

CITY OF ASHLAND City

JANUARY, 2015

Keep Ashland Safe

The Ashland Police Department is looking for new volunteers for its "Volunteers in Police Service" (VIPS) organization.

VIPS should be able to give approximately 20 hours a month during week days performing various duties. All VIPS must pass a comprehensive background check and possess a valid Oregon driver's license. No prior police experience is required. Training and uniforms will be provided to those who qualify.

To inquire about the VIPS program, please call 541-482-5211, Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. ▼

S O U R C E

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

Stay informed. For all the latest news visit www.ashland.or.us. Sign up for e-mail alerts!

It's Easy to Save Water Indoors

Looking for quick and easy ways to save water? Simple, minor adjustments to your habits and the hardware around your house can work wonders when it comes to water conservation. People all across the country are using less water than they used to by shutting off faucets, fixing leaks, and installing more efficient appliances and fixtures.



By choosing WaterSense and Energy Star labeled products in your home or business you can attain the same performance and quality you've come to expect, but with the added benefit of water and energy savings. Look for the WaterSense and Energy Star labels to help you identify high-efficiency products. Remember, when you conserve (See, *Water*, Page 2)

Sanding and Snow Removal

Following a snowfall, streets are cleared and sanded in the following order:

1. Arterial streets, including Siskiyou Blvd., North Main, Ashland Street (Highway 66), Lithia Way, Maple Street (hospital), school zones, etc. are always cleared first.
2. Collector streets, such as Mountain Avenue, East Main, Hersey Street, Park Street, and Beach Street are cleared next.
3. Residential streets are cleared last and are prioritized based on volume of vehicular traffic and grade. Residential streets with heavy volume, such as Morton Street, Strawberry Lane, Wimer Street, Church Street, and Granite Street are attended to first. Low priority is given to streets with low vehicular traffic.

The Street Division of the Public Works Department reminds motorists that a plowed and sanded street is not guaranteed to be free from ice. Motorists should exercise caution when traveling

(See, *Snow*, Page 3)



City SOURCE

Did You Know?

With Winter in full swing, there is often confusion over who is responsible for maintaining and clearing sidewalks. Per Ashland Municipal Code (Chapter 13.04.020), "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." In other words, clearing the sidewalk of snow or ice is the responsibility of the owner of the property immediately adjacent to the sidewalk. If we all work together, we can keep our sidewalks safe! ▼

Water

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water you also conserve energy.

How much can you save? It all depends on how much you're using right now. Estimate your water use and potential savings with the

Alliance for Water Efficiency's Home Water Works Calculator at <http://www.home-water-works.org>.

In addition, most single-family and multi-family homes' sewer rates are established based on the average water usage in the months of January, February, and March. Therefore, by reducing your water usage in the winter months, you could lower your sewer bills for the rest of the year.

Here are some ways you can save water inside your home:

- Check for leaks and fix them promptly.
- Take shorter showers.
- Turn off the faucet when not in use.
- Wash full loads of dishes and laundry.
- Replace old inefficient fixtures with new water efficient WaterSense models.

A family of four could reduce its indoor water use by up to 60%

when replacing old toilets, showerheads, bathroom aerators and washing machines.

Contact the City of Ashland's Conservation Division at 541-488-5306 or visit our website at www.ashland.or.us/conserve for more information about rebates on these fixtures. ▼

Having Your Say

The State of Oregon Public Meetings Law requires that all City Council, Commission, or Committee meeting be open to the public, but the law doesn't always require that the public be permitted to speak. Nevertheless, the Ashland City Council always encourages the public to speak on issues at every City Council meeting. Additionally, the public forum section of each Council meeting enables citizens to discuss issues that are not on the agenda. The City of Ashland's

Low Income Assistance

The City of Ashland Low Income Energy Assistance Program, which assists low-income residents with electric bill costs during the cold winter months, is now accepting applications. Eligible Ashland residents include those whose income is at or below 60 percent of Oregon's median income. These levels are based on household income and household size. Applicants may call 541-552-2038 or go to the Utility Billing counter at City Hall for an application packet. The deadline to submit the application is January 31, 2015. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. ▼



Vehicle Registration

If you are buying or selling a vehicle don't forget to turn over the registration form, fill out the new ownership information, and return the form to the Department of Motor vehicles (DMV) in a timely fashion.

The State of Oregon and the City of Ashland use vehicle registration information for tracking and monitoring of abandoned and stored vehicles. The information can also assist the Ashland Police Department in avoiding impounding or citing vehicles, saving citizens time and money.

For more information, please contact the Ashland DMV located at 600 Tolman Creek Road or by phone at 541-776-6092. ▼

numerous commissions and committees also encourage public input during their regularly scheduled meetings.

Many issues brought to the City Council for their review and final approval come from one of our more than fifteen committees, commissions, boards, or ad hoc committees. Often these groups have already conducted public meetings, solicited public comment, and shaped their recommendations to the City Council based on the input gathered. Therefore, most issues have had significant public input prior to being addressed by the Council. It is much easier for the public to help focus these decisions (i.e., have your say) by getting involved in the process as early as possible. ▼

Snow

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on both cleared and non-cleared residential streets. Tire chains are always a good idea on ice and snow. When in doubt, chain up.

For more information, contact the Street Division at 541-488-5313. ▼

NEWS NOTES

Seed Swap

Are you planning your garden? Before you order a long list of seeds from catalogs, you might want to try acquiring seeds locally at North Mountain Park's seed swap. You

can save money, grow plants adapted to our local climate, and exchange information with other gardeners. It's fun and simple— You may bring seeds you have saved from your garden to share and some bags or envelopes for taking seeds with you. The Nature Center will be selling low-cost seed, harvested at the park by volunteers. Pre-registration is not required for this program. For more information call the North Mountain Park Nature Center at 541-488-6606.

AGES All ages welcome
DAY Wednesday
DATE February 4
TIME 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
PLACE North Mountain Park
COST Free; pre-registration is not required

Winter Birds & Spring Arrivals

Join Harry Fuller on a Thursday evening this winter for a presentation on the wintering birds of the Rogue Valley along with the first to return in spring. His presentation will prepare you for a field trip the following Saturday. The lecture will be held on Thursday, February 26, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. and the field trip will be held on Saturday, February 28 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (*If weather causes postponement, the field trip will be rescheduled*). Pre-register online at www.ashland.or.us/register or call the Nature Center at 541-488-6606.

AGES 13 - Adult
PLACE North Mountain Park
COST \$15

(See, *New Notes*, Back Page)

NEWS NOTES

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HeartSaver CPR Adult

HeartSaver CPR is a classroom, video based, instructor led course that teaches adult CPR and AED use, as well as how to relieve choking on an adult. This course is for anyone with limited or no medical training who needs a course completion card in CPR and AED use to meet job, regulatory, or other requirements.

The cost for this course is \$35, which includes a student study book and course completion card. All fees must be prepaid prior to the class date to confirm reservation. Registration is first-come, first-served according to when class fees are paid. Classes are typically limited to eight people. Participants may register by mailing a check or by paying in person between 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday at Fire Station 1, 455 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland, OR 97520. Make checks payable to City of Ashland. We now accept credit cards.

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

DATE: Saturday, February 14
TIME 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
PLACE Fire Station 1, 455 Siskiyou Blvd.

Pruning Basics

Do you have fears or concerns about best pruning techniques for your garden? By understanding some of the basic guidelines you will gain the confidence to tackle almost any pruning job. Bring your own pruners, loppers and gloves and tour the Demonstration Gardens at North Mountain Park as the instructor guides you in hands-on pruning. You will learn the how, when and why of this critical garden skill. Pre-register online at www.ashland.or.us/register or call the Nature Center at 541-488-6606.

AGES 15 - Adult
DAY Saturday
DATE February 28
TIME 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
PLACE North Mountain Park
COST \$15



City Calendar

- **City Council** meets on the first and third Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. Study sessions occur on the day before at 5:30 p.m.
- **Planning Commission** meets on the second Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Study sessions occur on the fourth Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
- **Airport Commission** meets on the first Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.
- **Conservation Commission** meets on the fourth Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.
- **Firewise Commission** meets on the third Wednesday at noon
- **Forest Lands Commission** meets on the second Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.
- **Historic Commission** meets on the Wednesday prior to the Tuesday Planning Commission at 6:00 p.m.
- **Housing and Human Services Commission** meets on the fourth Thursday at 4:30 p.m.
- **Parks and Recreation Commission** meets on the fourth Monday at 7:00 p.m. Study session occurs on the third Monday.
- **Public Art Commission** meets on the third Friday at 8:30 a.m.
- **Transportation Commission** meets on the fourth Thursday at 6:00 p.m.
- **Tree Commission** meets on the Thursday before the Tuesday Planning Commission Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

▲ City Council and many other city meetings are broadcast live on cable channel 9. Charter Communications customers will find city meetings on channels 180 and 181. Meetings also stream live on the internet at rvtd.sou.edu. ▲ 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 541-488-6002. ▲ Back issues of the City Source are posted under “Documents” on the City’s Website, www.ashland.or.us. ▲ TTY 1-800-735-2900.

