

Photo by Brandon Goldman

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

Preserve the City of Ashland's water resources and save money this summer by taking advantage of the following programs and rebates.



Sprinkler System Evaluations

Did you know that you can get a personalized irrigation schedule and irrigation evaluation for FREE! This is offered during the summer months and consists of a [comprehensive assessment](#) of the design, operation and management of your sprinkler system.

Lawn Replacement Rebate

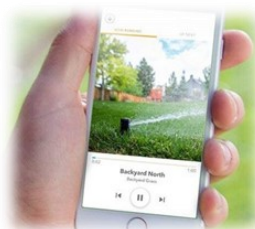
Apply for a [rebate](#) for the removal of live, maintained and irrigated lawn that is replaced with climate appropriate, low water use landscape and efficient irrigation systems. Rebates up to \$1.25 per square foot of lawn removed.

High-Efficiency Toilet Rebate

Apply for a [rebate](#) when you replace your old inefficient toilet(s) with a WaterSense labeled 1.28 gallon per flush high efficiency toilet(s). Rebate up to \$75 for replacing an old toilet.

Smart Sprinkler Controller Rebate

A [rebate](#) is being offered for the installation of a WaterSense labeled Smart Irrigation Controller. Residential customers are eligible for a \$200 rebate and HOAs and commercial facilities a \$250 rebate.



Washing Machine Rebate

Apply for a rebate when you purchase and install a new Energy Star qualified Washing Machine. Rebates up to \$80.



Giveaways

Free showerheads, bathroom aerators, kitchen aerators, and soil moisture meters are available at the Community Development building at 51 Winburn Way. Call (541) 488-5587 to schedule a time to pick them up.

For more information or to schedule a sprinkler system evaluation call (541) 552-2062. Also, find weather and watering information at www.ashland.or.us/weather and visit the waterwise website at www.ashlandsaveswater.org.

AIR QUALITY & SMOKEWISE ASHLAND

Smokewiseashland.org is a unique resource for all information related to smoke, health, and economic well-being.

The website displays the Ashland Air Quality Index (AQI) at the top of the homepage so residents and visitors can immediately find the most recent air quality and quickly and easily associate the number with protective actions, or just to be reassured that air quality is good, which is the case for most of the year in beautiful Ashland.

Smokewise Ashland also includes the best available information about health, air filtering, and the regional wildfire status in easy to click menus. Check it out today and stay safe in case of smoke!

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KEEP COOL AND SAVE ENERGY

Summer weather is here with hot Southern Oregon temperatures. Here are some tips to help you stay cool AND help to reduce your energy costs:

- Dress for the weather. Wear lightweight, loose fitting clothing on hot days.
- Drink plenty of cold liquids to stay hydrated.
- Turn off lights and fans in unoccupied rooms.
- Turn off or unplug unnecessary electronics.
- Use your kitchen and bathroom fans after cooking and bathing to remove hot steam from the air.
- Cook more meals in your microwave or InstaPot. It's quicker, more energy efficient, and heats the food instead of your house.
- Run your dishwasher at night, choose to air dry dishes rather than the heat option.
- Dry laundry on a clothesline.
- If possible wash clothes in cold water.
- Keep windows, doors, blinds and curtains closed during the day to keep cool air in. Open them when it cools down to let cool breezes through.
- Use portable or ceiling fans instead of A/C. Just increasing air movement can make you feel up to 5 degrees cooler, while using less energy. Since the fan won't cool the room, be sure to turn it off when you leave the room.
- Install roll-up bamboo blinds outside of windows that receive the most sunlight. Blocking the sun from the *outside* is more effective than blocking it from the *inside*.
- If using A/C set your thermostat to 78 degrees or higher.
- Use natural light if possible.

If you have any questions or concerns, the City of Ashland Conservation Division is here to help! Call (541) 488-5306.

CLIMATE AND ENERGY UPDATES

Our Climate and Energy staff have been working hard on providing incentives and outreach to help residents take climate action and save money. Here are some updates for residents to keep in mind!

Induction Cooking – Are you interested in trying out induction cooking? Check out a portable unit and compatible cookware with the Jackson County Library of Things. Check out the catalogue at jcls.org/collections/library-of-things/ to see if they are ready.

Electric Vehicle Chargers at the Grove – There are four new electric vehicle chargers installed at the Grove, located at 1195 E Main Street. They are level 2 chargers and are free to the public. This makes 16 city-owned public chargers. You can find charging locations on third party apps, like PlugShare.

Electric Vehicle Incentive – If you are interested in purchasing an electric vehicle, the city is still offering a \$1,500 incentive. This is for used or new vehicles with a purchase price of \$30,000 or less. To learn more about program requirements, visit our website at ashland.or.us/climate.

EVACUATION REMINDERS

You may have seen this reminder before, but we want to make sure everyone is prepared in case of an evacuation. Review the following five tasks to be prepared:

Know Your Zone - Visit ashland.or.us/evacuate and click *Know Your Zone* to view the City's Evacuation Zone map and to download a detailed map of your zone.

Know Your Alerts - If you have not already, you need to sign up for Nixle – Ashland's community alert system – to be advised on which zones will need to evacuate in an emergency. To sign up for Nixle, go to ashland.or.us/nixle or text 97520 to 888777 on your cell phone.

Get Ready – Make personal evacuation kits for each family member, stored in your vehicle, and small enough to carry on foot if necessary. Find lists for kits at ashland.or.us/evacuate.

Stay Together – It's vital to only take one vehicle in an evacuation to minimize evacuation gridlock. Keep the gas tank of this vehicle full.

Know Your Evacuation Levels – You will receive evacuation orders in levels. It is vital you understand and prepare for Ashland's three levels of evacuation (see below).

Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch for Nixle alerts for your zone and be prepared to monitor 1700 AM if cell service is interrupted. • Prepare your "go kits" and have a plan for pets and family members with special needs. • Keep your evacuation vehicle gas tank full or fully charged if electric. 	Be Ready
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be prepared to evacuate at a moment's notice with "go kits" in your vehicle. • Consider evacuating during Level 2 if your family needs extra time, or if conditions feel unsafe to you. • This may be the only evacuation notice you receive if conditions worsen rapidly. 	Be Set
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave immediately. Do not spend further time collecting additional belongings. • You will not be able to return until conditions are safe. • Evacuation routing can change. Be sure to continue monitoring Nixle and/or 1700 AM radio. 	Go!

WEEDS AND GRASSES: SILENT PAVEMENT AND CONCRETE DESTRUCTION

We need your help to avoid these problems.

Weeds and other vegetation along the curbs and gutters do extensive damage to our street system. Any weeds or vegetation along the crack between the concrete and the asphalt allows water to seep in under the asphalt. Water causes damage beneath the asphalt that often will not show up for years, but when it does, our roads show signs of wear and often turn into crumbling sections of asphalt and costly repairs.

Your help in eliminating the weeds, grasses and other vegetation along the curb will help to avoid water damage to the asphalt and costly tax payer street repairs.



MAINTAINING SIDEWALKS AND STREETSCAPES: RELATED ASHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS

Duty to Repair and Clear Sidewalks

It is the duty of the owners of land adjoining any street to maintain in good repair and to remove obstructions from the adjacent sidewalk: A) The owner of real property responsible for maintaining the adjacent sidewalk shall be primarily liable to any person injured because of any negligence of such person in failing to maintain the sidewalk in good condition. B) If the City is required to pay damages for the injury to persons or property caused by the failure of the owner to perform the duty which this section imposes, such owner shall compensate the City for the amount of the damages thus paid, plus court costs and fees incurred by the City. The City may maintain an action in any court of competent jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of this Section. [AMC 13.04.020]

Weeds Declared Nuisance

The growth of grass, weeds, shrubbery, and vegetation upon vacant and other lots and parcels of land, and the streets and alleys abutting thereon, in the City, during the summer season constitutes a fire menace, and greatly increases the fire hazard in the City, and is declared to be a nuisance. [AMC 9.04.010]

Noxious Growth

No owner or person in charge of property shall permit weeds or other noxious vegetation to grow upon such property. It shall be the duty of an owner or person in charge of the property to cut down or to destroy grass, shrubbery, brush, bushes, weeds, or other noxious vegetation as often as needed to prevent them from becoming unsightly, from becoming a fire hazard, or, in the case of weeds or other noxious vegetation, from maturing, or from going to seed. [AMC 9.08.100]



WHAT TO DO WITH APRC – “FUN, IT’S IN OUR NATURE!”

Watch for the **2021 Fall Community PlayGuide**, “What to Do,” which will come out in late August. PlayGuides will be direct mailed to all Ashland households and are always available online at AshlandParksandRec.org. Registration for Fall Programs will open September 1!

Going hiking! View trail maps in the Ashland Watershed by visiting ashland.or.us/ParksMaps. APRC co-manages 53 miles of trails in and around Ashland. *Get outside and stay connected!*

Are you familiar with our **dog friendly parks and walks**? Discover places to take your dog on-leash, and off-leash at the popular Ashland Dog Park. Also, learn about the impact dogs can have on wildlife, even when dog owners are doing all the right things! Complete info at ashland.or.us/DogFriendly.

Read the monthly **Park Views** column put out by the APRC and staff. The columns are published each month in the Ashland Tidings and available directly at ashland.or.us/ParkViews. One of our latest columns, written by Commissioner & Chair, Mike Gardiner, covers APRC *Goals & Budget for the 2021-2023 Biennium*.

Stay connected with APRC, sign up for email notifications and more at AshlandParksandRec.org. And connect on social media @AshlandParksandRec - #AshlandParksandRec #APRC #AshlandWhatToDo #FunItsInOurNature. Reach us directly at ParksInfo@ashland.or.us or call (541) 488-5340.

City offices will be closed on September 6 in observance of Labor Day.

Check out how Ashland connects at www.ashlandfiber.net.



EVENTS

Computer Lab for Older Adults

Struggling to use your computer, tablet or phone? Help is here! Learn and review basic digital literacy skills, get one-on-one assistance with your issues and/or device, and learn about the many resources available through the Jackson County Library System. Laptops and tablets will be provided or bring your own device. This series runs through October as well. All levels encouraged to attend. Space is limited so sign up now! Register at ashland.or.us/register or (541) 488-5342. Online registration closes at noon the day before a class.

DATES September 8 & 22
TIME 1 to 2:30 PM
PLACE Ashland Senior Center, 1699 Homes Avenue

Ashland Senior Phone Buddy

Stay connected with your community!

Ashland Senior Phone Buddy program matches seniors with local volunteers for regular social phone calls.



Ashland Senior Services Division
541-488-5342
seniorinfo@ashland.or.us

SEPTEMBER CITY CALENDAR

- City Council
Business Meeting: Sep 7 & 21 | 6 p.m.
Study Session: Sep 20 | 5:30 p.m.
- Airport Commission
September 7 | 9:30 a.m.
- Conservation & Climate Outreach Commission
September 22 | 3 p.m.
- Climate Policy Commission
September 9 | 4 p.m.
- Forest Lands Commission
September 14 | 5:30 p.m.
- Historic Commission
September 8 | 6 p.m.
- Housing and Human Services Commission
September 23 | 4 p.m.
- Parks and Recreation Commission
Business Meeting: September 8 | 6 p.m.
Study Session: September 1 | 6 p.m.
- Planning Commission
Business Meeting: September 14 | 7 p.m.
Study Session: September 28 | 7 p.m.
- Public Art Commission
September 17 | 8:30 a.m.
- Social Equity and Racial Justice Commission
TBD
- Transportation Commission
September 16 | 6 p.m.
- Tree Commission
September 9 | 6 p.m.
- Wildfire Safety Commission
September 15 | 11 a.m.

▲ TTY 1-800-735-2900 ▲ Meetings are held in the Council Chambers (1175 E Main Street) or the Siskiyou Room (51 Winburn Way) unless otherwise noted. ▲ City Council and many other City meetings are broadcast live on channel 9. Charter Communications customers will find city meetings on channels 180 and 181. Meetings also stream live on the internet at rvtv.sou.edu, select channel RVTV Prime. Meetings are replayed on Ashland Home Net Channel 9, Charter Spectrum RVTV 180 and 181. Replay schedules are available at rvtv.sou.edu.



Check out this and past versions of the City Source online anytime at ashland.or.us/citysource.

For more information on different ways to “Connect with Us” go to ashland.or.us/connect.



20 East Main St., Ashland, OR 97520 | www.ashland.or.us

