

The citizen's source of information about the City of Ashland

SLURRY SEAL AND ROAD MAINTENANCE

The City of Ashland Public Works Department would like to thank residents for their cooperation and understanding with respect to the recently completed slurry seal project that happened in April and May. Biennial slurry seal projects are a cost effective measure and part of the City's comprehensive pavement maintenance program that protects and adds useful life to residential roadways within the City.

What is slurry seal and how does it work?

A slurry seal is the application of a mixture of water, asphalt emulsion, aggregate (very small crushed rock), and additives to an existing asphalt pavement surface. A slurry seal is similar to a fog seal except the slurry seal has aggregates as part of the mixture. The placement of this mixture on existing pavement is the "seal" for the pavement surface. Slurry seals are generally used on residential streets.

Slurry seal applications serve to seal the cracks, restore lost flexibility to the pavement surface, provide a deep, rich black pavement surface color, and help preserve the underlying pavement structure. Prior to the actual application of the slurry seal, Street Division staff perform minor maintenance work on the roadways that include patching and crack sealing.

When is slurry seal the preferred choice?

Staff performs inspections of the roadways throughout the City and uses the Pavement Condition Index ranking system to rate the condition of the roadways. Roadways selected for slurry seal treatment are commonly those which have slight to moderate distress, no rutting, and generally narrow crack widths, and where a slurry seal treatment would help extend the pavement life until resurfacing becomes necessary.

Roadways chosen for cyclical slurry seal applications would typically be treated every five to seven years. Public Works completes one large scale slurry seal project each biennium and has employed this pavement maintenance strategy for decades as part of the total pavement maintenance program.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prepare to Evacuate.....	2	City Closure.....	4
Induction Cooking Incentive.....	2	Save Energy.....	4
4th of July Run (cont.).....	2	Events.....	4
Weed Abatement.....	3	City Calendar.....	4
Water Quality Report.....	3		

STAY UPDATED ON THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Staff are still available to provide assistance over the phone and email. Go to the City Directory at www.ashland.or.us/contactus.asp to find contact information for each Department.

To help ease concern over the COVID-19 pandemic and spread correct information, the City has created a webpage ashland.or.us/coronavirus.

45TH ANNUAL ASHLAND 4TH OF JULY RUN

The 45th Annual Ashland 4th of July Run will take place virtually for the second straight year. Before you lace up your sneakers, pick up a commemorative 2021 Virtual Run T-shirt and join in on the fun! This year you can run in one of three race distances: a 1-mile fun run, a 5k or a 10K. Run the race in your neighborhood and record your time between Saturday, June 26 and Sunday, July 4. Registration is not required, just submit your results before noon on Monday, July 5, to have your time included. This event is offered at no charge; however, donations will benefit the Phoenix High School Cross Country Team.

Continued on page 2...



PREPARE TO EVACUATE!

You must be ready to evacuate at any time during wildfire season. To organize evacuation, Ashland has been divided into TEN evacuation zones. It is vital that you complete the following five tasks before fire season:

Know Your Zone - Visit ashland.or.us/evacuate and click *Know Your Zone* to view the City’s Evacuation Zone map and to download a detailed map of your zone.

Know Your Alerts - If you have not already, you need to sign up for Nixle – Ashland’s community alert system – to be advised on which zones need to evacuate in an emergency. To sign up for Nixle, go to ashland.or.us/nixle or text 97520 to 888777 on your cell phone.

Get Ready – Make personal evacuation kits for each family member, stored in your vehicle, and small enough to carry on foot if necessary.

Stay Together – It’s vital to only take one vehicle in an evacuation to minimize evacuation gridlock. Keep the gas tank of this vehicle full.

Know Your Evacuation Levels – You will receive evacuation orders in levels. It is vital you understand and prepare for Ashland’s three levels of evacuation. Learn more at ashland.or.us/evacuate.

Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch for Nixle alerts for your zone and be prepared to monitor 1700 AM if cell service is interrupted. • Prepare your “go kits” and have a plan for pets and family members with special needs. • Keep your evacuation vehicle gas tank full or fully charged if electric. 	Be Ready
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be prepared to evacuate at a moment’s notice with “go kits” in your vehicle. • Consider evacuating during Level 2 if your family needs extra time, or if conditions feel unsafe to you. • This may be the only evacuation notice you receive if conditions worsen rapidly. 	Be Set
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave immediately. Do not spend further time collecting additional belongings. • You will not be able to return until conditions are safe. • Evacuation routing can change. Be sure to continue monitoring Nixle and/or 1700 AM radio. 	Go!

NEW INDUCTION COOKTOP & RANGE INCENTIVE PROGRAM



Are you looking to replace your range or cooktop? Consider getting an induction appliance with our new incentive program! Induction cooktops heat pots and pans directly through an electromagnetic field. The magnetic field strikes the iron molecules in your cookware, producing heat. This heat is only transferred between the coil and the pan, allowing induction cooking to be faster, more precise, and more efficient! From a safety standpoint, there is no open flame or indoor air pollution that is generated from combustion. The incentive is for a permanent installation of a cooktop or range for residential and commercial applications. To learn more about program requirements or induction cooking, visit our website at ashland.or.us/climate-energy/find-resources/energy-efficiency/.

If you are interested in trying out induction before making the switch check out a portable one with the Jackson County Library of Things! We will be donating three cooktops with a pot and pan that will be included in the catalogue in the summer. Stay tuned for more details!

45TH ANNUAL ASHLAND 4TH OF JULY RUN

(continued from page 1)

T-shirts with this year’s unique logo are available for sale, and whether you run the race or not we encourage you to purchase a shirt to promote this annual and historical Ashland run. The shirts are \$25 and will benefit APRC (Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission) and the PHS Country Team! You must purchase your shirt by June 10. Special thanks to this year’s logo design contest winner, Ilyse Zincone.

In summary, buy a 2021 shirt, donate to the event, submit your virtual race results and learn more at ashland.or.us/JulyRun. For regular updates and to connect with other runners virtually, be sure to join the Facebook page at facebook.com/groups/AshlandJuly4thRun. Questions can be directed to Volunteer and Special Event Coordinator Sulaiman Shelton at Sulaiman.shelton@ashland.or.us. Information on APRC at AshlandParksandRec.org.



THINGS TO KNOW FOR WEED ABATEMENT

Fire season is here. Ashland Fire & Rescue encourages the cutting of weeds and long grasses and the removal of excess leaf, needle, and branch accumulations on your property to keep homes and neighborhoods safe from wildfire. This also helps reduce the spread of unwanted invasive weeds, like Scotch Broom and thistles, by keeping them from going to seed and removes fine fuels that are susceptible to embers.

As the weather heats up, the use of gas-powered landscaping equipment like lawn mowers, tractors, weed eaters, trimmers, chain saws, etc. becomes restricted due to increasing Fire Danger Levels. Monitor changes in restrictions before you use this equipment in dry vegetation at ashland.or.us/fireseason. These equipment restrictions are typically enacted by mid-June and can severely limit the time available to safely create effective defensible space against wildfire once 'summer' season begins. The June 15th deadline for Ashland's Weeds and Noxious Vegetation ordinance (commonly referred to as 'weed abatement') is designed to ensure that wildfire fuels, including drying grass, weeds, and other unmanaged combustible vegetation, are safely eliminated before the hotter and dryer days of wildfire season. Keep your home, vacant lots, or business prepared for wildfire throughout the dry seasons of summer and early fall. Please do this important work as safely as possible.

Visit ashland.or.us/weedabatement for more info. We appreciate every effort of our community to bring properties into compliance with Ashland's Weeds and Noxious Vegetation ordinance as soon as possible during this challenging time. Please contact the Weed Abatement Coordinator at cutweeds@ashland.or.us or (541) 552-2246 with any questions or issues meeting code requirements. Thank you for all you do to keep Ashland wildfire safe.



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

BE READY for FIRE SEASON

Know your responsibilities. Do your part to help keep Ashland fire safe.

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.

Find answers to questions, learn more about ordinance requirements, file a complaint, get links to recommendations and more information about wildfire safety.

Visit www.ashland.or.us/weedabatement



Lots 1 Acre or Smaller

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

- On the entire property
- On abutting park rows, sidewalks, alleys and other rights-of-way
- Keep 3-foot clearance radius around hydrants.



Lots Larger 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 fire break around your property
- In a 15 foot wide fire break next to access roads and along driveways on the property
- Keep 3-foot clearance radius around hydrants.



Cut grass & weeds short by June and keep them short throughout fire season. Maintain vacant lots and rental properties. Remove noxious weeds and branch piles. Keep it debris free around your home and business.

*The minimum abatement shall include the cutting and/or removal of ALL Scotch Broom and thistles on the entire property and any Himalayan blackberry bushes, Poison hemlock, or Tree of heaven within required areas to abate. Debris shall comply with www.ashland.or.us/prohibitedplants or be removed.

Ashland Municipal Code section 9.04 requires weed abatement on all lots within city limits, including noxious weeds like blackberry, brooms and thistles. Failure to abate and maintain weeds and grass throughout fire season can result in fines for each day the violation exists, plus abatement and staff costs.

Do not plant flammable plants within 30-feet of a structure:



www.ashland.or.us/prohibitedplants

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

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT IS AVAILABLE

EPA'S notification requirements for the annual Consumer Confidence Report, better known as the Water Quality Report, allows the City of Ashland to distribute and provide access to the report via ashland.or.us/waterdept. A link will be found on the Public Works home page and the Water Department home page as well. Hard copies are available upon request.



City offices will be closed on Monday, July 5 in observance of Independence Day. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

KEEP COOL AND SAVE ENERGY

Summer weather is on the way and our hot Southern Oregon temperatures will be in full swing before we know it! During these tough economic and social times there are things you can easily do to help control your energy costs. Here are some tips to help you stay cool AND help to reduce your energy costs:

- Dress for the weather. Wear lightweight, loose fitting clothing on hot days.
- Drink plenty of cold liquids to stay hydrated.
- Turn off lights and fans in unoccupied rooms.
- Turn off or unplug unnecessary electronics.
- Use your kitchen and bathroom fans after cooking and bathing to remove hot steam from the air.
- Cook more meals in your microwave or InstaPot. It's quicker, more energy efficient, and heats the food instead of your house.
- Run your dishwasher at night, choose to air dry dishes rather than the heat option.
- Dry laundry on a clothesline.
- If possible wash clothes in cold water.
- Keep windows, doors, blinds and curtains closed during the day to keep cool air in. Open them when it cools down to let cool breezes through.
- Use portable or ceiling fans instead of A/C. Just increasing air movement can make you feel up to 5 degrees cooler, while using less energy. Since the fan won't cool the room, be sure to turn it off when you leave the room.
- Install roll-up bamboo blinds outside of windows that receive the most sunlight. Blocking the sun from the *outside* is more effective than blocking it from the *inside*.
- If using A/C set your thermostat to 78 degrees or higher.
- Use natural light if possible.

If you have any questions or concerns, the City of Ashland Conservation Division is here to help! Call (541) 488-5306.

EVENTS

Gentle Yoga for Adults 50 & Better

Two sessions will be held for this one-hour hatha yoga class focuses on increasing strength, flexibility and balance while alleviating stress and fatigue. Participants must be aware of their own capabilities to participate safely. Ability to get up and down from the floor is encouraged. Each class will conclude with deep relaxation. Session 5 will be held outdoors and participants will need to bring their own yoga mat. Session 6 will be held online and participants will need a yoga mat, two blankets, and a light-weight portable chair. Register at ashland.or.us/register or (541) 488-5342. Online registration closes for session 6 at noon on July 1 and for session 5 at noon on July 6.

DATES & TIMES Session 5 (outdoors): Wed. July 7, 14, 21, 28; 9-10 AM
Session 6 (online): Fri. July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; 10:30-11:30AM

PLACE Session 5: Hunter Park, 1699 Homes Avenue
Session 6: Online via Zoom

COST Session 5: \$20 for four classes
Session 6: \$25 for five classes

Ice Cream Drive-Thru Social

The Senior Center along with the Village at Valley View will be holding a free drive thru ice cream social for seniors and their families. Sign up to participate by calling (541) 488-5342.

DATE & TIME Wednesday, July 21 from 1 to 2:30 PM

Check out how Ashland connects at www.ashlandfiber.net



JULY CITY CALENDAR

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

City Council

Business Meeting: July 6 & 20 | 6 p.m.

Study Session: July 19 | 5:30 p.m.

Airport Commission

July 6 | 9:30 a.m.

Conservation & Climate Outreach Commission

July 28 | 3 p.m.

Climate Policy Commission

July 8 | 4 p.m.

Forest Lands Commission

July 13 | 5:30 p.m.

Historic Commission

July 7 | 6 p.m.

Housing and Human Services Commission

July 22 | 4 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission

Business Meeting: July 14 | 6:00 p.m.

Study Session: July 7 | 6 p.m.

Planning Commission

Business Meeting: July 13 | 7 p.m.

Study Session: July 27 | 7 p.m.

Public Art Commission

July 16 | 8:30 a.m.

Transportation Commission

July 15 | 6 p.m.

Tree Commission

July 8 | 6 p.m.

Wildfire Safety Commission

July 21 | 11 a.m.

▲ TTY 1-800-735-2900 ▲ Meetings are held electronically until further notice. Please check ashland.or.us/calendar.asp for information on how to view the meetings live or watch a recorded version. ▲ City Council, Parks, and Planning meetings are broadcast live on Ashland Home Net channel 9, Charter Spectrum channel 180, and rvtv.sou.edu by clicking the RVTV Prime button. Meetings are replayed on Ashland Home Net Channel 9, Charter Spectrum RVTV 180 and 181. Replay schedules are available at rvtv.sou.edu.



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

