



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

CITY OF ASHLAND

City Source

August 2016

Coming up on the Council Agenda

The City Council will discuss two extremely important issues this fall, and all Ashlanders are welcome to join in the discussion. One involves Police Department staffing and the other involves the future of City Hall (see page 2).

The number of sworn police officers in Ashland is unchanged over the last twenty years: 28 officers in 1997; 28 officers today. This despite the fact that the City's population has grown by 22% during that time and the number of visitors to our city has virtually exploded. (Currently about 300,000 annually.) As calls for service increase, the department is increasingly stretched thin, often with fewer than three officers to provide services to the entire city at any given moment in time. Addressing this problem will be costly, which creates another level of complexity.

The Council will also receive a report from a consultant hired to analyze the City's space needs and examine the feasibility of three different downtown locations for addressing those space needs. The City is completely out of room in its current City Hall building, which was originally built in the late 19th century and which is seismically vulnerable. Bringing the building up to current seismic standards would be more expensive than simply building a new building, according to an engineering study presented to the Council earlier this year.

These Council discussions are tentatively scheduled for late September or early October. Keep an eye on the city website, ashland.or.us, for Council agendas and additional information.

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Sprinkler Scheduling Can Save Water and Money

The biggest of water savings can often be realized through improved irrigation scheduling. You can reduce your water use by up to 60% simply by adjusting your watering schedule throughout the summer to account for plants' changing water needs. At the end of August and into September we still have high temperatures, however, plant water needs decrease because the days get shorter. Remember to take this into account and reduce your watering times accordingly.

Check out the Outdoor Watering Calculator at ashland.saveswater.org to help you determine how much and how often to water or call 541-552-2062 for assistance with programming your controller.

Here are some additional outdoor water conservation tips:

- Adjust sprinklers to avoid watering sidewalks and driveways.
- Water between 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. to avoid losing water to wind and evaporation.
- Use a moisture meter to detect if soil is still moist from previous watering.

(See, *Sprinklers*, Page 3)



Family and Friends CPR

The Family & Friends CPR course teaches the lifesaving skills of adult Hands-Only® CPR, child CPR with breaths, adult and child AED use, infant CPR and relief of choking in an adult, child or infant. Skills are taught in a dynamic group environment by using research-proven practice-while-watching technique, which provides students with the most hands-on CPR practice time possible.

Family & Friends CPR is for people who want to learn CPR but do not need a course completion card* in CPR for their job. This course is ideal for schools and students, new parents, grandparents, babysitters and others interested in learning how to save a life.

Date: Saturday, September 4

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Cost: \$5

Where: Location TBD

Registration is first-come, first-served according to when class fees are paid. Participants may register by mailing a check or by paying in-person between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday at Fire Station 1, located at 455 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland, OR 97520. Make checks payable to 'City of Ashland'. You can also pay in person by credit card. There is limited space available, so register early!

For information or to register contact the CERT Program Coordinator at 541-552-2226, or by e-mail at cpr@ashland.or.us.

Climate Action Plan Open House

Join us on September 25, 2016, for the second Climate & Energy Action Plan open house! This is your chance to learn about potential actions being considered by the ad hoc committee, give feedback on those actions, and let us know about any additional actions that should be considered.

The open house will be from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m., location to be determined. Keep an eye on the committee's webpage, www.ashland.or.us/climateplan or call 541-552-2046 for the latest information!

Compost Classes

Join the City of Ashland's Conservation Commission, in partnership with Recology Ashland in composting classes at the Recycle Center (on Water Street). All classes cost \$5 each. You can register at ashland.or.us/register or by calling 541-488-6606.

- **September 10, 10:00 a.m. -noon** – Vermi (worm) -composting & Bokashi Method
- **September 20, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.** Climate Change Action: Part 1 “The Basics”
- **September 27, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.** Climate Change Action: Part 2 “What Can I Do?”

Help Set the City Hall Vision

Help the City to set priorities for a potential new city hall or a re-build of the existing city hall.

Ashland residents are invited to attend an Open House on this subject on Thursday, September 15 at 5:00 p.m. in Pioneer Hall at 73 Winburn Way. Refreshments will be provided.

ORW Architecture will present a brief overview on the seismic vulnerability of the current city hall at 20 East Main St. and the three site options identified to explore for consolidating City staff. The City invites residents to weigh in on the priorities for city hall such as safety, sustainability, efficient access of City services, etc. These priorities will help inform ORW and the City Council as they consider options later this year.

For more information, call Kaylea Kathol, city project manager, at 541-552-2419.

Sprinklers

Continued from Page 1

- Be sure to fix all leaks promptly, no matter how small they may seem.
- Attach a shut off nozzle on your hose when hand watering plants.
- Use soaker hoses and drip irrigation to water flowerbeds, vegetable gardens, shrubs and trees.
- Deep, thorough watering encourages deep rooting and healthier trees and shrubs.
- Add mulch to your garden beds to lock in moisture and minimize evaporation.
- Keep pools covered when not in use so you won't lose water to evaporation.
- Plant in the fall when conditions are cooler and rainfall is more plentiful.
- If you have a dry spot in your landscape, water it manually with a hose or watering can instead of running your irrigation system longer.
- Take a meter reading before and after running your sprinkler system to determine how much water you use. City of Ashland water meters are read in cubic feet. One cubic foot equals 7.48 gallons.

The City of Ashland offers several resources to assist you in managing your water use including FREE sprinkler system evaluations. Call 541-552-2062 to schedule your inspection.

The City is also offering FREE showerheads, faucet aerators and soil moisture meters to Ashland residents. You can pick these up at 51 Winburn Way.

For more information on conservation programs visit our website at ashland.or.us/consERVE. For water wise landscaping ideas please visit ashlandsaveswater.org. You can also 'Like' us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AshlandWaterConservation.

Weed Abatement Continues

Ashland Fire & Rescue would like to remind everyone that the Weed Abatement Ordinance requires dry grasses and weeds to continually be maintained under 4" until the end of fire season is declared. With summer rain comes regrowth that will need to be cut

again. Weed abatement inspections will continue until the end of fire season. Non-compliant properties will be issued a notice to abate and fined up to \$500 per day. Please visit ashland.or.us/weedabatement for more information. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance with keeping our community safe!

Fast. Reliable. Affordable.

Access the internet with AFN, Ashland's community owned broadband network.

Residential customers rely on *AFN's MAX Streaming* connection, featuring download speeds up to 60mbps. AFN uses DOCSIS 3.0 technology enabling our cable modems to use multiple downstream and upstream frequencies. It is this technology that allows AFN to push more data through our modems to support more devices. *AFN's MAX Streaming* service is designed for homes using multiple devices requiring simultaneous connectivity. Connect to AFN's Max Streaming service to simultaneously stream videos, download music, upload photos and videos, and talk on your VOIP phone with no effect on your internet performance.

Businesses large and small use *AFN's MAX Enterprise* service for their critical internet connection. Available exclusively through AFN internet service provider Ashland Home Net, this 120mbps service is the fastest cable modem service in Southern Oregon featuring speeds formerly available only with a fiber optic connect. To sign up for *AFN's MAX Enterprise* 120mbps service, contact Ashland Home Net at 541-488-9207.

To find out more information about AFN's residential and commercial services go to www.ashlandfiber.net

Connect to AFN's fast, reliable, and affordable internet service and keep your dollars working in our local economy.

News Notes

Zumba

Zumba mixes low-intensity and high-intensity moves for an interval-style, calorie-burning dance fitness party. It combines cardio, muscle conditioning, balance and flexibility for a total body energy boosting workout. Once the music starts you'll see why Zumba® Fitness classes are often called exercise in disguise. It's super fun and super effective! Pre-register online at ashland.or.us/register.

AGES : 18 to Adult (16 and 17 year-olds may participate with parental consent)

DAYS : Tuesday & Thursday

DATES: Starting September 6

TIME: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

PLACE: The Grove | Gym

COST: 6-class punch card - \$50
12-class punch card - \$90

INSTRUCTOR: Sumara Love loves teaching Zumba and has taught Zumba Fitness classes for the past six years.

Bear Creek Salmon Festival

On Saturday, October 1, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., the Bear Creek Salmon Festival returns for its 12th year. The theme this year is, "Stewardship Flows Downhill." This admission-free festival will feature all-ages interactive exhibits focusing on improving salmon and wildlife habitat in our region and on watershed stewardship in our own homes and yards.

Explore Bear Creek and beautiful North Mountain Park while learning from local experts on topics ranging from water-saving and pollinator-friendly gardening to how and where to see spawning salmon in Bear Creek. Experience a variety of fun outdoor activities such as the Salmon Story Tent, Native American drumming, the Salmon Spiral Labyrinth, crafts and fly casting.

Enjoy a lineup of musical entertainment including Montana Soul, Rutendo Marimba, and more. A food concession will be provided by Sultan's Delight. Please help us make this a zero-waste event by bringing a reusable water bottle or cup.

Join us at North Mountain Park, 620 N Mountain Avenue. To learn more, including a schedule of watershed exploration days, visit BearCreekSalmonFestival.net or call the North Mountain Park Nature Center at 541-488-6606.

**The City offices will be closed
Monday, September 5, 2016
for Labor Day.**

City Calendar

City Council

Business Meetings: Sept 6 & 20 |
7:00 p.m.

Study Sessions: Sept 19 | 5:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

Business Meeting: Sept 13 | 7:00 p.m.

Study Session: Sept 27 | 7:00 p.m.

Airport Commission

Sept 6 | 9:30 a.m.

Conservation Commission

Sept 28 | 6:00 p.m.

Forest Lands Commission

Sept 13 | 5:30 p.m.

Historic Commission

Sept 7 | 6:00 p.m.

Housing and Human Services Commission

Sept 22 | 4:30 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission

Business Meeting: Sept 26 | 7:00 p.m.

Study Session: Sept 19 | 7:00 p.m.

Public Art Commission

Sept 16 | 8:00 a.m.

Transportation Commission

Sept 22 | 6:00 p.m.

Tree Commission

Sept 8 | 6:00 p.m.

Wildfire Mitigation Commission

Sept 21 | 11:00 a.m.

▲ Meetings are held at Council Chambers, 1175 East Main or at 51 Winburn Way and are open to the public. ▲ 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 rvtv.sou.edu.