

# City

## SOURCE

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

## Countywide Recycling Information

*The Jackson County Recycling Directory is a list of recycling opportunities for homes and businesses to reduce waste and prevent pollution. From appliances, building materials, and electronics to paint, tires and yard waste, the Recycling Directory includes over 50 local recycling outlets beyond basic curbside collection service. To view the recycling directory see [www.roguesmart.org/directory.html](http://www.roguesmart.org/directory.html). ▼*

## Having Your Say

Providing public input can occur in many different ways.

Public hearings (the public's opportunity to have a say) are required by State law when the issue is about land use such as zoning, conditional uses, subdivisions and commercial development. Public hearings are also required when the issue involves Federal funds, the distribution of State funds, setting annual budgets, etc.



The Public Meeting Law requires that all City Council meetings, Commission and Committee meetings are open to the public — but the law doesn't always require that the public be permitted to speak. (See *Having Your Say*, Page 2)

## Sanding and Snow Removal

Following snowfall, streets are cleared and sanded in the following order:

- ❑ Arterial streets including Siskiyou Boulevard, North Main, Highway 66, Lithia Way, Maple Street (hospital), school zones etc. are always cleared first.
- ❑ Collector streets such as Mountain Avenue, East Main, Hersey Street, Park Street, Beach Street etc. are cleared next.
- ❑ Residential streets are cleared last and are prioritized based on volume of vehicular traffic and grade. Residential streets with heavy volume such as Morton Street, Strawberry Lane, Wimer Street, Church Street, Granite Street, etc. are attended to first. Low priority is given to streets with low vehicular traffic.

The Street Department reminds motorists that a plowed and sanded street does not guarantee the street is free from ice. Motorists should (See *Sanding and Snow Removal*, Page 3)



# City **S O U R C E**

## Having Your Say

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Nevertheless, the Ashland City Council always allows and encourages the public to speak on issues at every City Council meeting. A public forum section at each Council meeting enables citizens to discuss issues that are not on the agenda. The City of Ashland numerous commissions and committees also encourage public input during their regularly scheduled meetings.

Many issues brought to the Council, for their review and final approval, come from one of more than 22 committees, commissions, boards or ad hoc committees. Often these groups have already conducted public meetings, solicited public comment and then

shaped their recommendation for the City Council based on the input gathered. Therefore, most issues have had significant public input prior to being addressed by the Council. It is much easier for the public to help focus these decisions (i.e., have your say) by getting involved in the process as early as possible. ▼

## How does the public find out about the City's issues?

The City gets the word out in many ways. Information is included in this newsletter, which is mailed with the utility bills. Information is posted on the City's Web site and it also appears on

RVTV channel 30. Special projects often have flyers that are printed and placed in brochure racks at City Hall, at the Community Development Building, in Council Chambers and at the front counter of the Civic Center. News releases are sent to local newspapers and radio stations. Sometimes paid advertisements are placed in local papers, depending on the topic and scope of the project. City council agendas are posted on the City's website and published in the local paper.

For projects that occur in specific neighborhoods, postcards or notices are often mailed to the residents in that area to keep them informed of the progress of a project or of up-coming meetings that they may want to attend.

## Carpool Information

Find a carpool partner, its fast, free and easy. [CarpoolMatchNW.org](http://CarpoolMatchNW.org) is an easy and convenient way to find someone to share a ride in Oregon and SW Washington. Simply log on, and you will receive guidance through a matching process. [CarpoolMatchNW.org](http://CarpoolMatchNW.org) is sponsored by the City of Portland Office of Transportation in cooperation with South Metro Area Rapid Transit, TriMet, and Rogue Valley Transit District. Funding is provided by The Climate Trust and Metro's Regional Travel Options program.

[CarpoolMatchNW.org](http://CarpoolMatchNW.org)



## Winter/Spring Recreation Guide

The City of Ashland  
Parks Department has  
published its new  
Winter/Spring recre-  
ation guide. A variety  
of dance, art, language,  
fitness and human  
interest classes are  
available from January  
through May. If you  
haven't received your  
new guide, please call  
the Parks office at  
488-5340.



Still, some people may miss out on getting this information. They might not have access to the Internet, don't go to the Library, or this newsletter may never be read. They may be out of town the day the newspapers carried an article on the subject or ran an ad; they may never go to City Hall or the Civic Center or any other public buildings, they may not attend other local meetings or watch RVTV. The City is always seeking better avenues for communication — please let us know if you have other ideas to improve City information flow.

It is the responsibility of the City to make information easily accessible and encourage public participation. It is the responsibility of the community to seek out the information and then to participate early in the process on issues that interest them. ▼

## Sanding and Snow Removal

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still exercise caution when traveling cleared streets and use common sense when deciding to drive on non-cleared residential streets. Tire chains are always a good idea on ice and snow, when in doubt chain up.

For more information, contact John Peterson at the street department at 488-5313. ▼

## Public Art Master Planning

Dear Ashland Citizens,

The Public Art Commission is gathering information to develop a Public Arts Master Plan for the City of Ashland. Once the Plan is developed, the Commission will present it to the City Council for consideration and adoption.

As a Commission, we want the citizens of Ashland to help develop the vision for public art in Ashland. We want to glean an understanding of the communities' awareness of public art, types of public art, funding of public art and more. A brief questionnaire is posted on the City's website [www.ashland.or.us](http://www.ashland.or.us) (click on What Do You Think? on the left hand column). Hard copies are available at City Hall and the Library. Your responses will be invaluable to us as we develop our Master Plan.

In addition, we are hosting two public gatherings to gain an in-depth understanding of the community's interest in public art. Participants will move from table to table discussing a different question at each move. Please join us on February 8 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. or on February 14 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Community Center located at 59 Winburn Way. Refreshments will be served.

We look forward receiving your

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# Public Art Master Planning

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completed questionnaires and to seeing and listening to you at the public forums.

Sincerely,

*City of Ashland Public Arts Commission*  
*Melissa Markell, Chair; Dennis Gay, Vice Chair;*  
*David Wilkerson, Catherine Rickbone, Annette*  
*Pugh, Jennifer Longshore, Dana Bussell, Ann*  
*Seltzer (staff liaison) ▼*

## News Notes

### Open House/Orientation

#### North Mountain Park Nature Center

Tuesday, Feb 13, 12:00 - 3 pm. (Tours at 1 pm and 2 pm)  
Join Ashland Parks and Recreation Department staff for an introduction to the Demonstration Gardens and Natural Area at North Mountain Park Nature Center. Interactive indoor exhibits will be available all afternoon with tours of the Demonstration Gardens and Natural Area beginning at 1 pm and 2 pm. This orientation will also introduce you to ways that you, your family or organization can become volunteers at the Nature Center. We have long-term, short-term or pick-up projects in all facets of the Nature Center operations, from gardening to administration. Volunteers make amazing things happen — come be a part of the team! Refreshments provided. Ages 12 and up. Free. Please register online at <http://ashlandparks.recware.com> or call the Nature Center at 541.488.6606.

### Be Aware when “Backing”

Roughly one out of every four vehicles incidents involves backing. Considering the average driver operates in reverse less than a mile every year, this statistic is even more alarming. The following tips will help you avoid collisions while backing:

- ❑ Avoid backing whenever possible. Driver should plan ahead to reduce backing operations in the first place.
- ❑ Try to position the vehicle to avoid backing.
- ❑ If backing cannot be avoided, it is better to back in upon arrival then to back out later while departing.
- ❑ Conduct a visual walk around of the vehicle to identify potential hazards.

- ❑ Whenever available, use a passenger to guide you during backing operations.
- ❑ Always back slowly while continuously looking and listening for signs of trouble.
- ❑ Continuously check all mirrors while backing.  
All backing accidents are preventable. The key is to plan ahead to avoid backing the the first place.  
Only back up as your last resort. Accidents hurt—safety doesn't. ▼

## CITY OF ASHLAND City Calendar

January 15	Housing Commission	6:30 p.m.
January 16	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
January 18	Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission	5:15 p.m.
January 19	Public Arts Commission	8:15 a.m.
January 24	Conservation Commission	7:00 p.m.
January 25	Traffic Safety Commission	7:00 p.m.
February 6	Airport Commission	9:30 a.m.
February 6	City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
February 7	Historic Commission	7:00 p.m.
February 8	City Council Study Session	5:15 p.m.
February 8	Tree Commission	7:00 p.m.
February 13	Forest Lands Commission	5:30 p.m.
February 13	Planning Commission	7:00 p.m.

◆ 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

