

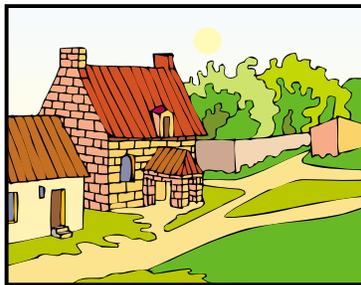
# City

## SOURCE

THE CITIZEN'S SOURCE OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE CITY OF ASHLAND

## Ashland Round Up

Many of Ashland's low-income residents have difficulty paying their basic monthly utility services.



The City of Ashland's Round Up program allows Ashland utility customers to voluntarily round up their utility bills to the nearest dollar. The additional funds accumulated will be devoted to assisting low-income Ashland residents with their monthly utility bills. Customers who qualify for low-income assistance are screened to determine eligibility using the current Federal poverty guidelines. In addition, occasionally customers who don't necessarily qualify as low-income may need (See *Ashland Round Up*, Page 2)

## CERT

Free training offered by the City of Ashland Ashland's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is accepting registration for upcoming trainings in January. Information is available at Fire Station One, 455 Siskiyou Blvd. 552-2226

Ashland Fire & Rescue's CERT program has trained hundreds of local citizens in all-hazards emergency response. The free 20-hour training includes fire suppression, emergency first aid, and search and rescue classes (See *Cert*, Page 3)

## Greetings from the Mayor

Dear Ashland Citizens:

It is a pleasure to be serving as your Mayor and I am proud of the work of our city council, city staff, and volunteers on the numerous commissions, committees and boards on your behalf.

During this holiday season, it is important for each of us to remember it is our combined differences, backgrounds, heritages and beliefs which make Ashland such a special place. It is times like this which remind me of what a wonderful community we live in — a community active in local and national government, supportive of its schools, and appreciative of its parks.

I would encourage you, in this reflective time of year, to make an effort to really listen to someone who thinks differently from you. Acknowledge and respect those differences, be patient with one another, slow down, look around, (See *Greetings from the Mayor*, Page 2)



## Ashland Round Up

*Continued from Page 1*

some assistance due to personal difficulties. These funds will be used to assist qualified, low-income customers and can be used in an emergency to help others on a one time per year only basis.

Because of increased wholesale electric rates from the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), the City has had to increase its electric retail rates over the last few years and will be doing so again. This has increased the need for utility assistance funding. Many public utilities around the country operate a “round-up” program to provide public purpose funding to assist others. This is a voluntary program.

Please join the Ashland Round

Up program by completing the coupon below and returning it with your utility payment. ▼

## Greetings from the Mayor

*Continued from Page 1*

and appreciate all that we share. Please join me in welcoming our new city councilor, Eric Navikas, and in expressing sincere appreciation and thanks to Alex Amarotico for his four years of service on the City Council. Elected officials are volunteers and donate countless hours keeping abreast of issues affecting our community and they work hard to make the best decision for the community as a whole. If you have a chance, say thank you to them, those simple words mean a lot.

Best wishes on a wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely,  
John Morrison, Mayor ▼

## Tree of the Year

The Tree Commission is pleased to announce the 2006 Tree of the Year — the Pacific Madrone — *Arbutus menziesii* — located at Mountain View Cemetery, on the north side of Ashland Street along the dirt service road in the middle of the cemetery. This Madrone is a fabulous, multi-trunk example of the native Pacific Madrone. In the spring clusters of white, bell-shaped flowers bloom. These flowers are followed by masses of bright red and yellow edible berries. The Madrone is a broadleaf evergreen,

## Ashland Round Up Program

**Yes, please round up my monthly utility bill to the nearest dollar. I understand the funds will assist needy Ashland residents with their utility bill.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Service Address \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_



## Christmas Tree Recycling

The annual Christmas tree recycle day will be on Saturday, January 6, 2006. Remember to place your tree by the curb on Friday, January 5 for pick up the next day. The Ashland Host Lions, Early Bird Lions and the Boy Scouts of Troop 112 will be recycling the trees to be used as mulching materials by the Ashland Parks Department on trails and in the parks.

For questions concerning Christmas tree pickup, please call Darrell at 482-0042.

with glossy dark green leaves. This Madrone has the very distinct bark characteristic of the species, which peels as the tree ages to reveal new smooth bark, the color variations between the old and the new bark is very striking. Well-deserving of the honor to be chosen “Tree of the Year”, this Madrone is a tree to be treasured for many years to come. The Tree Commission will dedicate a plaque at the site honoring the tree next spring during annual Arbor week events.

This year marks Ashland’s nineteenth Tree of the Year contest. Throughout the year a nomination form is available on the City of Ashland website and in early October, the call for nominations was distributed in the City Source newsletter. Residents identified 16 trees for consideration. The Ashland Tree Commission then narrowed the field down to five nominees. Residents voted in late October and early November choosing from the finalists. The ballot was published in the Ashland Daily Tidings, posted on the City’s web site, available at City Hall, the Community Development and Public Works Building, the Chamber of Commerce, and at the Ashland Public Library. A total of 39 votes were submitted in this year’s contest with the White Oak at 1209 Iowa Street coming in a very close second. While there is only one “winner” of the award, there were many wonderful trees

nominated. And though they were not all big and beautiful, each tree was special in some way to someone in the community. The Ashland Tree Commission would like to thank Ashland residents who took the time to submit nominations and to vote for Tree of the year.

### Previous Tree of the Year Winners

2005	Giant Sequoia.	165 Almond
2004	Monterey Cypress.	407 Scenic
2003	Pecan Tree.	762 & 774 B Street
2002	Deodar Cedars.	Safeway
2001	Blue Atlas Cedar.	391 Liberty
2000	Ginkgo.	Ashland Public Library
1999	Osage Orange.	Helman & Orange
1998	Coast Redwood.	801 Ashland
1997	American Elm.	6th & B S
1996	Colorado Spruce.	N. Main at Maple
1995	Black Oak.	128 South Laurel

## Cert

*Continued from Page 1*

taught by Ashland firefighters.

January training begins on Thursday January 4 and runs for eight consecutive Thursdays through February 24.

For more information see [www.ashlandcert.org](http://www.ashlandcert.org) or call Lucy Edwards or Heidi Gottlieb at 552-2226. ▼



## News Notes

### **Project FeederWatch**

Help count birds that visit the feeders at North Mountain Park while learning to identify species with the help of experienced Audubon volunteers. This is a great opportunity for all-level birders to get acquainted with local birds and mingle with other birders. The information collected will be submitted to Cornell University's FeederWatch project, a nationwide bird monitoring effort. Ages 10 and up. Free. Register online at <http://ashlandparks.recware.com> or call the Nature Center at 488-6606.

### **Low Interest Loans**

Loan up to \$20,000 over 20 years at a 1% interest rate are available to low income homeowners in Ashland and grants, up to \$7,500 are available for home repairs. For more information, call USDA, Rural Development at 776-4291/Ext. 4.

### **Basic Tree Pruning**

On Saturday, January 6 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. learn basic pruning skills to benefit the health and beauty of your ornamental trees. Instructor Mary Pritchard is an Ashland Tree Commissioner and has more than 10 years of experience in landscape design and pruning. Bring your favorite pruners and learn about a variety of pruning tools. This free class is sponsored by the Ashland Tree Commission and is open to Ashland citizens ages 16 and older. Please register online at <http://ashlandparks.recware.com> or call the North Mountain Park Nature Center at 488-6606.

### **Community Service**

Thanks to the Ashland Grizzly Boy's Soccer Team for their community service involvement with the City installing 350 feet of fence slats along the central Ashland bike path. The slats screen the city's service center, fuel station, vehicles and equipment from the bike path.

The coach wanted the team to experience community service and the satisfaction of donating time and energy towards their community.

They contributed more than 40 man hours doing a job that would have taken approximately one week to accomplish. Their work saved the city approximately \$1000.

### **Ashland Low Income Energy Assistance Program**

The Ashland Low Income Energy Assistance program has scheduled two additional interview sessions: January 9 from 10 - 2 at Pioneer Hall and January 11 from 1 - 4 at The Grove. Please call 552-2038 and leave your name, address, and phone number requesting an application be sent to you. ▼

# CITY OF ASHLAND City Calendar

December 18	Parks and Recreation Commission	7:00 p.m.
December 19	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
December 27	Conservation Commission	7:00 p.m.
December 28	Traffic Safety Commission	7:00 p.m.
January 2	Airport Commission	9:30 a.m.
January 2	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
January 3	Historic Commission	7:00 p.m.
January 4	Tree Commission	7:00 p.m.
January 9	Forest Lands Commission	5:30 p.m.
January 9	Planning Commission	7:00 p.m.
January 11	City Council Study Session	5:15 p.m.
January 15	Housing Commission	6:30 p.m.
January 16	City council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
January 18	Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission	5:15 p.m.

◆ Many of the above meetings are cablecast live on channel 9 and replayed on channel 30. ◆ Meetings are held at Council Chambers, 1175 East Main or at 51 Winburn Way. ◆ For information about all City meetings please call City Administration at 488-6002. ◆ Back issues of the City Source are posted under "Documents" on the City's Website, [www.ashland.or.us](http://www.ashland.or.us). ◆ TTY 1-800-735-2900

