to respect that others may have a different opinion and to respect the public process to which the particular issue is being heard. It means to follow the rules of the decision makers and respect “Robert’s Rules of Order” in public debate. It means sticking to and discussing the issues and facts at hand and not personal attacks based on personalities, positions, or hearsay evidence.

What will this Pledge Accomplish? It is hoped that this **Pledge** will be followed and signed by all Citizens and Public and Private Groups within our Community and the surrounding areas. When this happens then our reputation and perception as a community that “can’t seem to agree on anything or make any headway for moving forward to accomplish common goals” will finally change. This change, in turn, will bring new visitors and residents and an overall positive attitude towards each other and our community, as well as, being respected and viewed by others outside our community as a step in the right direction toward self-governance.

What does this Pledge not do? This **Pledge** does not, in any way, infringe on our citizens rights of “free speech” under the First Amendment of the Constitution and Bill of Rights of the United States of America. This pledge is not, in any way, connected to any Political Party or any other Ideology other than a respect for our fellow citizens and their right to voice their opinions in a public forum or meeting about the topic at hand.

How do I sign this Pledge and what information is requested and why?

The Tenmile Lakes Association (TLA) is a sponsor of this Initiative and will have copies of the one page **Pledge** for Citizens and Public and Private Groups to sign. This **Pledge** is strictly voluntary and will ask for the following information, much of which is optional: Your Name or Groups Name; Your Mailing Address; Your Physical Address (optional); Your Email address (optional); and Your Phone No.(s) (optional) and your signature. A copy will be made for each signer to keep for their file and future reference. **Questions:** Please visit the TLA website at: www.tenmilelakes.com ; or email tenmilelakes@gmail.com ; or call 503.302.4042 for Steve or 541.297.9489 for John.

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I (Print Name) _____ voluntarily sign the Community Unity Pledge
As described below. My mailing address is: _____
_____. My physical address is: (If different, Optional)

My email is: (Optional) _____ My Phone Number(s): (Optional)

I Pledge to:

1. Respect that others have every right as I have to speak in a public forum and state their opinion on the subject or topic at hand and may have a different opinion than I do.
2. Respect the rules of the committee and/or private or public body that may be hearing testimony and opinions on the subject or topic at hand and that we will all be treated equally in time allowed to speak.
3. Respect that the committee or private or public body may have rules on speakers and testimony and I will abide by those rules.
4. Respect other citizen's time to speak and not interrupt their testimony or opinions by shouting or disrupting the proceedings in any manner.
5. Respect that an agenda may be used and is a priority and must be followed before non-agenda items are called for, if at all.
6. Respect and treat my fellow citizens and public/private bodies with civility and courtesy. I will not use profanity or engage in personal public attacks and will focus on issues, common interests, and facts and not focus on personalities, political positions and hearsay discussions or hearsay evidence.
7. Respect the generally accepted "Roberts Rules of Order" if used in public or private bodies for public testimony.
8. Respect that we as individuals and groups still have these rights provided for us in civil discourse and be thankful for that right as an American.

Signed this _____ day of _____ in the year of _____.

(Signature) _____