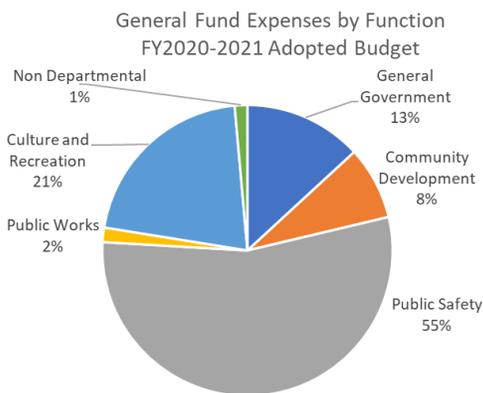


The citizen's source of information about the City of Ashland

CITY SERVICES AND FINANCIAL FUNDS

The City of Ashland provides public services not usually provided by the private sector using the public resources mostly paid by taxpayers and ratepayers. While the City provides some services alongside private companies, these are usually paid for by the customers of those services. The majority of the City's services are within the Public Works area due to large capital infrastructure requirements including the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants and pipe systems and City streets. The Electric Fund, home to the City's Electric System, and Public Safety are tied for the next largest service areas. The utilities, or enterprise funds, include Water, Wastewater, Stormwater, Electric, and the Ashland Fiber Network; these are paid for by user fees and charges through calculated rates based on the cost of providing the service.



The General Fund represents the largest of the City of Ashland's operating funds and the one most associated with basic municipal services paid for by taxes. Specifically, the General Fund houses the Police Department, the Fire Department, the Community Development, City Administration and Finance, and the property tax transfer to support the Ashland Parks & Recreation Commission. Police and Fire Services represent the largest use of tax dollars with Parks & Recreation the second largest. General Government includes Finance, Legal, Administration, Information Technology, and Human Resources.

These ratios have been relatively consistent over time with reductions in the current year due to COVID-19 requiring the City to closely evaluate its priorities during the upcoming budget process.

The City Manager's Recommended Budget will be presented to the Ashland Citizens' Budget Committee on March 30, 2021. The Budget Committee, comprised of the seven Council members and seven appointed citizens, will review the budget and approve their version by mid-May, at which point the City Council will review and adopt the final budget for the 2021-2023 Biennium. Citizens are encouraged to review the financial updates provided to City Council as well as the recommended budget and to participate in the budget process by asking questions and providing feedback on priorities and services.

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STAY UPDATED ON THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Please note that City offices are still physically closed to the public. Staff is available to provide assistance over the phone, email and with limited appointments as needed. Go to the City Directory at www.ashland.or.us/contactus.asp to find contact information for each Department.

To help ease concern over the COVID-19 pandemic and spread correct information, the City has created a webpage ashland.or.us/coronavirus with the most up-to-date information from the Federal, State, County, and City governments. The webpage includes information on:

Prevention and Health—links to the CDC, Oregon Health Authority, and Jackson County Health and Human Services.

City Government Updates—including current City closures and how to attend virtual meetings and events.

Current Restrictions—offering a timeline of the Governor's orders including mandated closures.

Local & Business Resources—where affected businesses and locals can go for help and information on how to support local businesses and organizations.





QUICK TIPS TO REDUCE YOUR WILDFIRE RISK—HARDEN YOUR FENCE TO FIRE



During the Alameda Fire, firefighters were fighting the wildfire in a way you may not expect – they pulled out their chain saws and cut wood fence connections away from homes to stop the spread of fire.

Wood fences carry fire along to anything the fence connects to, particularly your home. That’s why, in 2018, the City of Ashland passed an ordinance requiring that **noncombustible fencing material must be used within five feet of the connection to structures when installing or replacing a fence.** This may seem like a burdensome requirement, but proof from wildfires in recent years, including the Alameda Fire, provides strong evidence that your fence plays a critical role as to whether fire is able to ignite your home structure.

Within the first five feet of your home, construct your fence of noncombustible material like metal or masonry. Most people immediately think of chain link fence, but there are growing options available that provide privacy and color options. Metal gates or metal panels are a common option.



Wood framed fences with steel mesh or other noncombustible infill panels are also suitable to prevent fire from spreading and are allowed under City ordinance. Fencing beyond 5 feet can be wood, though we recommend you use as little wood in fence construction as possible to reduce the amount of available flammable material.

If you are not planning to replace your wood fence any time soon, here are ways to reduce the fire hazard posed by your fence:

- Pull flammable material several feet away from contact with the fence. This commonly includes leaves, needles, bark mulch, and wood piles.
- If you are told to evacuate from a wildfire, prop open fence gates to disconnect the path of flammable fence material, but only if you have time to do so.

ADAPT YOUR HOME

The month of April is focused on rethinking our consumption habits. Everything we consume, from food, goods, and services contributes to a significant amount of greenhouse gas emissions. By becoming more aware of the impact our consumption habits have on the environment, we can make more responsible and sustainable choices. Challenge yourself this month to get into the habit of not leaving your house without these four items - reusable water bottle, reusable coffee cup, reusable food container or utensils, and a reusable shopping bag. Visit the website to learn more and see what other actions you can take! There will be two events this month – Love Your Water – Use it Wisely, April 22nd 1-2pm and Rethinking Waste, April 29th 1-2pm. Check the City calendar for more details.



ELECTRIFY YOUR RIDE! City of Ashland currently offers several different programs to promote electric vehicles, e-bikes, and workplace charging. To find out more, please visit ashland.or.us/ev.

LOGO DESIGN CONTEST 2021 – 45TH ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY RUN



Is the artist in you ready for a challenge? If you answered yes, Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission (APRC) has an opportunity for you! Once again, we are looking for an artist to design the logo for the annual 4th of July Run. If your artwork is selected you will win \$100, three free t-shirts featuring your design, and the pride of seeing your work in multiple mediums!

Submissions are due no later than Friday, April 30, 2021. The winner will be notified by Monday, May 3, 2021. For guidelines, additional information and to see logos from events past, please visit ashland.or.us/JulyRunLogo. For information on APRC visit AshlandParksandRec.org. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @AshlandParksandRec and use the hashtags, #Ashland4thofJulyRun #AshlandParksandRec #APRC #AshlandWhatToDo #FunItsInOurNature



BECOME CERT TRAINED



Ashland's Community Emergency Response Team training offers citizens the opportunity to learn valuable life-saving skills. This free training will provide you with a basic understanding of the local hazards and risks, basic home fire suppression operations, disaster medical skills and beyond. Learn about local alert systems and what you can do to be prepared before disaster strikes.



Training will be broken up over four evenings and two Saturdays. Participants must attend each session in full to become CERT certified. If you fall in love with preparedness you will have an opportunity to join the team upon completion. Take the training and you'll know what to do to help your family, friends, and neighbors be better prepared too.

- Thursday, April 22 at 5:30 - 8:30 pm
- Friday, April 23 at 5:30 - 8:30 pm
- Saturday, April 24 at 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Thursday, May 6 at 5:30 - 8:30 pm
- Friday, May 7 at 5:30 - 8:30 pm
- Saturday, May 8 at 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

For more information or to register visit Ashland.or.us/basic or contact the Ashland CERT Program Coordinator at (541) 552-2226 or CERT@Ashland.or.us.

CLIMATE ACTION STORIES

Building a sustainable Ashland requires action at home and in the community. The Climate Action Stories project is focused on sharing empowering stories to inspire and connect with your neighbors. This is open to individuals and businesses that reside in Ashland. Our goal is to have a collection of local stories that highlight positive climate action. To share how you take climate action, fill out [this form](#) or scan the QR code to visit the website. We will be sharing these stories on our website and social media.



EVENTS

Spring Thaw Golf Clinic Series

The Oak Knoll Golf Course will be holding a free clinic series covering a range of topics (see below) from March 12 until May 21. Due to COVID-19, you must sign up for the FREE classes by calling the Golf Shop at (541) 482-4311. Classes will be limited to no more than eight per session and masks are required to attend. If you do not have golf clubs, the golf shop can provide clubs that are sanitized and ready for use.

- DATES**
- March 12—Putting Fundamentals
 - March 26—Chipping Fundamentals
 - April 9—Bunker Basics
 - April 23—Set Up for Success
 - May 7—Trajectory Control
 - May 21—Turn, Turn, and Swish
- TIME** 2 to 3 PM
- PLACE** Oak Knoll Golf Course, 3070 Hwy 66, Ashland, OR 97520



Free Lesson Friday

The Oak Knoll Golf Course will be having their free lesson every other Friday for all junior golfers (ages 8 to 17). This is a great opportunity for junior golfers to practice putting, chipping, and full swings with a PGA professional. Due to COVID-19, you must sign up for the FREE lessons by calling the Golf Shop at (541) 482-4311. Classes will be limited to no more than eight per session and masks are required to attend. If you do not have golf clubs, the golf shop can provide clubs that are sanitized and ready for use.

- DATES**
- March 5—Putting 101, Class is in Session
 - March 19—Good Chips and No Chili Dips
 - April 2—Grip, Stance & Alignment Oh My
 - April 16—Turn, Turn & Swish
 - April 30—What's the Big Dog and Who Feeds It?
 - May 14—Let's Play! Rules, Manners & More...
 - May 28—Putting Course of Course
- TIME** 3:30 to 4:30 PM
- PLACE** Oak Knoll Golf Course
3070 Hwy 66, Ashland, OR 97520



Continued on page 4...

EVENTS

(continued from page 3)

Healthy, Easy Cooking for Seniors | Online Event

Food & Friends Ashland meal site coordinators Zara and Brady Davis will demonstrate easy, healthy meal preparation for seniors living alone or in couples. In this class, you will learn how to make three meals from a set list of ingredients. The meals are designed to promote health, with benefits for your brain, gut and heart, and against inflammation. You will also learn about ingredients, how to shop effectively, menu planning, and other useful tips. Space is limited, so please sign up soon! Register at ashland.or.us/register or call the Senior Center at (541) 488-5342. Please note that online registration closes at noon the day before the event, at which time the Zoom link will be emailed.

DATE Wednesday, April 14
TIME 1 to 3 PM
PLACE Online (Zoom)
COST Free

Gentle Yoga for Adults 50 & Better | Online Class

The focus of this one-hour hatha yoga class is to increase strength, flexibility and balance while simultaneously alleviating stress and fatigue. Additional benefits of regular yoga practice include an overall sense of well-being and an increase in self-awareness and self-acceptance. Participants must be aware of their own capabilities in order to participate safely. Ability to get up and down from the floor is encouraged. Each class will conclude with deep relaxation. Please have a mat, two blankets and a light-weight portable chair for each Zoom class. Taught by Linda-Grace Wilhelm. Register for one or both sessions at ashland.or.us/register or call the Senior Center at (541) 488-5342. Please note that online registration closes at noon the day before the start of a session, at which time the Zoom link will be emailed.

DATES Session 7: Wednesdays, April 7, 14, 21, 28
Session 8: Fridays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 20
TIME 10:30 to 11:30 AM
PLACE Online (Zoom)
COST \$20 (Session 7; 4 classes) or \$25 (Session 8; 5 classes)

Love Your Water—Use It Wisely | Online Event

Learn where Ashland gets its water from, how you can reduce and improve your water usage, and city water incentives. Speaker: Julie Smitherman, Medford Water Commission. Register for the free Zoom event through the City calendar at www.ashland.or.us/calendar.asp by selecting the Love Your Water - Use it Wisely workshop.

DATE April 22
TIME 1 to 2 PM

Rethinking Waste | Online Event

Paying attention to how products are made, consumed and then disposed of offers opportunities for change. By lowering these impacts, we can reduce emissions and the depletion of our natural resources. Join us as we share ideas to take action in our daily lives. Speakers: Rebecca Walker, SOU, Jamie Rosenthal, Recology Ashland, and Risa Buck, Rogue-To-Go. Register for the free Zoom event through the City calendar at www.ashland.or.us/calendar.asp by selecting the Rethinking Waste workshop.

DATE April 29
TIME 1 to 2 PM

Check out how Ashland connects at www.ashlandfiber.net



APRIL CITY CALENDAR

Due to COVID-19 and social distancing measures in place, many meetings might be canceled or held electronically. Please check ashland.or.us/calendar.asp for updates.

City Council

Business Meeting: April 6 & 20 | 6 p.m.
Study Session: April 5 & 19 | 5:30 p.m.

Airport Commission

April 6 | 9:30 a.m.

Conservation & Climate Outreach Commission

April 28 | 3 p.m.

Climate Policy Commission

April 8 | 4 p.m.

Forest Lands Commission

April 13 | 5:30 p.m.

Historic Commission

April 7 | 6 p.m.

Housing and Human Services Commission

April 22 | 4 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission

Business Meeting: April 14 | 6:00 p.m.
Study Session: April 7 | 6 p.m.

Planning Commission

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

Public Art Commission

April 16 | 8:30 a.m.

Transportation Commission

April 22 | 6 p.m.

Tree Commission

April 8 | 6 p.m.

Wildfire Safety Commission

April 21 | 11 a.m.

▲ TTY 1-800-735-2900 ▲ Meetings are held electronically until further notice. Please check ashland.or.us/calendar.asp for information on how to view the meetings live or watch a recorded version. ▲ City Council, Parks, and Planning 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, select channel RVTV Prime.

