



## Be Winter Wise – Winterize Your Irrigation System!

With colder temperatures and so much on our minds during the holiday season, it's easy to overlook maintaining our irrigation systems. So, remember to double check to be sure your irrigation system has been completely turned off for the winter season and that you have prepared it for cold temperatures. The best way to protect your irrigation investment from potential freeze damage over the winter season is to "winterize" all system components. This process involves removing water from pipes, valves and sprinkler heads before freezing occurs.

Follow these basic steps to assist you in winterizing your irrigation system:

- First, shut off water to your sprinkler system. If there isn't a valve to isolate the irrigation system from the main household supply, consider adding one.
- Next, turn on each of the sprinkler valves to release the pressure in the pipes.
- Then, drain sprinkler components as much as possible. Remove the cap and riser from the highest and lowest sprinkler in each irrigation zone to help water drain out.
- Some systems are equipped to be blown out with compressed air. Contact an irrigation professional who offers this service.

(see, *Winterize*, page 3)

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## Low Income Assistance

The City of Ashland has funds available for the Ashland Low Income Energy Assistance Program, which assists low-income residents with electric bill costs during the cold winter months.

Eligible Ashland residents include those whose income is at or below 65 percent of Oregon's median income. These levels are based on household income and household size. Qualified recipients will receive a credit on their electric utility charges. Credits of up to 50 percent will be given to seniors and disabled persons for up to six months and credits of 50 percent to other qualified residents for up to three months. The maximum allowed credit is \$300.00 for either group.

Beginning October 2, applicants may call the request line at 541-552-2038 to request a Low Income Assistance application packet or may pick one up at the Utility Billing Counter at City Hall.

If you know of someone who might qualify and needs assistance, please let them know about this program. The deadline to submit the application is January 31, 2018.



## Use good fire to fight bad fire

An essential part of the solution to severe summer wildfires and suffocating smoke is more controlled burning during cool seasons. Scientific studies show that fuel reduction followed by controlled burns are most effective at reducing wildfire impacts, while making firefighters safer.

Wildfires burn more fuel per acre and emit significantly more smoke than controlled burns, nearly ten times as much in all. Tolerating lesser amounts of smoke for short periods is an essential strategy to one day experience less smoke during the summer, and absolutely imperative to protect our community and water supply from severe wildfire.

To know when burns are planned, register for texts or emails at [www.ashlandwatershed.org](http://www.ashlandwatershed.org).

## Recycling & Waste Reduction for Families

Getting your family to participate in a new routine can be difficult. This class is designed to make your family's transition to "going green" easier. Bring your entire family and learn the benefits of waste reduction and recycling. Get your questions answered and find out what resources are available for support.

Please register online at [ashland.or.us/register](http://ashland.or.us/register) or call the Nature Center at 541-488-6606.

AGES All ages welcome (for families)

DATE December 7

TIME 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

PLACE North Mountain Park Nature Center

COST Free

INSTRUCTOR Jamie Rosenthal is a Waste Zero Coordinator at Recology Ashland, an Ashland Conservation Commission Member, and a Jackson County Master Recycler.

## High Speed Internet for Residents & Businesses in Ashland

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# James M. Ragland Volunteer Spirit Award

Each year, the Mayor and City Council recognize an Ashland citizen for their volunteer spirit and contribution to the Ashland community. The Volunteer Spirit Community Service Award was established by the Mayor and Council in 1994, in honor of James M. Ragland. Mr. Ragland was a former city councilor and planning commissioner who was involved in numerous citizen volunteer efforts.

The Mayor and Council review the nominations and determine the annual winner. Criteria for nomination and selection are based on public sector volunteer service performed, length of service, absence of adequate recognition in the past, and any other attributes the nominee may have that should be considered. Consideration is also given to people who volunteer hours beyond their reg-

ular work day to perform a service that benefits the community.

The award is given annually. This year it will be given at the January 30, 2018, State of the City and Volunteer Recognition event (more information on this event to follow).

If you know of an individual or organization deserving of a nomination for the Volunteer Spirit Community Service Award, please answer the questions listed below on a separate sheet of paper and return it to the Mayor's office, 20 East Main Street, Ashland, OR 97520, by *Friday, December 8, 2017*. You may also download the nomination form at [www.ashland.or.us](http://www.ashland.or.us), or pick up a form at the Utility Billing counter in City Hall. For more information please call 541-488-6002.



## James M. Ragland "Volunteer Spirit" Community Service Award

Please answer the questions listed below on a *separate sheet of paper* and return it by

**December 8, 2017**, to

**Attn: Mayor Stromberg, 20 E. Main Street, Ashland, OR 97520**

Name of nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone or e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person making nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone or e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) Please describe the nominee's public sector volunteer service.
- 2) How long has the nominee performed that service?
- 3) How has this effort benefited the community?
- 4) What awards or recognition has the nominee received for their service?
- 5) What other information about the nominee should be considered?

### *Previous Ragland Award Recipients*

1994 - Frank D'Entremont	2000 - Midge Thierolf	2007 - Ashland City Band	2013 - Roberta Stebbins
1995 - Donna Daniels	2001 - Hal Cloer	2008 - Amy Amrhein	2014 - Doug Gentry
1996 - Barbara Jarvis/Terry Skibby	2002 - Bill Modesitt	2009 - Ashland Woodlands and Trails Assoc.	2015 - Charlotte Dorsey, Alice Nagel, and Tom Foster
1997 - All the Citizens of Ashland	2003 - Sue Graham	2010 - Ashland Food Project	2016 - Soroptimist International of Ashland
1998 - Marty Bryant	2004 - Pete Belcastro	2011 - Steve Hauck	2017 - Lyn Levin
1999 - Jim Lewis	2005 - Pamela Joy	2012 - Joan Spear	
	2006 - Melissa Mitchell Hooge		



## Winterize

Continued from Page 1

- After purging the system of all water, leave all the valves on your backflow preventer half open.
- Finally, turn your sprinkler controller to the off position.
- In addition, any above ground piping, backflow preventers and valves need to be insulated. Disconnect garden hoses and place insulation caps on hose bibs.

Properly preparing your system for the winter can be far less costly than repairing damaged equipment in the spring. Consider contacting an irrigation professional to assist you with winterizing your system. If you have any questions or would like more information on water efficiency programs please call 541-552-2062.

## Christmas Tree-Cycle Day

Ashland Boy Scout Troop 112's 32nd annual Christmas Tree-Cycling Day is Saturday, January 6th, 2018. Please have your trees at the curb in front of your house for pick up by Friday evening, January 5th. Troop 112 and its sponsoring organization, the Ashland Lion's Club, will collect trees to be chipped by the Ashland Parks Department crew and used as mulch in Ashland city parks. Donations for this service will be accepted and checks should be made out to Troop 112 (P. O. Box 839, Ashland, OR).

This project benefits the citizens of Ashland, the Boy Scouts of Troop 112 and the environment. The scouts are able to perform a service and the community is invited to support the scouts. Additionally, turning hundreds of trees into mulch enhances our parks while sparing our landfills.

This service is for the City of Ashland only. If for some reason we miss your tree, please call John Engelhardt, 541-324-9541. For information on Troop 112, call Scoutmaster John Ourant at 541-482-0134.

## Become an Ice Rink Host!

Enjoy the outdoors while having fun volunteering at the Ashland Rotary Centennial Ice Rink. Non-skaters welcome! Day, night and weekend times available through February. High School students can earn community service hours! Contact [lori.ainsworth@ashland.or.us](mailto:lori.ainsworth@ashland.or.us) or call/text 541-499-8798.

**The City of Ashland will be closed  
Monday, December 25, 2017 for the  
Christmas holiday.**

**We apologize for any inconvenience  
this may cause.**

## December City Calendar

### City Council

Business Meetings: Dec. 5 & 19 | 7:00 p.m.  
Study Sessions: Dec. 4 & 18 | 5:30 p.m.

### Airport Commission

Dec. 6 | 9:30 a.m.

### Conservation Commission

Dec 13 (Nov/Dec combo mtg.) | 6:00 p.m.

### Forest Lands Commission

Dec. 12 | 5:30 p.m.

### Historic Commission

Dec. 6 | 6:00 p.m.

### Housing and Human Services Comm.

TBD | 4:30 p.m.

### Parks and Recreation Commission

Business Meeting: Dec 18, 27 | 7:00 p.m.  
Study Session: TBD | 5:30 p.m.

### Planning Commission

Business Meeting: Dec. 12 | 7:00 p.m.  
Study Session: Dec. 26 | 7:00 p.m.

### Public Art Commission

Dec. 15 | 8:00 a.m.

### Transportation Commission

Dec 21 | 6:00 p.m.

### Tree Commission

Dec. 7, 9 | 6:00 p.m.

### Wildfire Mitigation Commission

Dec. 20 | 11:00 a.m.

▲ Meetings are held at Council Chambers, 1175 East Main or at 51 Winburn Way and are open to the public. ▲ TTY 1-800-735-2900. ▲ 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](http://rvtv.sou.edu).