

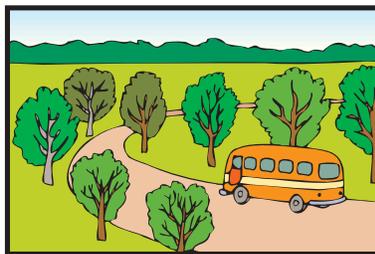
City

S O U R C E

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

Bus Fare Assistance

In May the City Council voted to reinstate a second bus route in Ashland and subsidize bus fare within Ashland by 50%.



Ashland riders pay \$1.00 to ride in Ashland versus the \$2.00 fare system ride on RVTD (Rogue Valley Transit District).

In addition, the Council voted to allocate \$10,000 to pay for a limited number of free bus tokens and passes for qualified Ashland riders including high school students, seniors and low income Ashland residents.

Ashland high school students may request a bus pass through the high school. Vouchers and bus tokens for seniors and income eligible Ashland residents (See *Bus Fare Assistance*, Page 2)

Are You Ready?

Ashland's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) will offer its free Basic Training course over two weekends in October. Ashland CERT is a volunteer program of Ashland Fire & Rescue.

The trainings will be held on two Friday evenings and two full Saturdays, on October 9-10 and 16-17. Attendance is required on both weekends. During the training participants will learn disaster response skills in order to volunteer during emergencies with Ashland's Community (See *Are You Ready?*, Back Page)

Low Income Assistance

Once Again, the City of Ashland has set aside money during the budget process for the Ashland Low Income Energy Assistance Program to assist low-income residents with electric bill costs during the cold winter months.

Eligible Ashland residents include those whose income is at or below 60 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 1 applicants may call the request line at 552-2038 to request a Low Income Assistance application packet be sent to them.

If you know of someone who might qualify and needs assistance, please let them know about this program. ▼



Bus Fare Assistance

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with a valid Oregon Trail Card are available through the Ashland Senior Center.

The eligibility requirements for bus tokens or Valley Lift vouchers are as follows:

☐ **62 years and older:**

1. Ashland Resident (verified by current Driver's License, ID card, city utility billing, or other current official mailing or statements, such as Soc Sec statement)

2. Income eligible

3. For Valley Lift, the rider must have current Valley Lift card

☐ **Under 62 years:**

1. Ashland Resident (verified by current Driver's License, ID card, city utility billing, or other current official mailing or statements, such as Soc Sec statement)

2. Current Oregon Trail Card

3. For Valley Lift, the rider must have current Valley Lift card

Qualified riders are asked to call the Senior Center at 488-5352 to make a request and arrange a time to meet with staff. ▼

Compostable Leaf Bags Available

Compostable bags for collecting and disposing of leaves are available for purchase from Ashland Sanitary & Recycling at 170 Oak Street. The biodegradable bags cost \$14.50 for a package of five

which includes curbside pickup of the bag by Ashland Sanitary & Recycling. Each bag is nearly three feet tall, and can hold up to 35 pounds of leaves.

For a limited time the City of Ashland is offering a discount on the bags. From October 26 through November 6 a package of five bags may be purchased for \$7.50. The bags are available on a first come, first served basis with a limit of two packages per Ashland household. (Please be prepared to show identification.)

The program is sponsored by the City of Ashland Public Works Department, the Conservation Commission and Ashland Sanitary & Recycle and is available to all Ashland residents.

The compostable bags, for leaves only, will be picked up on regular Green Debris garbage collection days during the months of November and December. Any leftover bags can be used the following year.

Property owners are responsible for removing and disposing of fallen leaves on their property and from the sidewalks adjacent to their property. The compostable leaf bag program is an opportunity for those who are unable to take their leaves to the Recycle Depot, those that cannot take advantage of reduced rates at the Transfer Station or those that do not utilize the regular green waste program. "Collecting and disposing of fallen leaves keeps debris from entering our storm drains and creeks," says Terry Ellis, Public Works

Superintendent. "While some leaf litter in streams can be beneficial, too much can have a negative impact on water quality. Leaves that don't make it to the stream, can plug storm drains causing possible property damage due to flooding during rain events."

For more information on the leaf bag program, green debris program or other special days at the recycling or transfer station, please call Ashland Sanitary & Recycling at 482-1471 or visit their website at www.ashlandsanitary.com. ▼

Jackson County Plastic Round-up

On Friday and Saturday October 23 & 24 from 9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m. the Jackson County Recycling Partnership is hosting 2 drop-off locations for recycling numerous types of plastic including; grocery and dry cleaning bags, cereal and chip bags, to-go containers, lawn furniture, toys, nursery pots, buckets, CD's and cassettes, agricultural plastics, and much more. For residential cars and pick-ups the fee is \$5.00 per vehicle. For businesses or large vehicle loads the cost is \$5.00 per yard.

All the plastic **MUST BE PRE-SORTED** into 3 categories: soft plastic, hard plastic and nursery plastic. See a detailed list of acceptable items at <http://www.jcrecycle.org/09-plastic-roundup.html>.

The plastics can be dropped off at

Riparian Restoration Project

Join the staff and volunteers of North Mountain Park for a riparian restoration project. Help out with weeding and mulching native plants to improve water quality and wildlife habitat at Ashland Ponds. Individuals, families, service organizations, and clubs are needed.

Tools and snacks will be provided. This free, all ages event will take place on Saturday, November 7, from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Ashland Pond in Ashland (park at the end of Glendower Street and walk through the gate and down the road.)

Groups of five or more are required to register. Please call the Nature Center at 541-488-6606 to sign up (pre-registration not required for individuals.)

the Jackson County Expo at 1 Peninger Road in Central Point or the Ashland National Guard Armory at 1420 E. Main Street in Ashland

For more information, please email info@jcrecycle.org, and include your name, phone number and the types/amount of plastic you have. The Plastic Round-up is sponsored and organized by Jackson County Recycling Partnership, Jackson County SMARTWorks & Jackson County Master Recycler Program. In 2008, 1,200 homes and businesses recycled over 43,000 lbs of plastic. Thank you for joining us. ▼

Halloween Safety Tips

Ashland Fire and Rescue would like to remind parents of some simple safety rules for their children to ensure a fun and enjoyable Halloween. There is four times the number of child fatalities during Halloween than other nights of the year. Falls are the leading cause of injury to children during Halloween. The following are tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Safety Council, courtesy of about.com.

Children should:

- ❑ Go only to well-lit houses and remain on porches rather than entering houses.
- ❑ Travel in small groups and be

accompanied by an adult.

- ❑ Know their phone number and carry coins for emergency telephone calls.
- ❑ Have their names and addresses attached to their costumes.
- ❑ Bring treats home before eating them so parents can inspect them.
- ❑ Use costume knives and swords that are flexible, not rigid or sharp.

When walking in neighborhoods, children should:

- ❑ Use flashlights, stay on sidewalks, and avoid crossing yards.
- ❑ Cross streets at the corner, use crosswalks (where they exist), and do not cross between parked cars.
- ❑ Stop at all corners and stay together in a group before crossing.
- ❑ Wear clothing that is bright, reflective, and flame retardant.
- ❑ Consider using face paint instead of masks. (Masks can obstruct a child's vision.)
- ❑ Avoid wearing hats that will slide over their eyes.
- ❑ Avoid wearing long, baggy, or loose costumes or oversized shoes (to prevent tripping).
- ❑ Be reminded to look left, right, and left again before crossing the street.

Parents and adults should:

- ❑ Supervise the outing for children under age 12.
- ❑ Establish a curfew (a return time) for older children.
- ❑ Prepare homes for trick-or-treaters by clearing porches, lawns, and sidewalks and by placing jack-o-lanterns away from (See Back Page)



Are You Ready?

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Emergency Response Team. Additionally there will be time to practice disaster medical operations, fire suppression, emergency radio communications, Incident Command System, and more. All Medical, Fire, and Search & Rescue operations will be taught by Ashland Fire and Rescue.

Pre-register at Ashland Fire and Rescue, 455 Siskiyou Blvd., 541-552-2226 or www.ashlandcert.org. ▼

Halloween Safety Tips

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doorways and landings.

- ❑ Avoid giving choking hazards such as gum, peanuts, hard candies, or small toys as treats to young children.
- ❑ Inspect all candy for safety before children eat it.
- ❑ Parents and adults should ensure the safety of pedestrian trick-or-treaters
- ❑ Make sure children under age 10 are supervised as they cross the street.
- ❑ Drive slowly.
- ❑ Watch for children in the street and on medians.
- ❑ Exit driveways and alleyways carefully.
- ❑ Have children get out of cars on the curb side, not on the traffic side.

And a few tips about pumpkins:

- ❑ Carve pumpkins on stable, flat surfaces with good lighting.
- ❑ Have children draw a face on the outside of the pumpkin, then parents should do the cutting.
- ❑ Place lighted pumpkins away from curtains and other flammable objects, and do not leave lighted pumpkins unattended. ▼

CITY OF
ASHLAND

City Calendar

- ❑ **City Council** meets on the first and third Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. Study sessions occur on the day before at 5:30 p.m.
- ❑ **Planning Commission** meets on the second Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Study sessions occur on the fourth Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
- ❑ **Airport Commission** meets on the first Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.
- ❑ **Conservation Commission** meets on the fourth Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.
- ❑ **Forest Lands Commission** meets on the second Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.
- ❑ **Historic Commission** meets on the first Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. (the Wednesday prior to the Tuesday Planning Commission)
- ❑ **Housing Commission** meets on the fourth Thursday at 4:30 p.m.
- ❑ **Parks and Recreation Commission** meets on the fourth Monday at 7:00 p.m. Study session occurs on the third Monday.
- ❑ **Public Art Commission** meets on the third Friday at 8:15 a.m.
- ❑ **Transportation Commission** meets on third Thursday at 6:00 p.m.
- ❑ **Tree Commission** meets on the Thursday before the Tuesday Planning Commission Meeting

◆ 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. ◆ TTY 1-800-735-2900

