

City

SOURCE

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

Fireworks

The use of fireworks is no longer permitted inside the city limits of Ashland. The Council passed this ordinance to reduce the risk of injury and fire. Fire danger is highest during the dry, hot summer months. Ashland citizens are encouraged to enjoy the official fireworks display sponsored by the Ashland Chamber of Commerce. For more information on how to support the fireworks display, go to www.ashlandchamber.com. ▼

Wildlife

This is the time of the year when bear or other wildlife may be seen in or around parks and the forest interface neighborhoods.



Take the time now to wildlife proof your yard and neighborhoods to avoid potentially dangerous encounters. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFE) recommend the following:

- ❑ Keep pet food indoors. Feed pets in the house, garage or enclosed kennel.
- ❑ Do not feed any wildlife including birds or deer; they are prey for cougars.
- ❑ If you do have bird feeders, hang them at least ten feet off the ground and keep the area under the

(See *Wildlife*, Page 2)

Volunteer Spirit

The City of Ashland recently presented the Ashland Food Project with the James M. Ragland Memorial "Volunteer Spirit" Community Service Award to acknowledge their contributions to the Ashland Community.

Once every two months, on the second Saturday of the month, neighborhood volunteers with the Ashland Food Project collect food set out by households who have agreed to support, on a regular basis, local meal programs (including the Ashland Food Bank, Food Angels, Uncle Food's Diner, the Ashland Senior Center, the First Congregational United Church of Christ's Monday Morning Breakfast, and the Talent Food Pantry.) This reliable, easy way to donate has meant a substantial increase in donations to the Ashland Emergency Food Bank. If you would like more information about the Ashland Food Project go to <http://www.ashlandfoodproject.com> or call 541-488-6976.

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Wildlife

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bird feeders clean.

- Remove fruit that has fallen from trees.
- Add lime to compost piles to reduce odors. Do not compost meat, bones, fruit, dairy products or grease.
- Secure garbage cans in a garage, shed or behind a chain link or electric fence.
- Put garbage cans out just before pick-up time, not the night before.
- Purchase bear-proof garbage cans if necessary. (contact Ashland Sanitary for more information)
- Take garbage with you when leaving your vacation home.
- Clean garbage containers regularly with bleach or moth balls to reduce odors.
- Use electric fencing to keep bears from orchards, gardens, compost, beehives and berries.
- Store livestock food in a secure place.

- Don't leave scented candles, soap or suntan lotions outdoors or near open windows.
- Talk to neighbors to encourage everyone in the neighborhood to remove attractants.
- Keep barbecues clean. Store them in a shed or garage.

Other precautions:

- Do not hike alone.
- Do not approach a mountain lion, give them room to escape.
- Do not run from a mountain lion. Stand and face the animal, make eye contact.
- Do all you can to appear larger, open your jacket, throw stones, raise your arms slowly.
- Do not run from a bear. Do not make eye contact. Back away slowly and speak softly to let the bear discover your presence.

More tips and information are available from the ODFW. www.dfw.state.or.us. Please notify ODFW if you see a bear or cougar or 826-8778 ext. 227. ▼

Volunteer Spirit

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The Mayor and City Council found selecting this year's James M. Ragland "Volunteer Spirit" Community Service Award winner particularly challenging, as we had so many deserving nominees. We appreciate every person who took the time to submit a nominee for consideration and hope they will consider resubmitting next year. We continue to be honored by the dedication, hard work, and on-going volunteer efforts of each nominee to make Ashland the best possible community. Keep up the good work! ▼

Signs on Lamp Posts

As the warmer weather approaches our thoughts turn to garage sales. A friendly reminder that signs are not to be posted on lampposts or traffic signs. Not only is it distracting for motorists, but it is also against the law, AMC 9.08.180.

Electric Utility Boxes

Residents are reminded not to plant flowers and plants close to the green electrical utility boxes located around town. There are times when electric crews need to access those units and plantings risk being damaged.

Avoid Aggressive Drivers

Dangerous driving habits are a serious threat on the nation's roads. According to AAA, aggressive driving can double your chances of getting into a collision, leading to injuries and even death. What can you do?

Behave behind the wheel:

- Don't block or drive under speed limits in passing lanes.
- Keep away from erratic drivers.
- Don't fill more than one parking space.
- Avoid yelling out the window or stopping on the road to argue.
- Don't speed up with someone tries to merge into your lane.
- Always buckle up in case of a crash.

Back off from aggressive drivers:

- Give way to bullish drivers. Why battle?
- Don't challenge them by racing, flashing lights or honking horns.
- Avoid eye contact with the driver.
- Ignore gestures and don't gesture back.
- Report unsafe driving to authorities
- If the aggressive driver is in a crash, stop safely nearby and act as a witness to the driver's behavior.

Keeping your cool on the road can be challenging. You can't control how other drivers act, but you can make your driving safer for everyone. ▼

Economic Development Strategy Update

Over the past several months, community members appointed by Mayor Stromberg have been meeting to guide the development of an economic strategy for the City. Two separate committees were formed to provide an assessment of Ashland's current economic condition, our strengths and weaknesses and existing and anticipated local and national trends. This information forms the baseline for the creation of an economic vision for the City supported by specific goals, strategies and actions to make that vision a reality over the next 10 to 15 years.

Over the course of each of the committees' six meetings, a wide variety of viewpoints and ideas have surfaced and have been compiled. The committees are now working on grouping and sorting the potential goals, strategies and actions to develop a draft document for targeted public review and comment in the coming months. For more information on the topic, check the City website at www.ashland.or.us/econdev or contact Adam Hanks, Project Manager at 541-552-2046 or adam@ashland.or.us. ▼

Senior Volunteer Opportunity

The Ashland Police Department is taking applications for their House Check Patrol.

This is a uniform unit, no enforcement

involved. Volunteers must be seniors, have a valid drivers license,

and must agree to a background check.

Training will be pro-

vided. Please contact

Volunteer Coordinator, Frank d'Entremont, at

541-552-2121 for more information.



News Notes

Airport Day!

Come to the Ashland Municipal Airport, 403 Dead Indian Memorial Road, on May 22, 2010 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to celebrate Airport Day. There will be a pancake breakfast, a BBQ lunch and numerous activities for children. More information call 541-488-5587 or www.ashland.or.us.

Weed Day "Let's Pull Together!"

The Jackson Cooperative Weed Management Area Group is sponsoring a valley-wide effort to control invasive weeds that disrupt our native ecosystems. Gloves and tools will be provided for volunteers to engage in two to three hours of manual weed removal at numerous locations around the Rogue Valley. On Saturday, June 19, North Mountain Park will host a Yellow Star Thistle pull from 9:00am to 11:00am along the bike path above the North Mountain Park softball fields. Other locations include Valley of the Rogue State Park, Denman Wildlife Area and Prescott Park on Roxy Anne in Medford. Following weed pull, volunteers will enjoy a free picnic, music, meet other volunteers, and browse educational booths at a location to be determined. For more information call the North Mountain Park Nature Center at 541-488-6606.

Daniel Meyer Pool

Daniel Meyer Pool, located in Hunter Park, 1705 Homes Ave., is outdoors and will be open to the public June 21 through September 6, 2010. To register for a class visit www.ashland.or.us or call the Ashland Parks & Recreation office at 541-488-5340. For more information about the pool visit www.ashland.or.us/swim.

Ashland Parks & Recreation

Registration for Ashland Parks & Recreation summer programs is underway! The Parks Department publishes three recreation guides per year; fall, winter/spring and summer. The guides are delivered to every Ashland and Talent household. Did you get your summer recreation guide in the mail? If not, please call the Parks office at 541-488-5340 or view the summer guide online at www.ashland.or.us/recguide. The current guide includes programs through September 2010 and is full of activities for all ages and abilities, from sports and fitness to art to summer camps! For more information visit or to register for a summer program go to www.ashland.or.us. Remember, online

registration helps to reduce costs and it's easy to do! If you need assistance, please call 541-488-5340, or stop by the Parks office in Lithia Park, 340 S Pioneer St in Ashland. "We'll see you in the Park!" ▼

CITY OF
ASHLAND

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.
- **Forest Lands Commission** meets on the second Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.
- **Historic Commission** meets on the first Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. (the Wednesday prior to the Tuesday Planning Commission)
- **Housing 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 8:15 a.m.
- **Transportation Commission** meets on third Thursday at 6:00 p.m.
- **Tree Commission** meets on the Thursday before the Tuesday Planning Commission Meeting

◆ 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. ◆ TTY 1-800-735-2900

