

GOT RESOLUTIONS? PREVENTING WASTE HELPS CHECK OFF THE COMMON ONES

The allure of a fresh start is why many of us feel passionately about our New Year's resolutions. The opportunity to change our lives, using the past as a guidepost, gives us hope and makes us feel in control of our future decisions. If you're still contemplating your aspirations for 2019, here's a case for choosing to adopt a zero waste lifestyle, and check off some of the most common resolutions in the process!

Stay Fit & Healthy by learning how to shop, cook, and eat without single-use plastic packaging. Buy fresh fruits, veggies, and bulk items like grains and legumes. By keeping the environment in mind when shopping, you'll automatically be buying foods that are better for your body.

Spend Less Money in learning to simply say "no". Saying "no" is a major aspect of going zero waste. Learning to identify an impulse buy from a necessary purchase builds a strong foundation for living with less waste and keeping more money in your bank account. Practice being a clever squirrel and save those nuts!

Learn A New Skill or Hobby through a resolution of going the extra "Green Mile". There are plenty of plastic-laden packaging options that don't have a wide selection of zero waste alternatives. However, making your own foaming hand soap, or formulating your own all-purpose household cleaner by combining natural products found at your local grocery store, are great ways to start, AND they work just as well as the commercial options. Zero waste skills are always FOR THE WIN!

Practice Self-Love by showing your love of the health of our environment. Living a zero waste lifestyle requires a high level of thoughtfulness.

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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 citizens 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 homepage of the City website or by going to ashland.or.us/agendas.asp.

Remember that if you aren't able 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 in the Council

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WHAT IS ALL THE COMMOTION ON THE TOP OF TERRACE STREET?

Please excuse our noise and congestion as the City works to improve two vital Pump Stations for the community. The City is currently replacing two Pump Stations located near the top of Terrace Street, both constructed around 1980.

Park Estates Pump Station:



Current Park Estates Facility

This facility pumps potable water from Crowson Reservoir to our higher elevation customers. The Park Estates Pump Station is located near the intersection of Ashland Loop Road and Terrace Street. This project will replace the current outdated, inefficient facility that has plagued staff with operational issues. When complete, this project will allow us to have pumping redundancy, improved water flow in the event of a fire and access to previously inaccessible water storage in the

nearby Crowson Reservoir. We are focused on improved pumping capacity and have designed the new facility with the most efficient pumps and variable drives to maximize energy conservation. This new facility is sized to allow the City to eliminate the South Mountain Pump Station once additional pipeline improvements are complete. Construction is scheduled to be complete in January 2019.



Recent Work on New Park Estates Facility

Terrace Street Pump Station (aka TID Pump Station):



New Terrace Street Facility Rendering

This facility is critical in times of drought as it pumps raw water from the Ashland Canal to our water treatment plant providing the City an additional water source for treatment. We will be installing raw water pre-treatment equipment to assist with overall water quality in our distribution system. The Terrace Street Pump Station is located near 520 Terrace Street. This project will rebuild the existing facility that is outdated, inefficient and labor intensive, requiring manual operations. Currently, much of this facility is located below ground, creating safety concerns for

staff. The new facility will be built above grade and house three very efficient pumps that will allow us to deliver up to 3.5 million gallons per day to the water treatment plant when necessary. Construction is scheduled to be complete in March of 2019.

For project related questions or concerns please contact us in the Public Works Engineering Division at 541-488-5347. Project updates can be found on our website at <http://gis.ashland.or.us/cipstorybook/>.



Current Terrace Street Facility

GIVE THE GIFT OF A LIFT!

Ashland Parks & Recreation's Senior Services Division is looking for volunteer field trip drivers. Come enjoy outings with our Seniors as the driver of our six-passenger van. No commercial driving license necessary, just a good driving record. Spend a little time-make a huge difference. For more information contact Lori Ainsworth at lori.ainsworth@ashland.or.us or (541) 552-6624.

GOT RESOLUTIONS?

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And when thoughtfulness becomes part of one aspect of your lifestyle, it begins to bleed into other areas. If you're committed to putting in the effort to take care of the earth, why wouldn't you do the same for yourself?

Although New Year's resolutions are often a simple reflection of who we'd like to be, it's a step in the right direction of thinking about "What's best for me?". Often "What's best for me?" is what's best for everyone! Please consider trying your hardest without judging yourself in response to the end result. After all, we are ALL doing the best we can.

COMMUNICATING WITH THE COUNCIL

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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 the 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.

THERE IS STILL TIME TO APPLY FOR LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE

The City of Ashland has funds available for the Ashland Low Income Energy Assistance Program, which assists low income residents with electric bill costs during the cold winter months. Eligible Ashland residents include those whose income is at or below 65 percent of Oregon's median income. These levels are based on household income and household size.

Qualified recipients will receive a credit on their electric utility charges. Credits of up to 50 percent will be given to seniors and disabled persons for up to six months and credits of 50 percent to other qualified residents for up to three months. The maximum credit allowed is \$300.00 for either group. As of October 1, applicants may call the request line at (541) 552-2038 to request a Low Income Assistance application packet or may pick one up at the Utility Billing Counter at City Hall.

If you know of someone who might qualify and needs assistance, please let them know about this program. The deadline to submit the application is January 31, 2019.

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.ashlandsaveswater.org or call (541) 552-2062.

High Speed Internet for Residents & Businesses in Ashland

Great news for all customers: Our speeds just **doubled**—at no extra charge to you!

Max Home—Up to 60Mbps \$55/month
Email, surfing and music

Max Streaming—Up to 120Mbps \$65/month
Great for video streaming

Max Small Business—Up to 180Mbps \$95/month
Make your business fly



Get Started Now!

Call 541-552-2222
Or visit ashlandfiber.net

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A Service of the City of Ashland

EVENTS

Gentle Hatha Yoga for Adults 60 & Better

Want to stretch and strengthen while easing stress? This class is designed with the belief that yoga can be practiced by anyone, and is instructed at a slow and gentle pace. Includes yoga postures, breath work and deep relaxation. Wear comfortable loose attire and bring your yoga mat. Try your first class at no cost! Subsequent classes are \$5/class or \$15/four classes. Pre-registration not required.

AGES: 60 & up

DAYS: Mondays

DATES: Feb 4, 11, 25 & Mar 4, 11, 18, 25

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

PLACE: Ashland Senior Center, 1699 Homes Ave

COST: \$5/class or \$15/ four classes

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EVENTS

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Seed Swap

Bring your vegetable and flower seeds to trade with other gardeners at this annual free seed swap. Seeds should be sorted from plant material. Please bring containers or envelopes to take new seeds home. The Nature Center will also be selling low-cost seed, harvested at the park by volunteers. For more information, call the Nature Center at (541) 488-6606.

AGES All ages welcome
DAY Thursday
DATE Feb 7
TIME 5:30-6:30 p.m.
PLACE North Mountain Park

Beginning Broadway Dance For Boomers And Beyond

Have you ever secretly imagined dancing in a Broadway musical? This class is for beginning and continuing students of a “wise” age. We will move gently, have tons of fun, keep our brains challenged and bodies moving with easy dance routines to Broadway music. This is a NON- partner dance class.

AGES 50 & up
DAY Wednesday
DATE Session 2: Feb 6-27; Session 3: Mar 6-27
TIME 11 a.m.—Noon
PLACE The Grove Gym
COST \$33 per 4 week session or \$80 for season pass

Project FeederWatch

Help count birds visiting the feeders at North Mountain Park while learning to identify them with expert birders. The information collected will be submitted to Cornell University’s Project FeederWatch, a nationwide citizen science bird-monitoring effort. Call the Nature Center for more information at (541) 488-6606.

AGES 9 & up
DAY Alternate Saturdays
DATE Feb 2 & 16 | Mar 2 & 16
TIME 9-10 a.m.
PLACE North Mountain Park | Nature Center

**The City of Ashland will be closed
Monday, February 18, 2019 for the
Presidents’ Day holiday.**

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

FEBRUARY CITY CALENDAR

City Council

Business Meeting: Feb. 5 & 19 | 7 p.m.

Study Sessions: Feb. 4 | 5:30 p.m.

Airport Commission

Feb. 5 | 9:30 a.m.

Conservation Commission

Feb. 27 | 6 p.m.

Forest Lands Commission

Feb. 12 | 5:30 p.m.

Fire Station #2, 1860 Ashland Street

Historic Commission

Feb. 6 | 6 p.m.

Housing and Human Services Comm.

Feb. 28 | 4:30 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission

Business Meeting: Feb. 25 | 7 p.m.

Study Session: TBD | 5:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

Business Meeting: Feb. 12 | 7 p.m.

Study Session: Feb. 26 | 7 p.m.

Public Art Commission

Feb. 15 | 8 a.m.

Transportation Commission

Feb. 21 | 6 p.m.

Tree Commission

Feb. 7 | 6 p.m.

Wildfire Mitigation Commission

Feb. 20 | 11 a.m.

Fire Station #1, 455 Siskiyou Boulevard

▲ Meetings are held at Council Chambers, 1175 East Main or at 51 Winburn Way (unless otherwise noted) 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.