

COVID-19 ACCOUNT PAYMENT DEFERRAL PROGRAM

The City of Ashland is offering a payment deferral program for past due City utility accounts affected by the economic shut down resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Please note, the City will not shut off the water or electrical services and/or will not bill late charges related to delinquent billings through June 30. After June 30, the City will not shut off the water or electrical services and/or will not bill late charges related to delinquent billings once an agreement is completed and approved.

Utility accounts with delinquent amounts owed can apply to have those delinquent charges deferred based on two payment plan options (six month or twelve month) with the submission of the City of Ashland's Account Payment Deferral Program form. Applications must be received in City Hall beginning June 1, and no later than June 30, 2020. The portion of the deferrable amount will be due and payable by the current statements due date each month.

To continue to qualify for deferment, applicants must pay the approved amount by the monthly due date or risk being removed from the program. Additionally, any account older than three months that has a deposit on file can choose that have that deposit applied immediately towards the utility account balance.

Again, this program is for citizens of Ashland affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The City will work with each individual through an application process. To apply for a deferral of City Utilities please complete the form located here: ashland.or.us/deferralapp. Contact the Customer Service Division at (541) 488-6004, or utilitybilling@ashland.or.us for questions regarding the application or program details.

Completed forms can be emailed to utilitybilling@ashland.or.us or submitted by mail before **June 30, 2020 at 5 pm.**
City of Ashland
20 E Main St.
Ashland, OR 97520

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**STAY UPDATED ON CORONAVIRUS
(COVID-19)**

To help ease concern over the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and spread correct information, the City has created a webpage ashland.or.us/coronavirus and will be updating a hotline (541) 552-2490 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 cancellation notices.
- Current Restrictions**—offering a timeline of the Governor's orders including mandated closures.
- Local & Business Resources**—where affected businesses can go for help and how you can support local businesses.

Adopt a Neighbor Ashland



Adopt a Neighbor Ashland links healthy volunteers under 60 with their at-risk neighbors to help with shopping and errands. Even with Oregon's phased reopening, those most vulnerable to COVID-19 must continue to minimize exposure.

Sign up at adoptneighbor.org or 541-552-2500.

ADOPT A NEIGHBOR ASHLAND

Adopt a Neighbor Ashland links healthy volunteers under 60 with their at-risk neighbors to help with shopping and errands.

As Oregon reopens, the program continues to help those most vulnerable to

COVID-19 to minimize exposure.

Volunteers are ready to help! To request assistance, sign up at adoptneighbor.org or call (541) 552-2500.





Fire is Everyone's
Fight. We're in
this together.

FIRE SEASON IS HERE

Cut Weeds and Grasses. Remove debris piles.

Visit www.ashland.or.us/weedabatement for more info on requirements and useful links

Cutting grass and weeds reduces the ability for fire to start or spread quickly and decreases the fire risk in our city. Additionally, removing flammable plants and debris in proximity to a home increases the chances of that home's survival in a wildfire event.

Properties

1 Acre or Smaller

Cut and maintain grass and weeds to no more than 4" in height:

- The entire property
- On abutting park rows, sidewalks, alleys and other rights-of-way

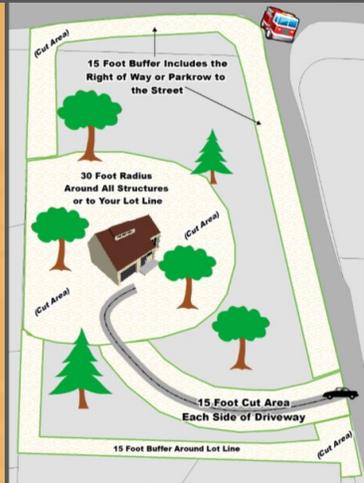


Properties

Greater Than 1 Acre

Cut and maintain grass and weeds to no more than 4" in height:

- On abutting park rows, sidewalks, alleys and other rights-of-way
- Within 30 feet of every structure
- In a 15 foot wide buffer strip around your property
- In a 15 foot wide buffer next to access roads and along driveways on the property



Ashland Municipal Code section 9.04 Requires weed abatement to be performed on all lots within city limits, including noxious weeds like blackberry and thistle. Failure to abate and maintain weeds and grass by June 15th each year can result in fines for each day the violation exists, plus any abatement and staff costs.

Do Not Plant Prohibited Flammable Plants within 30-feet of a structure

www.ashland.or.us/prohibitedplants

CUT IT SHORT & KEEP IT SHORT.

KEEP IT DEBRIS FREE AROUND YOUR HOME THROUGHOUT FIRE SEASON

Contact us: 541-552-2246 cutweeds@ashland.or.us

CONNECT WITH US

We know seeing information online about the City and trying to find out more can sometimes seem daunting. In response, we will be highlighting different ways you can "Connect with Us".

If you have ever had a hard time finding when or where a meeting will be held, a specific news item you saw online or in the newspaper, or navigating our website then try signing up for emails directly from the content we post online.

You can sign up by going to our homepage ashland.or.us and entering your email in the Email Updates section at the bottom of the homepage and subscribe. You can choose to receive agendas and minutes (for Council and advisory bodies), City News (including news releases, the City Source, and other important information), projects, calendar events, employment, RFPs, or all of the above. For more information on signing up or managing your subscription go to ashland.or.us/connect.



ASHLAND WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS CAMPAIGN—JUNE: BE SMOKEWISE!

The third month of the City of Ashland's Wildfire Preparedness campaign focuses on preparing for wildfire smoke. View all three months of campaign information by visiting ashland.or.us/wildfireprep. In June, do the following so that you are ready in the event of summertime smoke:

- Determine how your current air filtration system works and what type of filters you should have on hand for summer. HEPA or MERV 13 or higher filters are recommended to remove smoke from the air in your home during smoke events.
- Consider purchasing a stand-alone air purifier to create a clean air space for a room in your home, especially if you are sensitive to smoke. These are available at most hardware stores.
- Install weather stripping if you have leaky doors or windows to reduce the amount of smoke that enters your home.
- Window air conditioning units should not be used during a smoke event, so be ready to cover and seal if needed.

Visit smokewiseashland.org to learn more about preparing for smoke.

SAVE WATER WITH A SMART LANDSCAPE



Are you interested in developing a water-smart landscape for your home or property? Choosing the right plants, supporting soil health, and proper maintenance are all keys to water-smart landscapes. Consider the following suggestions to create a landscape that has curb appeal and is easy to maintain.

Plant Smart: When updating your landscaping, choose plant varieties that require less water, such as Waterwise, Firewise or pollinator plants or species that are native to our area. Check out the Water Wise Landscaping website for more ideas on how to create a landscape that is healthy, attractive and uses less water. www.ashland.saveswater.org

Soil Smart: A healthy soil can hold more water and provide important nutrients for plants. Aerating and mulching are great ways to loosen the soil and retain nutrients in the soil. Healthier soil means that you will not have to irrigate as often. www.ashland.saveswater.org/Best/soil.php

Water Smart: WaterSense labeled Smart irrigation controllers, which act like a thermostat for your sprinkler system telling it when to turn on and off, use local weather and landscape conditions to tailor watering schedules to actual conditions on the site. You can even control your irrigation system using your smart phone. This allows watering schedules to better match plants' needs and can help reduce water waste. The City of Ashland is currently offering a rebate up to \$250 for installing a WaterSense labeled smart irrigation controller. For more information visit the conservation webpage at www.ashland.or.us/conserve.

Ashland offers several additional resources to assist you in managing your water use, including rebates for lawn replacement, free irrigation evaluations, rebates for installing efficient toilets and washing machines and free soil moisture meters, showerheads and faucet aerators. Summer weather and watering recommendations can be found at www.ashland.or.us/weather. For more information, contact the water conservation team at (541) 552-2062.

Visit ashland.or.us/climate for new and updated information about Ashland's Climate and Energy Action Plan.

SPRING CLEANING CAN PREVENT WATER POLLUTION!

Human activities can pollute groundwater, so it's a good idea to know the best management practices for eliminating contaminants around the home. Groundwater becomes contaminated when water percolating through the soil carries pollutants downward to the water table. Check out the following resources to find ways to reduce the potential for contamination from activities at your property:

Household Hazardous Waste - Many products found in your home can pose a health or environmental hazard if you don't dispose of them properly. For more information about these products visit, www.oregon.gov/deq/FilterDocs/WhatisHHW.pdf

Proper Care for Unregulated Tank Systems - The link below provides guidance on how to maintain an existing, active home heating oil tank or other unregulated tank systems. www.oregon.gov/deq/FilterDocs/ProperCareMaintenance.pdf

Household Pharmaceuticals - The link provides info on disposal of pharmaceuticals, including out-of-date and other leftover prescription and non-prescription medications. www.oregon.gov/deq/FilterDocs/HouseholdPharmaceuticalWasteDisposal.pdf

Groundwater Friendly Gardening - Contaminants, such as fertilizers and pesticides, can enter the groundwater by rainwater or irrigation into a stream as runoff, or can leach into the soil. www.wellwater.engr.oregonstate.edu/groundwater-friendly-gardening

For additional resources and how to safely dispose of hazardous materials, please visit the City's webpage at www.ashland.or.us/recycle.

Senior Phone Buddy

Stay connected during this time of physical distancing!

The free **Senior Phone Buddy** program matches seniors for regular check-ins and socializing.



Ashland Senior Services Division
541-488-5342
seniorinfo@ashland.or.us

Phone Buddy program matches people 50 years or better for daily check-ins and socializing. If you are an Ashland or Talent senior who would enjoy more (virtual) company, contact Ashland Senior Services Division at (541) 488-5342 or seniorinfo@ashland.or.us.

SENIOR PHONE BUDDY PROGRAM

Social connection is important for all people, and even more so for older adults who live alone. During Oregon's phased reopening, people over 60 and those with underlying health issues must still minimize their exposure. Let us help you stay connected during this time of physical distancing!

The free Senior

A MESSAGE FROM ASHLAND PARKS AND RECREATION...

When life returns to normal, and it will, we will be here for you as always, providing parks, open spaces, trails, recreation programs and important social services that help people connect and live better lives. For now, we are here for you and WANT to hear from you and help you FIND YOUR SPACE! We are offering a second survey in our FIND YOUR SPACE campaign to find out what we can do to ensure you are comfortable returning to our facilities when we are able to open. Learn more and complete the survey at ashland.or.us/FindYourSpace.

Please watch for the release of our 2020 Summer Community PlayGuide. The summer guide will include programming and events that take us through to the end of August. We have attempted to provide you with the most comprehensive guide possible during these uncertain times. Feel free to reach out at ParkInfo@ashland.or.us or (541) 488-5340 for the latest information. For information on our events you may visit ashland.or.us/Events.

Complete information on Ashland Parks and Recreation at AshlandParksandRec.org, email ParksInfo@ashland.or.us or call (541) 488-5340. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram, @ashlandparksandrec and use the hashtags #FindYourSpace #InThisTogether #APRCstayConnected #AshlandParksandRec #APRC #FunItsInOurNature.

Take our online SURVEY today!
ASHLANDPARKSANDREC.ORG

FIND YOUR SPACE

 **Rec** opportunities for everyone
to STAY CONNECTED with us!
parksinfo@ashland.or.us
541.488.5430

Check out this and past versions of the City Source online anytime at ashland.or.us/citysource. For more information on different ways to "Connect with Us" go to ashland.or.us/connect.

Check out how Ashland connects at www.ashlandfiber.net



July City Calendar

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

City Council

Business Meeting: July 7 & 21 | 6 p.m.

Study Sessions: July 6 & 20 | 5:30 p.m.

Airport Commission

July 7 | 9:30 a.m.

Conservation & Climate Outreach

Commission

July 22 | 6 p.m.

Climate Policy Commission

July 9 | 4 p.m.

Forest Lands Commission

July 14 | 5:30 p.m.

Fire Station #2, 1860 Ashland Street

Historic Commission

July 1 | 6 p.m.

Housing and Human Services Commission

July 23 | 4 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission

Business Meeting: July 8 | 6:30 p.m.

Study Session: July 1 | 6:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

Business Meeting: July 14 | 7 p.m.

Study Session: July 28 | 7 p.m.

Public Art Commission

July 17 | 8:30 a.m.

Transportation Commission

July 16 | 6 p.m.

Tree Commission

July 9 | 6 p.m.

Wildfire Safety Commission

July 15 | 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 OF
ASHLAND

20 East Main St., Ashland, OR 97520 | www.ashland.or.us

