



*The citizen's source of information about the City of Ashland*

## Fine-Tune Your Irrigation System: Save Money & See Better Results

July is traditionally the month of peak demand for watering lawns, gardens, and landscapes in our region. A well-maintained system keeps your landscape beautiful and healthy, while minimizing water waste. To raise awareness of the benefits of efficient watering practices, the Irrigation Association has named July Smart Irrigation Month. Make time this summer to be sure you're getting the most out of your irrigation system, while keeping utility bills low and helping to protect the environment.

- **Adjust your watering schedule regularly;** adapt for the weather and the season. Visit [www.ashland.or.us/conserv](http://www.ashland.or.us/conserv) for an example watering guide.
- **Inspect your system twice a month.** Check for leaks, broken, or clogged heads and make adjustments to be sure you're watering plants and not sidewalks, fences, or buildings.
- **Schedule watering for each zone separately.** Take into account type of sprinklers, sun or shade exposure, soil type and plant requirements.
- **It is generally best to water deeply and infrequently.** However, if you are watering on a slope or if pooling occurs after only a short time, then consider breaking up your one long cycle into two cycles separated by at least an hour.
- **Water only when needed.** Overwatering results in shallow roots and encourages weeds, disease and fungus growth.
- **The best times to water** are just before sunrise and after sunset, when the sun is low and winds are calm.
- **Adjust your water pressure;** too much pressure on sprinklers uses more water than needed.
- **Install low-volume drip irrigation** for planter and garden beds.

Ashland offers many great resources to assist you in managing your landscape. Check out the City's Water Wise Landscaping website for more ideas on how to create a landscape that is healthy, attractive and uses less water. Visit the site at [www.ashlandsaveswater.org](http://www.ashlandsaveswater.org) and remember to "Love Your Water"! For more information, contact the water conservation team at (541) 552-2062.

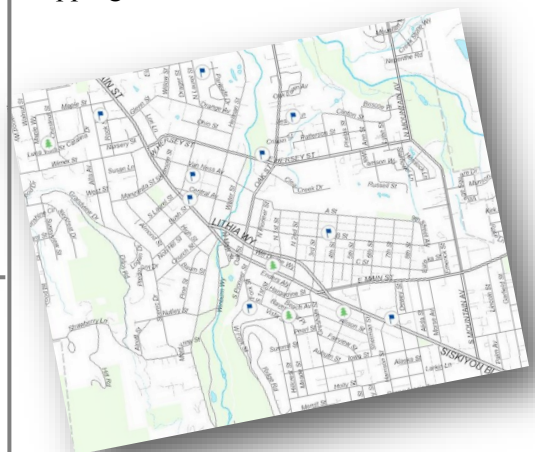


## Community Development Debuts Interactive Mapping Tool

The Community Development Department, in cooperation with the Public Works GIS Division, has launched a new online mapping tool that makes it easier for citizens to search and discover land use development proposals currently under review.

The new webpage, titled "What's Happening in my City", connects users with current development proposals and land use requests. The interactive map includes details on public comment periods, appeal deadlines, applicable review criteria, development site plans, and more!

The Community Development Department is excited to share this new feature that provides an easy way for the public to get timely information about land use applications proposed in their neighborhood and throughout the city. Visit <https://gis.ashland.or.us/developmentproposals> to view the mapping tool.



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## Utility Rate Increase

The City Council has approved rate increases effective July 1, 2019, based upon:

- Cost of service studies and corresponding rate recommendations;
- City of Ashland master plan recommendations; and
- Adjustments for inflation.

Rate increases are based upon general consumer indices with the intent to set rates at a level which accurately reflects the costs of providing utility service to each unique rate class. The City of Ashland also has a variety of efficiency programs that may help customers lower their monthly consumption and their costs. A complete list of programs, as well as water and energy saving tips, are available online at [www.ashland.or.us/conserve](http://www.ashland.or.us/conserve), or by contacting the Conservation Division staff. The Conservation staff is located at 51 Winburn Way and may be reached at (541) 488-5306 or by email at [conserve@ashland.or.us](mailto:conserve@ashland.or.us).

The City also offers several programs to assist customers who are having difficulty paying their utility bills. More information about these programs is available from the Customer Service Division. For any questions on your utility bills, please contact the Customer Service Division, 20 East Main Street, Ashland, OR 97520 or call (541) 488-6004. We value you as a customer and appreciate the opportunity to serve you.

EXAMPLE: The impact of the proposed increase on a residential utility account using 750 kWh and 1,000 cubic feet of water (nearly 7,500 gallons) per month would be:

	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	Difference
Electric Residential 750 kwh	\$ 70.39	\$ 73.69	\$ 3.30
Water Residential 1,000 cf	59.36	61.71	2.35
Sewer Residential 600 cf	42.38	44.07	1.69
Street User Fee Residential	9.14	9.37	0.23
Storm Drain Residential	4.90	4.99	0.09
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 186.17</b>	<b>\$ 193.83</b>	<b>\$ 7.66</b>

### Caring for Our Planet, One “R” at a Time

*From our partners at Recology*

#### Reduce – Use Less Stuff

When we buy and use less stuff, we use fewer resources and make less garbage. Reducing stops garbage before it starts. Reduce is the “R” with the most impact. You can reduce by shopping smart. Look at the packaging you buy. Consider buying durable instead of disposable. These decisions effect how full your garbage and recycling cart will be at the end of the week.

#### Reuse – Use Items Again and Again

Using something over and over, rather than buying it new each time, helps conserve resources and make less garbage. Reuse it, use it up, and wear it out. If the item is still in good condition, sell it, swap it, or share it with a friend then repair it and reuse it again.

#### Recycle – Turn It in to Something New

The contents of your recycling cart become the “raw materials” manufacturers use to make new products. By recycling you conserve natural resources. Recycling programs often vary widely by city. To reduce contamination, always check your local list of “what goes” before placing items in your cart.

#### Five Realistic Things You Can Do to Reduce Waste :

**#1 Smart Shopping**—How full your garbage (and recycling) cart can get depends on the decisions you make while shopping. Consider staying away from single use products, and opt to buy in bulk whenever possible.

**#2 Reused Shopping**—Thrift stores, consignment shops, garage sales, and antique shops are a great way to practice environmental and fiscal conservation.

**#3 Compost**—Turn your yard debris into valuable garden nutrients at home, or call (541) 482-1471 to sign up for bi-weekly yard debris collection service with Recology.

**#4 Use the Smallest Garbage Can**—One incentive to reduce, reuse, and recycle is to make your garbage can a limited resource – one that requires thoughtfulness before using.

**#5 Rent**—Getting ready to power wash, or begin a home improvement project? If you intend to use a piece of equipment for a one-time project, why buy it? Rent it!

2018 Recycling Summary for Ashland and Talent	
Type of Material	2018 Totals
Mixed Recycling	2,185.7 tons
Cardboard	1,192.8 tons
Glass	961.2 tons
Scrap Metal	229.8 tons
Used Motor Oil	14.2 tons
Yard Debris	3,033.4 tons



## Events

### **Graywater Workshop**

Interested in installing a graywater system and don't know where to start? Join us and other community members to learn how you can install your very own graywater system and reuse indoor water to water some of your landscape! Local experts will be on hand to:

- Demonstrate how systems are designed, installed, and operated;
- Display materials needed to build your own graywater system;
- Discuss local and state building codes & permits; and
- Demonstrate a local laundry to landscape or branched drain graywater system.

Lunch will be provided and each attendee will receive a graywater system book by the instructor, Laura Allen from Graywater Action. Some of the workshop may be held outside, so please wear appropriate clothing. Please also bring a pen or pencil and paper for notes and a water bottle. *Register as soon as possible by emailing [julie.smitherman@ashland.or.us](mailto:julie.smitherman@ashland.or.us) or calling (541) 552-2062.*

DATE Saturday, July 27, 2019  
TIME 9:30 AM to 4 PM  
PLACE SOU Stevenson Union, Rm 319, 1250 Siskiyou Blvd.  
COST \$45 per person

### **Learning Free-for-All**

Take advantage of a week of free community classes with the Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission. *Learn more and register online at [ashland.or.us/register](http://ashland.or.us/register).*

Classes include:

- Nature Play Playground Update
- Introduction Building Straw Bale Buildings
- Rainwater Catchment Design
- Nature Meditation
- Intro to the Ashland Forest Plan
- Star Party: Constellations

DATES August 19 and 24

### **Family Movies at the Lithia Park Bandshell**

We are excited to host our first season of movies in the park. Bring a blanket, stadium seats, and the whole family to enjoy an evening of family-friendly movies under the stars! Optional wireless "Silent Disco" headphones will be available to rent for crystal-clear audio. Concessions will be available for purchase as well. Animals and alcohol are not allowed in parks. *Visit [facebook.com/silentmovementinternational](https://facebook.com/silentmovementinternational) for weather cancellation updates.*

DAYS: 2nd & 4th Fridays  
DATES: Aug 9, Aug 23, Sep 13 & Sep 27  
TIME: Start after dusk (approx. 8 to 8:30 PM)  
PLACE: Butler Bandshell in Lithia Park  
COST: \$5 donation—A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Ashland Parks Foundation.

## Events (continued)

### **First Friday Silent Discos in the Park!**

Join Silent Movement for their 4th summer of Family friendly events. Rent a pair of headphones and wander through downtown's Art Walk, or dance with over 200 other attendees to multiple channels of Live DJ's playing funky beats, while the little ones can make their own music on the interactive "Wiggle Wagon" which broadcasts on our Kid's Channel. Animals and alcohol are not allowed in parks. *Visit [facebook.com/silentmovementinternational](https://facebook.com/silentmovementinternational) for weather cancellation updates.*

DAYS: First Fridays  
DATES: Aug 2, Sep 6 & Oct 4  
TIME: 5 to 11PM  
PLACE: Front of Lithia Park  
COST: \$5 donation—A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Ashland Parks Foundation.

### **Free Lithia Park Nature Walks**

Enjoy beautiful Lithia Park's natural history three days a week (four days during July and August), rain or shine. Trained volunteer naturalists from APRC will lead an easy and interesting one and a half hour nature walk through Lithia Park. Topics include: trees, flowers, birds, climate, water, geology, and the history of the park. Learn about all of the happenings in Lithia Park during the summer months by visiting [ashland.or.us/LithiaHappenings](http://ashland.or.us/LithiaHappenings).

DAYS Saturdays (in July and August only),  
Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays  
TIME 10 to 11:30 AM  
PLACE Entrance of Lithia Park, across from the Plaza

### **Rock the Knoll Concert Series**

Mark your calendars, tell your friends, and join us this summer for some great music at Oak Knoll Golf Course. Our "Rock the Knoll" summer concert series continues with the East Main Band and has food available at 5 PM.

DATES August 16 (East Main Band)  
September 21 (Hog Wild)  
TIME 7 to 10 PM (food starting at 5 PM)  
PLACE Oak Knoll Golf Course, 3070 Hwy 66

### **Summer Saturday Morning Bird Walks**

On this easy walk, you will enjoy an opportunity to see and hear a variety of birds that spend the summer in the Rogue Valley. Binoculars and field guides will be available for check-out. *Please pre-register online at [ashland.or.us/register](http://ashland.or.us/register) or call (541) 488-6606 for more information.*

DAY 3rd Saturday each month  
DATE August 17  
TIME 8 to 9 AM  
PLACE NMP Nature Center, 620 N Mountain Ave.

## Events (continued)

### Travel Training for Seniors

Learn helpful tips about using the Rogue Valley Transportation District (RVTD) transit system. RVTD Travel Trainer, Mike Bowman, will give a brief presentation, answer your questions, and take you on a specially scheduled bus ride! There will also be information on the Valley Lift door-to-door service. This is a free event, but *registration is required*. Please register by calling the Senior Center at (541) 488-5342 or emailing [seniorinfo@ashland.or.us](mailto:seniorinfo@ashland.or.us).

DATE Wednesday, August 21  
TIME 1 to 3 PM  
PLACE Ashland Senior Center, 1699 Homes Avenue

### AARP Smart Driver Course

A refresher course specifically designed for drivers age 50 and older. After completion of this course, you may be eligible for a discount on your auto insurance (check with your insurance agent). *Pre-registration is required as space is limited. Register by calling (541) 488-5342 or emailing [seniorinfo@ashland.or.us](mailto:seniorinfo@ashland.or.us).*

DATES Wednesday, August 28 and Thursday, August 29  
TIME 1 to 4:15 PM  
COST \$15/AARP members, \$20/non-members  
PLACE Ashland Senior Center, 1699 Homes Avenue

## Volunteers Needed at the Senior Center

The Rogue Valley Council of Governments (RVCOG) Food and Friends Program at the Ashland Senior Center needs volunteers. Shifts range from two to four hours Monday through Friday. Office help and field trip drivers are also needed. For more information, please contact Lori Ainsworth at (541) 552-2264 or [lori.ainsworth@ashland.or.us](mailto:lori.ainsworth@ashland.or.us).



**City offices will be closed on Thursday, July 4, 2019  
in observance of Independence Day.**

**We apologize for any inconvenience.**

**CITY OF  
ASHLAND**

20 East Main St., Ashland, OR 97520 | [www.ashland.or.us](http://www.ashland.or.us)

## August City Calendar

### City Council

Business Meeting: August 6 & 20 | 7 p.m.  
Study Sessions: August 5 & 19 | 5:30 p.m.  
Council Chambers, 1175 E. Main Street

### Airport Commission

August 6 | 9:30 a.m.  
Siskiyou Room, 51 Winburn Way

### Conservation Commission

August 28 | 6 p.m.  
Siskiyou Room, 51 Winburn Way

### Forest Lands Commission

August 13 | 5:30 p.m.  
Fire Station #2, 1860 Ashland Street

### Historic Commission

August 7 | 6 p.m.  
Siskiyou Room, 51 Winburn Way

### Housing and Human Services Commission

August 22 | 4:30 p.m.  
Siskiyou Room, 51 Winburn Way

### Parks and Recreation Commission

Business Meeting: August 26 | 7 p.m.  
Council Chambers, 1175 E. Main Street  
Study Session: August 19 | 5:30 p.m.  
The Grove, 1195 E Main St.

### Planning Commission

Business Meeting: August 13 | 7 p.m.  
Study Session: August 19 | 7 p.m.  
Council Chambers, 1175 E. Main Street

### Public Art Commission

August 16 | 8 a.m.  
Siskiyou Room, 51 Winburn Way

### Transportation Commission

August 15 | 6 p.m.  
Council Chambers, 1175 E. Main Street

### Tree Commission

August 8 | 6 p.m.  
Siskiyou Room, 51 Winburn Way

### Wildfire Safety Commission

August 21 | 11 a.m.  
Fire Station #1, 455 Siskiyou Boulevard

▲ TTY 1-800-735-2900 ▲ 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 [rtv.sou.edu](http://rtv.sou.edu) select channel RVTV Prime.

