



CITY OF
ASHLAND

City Source

January 2018

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

2018 Oregon Bottle Bill Expansion

The next time you are waiting in line at the grocery store, take a close look at the beverages in your shopping cart. Thanks to a new change to Oregon's Bottle Bill, if those drinks aren't wine or milk, chances are you'll be paying a 10-cent deposit on each, and in turn those deposits will be eligible for redemption. Prior to the New Year, only soda, beer and water containers were eligible for redemption.

This new expansion, mandated by Oregon law, means that common beverages such as tea, coffee, fruit juice, hard cider, energy drinks, sports drinks, kombucha, and coconut water have joined soda, beer and water on the redemption list.

Since 1972, well before curbside recycling service was made available, Oregonians have been collecting bottles and cans in the name of reducing litter and increasing recycling. Today's opinions regarding Oregon's Bottle Bill are wide-ranging. While some delight in the ritual of reuniting with their dimes, others grudgingly schlep their containers to redemption centers. Some forgo redemption altogether and recycle containers curbside, or donate their containers to a noble cause. You might have even noticed that The City of Ashland has small bottle and can collection baskets attached to public trash cans downtown.

For more information on Oregon's Bottle Bill, please visit www.oregon.gov/olcc/pages/bottle_bill.aspx, www.bottlebill.org or www.obrc.com.

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Communicating with the Council

While citizens can - and many do - communicate with the City Council via email (council@ashland.or.us), the Council also welcomes communication from the public at all of its regular meetings. In addition to taking public input on all items on every Council agenda, they set aside 15 minutes at the start of every meeting for public forum, which is an opportunity for people to come speak to the Council about anything that's on their mind.

To see what's on a Council agenda, check the "agendas and minutes" link on the city website, www.ashland.or.us. Remember too that if you don't want to come to a Council meeting you can watch it at home on TV or the Internet. Meetings stream live at rvtv.sou.edu and are broadcast live on Ashland Home Net channel 9 or Charter channels 180 and 181. All meeting videos are also archived on the city website at www.ashland.or.us/videos so you can watch them at your convenience (meeting videos are generally posted 24 hours after the meeting).

Council business meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month (See, *Council*, page 3)



Winter Water News

It's exciting to watch snow accumulate, and not just because we like to ski and snowboard! Our municipal drinking water comes from rain and snow that falls in the Ashland Creek Watershed and on Mount Ashland. So, the more snow we get the more available water we have for the summer months, especially if colder temperatures can stick around. It's fun to imagine that snow falling today could be used in and around your home this upcoming summer (after it's been treated, of course.)

Snow Water Equivalent

Have you ever heard people use the term 'Snow Water Equivalent' and wondered, what exactly does that mean? Well, imagine if you were able to melt all the snow for an entire area instantaneously and then measure the volume of water that resulted...that is the snow water equivalent. Interestingly, it is not as easy as just measuring snow depth. You also need to know the density of the snow, and snow density is dependent on many factors including elevation, the temperature outside when the snow fell, how long it's been on the ground, wind, melting, and recrystallization.

Snow and Tell (SNOTEL) – Snow Telemetry

The City monitors the snow water equivalent and snowpack in our watershed throughout the winter

months to help us assess what our water supply might look like for the upcoming year. One SNOTEL site we consult is called Big Red Mountain. These sites are designed to measure snow depth, snow water equivalent, temperature, wind, solar radiation and a number of other climate related factors. Situated at 6,050 feet near Mt. Ashland, Big Red gives us a pretty good idea of what the snowpack level is in our watershed. To view the interactive snow survey map, go to:

www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/or/newsroom/

Make your new year bright with rebates and freebies!

The winter months are a great time to plan for how to best use water throughout the year. Consider scheduling an Indoor Water Use Evaluation, or taking advantage of our water and energy efficient appliance rebates. And, as an Ashland resident, you are eligible for free low flow showerheads and faucet aerators. Just stop by the Community Development building at 51 Winburn Way to pick them up. Remember, even small hardware changes can make a big difference in how much water we use. So, why not take advantage of this opportunity and take that little step to save water today!

For more information on simple ways to save water visit www.ashland saves water.org or call 541-552-2421.

Ashland Rotary Centennial Ice Rink

It's that time of year again... so lace up your skates and hit the ice! The Ashland Rotary Centennial Ice Rink will be operational through February 19, 2018.

The outdoor rink, a division of Ashland Parks & Recreation Commission (APRC), is located at 95 Winburn Way, across from the Lithia Park playground, around the corner from the Plaza, at the corner of Nutley Street and Winburn Way. Our skate rentals accommodate toddler size 9, up to men's size 15.

Please come prepared to skate, as changing rooms are not available. Hot chocolate, coffee and a variety of snacks will be available for purchase. The rink offers skate trainers for select sessions... available at no charge.

The 2017-18 season will feature something for everyone. Bring the whole family! For more information on prices, schedules, lessons, programming, hockey, scholarships and all we have to offer you, visit AshlandParksandRec.org or call the ice rink directly at 541-488-9189. You may also call the APRC office at 541-488-5340.

We hope you can experience one of the most magical places in Ashland... that little outdoor rink in beautiful Lithia Park, where the air is fresh, the white lights are twinkling and the music blends with the sounds of nature and blades on the ice... "Let's skate!"

Fall Prevention Class

Join us on Wednesday, January 24, 2018, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Ashland Family YMCA for a fall prevention class. This class is for aging adults, caregivers, and family members. Learn about all the factors that affect your risk of falling as you age and how you can prevent falls. The class is FREE and open to the community, but space is limited and pre-registration is required. Call the Ashland YMCA at 541-482-9622 or go to www.ashlandymca.org. Thank you to Ashland Fire & Rescue, Ashland Family YMCA, and Asante for sponsorship of this event.

Council

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in the Council Chambers, 1175 E. Main Street, starting at 7:00 p.m. A Council study session is held on the Monday prior to each business meeting at 5:30 p.m. also at Council Chambers. The Council does not take public input on individual study session items, but does provide a 15 minute public forum period at the start of each study session.

Lithia Park Master Plan Starts

In November, 2017, APRC began an 18-month planning process to develop a guiding management plan for Lithia Park, Ashland's jewel.

The Lithia Park Master Plan will guide the management of the resources, facilities and visitor experiences over the next 100 years, ensuring that Lithia Park continues to shine as Ashland's jewel. APRC's team of consultants will be led by the Portland office of MIG, Inc. and include local landscape architect KenCairn Associates, among other team members. The team will evaluate the condition of Lithia Park currently, setting a foundation for the master plan and the future.

Project Manager Laurie Matthews, a specialist in historic public parks, noted, "Lithia Park's spirit of place is palpable and evident to anyone who walks through or sits under its canopy of trees alongside the banks of Ashland Creek. Our team is honored to be helping the community envision what the next 100 years will look

like. To that end, we are not focused on proposing major new changes but enhancing what resonates and changing things that will benefit the character and health of the park."

Keep current on the APRC website ashlandparksandrec.org, and look for hashtags #lithiaparkmasterplan, #lithiaparknext100years and #lithiapark in social media – Facebook.com/AshlandParksandRec. Early in 2018, look for an online map-based input opportunity to share how you experience Lithia Park. In late spring watch for details on DESIGN WEEK; this will be your opportunity to share your ideas for Lithia Park and help with the process. You may also share your ideas by emailing ParksInfo@ashland.or.us.

Learning Common Backyard Birds

Using photos, stories, bird songs and fun facts, we will learn about the birds that live all around us in the Rogue Valley, some right in our own backyards! Some key birds we'll study: Robin, Acorn Woodpecker, Red-tailed Hawk, Scrub Jay, Screech Owl, Mallard, Great Blue Heron, Chickadee, Flicker, Crow, Bald Eagle and a few special guest birds. Please register online at www.ashland.or.us/register or call the Nature Center at 541-488-6606.

INSTRUCTOR: Shannon Rio is a wildlife educator and serves on the Board of the Klamath Bird Observatory.

AGES 7 & up
DATE February 21
TIME 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
PLACE N. Mt. Park Nature Center
COST \$15

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. It's fun and simple - just bring seeds you have saved from your garden and some bags or envelopes for taking seeds with you. The Nature Center will also be selling low-cost seed, harvested at the park by

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volunteers. For more information call the Nature Center at 541-488-6606.

AGES All ages
DATE February 1
TIME 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
PLACE N. Mt. Park Nature Center
COST FREE | *Pre-Registration not required*

HeartSaver First Aid Certification Class

HeartSaver First Aid / CPR / AED is a classroom, video-based, instructor-led course that teaches students critical skills needed to respond to and manage a first aid, choking or sudden cardiac arrest emergency in the first few minutes until emergency medical services (EMS) arrives. Students learn skills such as how to treat bleeding, sprains, broken bones, shock and other first aid emergencies. This course also teaches adult CPR and AED use.

The cost for this course is \$55, which includes a student study book. Upon successful completion, students will receive an American Heart Association HeartSaver First Aid/CPR/AED Course Completion Card that is valid for two years. The class takes approximately 8 hours to complete. All fees must be prepaid prior to the class date to confirm reservation. Please register early to reserve your space

TO REGISTER:

Registration is first-come, first-served according to when class fees are paid. Classes are limited to 9 participants. Participants may register by mailing a check or by paying in person at Fire Station 1, 455 Siskiyou Blvd. between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Cash, credit card, and checks payable to City of Ashland are all accepted.

DATE January 20, 2018
PLACE AF&R Station 2 - 1860 Ashland Street
TIME 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
COST \$55

For more information contact the CPR Program Coordinator at 541-552-2226, cpr@ashland.or.us or www.ashland.or.us/cpr.

**The City of Ashland will be closed
Monday, February 19, 2018 for the
Presidents' Day holiday.**

**We apologize for any inconvenience
this may cause.**

February City Calendar

City Council

Business Meetings: Feb. 6 & 20 | 7:00 p.m.
Study Sessions: Feb. 5 | 5:30 p.m.

Airport Commission

Feb. 6 | 9:30 a.m.

Conservation Commission

Feb. 28 | 6:00 p.m.

Forest Lands Commission

Feb. 13 | 5:30 p.m.

Historic Commission

Feb. 7 | 6:00 p.m.

Housing and Human Services Comm.

Feb. 22 | 4:30 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission

Business Meeting: Feb. 26 | 7:00 p.m.
Study Session: Feb. 12 | 5:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

Business Meeting: Feb. 13 | 7:00 p.m.
Study Session: Feb. 27 | 7:00 p.m.

Public Art Commission

Feb. 16 | 8:00 a.m.

Transportation Commission

Feb. 22 | 6:00 p.m.

Tree Commission

Feb. 8 | 6:00 p.m.

Wildfire Mitigation Commission

Feb. 21 | 11:00 a.m.

▲ Meetings are typically 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.