



**SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH
BE PROACTIVE!**

Do you know at least two ways out of our community? Where will you meet your family after an evacuation? Where will you stay and how will you contact each other? Where will your pets stay? Take appropriate steps in planning ahead before disaster strikes.

Communicating with loved-ones will be difficult in a disaster. Having a plan and being prepared will help reduce stress. You can plan to lessen the impact of disaster by taking a preparedness inventory of your plans and supplies to determine where further actions are needed. Once you've made a determination of what gaps exist in your planning and basic emergency supplies create two lists; one list should include needed actions and the other should include basic supplies needed.

Here are some examples of actions you can take to get prepared:

- Create a disaster supplies kit. Your kit is essential in providing you with basic needs if you need to leave the comfort of your home unexpectedly. It should contain items for basic needs at minimum including food, water, shelter, a first aid kit, hygiene supplies, extra clothing and bedding, copies of critical documents, medication if taking and other medical needs items, and more. Check out ready.gov to learn more.
- Sign up for alerts and warnings by opting-in to Nixle (<http://www.nixle.com/>) and Citizen Alert (www.jacksoncounty.org/alert).
- Learn skills you need to help yourself and others until help can arrive; take the free Ashland CERT training ashlandCERT.org.
- Take a CPR training course ashland.or.us/CPR.
- Know how to access community resources (e.g., shelters, food banks).
- Check on your neighbors. Ashland's Map Your Neighborhood program can help ashland.or.us/MYN.

When you are forced to leave your home, Be Ready. Always have your disaster supplies kit stocked and ready for use. Implement your plan just as you've practiced in the past during non-disaster situations. Stay calm. Be aware of your surroundings such as downed power lines, fallen objects, pedestrians and traffic, and spills or other potential hazards.

Continued on page 2...

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preparedness Month (cont)	2	Smokewise Ashland	3
Reusable Produce Bags	2	Urban Deer (cont.)	3
Sprinkler Scheduling	2	Events	3-4
Volunteer Opportunities	2	City Closure	4
		City Calendar	4

LIVING WITH URBAN DEER

Communities throughout Oregon and across the United States and Canada struggle with managing urban deer populations. But Ashland, like all communities in Oregon, is constrained in its ability to address deer concerns. In Oregon, the management of deer populations is the exclusive purview of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). ODFW has been very responsive to Ashland's concerns and Ashland has done what is legally allowed by adopting ordinances that prohibit the feeding of deer and allowing property owners to construct eight-foot high deer fencing.

The most common deer in Ashland are black-tailed deer. With mating season from November to early December, most fawns are born in late May into June. During this time does become very protective of their fawns and view humans and animals as predators. It is important to be aware of this and take the following precautions:

- Don't ever approach deer or their fawns
- Deer always move forward. Be sure to give them enough space and a clear path forward.
- If a deer responds to your appearance by raising its ears, scratching the ground, or changing its stance, you are too close.
- Most, but not all, encounters involve dogs. Be sure not to pass a deer when they may feel enclosed upon as they will likely feel threatened.
- Always walk your dog on a leash and be ready to let go of the leash if a deer attacks.

Continued on page 3...



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Continued from page 1

Be sure to include your pets and livestock, if you have any, in your planning process. Be sure every animal has durable and visible identification. Consider implanting microchips to reassure reunification should you get separated. Do not overlook needing additional water, food, and medications for pets. Many shelters do not allow pets or livestock. Be sure to complete the required actions from your lists to be fully prepared before disaster strikes.

PRODUCE? YOU'VE GOT IT IN THE (REUSABLE) BAG!

From our Partners at Recology

Do you love your fruits and veggies, but hate using plastic to bag them up? We hear you! Even if you're making sustainable choices, such as using a reusable shopping bag at the store, it can be really frustrating to encounter the need for a plastic bag when getting specific items! Luckily, reusable produce bags are becoming more and more common. If you want to learn more about these handy alternatives, read on!

It seems like there's an excess of plastic everywhere we go. That's why it's really important that we all actively work together to cut down on our use of it wherever and whenever we can. What's one way you can help combat this plastic problem? Reusable produce bags! There are many varieties and styles available online, ranging from cloth to mesh-like materials. Even better, your local grocery stores and shops will likely have some for sale. If you have some old cloth that you want to reuse (because reusing is AWESOME!), you can even make the produce bags yourself! Just go online and search "How To Make Reusable Produce Bags" to find some great patterns and step-by-step guides!

Additionally, if you buy smaller bulk items (such as seeds, nuts, flour, etc.) and don't want to use a reusable bag, you can always bring your own container—just don't forget to take the weight of the container at the weigh station or at the check-out counter before filling it up! Now that's some sustainable shopping!

WANT TO VOLUNTEER?

Do you have two free hours a week to help our Ashland seniors? Volunteers 18 years or older, are needed on Wednesday and Thursday mornings and afternoons to serve lunch at the Ashland Senior Center for the Rogue Valley Council of Governments (RVCOG) Food and Friends Program. Shifts are either 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. or 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Additionally, we are looking for a volunteer to help out with Senior Food Box delivery once a month from the Ashland Emergency Food Bank.

Volunteers are also needed for set-up and to staff booths during the Bear Creek Salmon Festival at North Mountain Park on Saturday, October 5. Various shifts are available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for high school ages and above. Students will earn community service hours! If interested in either opportunity, please call Lori Ainsworth at (541) 552-2264 or email lori.ainsworth@ashland.or.us.

PROPER SPRINKLER SCHEDULING CAN SAVE WATER AND MONEY

The greatest amount of water savings can often be realized through improved irrigation scheduling. You could potentially reduce your water use by up to 60 percent simply by adjusting your watering schedule throughout the summer to account for plants' changing water needs.

At the end of August and into September we still have high temperatures, however, plant water needs decrease because the days are also getting shorter. Remember to take this into account and reduce your watering times accordingly. Check out our Outdoor Watering Calculator at www.ashland saves water.org to help you determine how much and how often to water. You can also call (541) 552-2062 for assistance with programming your irrigation controller.

Here are additional outdoor water conservation tips:

- If you have a dry spot in your landscape, water it manually with a hose or watering can instead of running your irrigation system longer.
- Adjust sprinklers to avoid watering sidewalks and driveways.
- Water between 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. to avoid losing water to wind and evaporation.
- Use a moisture meter to detect if soil is still moist from previous watering.
- Be sure to fix all leaks promptly no matter how small they may seem.
- Attach a shut off nozzle on your hose when hand watering plants.
- Use soaker hoses or drip irrigation to water raised beds, vegetable gardens, and trees.
- Deep, thorough watering encourages deep rooting and healthier trees and shrubs.
- Add mulch to your garden beds to lock in moisture and minimize evaporation.
- Keep pools covered when not in use so you won't lose water to evaporation.
- Plant in the fall when conditions are cooler and rainfall is more plentiful.
- Take a meter reading before and after running your sprinkler system to determine how much water you use. City of Ashland water meters are read in cubic feet. One cubic foot equals 7.48 gallons.

The City is also offering FREE showerheads, faucet aerators and soil moisture meters to Ashland residents. You can pick up these items at 51 Winburn Way. For more information on conservation programs visit our website at www.ashland saves water.org.

New Website for Smokewise Ashland!

Smokewise Ashland's new website at smokewiseashland.org is a unique resource for information related to smoke, health, and economic well-being. Though we hope this summer will have fewer smoky days than recent summers, we cannot ignore the reality of a changing climate and historic accumulations of fuels in our forests. Smokewise Ashland is a collaborative effort that's been put together over the last two years by the City of Ashland, the Ashland Chamber of Commerce, Asante Ashland Community Hospital, Jackson County Health and Human Services, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and Southern Oregon University. Funding has been provided through the Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network and the Ashland Forest Resiliency Project. This year, a regional resiliency meeting was held to share information and brainstorm solutions with business, government and educational leaders resulting in a report and suggestions for improvements that can be found on the new website.

The Smokewise Ashland website also displays the Ashland Air Quality Index (AQI) at the top of the homepage so residents and visitors can immediately find the most recent air quality and quickly see the associated protective actions, or just to be reassured that air quality is good, which is the case for most of the year in beautiful Ashland. We've gathered the best available information about health, air filtering, and the regional wildfire status into clickable menus. You don't have to go searching for smoke and wildfire information! Whether for wildfire or smoke, getting prepared makes it less stressful later. See our resources at ashland.or.us/wildfireprep and smokewiseashland.org.



LIVING WITH URBAN DEER

Continued from page 1

Other encounters with deer can occur in your yard. Homeowners can protect yards and gardens by installing deer fencing and using deer resistant plants. Deer fences must meet the standards set by the Ashland Municipal Code (AMC) 18.08.175. You can also contact our Community Development Department at (541) 488-5305 for fence permits and clarifications. For information on deer resistant plants, see <http://ashlandsaveswater.org/plants.php>.

It is important not to feed deer and Ashland has a City ordinance against feeding deer within the City limits. The ordinance details can be found by going to AMC 9.08.280 and states that it is a violation for a person who knowingly places, deposits, distributes, stores or scatters food, garbage or any other attractant so as to knowingly constitute a lure, attraction or enticement for deer, raccoon, or potentially habituated wildlife. If found in violation of the ordinance fines can exceed \$500.

EVENTS

Family Movies at the Lithia Park Bandshell

We are excited to host our first season of movies in the park. Bring a blanket, stadium seats, and the whole family to enjoy an evening of family-friendly movies! Optional wireless "Silent Disco" headphones will be available to rent for crystal-clear audio. Concessions will be available for purchase as well. Animals and alcohol are not allowed in parks. Visit [facebook.com/silentmovementinternational](https://www.facebook.com/silentmovementinternational) for weather cancellation updates.

DAYS 2nd & 4th Fridays
DATES Sep 13 & Sep 27
TIME Start after dusk (approx. 8 to 8:30 PM)
PLACE Butler Bandshell in Lithia Park
COST \$5 donation—A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Ashland Parks Foundation.

First Friday Silent Discos in the Park!

Join Silent Movement for their 4th summer of family-friendly events. Rent a pair of headphones and wander through downtown's Art Walk, or dance with over 200 other attendees to multiple channels of Live DJ's playing funky beats, while the little ones can make their own music on the interactive "Wiggle Wagon". Animals and alcohol are not allowed in parks. Visit [facebook.com/silentmovementinternational](https://www.facebook.com/silentmovementinternational) for weather cancellation updates.

DAYS First Fridays
DATES Sep 6 & Oct 4
TIME 5 to 11 PM
PLACE Front of Lithia Park
COST \$5 donation—A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Ashland Parks Foundation.

Ashland Electric Utility is offering a new Workplace Charging incentive program. See this link for details: ashland.or.us/ChargeAtWork

Check out how Ashland connects at www.ashlandfiber.net



EVENTS

(Continued)

Free Lithia Park Nature Walks

Enjoy beautiful Lithia Park's natural history three days a week (four days during July and August), rain or shine. Trained volunteer naturalists from APRC will lead an easy and interesting one and a half hour nature walk through Lithia Park. Learn about all of the happenings in Lithia Park during the summer months by visiting ashland.or.us/LithiaHappenings.

DAYS Saturdays (in July and August only),
Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays
TIME 10 to 11:30 AM
PLACE Entrance of Lithia Park, across from the Plaza

Rock the Knoll Concert Series

Mark your calendars, tell your friends, and join us this summer for some great music at Oak Knoll Golf Course. Our "Rock the Knoll" summer concert series ends with the Hog Wild and will have food available at 5 PM.

DATES September 21 (Hog Wild)
TIME 7 to 10 PM (food starting at 5 PM)
PLACE Oak Knoll Golf Course, 3070 Hwy 66

Stay Healthy and On Your Feet: Fall Prevention for Seniors

Providence Health Services professionals will teach you how to avoid falls. This free workshop will also include information on Tai Chi, advance directives, fall risk reduction home improvements, and other useful tips! To register, please visit providence.org/classes or call (800) 562-8964.

AGES Adults
DATE September 25
DAY Wednesday
TIME 1 to 3 PM
PLACE Ashland Senior Center, 1699 Homes Avenue

Hunter Park Community Cookout

Free cookout for seniors & neighbors of Hunter Park - all are welcome! Join us for this fun social event and come meet your neighbors. Co-sponsored by Ashland Parks & Recreation Senior Services Division, Ashland Police Department, and Asante Ashland Community Hospital.

DATE September 28
DAY Saturday
TIME 11:30 to 2 PM
PLACE Hunter Park & Senior Center, 1699 Homes Avenue

September City Calendar

City Council

Business Meeting: Sep. 3 & 17 | 7 p.m.
Study Sessions: Sep. 16 & Sep. 30 | 5:30 p.m.

Airport Commission

September 3 | 9:30 a.m.

Conservation Commission

September 25 | 6 p.m.

Forest Lands Commission

September 10 | 5:30 p.m.
Fire Station #2, 1860 Ashland Street

Historic Commission

September 4 | 6 p.m.

Housing and Human Services Commission

September 26 | 4:00 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission

Business Meeting: September 23 | 7 p.m.
Study Session: September 16 | 5:30 p.m.
The Grove, 1195 E Main Street

Planning Commission

Business Meeting: September 10 | 7 p.m.
Study Session: September 24 | 7 p.m.

Public Art Commission

September 20 | 8:30 a.m.

Transportation Commission

September 19 | 6 p.m.

Tree Commission

September 5 | 6 p.m.

Wildfire Safety Commission

September 18 | 11 a.m.
Fire Station #1, 455 Siskiyou Boulevard

▲ TTY 1-800-735-2900 ▲ Meetings are held in the Council Chambers (1175 E Main Street) or the Siskiyou Room (51 Winburn Way) unless otherwise noted. ▲ 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 select channel RVTV Prime.

City offices will be closed on Monday, September 2 in observance of Labor Day.
We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.



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