

NEWS FROM THE CITY



City of Ashton

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 12

Winter is Here



Winter is here! The City has ordinances in place to help both the citizens and city snow removal team to keep the streets open.

Here is a list of reminders to make/keep winter plowing better for everyone.

1. Cars, trucks, boats, trailers and other misc. items need to be removed from the city street property. The City street property extends from the center of the road 40 feet to each side on most streets. On Spruce, Walnut, 10th Street & Maple Leaf Drive the right-of-way is 30 feet from the center and on Main

Street it is 50 feet. City code allows for the towing of such items without notification if

they are not removed. **There will be towing of vehicles in the right of way.**

Please make sure and move your vehicles!

2. Any personal items (including mail-boxes) in the City street property need to be removed. Also, any items left on the street property are left there at your own risk and could be struck by a snow plow during plowing. In the event that damage to a snow plow or other City equipment is caused by items that you have left on the street property, you could be

subject to reimbursing the City for the cost of that damage.

3. Garbage cans need to be removed from the street as soon as possible after being dumped.

4. When removing snow from your driveway, do not blow or plow snow onto the City Street. **Citations will be given.**

5. **The City of Ashton is not liable for damage of any sort to your personal property when left on the City property.**

Thank you in advance for making winter plowing easier and better!



December 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

Calendar Key

City Council Meeting	Yellow
City P & Z Meeting	Cyan
Utility Bill Payment Due Date	Red
Utility Bill Mailing Date	Light Green
City Building Closed	Orange





NEWS FROM THE CITY

WASTE WATER UPDATE

Last week, I became aware that individuals who don't live in Ashton or have any knowledge of the activities of the Ashton Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Committee, have distributed an e-mail claiming that Ashton is "in conflict" with the U.S Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). That is not correct. The USEPA has been extremely cooperative with the City of Ashton. In fact, Brian Nickel, the person responsible for writing the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the City of Ashton's WWTP, traveled to Ashton from Seattle in September 2013 to investigate the city's concerns. Because of what he observed during that visit, and in response to comments that had been written and submitted by an engineering consultant on behalf of the City of Ashton, Mr. Nickel made recommendations that could only be addressed by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ). On January 29, 2015, Mayor Stronks, City Council members Teresa Hansen and Brett Pincock, and I met with State Representatives Paul Romrell

and Van Burtenshaw, representatives of IDEQ, and a representative of Senator Mike Crapo. I explained that the reason the USEPA had issued an overly stringent limit on ammonia was because IDEQ had classified the swale incorrectly as part of the Henrys Fork River, which is protected for cold water biota and salmonid spawning. This was done by IDEQ when it wrote the 401 Certification for the NPDES permit. I then asked the IDEQ representatives to implement the recommendations made by Mr. Nickel of the USEPA in his response to the comments submitted by the City of Ashton. These recommendations were as follows:

IDEQ shall "initiate rulemaking necessary to re-designate the receiving water (IDAPA 58.01.01.101.01.c)."

IDEQ shall seek approval by the USEPA of the changes in the State of Idaho's water quality standards.

IDEQ shall assist the City of Ashton in re-opening its NPDES permit for modification.

The response we received from IDEQ was that the agency would not re-designate the receiving water, but that it would try to find funding to assist Ashton in building new infrastructure to address the requirements of its permit.

The only people who have any influence over IDEQ are our legislators, Reps. Romrell and Burtenshaw, and Senator Siddoway. When these representatives met with the WWTP Committee and Mayor Stronks in September, they made it clear that they would not intervene with the decision by IDEQ, but they would try to find financial assistance for Ashton. In short, the USEPA has done what it can to help resolve this issue by explaining the changes IDEQ could make in its regulations (or in the interpretation of its regulations), and our legislators are supporting the position taken by IDEQ.



There are many residences here in Ashton that do not have their house number clearly posted. **Police, firefighters and paramedics cannot help you if they cannot find you.**

House Numbers

Please post your house number on your home near your front door. Make sure it is large enough to be seen easily from the street. It would also help if the numbers could be lit up by your nighttime outdoor lighting or glow in the dark.

Help those who can help you—post your house numbers.

Please feel free to contact the City Building (208-652-3987) with any questions or comments.



MAYOR'S CORNER



Mayor Stronks

I would open my thoughts on a very dear subject; Christmas time and living in a community where we all share in activities that bring us closer to the Savior, Jesus Christ.

My wish would be that peace will prevail and we all pray for our arm forces and our law enforcement to protect the greatest nation in the world.

So when you are driving down Main Street and you see the nativity, think about how you can bring peace.



Merry Christmas,

Mayor Teddy Stronks

FROZEN

Winter is here with really cold temperatures making it possible that water lines can freeze.

Letting the cold water in a faucet drip can prevent frozen

service lines. The drip can be very slight and can be adjusted depending on the weather forecast. If the weather forecast calls for colder weather, the faucet should be adjusted

to a larger drip.

The City encourages residents to use their own judgment in deciding when to run a drip to prevent frozen water lines.

Dog Licenses in Ashton



Every dog in Ashton is required to be licensed. Any dog owner who is known to have failed to license their dog is subject to a minimum fine of \$25.00. (Ashton Code 6.08.20). The City Council approved some new mail-in applications for licenses. An application is being sent with each City Newsletter this month. Just fill out the form and send a check/money order for \$7.50 and a license will be sent back to you. You can also

just drop by or drop the application in the drop box at the City Building located at 714 Main Street.

Additionally, even if the dog is licensed, dogs are required to be in a fenced yard or on a leash of less than 10 feet. If not, the dog is considered running at large. Any dog caught running at large is subject to impoundment by the City dog catcher.

If a dog is impounded, licensed owners are contacted and a minimum fine of \$25 is charged for release of the

dog. Licensed dog owners have 5 days to claim their dog. Unlicensed dogs are kept for 48 hours unless claimed. The fee for the release of unlicensed dogs is \$40 plus the cost of a license.

The City is having a DOG LICENSE SALE! City Residents may purchase their 2016 dog licenses at the City Building for

\$ 7.50.

Buy now and get the next MONTH FREE.



CITY OF ASHTON

P.O. Box 689
Ashton, ID 83420

Phone: 208-652-3987
Fax: 208-652-3401

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Regular City Council meetings are held each month on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. For specific dates & other meeting information please refer to our website:

www.cityofashton.com



Community Christmas Program

The Ashton Community Christmas Program will be held Sunday, December 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the NFHS Auditorium.

If you are interested in performing* please contact Leslee Wilson at (801) 829-6878 or Katie Wynn at (208) 403-4770.

*Please let them know by December 5th if you want to perform.

