

## City

SOURCE

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

## Economic Development Strategy

*The City will be bringing forward an overall process and public involvement plan for the development of a community wide Economic Development Strategy. The Council will be reviewing the draft process and involvement plan in September that will include a steering group, technical expertise group and focus groups based on broad economic development policy categories. Information relating to the Economic Development Strategy can be found on the City's website at [www.ashland.or.us/econdev](http://www.ashland.or.us/econdev). Any questions or comments can be directed to Adam Hanks at 541-552-2046 or [adam@ashland.or.us](mailto:adam@ashland.or.us). ▼*

## Voluntary Water Curtailment

The City of Ashland asks residents and businesses to voluntarily restrict the use of water.



Currently, the water level at Reeder Reservoir is dropping faster than the amount of water flowing into it. In order to make sure that there is enough water to last until the temperatures cool and the autumn rains begin, the City is encouraging residents and businesses to follow the conservation tips listed below and to be mindful of the use of water.

***Water Conservation Tips***

- ☐ Don't brush your teeth with the water running.

(See *Voluntary Water Curtailment*, Page 2)

## Is Your Child without Health Coverage?

Healthy Kids can help! Children without health insurance don't get the health care they need when they need it. Governor Kulongoski and the Oregon legislature recently created Oregon Healthy Kids to make sure all Oregon children get the health care they need.

The Healthy Kids program provides free or affordable health care for children 18 and younger, coverage, even for children with a medical condition, and medical, dental and vision care; regular checkups; preventive care; prescription drugs; mental health and chemical dependency services; and medical equipment and supplies.

The Healthy Kids plan is being rolled out in three phases, beginning now and continuing through January 2010.

- ☐ TODAY — Children in families with income up to 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) (\$40,792.50 for a family of four) can enroll.

(See *Is Your Child without Health Coverage*, Page 3)



## Ashland Round Up

Many of Ashland's low-income residents have difficulty paying their basic monthly utility services. The City of Ashland's Round Up program allows Ashland utility customers to voluntarily round up their utility bills to the nearest dollar. The additional funds accumulated will be devoted to assisting low-income Ashland residents with their monthly utility bills.

Customers who qualify for low-income assistance are screened to determine eligibility using the current Federal poverty guidelines. In addition, occasionally customers who don't necessarily qualify as low-income may need one time per year assistance due to personal difficulties.

There are currently 579 Ashland citizens contributing to this program for a total of \$3373.34 for the last fiscal year.

This amount, along with additional individual contributions, has assisted 40 low-income customers with their monthly utility bills.

Many public utilities around the country operate a "round up" program to provide public purpose funding to assist others. This is a voluntary program. Please join the Ashland Round Up program by completing the coupon below and returning it with your utility payment. ▼

## Voluntary Water Curtailment

Continued from Page 1

- Don't use water to irrigate outdoor plants between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.
- Don't allow water to run off onto streets sidewalks, driveways or adjacent property for more than five minutes.

- Don't use water to wash sidewalks, walkways or other hard surfaces except where necessary for public health or safety.
  - Don't allow water to escape from breaks within a plumbing system.
  - Don't use water to wash cars, boats, trailers, aircraft or other vehicles by hose without using a shutoff nozzle.
  - Don't serve drinking water in restaurants, hotels, cafes, or other public places unless requested by the customer.
  - Don't use water to clean, fill or maintain decorative fountains, ponds etc. unless the water is re-circulated.
  - Don't use water for dust control, or washing buildings.
- Information on the City of Ashland water conservation programs and water saving tips are available at [www.ashland.or.us](http://www.ashland.or.us). For more information, call Robbin Pearce, Water Conservation Analyst, at 552-2062. ▼

## Yes, I want to join the Ashland Round Up Program

Yes, please round up my monthly utility bill to the nearest dollar. I understand the funds will assist needy Ashland residents with their utility bill.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Service Address \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete this coupon and return it with your utility payment.**



## Tree of the Year Ballot

The Tree Commission's ballot for the 22nd Tree of the Year Contest will be available on the City of Ashland website at [www.ashland.or.us](http://www.ashland.or.us). The ballots will also be available at the Community Development Office located at 51 Winburn Way, the City of Ashland Utility Office located at 20 E Main Street and in local print publications. **VOTE** for your favorite tree. Ballots are due **November 2** for the winner announcement at the **November 17** City Council meeting.

## Is Your Child without Health Coverage?

Continued from Page 1

- BEGINNING OCTOBER 2009** — Coverage will extend to children in families up to 200% FPL (\$44,100 for a family of four).
  - BEGINNING JANUARY 2010** — Children in families between 200% and 300% FPL (\$44,100 to 66,150 for a family of four) will be able to enroll in coverage with premium assistance and children in families above 300% FPL will be able to buy into the program at full cost.
- Apply today! Early applications will help us enroll your children faster. Go to <http://www.oregonhealthykids.gov/> or call 1-877-314-5678 for information and to have an application mailed to you. ▼

## H1N1— What Do I Need to Know?

- The flu is spread mainly from person to person by coughing, sneezing or touching infected surfaces.
- Wash hands often with soap and water. Don't touch your face.
  - Use a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Then throw it away.
  - Stay home if you are sick. Keep children home from school if they have flu symptoms.

- Stay Healthy by managing stress and getting proper nutrition, exercise and sleep. Take care of yourself and your family. Plan ahead.

For more information go to <http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1FLU/>.



## Measure 15-97

On Tuesday, November 3, 2009, a measure election will be held by the City of Ashland.

The following shall be the ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the city's voters on this date:

- CAPTION:** "EXTEND THE 5% TAX ON FOOD AND BEVERAGE TO 2030."
- QUESTION:** Shall 5% tax on prepared food and beverages extend to 2030 for wastewater debt and improvements (80%) and parks (20%)?
- SUMMARY:** This measure extends the five percent tax on prepared food and beverages sold by restaurants, caterers, grocery store delis, coffee shops and other establishments. Alcoholic beverages are excluded. Eighty percent (80%) of tax revenues are dedicated to wastewater treatment plant debt and capital improvements. Twenty percent (20%) is dedicated to parks for capital improvements and acquisition. Projects are identified in the City's adopted

(See *Measure 15-97*, Back Page)



## Measure 15- 97

Continued from Page 3

### Capital Improvement Plan.

The City Council can reduce or eliminate the tax at anytime. Restaurants retain 5% of the tax collected. The City may use up to 2% for administrative expenses.

The tax is not collected on food or beverages sold on school grounds or college campuses (except food sold by an independent contractor), on hospital grounds, in vending machines, at senior centers, or by non-profits or service clubs at street booths or concessions. Food provided by bed and breakfast inns is excluded.

For single events, such as weddings, costing more than \$5,000 the tax is capped at \$250. ▼

## News Notes

### *Bear Creek Festival*

On Saturday, October 3, the North Mountain Park Nature Center will host the 1st Annual Bear Creek Festival from 11 am to 4 pm, at 620 North Mountain Avenue in Ashland. This FREE event will offer activities for people of ALL AGES to get outside and explore and learn about Bear Creek and other streams in their back yards. If you are interested in volunteering, being an exhibitor, or sponsoring this event, please contact the Nature Center at [deckelms@ashland.or.us](mailto:deckelms@ashland.or.us), visit [www.northmountainpark.org](http://www.northmountainpark.org), or call 541-488-6606. For more information visit [www.BearCreekFestival.net](http://www.BearCreekFestival.net) or call 541-488-6606.

### *Green & Solar Tour*

Find out how solar energy can be used to power and heat your home and water, and how homes can be more energy efficient, healthier and better for the environment. Participants will visit homes with solar electric, solar hot water, solar space heat, increased energy efficiency, healthier indoor air and reduced the environmental impacts. All tour participants will travel by bus to tour sites with a bring-your-own-lunch stop along the way. The tour costs \$10 and is for ages 16 & up. Meet at front of the Ashland Civic Center, 1175 E. Main Street on Saturday, October 10, from 9:00 am — 3:00 pm. Register online at <http://ashlandparks.recware.com> ▼

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](http://www.ashland.or.us). ◆ TTY 1-800-735-2900

