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**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* For Immediate Release\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Columbia Springs’ ReLit brings illuminating sights and sounds to Vancouver**

*VANCOUVER, WA (August 5, 2022)* – Thousands of community members utilize the services of Columbia Springs’ Repair Clark County program each year. But what happens to the things that can’t be fixed?

“It’s such a shame to me when something can’t be repaired.” says Program Coordinator, Terra Heilman. Part availability and item condition (among other reasons) sometimes leave some items unrepairable. “I began to ask myself, ‘What if we could turn some of these other broken items into lighting?’” and the ReLit upcycled lighting festival concept was born.

As it turns out, just about anything can be turned into a lamp. Unrepairable items with vintage features, cool lines, and chrome detailing are especially fun to upcycle. And the volunteer fixers in the Repair Clark County program have been busy doing just that – creatively giving items new life in preparation for the second annual ReLit, hosted by Columbia Springs.

This year’s event will include more lamps, more night themed programming, and an extra week of lamp viewing. Functional art pieces will be featured in select Downtown Vancouver businesses from August 31st-September 11th. They will then return to Columbia Springs and be visible from September 13th-28th. Lamps will be available to bid on in a silent auction for the duration of the festival, allowing winning community members to bring home a one-of-a-kind, locally handmade lamp while supporting the nonprofit Columbia Springs.

ReLit 2022 will culminate on September 28th with Compositions and Kilowatts – a creatively lit concert in the woods featuring an evening of music from Ben Cosgrove backlit by upcycled lamps. A meet and greet afterparty (featuring complementary drinks and light hors d’oeuvres from Pomeroy Cellars, Heathen Brewing, and Boards+Bubbles) will follow – tickets are on sale now for the concert and afterparty.

How can you join the fun? Visit [www.columbiasprings.org/relit](http://www.columbiasprings.org/relit)! At this website you can purchase concert tickets and sign up to receive the ReLit lamp gallery walking tour map (and other updates). The walking tour is free, and makes a wonderful date night activity or family outing!

Those looking to get involved as sponsors or learn about lamp creation can email [kylie@columbiasprings.org](mailto:kylie@columbiasprings.org).

***About Us:*** *Columbia Springs is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit on the Old Evergreen Highway in Vancouver, WA that helps thousands of children and their families to find belonging in and love for nature. We build a community of lifelong learners and land stewards through our educational opportunities, walking trails, events, and workshops – which are open to all. The Repair Clark County program of Columbia Springs offers free fixing events, repair skills workshops and other waste reduction programming throughout Clark County. Located on a 100 acre historic site in the City of Vancouver, Columbia Springs is a natural gem in an urban environment, providing cutting edge environmental education close to your home.*