

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

July 2019



CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY
1840 SECOND STREET
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COLUMBIA CITY, OR 97018
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SERGEANTS CORNER

School's out for summer. With summer rapidly approaching schools will be getting out for summer vacation. Please drive cautiously in our neighborhoods because the children will be around throughout the entire day. You will likely see more pedestrian and bicyclists out and about. This also means increased activity at Trestle Beach parking areas. Please be aware of vehicle traffic moving in and out of the parking lot areas. Traffic crashes can be reduced if we think and look ahead as we enter these busy areas. So get out and enjoy the beginning of a beautiful summer.



The Police Department would like to request your continued support in being our eyes and ears in the community. Please feel free to contact us with your thoughts, questions, or any information that you feel would help us in keeping our community safe. We can be reached via 9-1-1 (emergency), 503-397-4010 (office), or 503-397-1521 (non-emergency dispatch).

Best regards ~ Sergeant Jerry Bartolomucci

COURTESY REQUEST

Although not required under City Ordinance, we would like to request that trash containers be rolled to curbside the night prior to pick up and replaced in their storage location by the evening of the day of service. City Ordinance does prohibit the blocking of sidewalks and/or the roadway with these type of objects. Thanks, in advance, for this courtesy and in keeping our City both beautiful and livable!



WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

→ Don't over water your lawn. As a general rule, lawns only need watering every few days in the summer. If the blades don't spring back up after being stepped on, it is time to water. A hearty rain can eliminate the need for watering for as long as two weeks.

→ Water lawns during the early morning hours when temperatures and wind speeds are the lowest. This reduces loss from evaporation.

→ Don't water your street, driveway or sidewalk. Position your sprinklers so that your water lands on the lawn and shrubs ... not the paved areas.

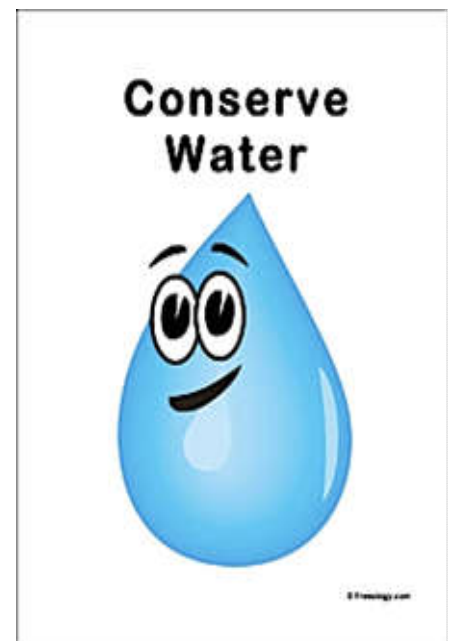
→ Install sprinklers that are the most water-efficient for each use. Micro and drip irrigation and soaker hoses are examples of water-efficient methods of irrigation.

→ Regularly check sprinkler systems and timing devices to be sure they are operating properly.

→ Raise the lawn mower blade to at least three inches. A lawn cut higher encourages grass roots to grow deeper, shades the root system and holds soil moisture better than a closely-clipped lawn.

→ Avoid over fertilizing your lawn. The application of fertilizers

increases the need for water. Apply fertilizers which contain slow-release, water-insoluble forms of nitrogen.



CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

Fireworks - many types are prohibited! Cone fountains, cylindrical fountains, flitter sparklers, ground spinners, illuminating torches and wheels are permitted. All other exploding fireworks are prohibited by City Ordinance and Oregon State Law. Refer to ORS 480.110 through 480.165 for additional information.



Keep grass and weeds cut! Between April 15 and September 30 of any year, weeds and grass cannot exceed 10-inches in height and blackberry bushes cannot extend across property lines or into the City's right-of-way, including streets, alleys and sidewalks.

Please report violations to City Hall - 503-397-4010.

LIBRARY NEWS

Look for some big changes coming to the Library this summer. Starting in mid-July a new sidewalk will be poured leading from Second Street to the Library entry ramp. No more muddy feet over uneven terrain. This will result in a week of detouring through the parking lot. And dog walkers, please be aware that the porta-potty will also be temporarily moved.

The Friends of the Library Board has also approved funding for a fencing project which will allow access to the Library during school hours. Input as to when the Library should be open is greatly appreciated. Please let us know your thoughts either in person or at ccclibrary@live.com.

Second Hand Prose: Get your summer reading books at Second Hand Prose! Hardcover are only \$2, paperbacks are \$1. Think how many books you

can get for the price of a new hardcover! We have lots of audio books, great for your next road trip.

Columbia City Celebration: We are still accepting craft vendors for the City Celebration! Forms are available at the library and at City Hall.

New Books at the Library: We added 96 new items to the library this month. Check out the new books shelf at the library, it changes every week.

Long Road to Mercy by David Baldacci
The Malta Exchange by Steve Berry
We Were the Lucky Ones by Georgia Hunter
The Night Window by Dean Koontz
The Hypnotist's Love Story by Liane Moriarty
The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris
(current NYT best seller)
The 18th Abduction by James Patterson
(latest Women's Murder Club book)
The Pharaoh Key by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child
The Island of Sea Women by Lisa See
Every Breath by Nicholas Sparks

Friends of the Library - No meeting
Novel Quilters - No meeting
City Celebration Planning
Tuesday, July 23 - 6:30 p.m.
Mystery Book Club
Wednesday, July 31 - 7:00 p.m.

Library Hours:

Monday through Thursday 3-6 pm
Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

Columbia City Community Library
2000 Second Street
PO Box 189
Columbia City OR 97018
503-366-8020
ccclibrary@live.com

Browse our
book
catalog:



<https://columbiacitycommunitylibrary.follettdestiny.com>

COLUMBIA ARTS GUILD DISPLAYS ART AT COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Columbia Arts Guild (CAG) is a diverse group of artists ranging from professional and hobbyist to those who simply appreciate art. The group meets monthly to share ideas and discuss activities. If you create art or appreciate art, there is a place for you at the Guild. The Guild is a group that enjoys art in all its diversity. We sponsor a variety of activities throughout the year including workshops and seminars, field trips, events, gallery space and monthly meetings.

The artists of the Columbia Arts Guild (many of which are Columbia City residents), have an artwork display at the Columbia County Courthouse in St Helens. This public gallery is changed out monthly affording new art to enjoy! Just go in the main door, go left past the stairway, turn left again, and there it is! Take time to drop in and enjoy some wonderful, local artwork!



YOU MAY KNOW WHERE YOU ARE – BUT CAN THE POLICE, FIRE & AMBULANCE FIND YOU?

Your local Fire Districts have addressing signs available for a low cost. These signs are clear and reflective and are helpful for your first responders when trying to locate addresses.

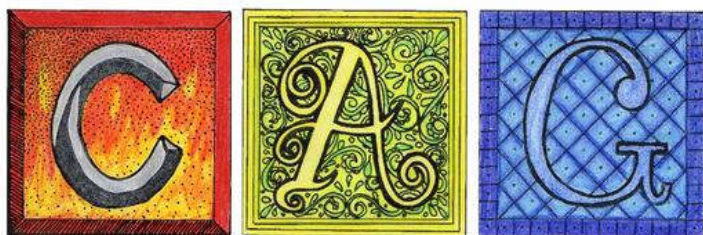
As an emergency vehicle is responding to your call for help, the police officer, firefighter and paramedic has many things to pay attention to, why not give them that extra help of big, bright address numbers that stand out day and night? Searching for a mailbox with some 2-inch faded, moss covered numbers is a recipe for a slow response as rescuers search or perhaps completely missing your home and having to turn around.

Most homes within the City are located easily off our streets, but some are a bit confusing or not so easily located, please consider the above information to be sure your home can be located in an emergency situation.

For a small fee of \$20 to \$25 each fire district will ensure your address numbers stand out to be seen. If you're interested, contact the **Columbia River Fire & Rescue – 503-397-2990**.

FREE WATER CONSERVATION KITS

The City has free water conservation kits available to water customers while supplies last. Kits include a moisture meter, leak detection dye tablets and a deluxe water efficient hose nozzle. Limit one kit per water customer, while supplies last.



ICE CREAM SOCIAL



Caples House Museum
1925 First Street

Sunday, July 7, 2019 from 2-4 p.m.

Sundaes \$3, Family Group Rate \$12

SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT DEFENSIBLE SPACE

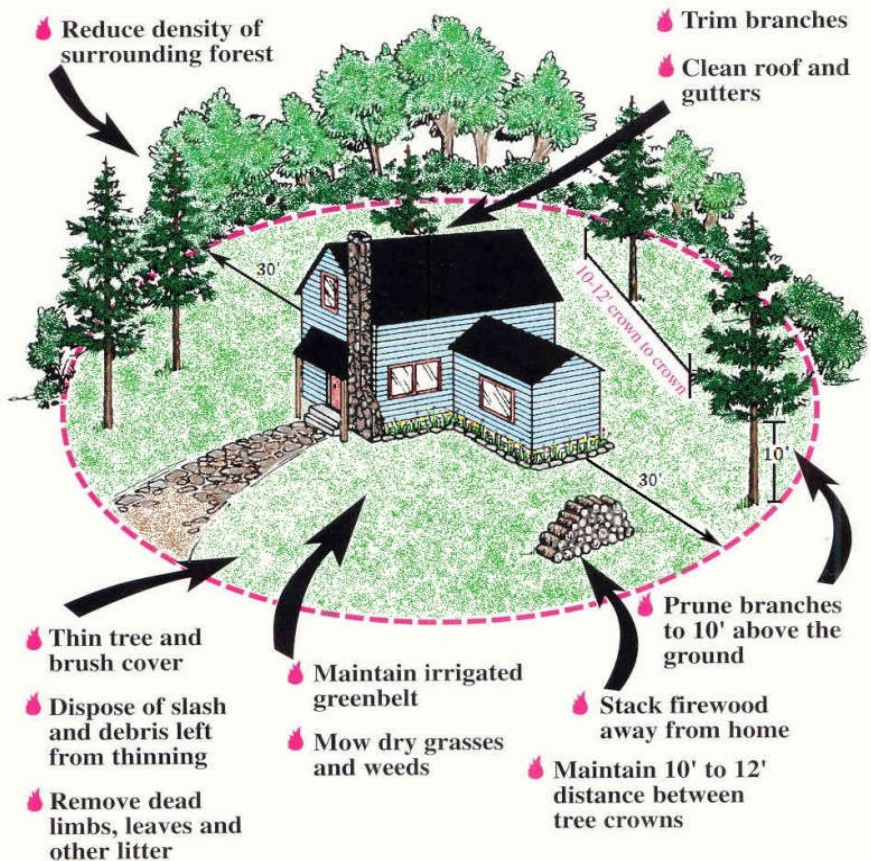
What is defensible space? Defensible space is the area between a house and an oncoming wildfire where the vegetation has been modified to reduce the wildfire threat and to provide an opportunity for firefighters to effectively defend the house. Sometimes, a defensible space is simply a homeowner's properly maintained backyard.

What is the relationship between vegetation and wildfire threat? Many people do not view the plants growing on their property as a threat. But in terms of wildfire, the vegetation adjacent to their homes can have considerable influence upon the survivability of their houses. All vegetation, including plants native to the area as well as ornamental plants, is potential wildfire fuel. If vegetation is properly modified and maintained, a wildfire can be slowed, the length of flames shortened, and the amount of heat reduced, all of which assist firefighters to defend the home against an oncoming wildfire.

The Fire Department is supposed to protect my house, so why bother with defensible space?

Some individuals incorrectly assume that a fire engine will be parked in their driveway and firefighters will be actively defending their homes if a wildfire approaches. During a major wildfire, it is unlikely there will be enough firefighting resources available to defend every home. In these instances, firefighters will likely select homes they can most safely and effectively protect. Even with adequate resources, some wildfires may be so intense that there may be little firefighters can do to prevent a house from burning. The key is to reduce fire intensity as wildfire nears the house. This can be accomplished by reducing the amount of flammable vegetation surrounding a home. Consequently, the most important person in protecting a house from wildfire is not a firefighter, but the property owner. And it's the action taken by the owner **before** the wildfire occurs (such as proper landscaping) that is most critical.

Defensible Space Guidelines



MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - JULY 2019

July 4 th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed in honor of Independence Day
July 5 th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed in honor of Independence Day
July 11 th	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall
July 18 th	6:30 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
July 20 th	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
July 22 nd	6:00 p.m.	Hazard Mitigation Meeting at City Hall

CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY

2018 WATER QUALITY REPORT

In compliance with federal reporting requirements, Columbia City provides you with an annual report of the outcome of our many water quality tests. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. The cities of St. Helens and Columbia City test water frequently, and we meet or exceed all quality standards required by federal and state requirements. We are required by the Oregon State Health Division to take 2 routine coliform bacteria water samples each month, along with other quarterly and yearly tests.

We continually upgrade our distribution and storage systems by replacing old water mains, repairing leaks, changing water

meters, cleaning our storage reservoirs and updating system maps. Columbia City's three water storage reservoirs provide us with a combined capacity of 1.4 million gallons, which meets our City's storage demands. Our cross-connection program is designed to help prevent any potentially contaminated water from re-entering the City water supply. Columbia City requires a backflow assembly where that potential exists in our system to ensure quality drinking water. This report presents water quality data and explains what it means.



WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

Columbia City's water comes from two separate sources. The first source is supplied by two groundwater wells located in the Public Works Shop yard at 1755 Second Place, Columbia City. PW Well #2 is the City's main well, and PW Well #1 serves as a backup well.

The City also purchases water from the City of St. Helens. The City of St. Helens supplies water from a water treatment facility located in Columbia City and one ground well located near the Scappoose Bay Marina in St. Helens. The Scappoose Bay well only operates during emergencies. There are two Ranney Collector Wells in Columbia City that supply water to the treatment plant. The collector wells are located in Columbia City at "K" and First Streets and "E" Street and The Strand. The water treatment facility is a membrane filtration plant that works by running water through a series of synthetic filters that capture sediment, germs and organisms. These filter systems are fully computer-controlled for automatic backwashing and cleaning. There are no chemical additions, except for standard chlorine disinfection and acidity controls.



Columbia City is committed to continually upgrading and improving the quality of our water, our customer service, our water conservation efforts, and our water system. In recent years the City completed a City-wide Water Conservation Project involving the installation of smart meters, updated automated meter reading equipment; significant improvements to the system pressure zones, a system-wide leak detection survey, the abandonment of old redundant piping, and some new fire hydrants. Planned improvements to the upper-level storage reservoir include seismic upgrades, new telemetry, interior and exterior painting and repairs, and the construction of an overflow drain. The City also plans to replace some undersize water mains and add additional fire hydrants.

WATER SERVICE INFORMATION

In case of emergencies, our Public Works personnel are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling (503) 397-1521. Public Works personnel are certified by the Oregon State Health Department (OSHD) and are trained in all aspects of water distribution and cross-connection. They are required to complete continuing education classes in order to maintain their certification and to keep up-to-date on the latest information and technology in their field.

For information and/or participation in decisions about your drinking water, please contact Michael McGlothlin, City Administrator, by calling City Hall, (503) 397-4010. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

Our regularly scheduled City Council meeting is held on the third Thursday of each month, at 6:00 p.m.

HOW TO READ THIS TABLE

This report is based upon the most recent tests conducted by the Columbia City and St. Helens Water Departments. The frequency of required testing depends on the nature of the test and ranges from daily test to ones conducted every 9yrs.

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** – The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Treatment Technique or TT** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.



The data presented in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations. Test results can also be viewed on the Oregon Health Division's website at <https://yourwater.oregon.gov/>. To view the test results on the website, enter PWS number 00203 for Columbia City, and PWS number 00724 for St. Helens.

Key to Table

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level
MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
TT = Treatment Technique

ppm = parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter (mcg/l)
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
ND = None Detected

Inorganic Contaminants – Columbia City Well Source

Contaminant	Date Tested	Violation	Range Min.-Max.	Detected Level	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Major Sources
Barium	8/14/13	No	n/a	0.014	ppm	2.0	n/a	Naturally occurring
Sodium	8/14/13	No	n/a	28.4	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Nitrate	9/21/18	No	n/a	3.6	ppm	10.0	n/a	Naturally occurring
HAA5	6/7/18	No	n/a	ND	ppb	60.0	n/a	Disinfection byproduct
TTHMs	6/7/18	No	n/a	4.3	ppb	80.0	n/a	Disinfection byproduct

Inorganic Contaminants - City of St. Helens Source

Contaminant	Date Tested	Violation	Range Min.-Max.	Detected Level	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Major Sources
Barium	10/24/12	No	n/a	0.013	ppm	2.0	n/a	Naturally occurring
Sodium	10/24/12	No	n/a	14.8	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
Nitrate	9/26/18	No	n/a	.668	ppm	10.0	n/a	Naturally occurring
TOC	Quarterly	No	0-0.97	0.97	ppb	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring
HAA5	Quarterly	No	1.1-9.6	9.6	ppb	60.0	n/a	Disinfection byproduct
TTHMs	Quarterly	No	5.3-31.7	31.7	ppb	80.0	n/a	Disinfection byproduct
Turbidity	Daily	No	.014-.066	0.066	NTU	TT=0.3	n/a	Soil runoff, sediment

Water Quality Table Footnotes

All contaminants tested were below the Maximum Contaminate Level and none were in violation.

MANDATORY TESTING

The contaminants we monitor are listed below. Only the ones listed in the previous table had detectable levels.

<u>Microbiological Contaminants</u>	Uranium	Pentachlorophenol
Total Coliform Bacteria	<u>Synthetic Organic Contaminants</u>	Picloram
Fecal Coliform	2,4D	Simazene
Turbidity	2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	Toxaphene
<u>Radioactive Contaminants</u>	Alachlor	<u>Volatile Organic Contaminants</u>
Beta/photon emitters	Atrazine	Benzene
Alpha emitters	Benzo(a)pyrene(PAH)	Carbon Tetrachloride
Combined Radium	Carbofuran	Chlorobenzene
<u>Inorganic Contaminants</u>	Chlordane	o-Dichlorobenzene
Antimony	Dalapon	p-Dichlorobenzene
Arsenic	Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	1,2-Dichloroethane
Barium	Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthate	1,1-Dichloroethylene
Beryllium	Dibromochloropropane	cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene
Cadmium	Dinoseb	trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene
Chromium	Diquat	Dichloromethane
Copper	Endothall	1,2-Dichloropropane
Cyanide	Endrin	Ethylbenzene
Fluoride	Ethylene dibromide	Stryrene
Lead	Glyphosate	Tetrachloroethylene
Mercury (inorganic)	Heptachlor	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene
Nickel	Heptachlor epoxide	1,1,1-Trichloroethane
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	Hexachlorobenzene	1,1,2-Trichloroethane
Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	Hexchlorocyclopentadiene	Trichloroethylene
Selenium	Lindane	THHMs
Sodium	Methoxychlor	Toluene
Sulfate	Oxamyl (Vydate)	Vinyl Chloride
Thallium	PCBs (Polychlorinated)	Xylenes

Lead and Copper Testing

Substance	Units	Goal	Action Level (AL)	90 th Percentile	Homes Exceeding Action Level	Complies?	Source of Contaminate
Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.338	0	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead	ppm	0	0.015	0.000	0	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing

The 90th percentile is the highest result found in 90% of the samples when they are listed in order from the lowest to the highest results. EPA requires testing for lead and copper at customers' taps most likely to contain these substances based on when the house was built. The EPA determined that the sample results did not exceed the Action Level (AL). The above results are from lead and copper samples taken in 2015. Lead and Copper samples will be taken again in August-September 2018.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Columbia City is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components.

When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap water for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.

If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at: www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

- Install low flow shower heads and aerators on the faucets.
- Upgrade appliances and toilet fixtures as needed with water saving models.
- When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run. Fill one basin with wash water and the other with rinse water.
- Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Instead, compost vegetable food waste.
- Wash fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of running water from the tap.
- Don't let the water run while brushing your teeth.
- Time your shower to keep it under five minutes.
- Toilet leaks can be silent - be sure to test your toilet for leaks at least once a year.
- Plant in the spring and fall, when the watering requirements are lower.
- If the soil is moist, don't water. Allow your lawn and plants to dry out before watering to promote deeper root growth.
- Water deeply, but infrequently, and only water when necessary.
- Use a hose nozzle when watering or washing your car.
- Monitor your water usage to help detect leaks, and promptly fix leaking plumbing and faucets.

ADDITIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it

dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

THANK YOU! The City of Columbia City works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. Should you experience any problems with your water or, just want to ask a question, please contact us. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

CITY HALL:

Hours: 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. – 5 p.m., Monday–Friday
Phone (503) 397-4010 Fax (503) 366-2870

CITY SHOP:

Hours 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday–Friday Phone (503) 366-0454

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY PHONE: (503) 397-1521

VISIT OUR WEB SITE: www.columbia-city.org

E-MAIL US AT: colcity@columbia-city.org