

# COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

## JUNE 2018



**CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY**  
 1840 SECOND STREET  
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### **PUBLIC HEARING ON SEWER RATE ADJUSTMENT**

The Columbia City Council will hold a public hearing on June 7, 2018, at 6 pm to accept testimony about proposed adjustments to the current monthly sewer rates. The proposal is for a 3% increase in sewer usage rates as recommended by the City Administrator and an adjustment to commercial and industrial usage fees based upon their most recent winter water usage history. If approved, the new sewer rates will take effect on June 26 and show up on the July 26 bills.

<b>Monthly Sewer Rates</b>		
<b>Residential Connection</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
Minimum Base Rate	\$40.0000	\$41.2000
Usage Fee (per cf of water Oct-May)	\$0.0075	\$0.0077
Usage Fee (per cf of water Jun-Sep)	\$0.0000	\$0.0000

*cf = cubic foot*

More information about the proposed rates may be obtained by contacting City Hall.

The additional revenue will help pay for operation and maintenance costs associated with the sewer utility system, make annual debt payments, meet loan debt coverage requirements, and complete necessary capital improvements.

Water rates are not expected to change in the coming year.

### **PLANNING TO GET AWAY?**



At your request, the Columbia City Police Department will periodically check on your home while you are away! To request this service, please register with

the Columbia City Police Department before you leave. Forms are available at City Hall and on line at [www.columbia-city.org](http://www.columbia-city.org). This free service is available to all Columbia City residents.

### **DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION RECEIVE GRANT FOR VETERAN WALL**

The Mount St. Helens Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) have received a Special Project Grant in the amount of \$1,250 from the National Society DAR to be used for the construction of a fifth veteran recognition wall in the Columbia City Veterans Park. Construction of the wall is expected to take place this fall.

Honor your special veteran by purchasing an engraved brick for \$75. All of the proceeds from engraved brick sales are used to maintain the Veterans Park.

### **ARMSTRONG WORLD INDUSTRIES SELECTS COLUMBIA CITY PARKS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE WORK**

A group of employees from Armstrong World Industries spent two full days completing some much needed maintenance work in a few of our parks during the last week of May. The group spruced up Pixie, Ruth Rose Richardson, Carolyn King Memorial and Harvard Parks. We greatly appreciate the contributions they made to our community through their work in our City parks!

### **PARKS COMMITTEE SEEKS MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS**

Are you interested in serving on the Parks Committee? The City is currently accepting applications for the Parks Committee. The Parks Committee oversees the park system maintenance and development activities, and they meet at 5 pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

Do you have a few hours to spare and enjoy being outdoors? Consider volunteering to help maintain one or more of the City's parks! Applications to serve and/or volunteer are available at City Hall or on our website at [www.columbia-city.org](http://www.columbia-city.org).

**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.



prohibited by City Ordinance and Oregon State Law. Refer to ORS 480.110 through 480.165 for additional information.

**Recreational vehicles:** Only one vehicle that is designed for human occupancy (RV, boat, travel trailer, camper, or motor home) may be parked or stored at any single property at any time. The owner of the RV or boat must reside on the property.

**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. Property owners or other persons in charge of the property must keep weeds, grass and other noxious growth, such as poison oak, cut and maintained to prevent them from becoming unsightly and a fire hazard, and to prevent them from maturing and going to seed.



always pick up after your dog. it's your duty.



Violators can be cited into Municipal Court. Additionally, the City may abate the nuisance and lien the property for the costs.

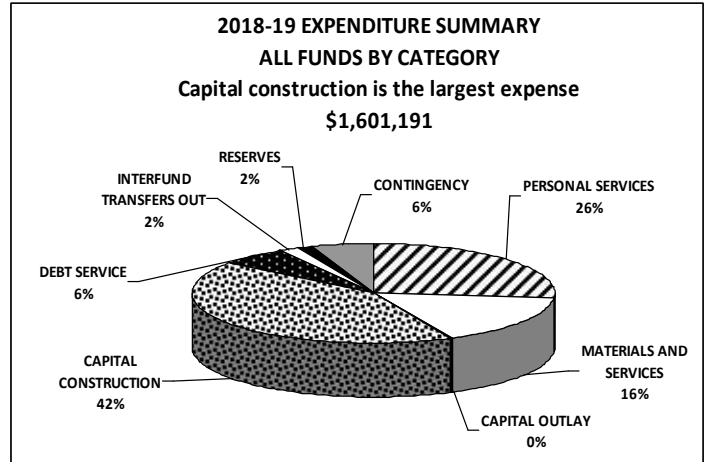
**Attention pet owners!** You must pick up after your pets! It's the law!

To report violations, please contact the City Hall - (503) 397-4010. Thank you.

**BUDGET HEARING - JUNE 21, 2018**

The City Council will hold a public hearing at 6 pm on June 21, 2018 to accept testimony about the budget for the fiscal year 2018-2019 as approved by the Columbia City Budget Committee.

A full copy of the budget may be inspected or obtained at the City Hall between the hours of 8 am and noon, and 1 pm and 5 pm.

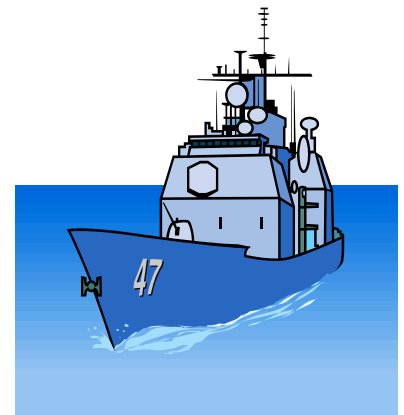


**BUDGET COMMITTEE VACANCIES**

We currently have two vacancies on the Columbia City Budget Committee. The Budget Committee meets at least once annually to review the proposed budget, hear public testimony, and approve a budget for submission to the City Council. Budget Committee terms are for a period of three years. Applicants must reside within the City. If interested, please inquire at City Hall.

**ROSE FESTIVAL FLEET WEEK**

The Rose Festival Fleet Week is June 6 through June 10, 2018. Since the very beginning of the Rose Festival in 1907, visiting ships have been making their way to Portland's waterfront. Ships usually sail by Columbia City the first two days of that week, but there are no specific times for their arrival. For more information go to <http://www.rosefestival.org/event/fleet-week>.



## HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENT

The Columbia County Transfer Station will hold a Household Hazardous Waste Event on **Saturday, June 23, 2018 from 8 am to noon**. The following hazardous waste materials are accepted during the event:

- ✓ Pool and spa chemicals
- ✓ Lawn/garden chemicals
- ✓ Pesticides/herbicides
- ✓ Light ballasts - *remove from light fixture*
- ✓ Fluorescent tubes
- ✓ Art/hobby chemicals
- ✓ Solvents/thinners
- ✓ Batteries - *only car, rechargeable, button - no alkaline batteries*
- ✓ Gasoline/diesel/fuels
- ✓ Cleaners/detergents
- ✓ Poisons
- ✓ Fireworks/flares
- ✓ Ammunition
- ✓ Items containing mercury
- ✓ Propane cylinders
- ✓ Compressed gas cylinders

***Bring products in their original container and secure your load***

Items **NOT** accepted during the event:

- ⊗ Garbage or trash
- ⊗ Asbestos
- ⊗ Unwanted/unused pharmaceuticals or medicine - *St. Helens Police Department accepts unused prescriptions*
- ⊗ Liquid in containers larger than 5 gallons

The following are not household hazardous waste and are accepted at the Transfer Station anytime, Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 5 pm:

- Latex and acrylic paint, oil-based paint, enamel, stains, lacquers, shellacs, varnishes, primers
- Used motor oil and antifreeze
- Medical sharps - *must be in sealed, puncture-proof containers (available at local pharmacies, at the Transfer Station scale house, or Walmart)*

## Toxic.Free.Home.



Participate In Your Local Household Hazardous Waste Roundups

### THE COLUMBIA COUNTY TRANSFER STATION

1601 Railroad Avenue  
St. Helens OR 97051

Regular Business Hours:  
Open Monday – Saturday, 8 am - 5 pm

*If you have any questions about hazardous collection events, please call:  
(503) 397-7259*

## Newly remodeled COMMUNITY HALL

*Rent it for your next event!*

Wedding Reception  
Baby Shower  
Family or Class Reunion  
Rummage Sale  
Holiday Bazaar  
Birthday Party  
Retirement Party  
Basketball/Volleyball Fun  
Memorial Service  
Banquet  
Crafting Group



1850 Second Street

**\$17.50/hour or \$175/full day**  
**\$30 food/beverage fee**  
**\$200 liquor fee**

[www.columbia-city.org](http://www.columbia-city.org)

Call (503) 397-4010 for availability



## CAPLES HOUSE MUSEUM CHILI COOK-OFF

The Caples House Museum will host a chili cook-off on Sunday, June 10 from noon to 3 pm.

Tickets at the door are \$8 or \$10 including a Museum Tour!



### 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 losses 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.

→ Mulch to retain moisture in the soil. Mulching also helps to control weeds that compete with plants for water.

### LIBRARY NEWS

**HUGE USED BOOK SALE JUNE 2ND!** Our next book sale is Saturday, June 2 from 10 am to 4 pm under the covered area of the school. We are

overloaded with boxes of books, so come see what you can find! We'll sell a grocery bag of books for \$5 after 3 pm, so come early to get what you really want before someone else gets it! If you want to help, we will be setting up the sale at 8 am on Saturday. We appreciate all the help we get!

**SUMMER READING PROGRAM:** Our summer reading program will start on June 18. Our theme is bugs this year. Get a caterpillar reading log, and find out what our take-it project is. Come anytime the Library is open!

**NEW BOOKS:** We added 116 items to the Library during the past month. Ten of them are quilt books, for those of you interested! Some recent additions to our Library include:

*Filthy Rich* by James Patterson

*The Man from Mars: Ray Palmer's Amazing Pulp Journey* by Fred Nadis

*Portland Happy Hour Guidebook* by Cindy Anderson

*Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates* by Brian Kilmeade

*The Woman in the Window* by A.J. Finn

*Song of the Lion* by Anne Hillerman

*Kiss Carlo* by Adriana Trigiani

*Kakapo Rescue: Saving the World's Strangest Parrot* by Sy Montgomery

*Thomas Jefferson: The Art of Power* by Jon Meacham

*Power and Empire* by Tom Clancy

*Enemy of the State* by Kyle Mills

Six Louis L'Amour books in a lovely binding!

*Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* by J. K. Rowling (audiobook)

*Private Down Under* by James Patterson (audiobook)

*The Women in the Castle* by Jessica Shattuck

*Affluenza* (DVD movie)

*Last of the Mohicans* (DVD movie)

Browse our book catalog:

[columbiacitycommunitylibrary.follettdestiny.com](http://columbiacitycommunitylibrary.follettdestiny.com)

### Library Hours:

Monday through Thursday 3-6 pm

Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

City Celebration Planning Meeting

Tuesday, June 12 - 7 pm

Friends of the Library Meeting

Monday, June 18 - 7 pm

Mystery Book Club

Wednesday, June 27 - 7 pm

2000 2nd Street, PO Box 189, Columbia City

503-366-8020 [ccclibrary@live.com](mailto:ccclibrary@live.com)

## LOST AND FOUND

- Set of three keys found near Sixth and I Streets.
- Keys on a yellow lanyard found in the 2600 block of Sixth Street.
- Guardian angel pendant found near Ninth and K Streets.

## 92ND BIRTHDAY LIVE MUSIC BENEFIT SPECIAL THANKS

The Live Music Event benefitting the 92-year old Community Hall was well attended, and The Decades did a great job of entertaining the crowd! Special thanks to all of our event volunteers and everyone that donated a cake for the old fashioned cake auction! We'd also like to thank all of our event sponsors - we greatly appreciate all of their generous contributions!

Sunshine Pizza, Pacific Athletic Club,  
Next Adventure at Scappoose Bay,  
Noi's Thai Kitchen, Papa Murphy's Pizza,  
Emmert Motors, Richardson's Furniture,  
Dahlgren's Building Supplies, Oregon Trail Lanes,  
Ace Hardware, St. Helens Auto Center,  
Burgerville, Dutch Bros., Bertucci's,  
St. Helens IGA Market, Klondike, Harrington's,  
Kozy Korner, Deer Island Store,  
Les Schwab Tire Center St. Helens, Subway,  
Columbia Theatre, Safeway

## MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FILING DATES

The position of Mayor and two City Council positions will be filled by the voters during the November 6, 2018, General Election. Qualified electors who have

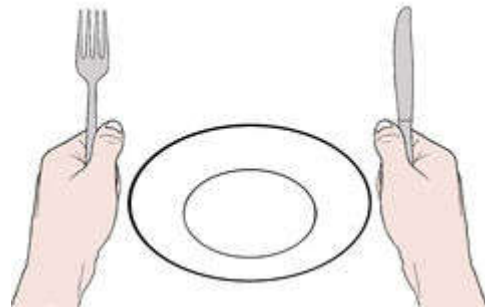


resided within the City since November 6, 2017, may run for office. Nominating petitions are currently available at the City Hall. The nominating petitions must be signed by 20 qualified electors, and candidates must submit the signature sheets to the City Administrator/Recorder for verification allowing sufficient time for the verification process to be completed prior to the August 28, 2018 filing deadline. The positions are for a term of four years.

## COLUMBIA PACIFIC FOOD BANK WORKS TO ALLEVIATE HUNGER IN COLUMBIA COUNTY

The Columbia Pacific Food Bank operates the H.E.L.P. Food Pantry in St. Helens, and also distributes food to the St. Helens Senior Center, Community Meals, SAFE, St. Helens Backpack Program and the Brown Bag Program within the local area.

You can join the local fight against hunger by sending a contribution to the Columbia Pacific Food Bank, PO Box 1031, St. Helens, OR 97051. Other ways in which you can help may be found on the Columbia Pacific Food Bank website - [www.cpfoodbank.org](http://www.cpfoodbank.org).



## SEWER EMERGENCIES

If you experience a sewer emergency, such as sewage backing up into your home, or you are experiencing a strong sewer smell, please:

**CALL PUBLIC WORKS  
IMMEDIATELY**

**Office: (503) 366-0454  
After Hours: (503) 397-1521**



## COMINGLED RECYCLING Keep it CLEAN!

### **PAPER - OK to recycle:**

- Newspaper
- Corrugated cardboard
- Magazines and catalogs
- Junk/direct mail
- Boxes - cereal, cracker, cookie, shoe, etc.
- Office paper - copier and printer paper, file folders, note paper, computer paper, brochures

#### ***Paper - not OK:***

- *Food contaminated paper (such as pizza boxes)*
- *Paper towels and tissue*
- *Shredded paper*
- *Juice, milk, ice cream cartons*
- *Plastic bags or plastic wrap*

### **METAL - OK to recycle - clean and dry with labels removed:**

- Steel (tin) cans
- Aluminum cans

#### ***Metal - not OK:***

- *Scrap metal*

### **PLASTIC - OK to recycle - thoroughly rinsed with lids removed:**

- Beverage bottles - soda, water, juice
- Other bottles - soap, household cleaning solutions
- Jugs - milk, juice, detergent

#### ***Plastic - not OK:***

- *Plastic tubs - salsa, margarine, cottage cheese, yogurt.....*
- *Planting or nursery pots*
- *5-gallon buckets*
- *Clam shells (fruit and vegetable containers, to-go food containers)*

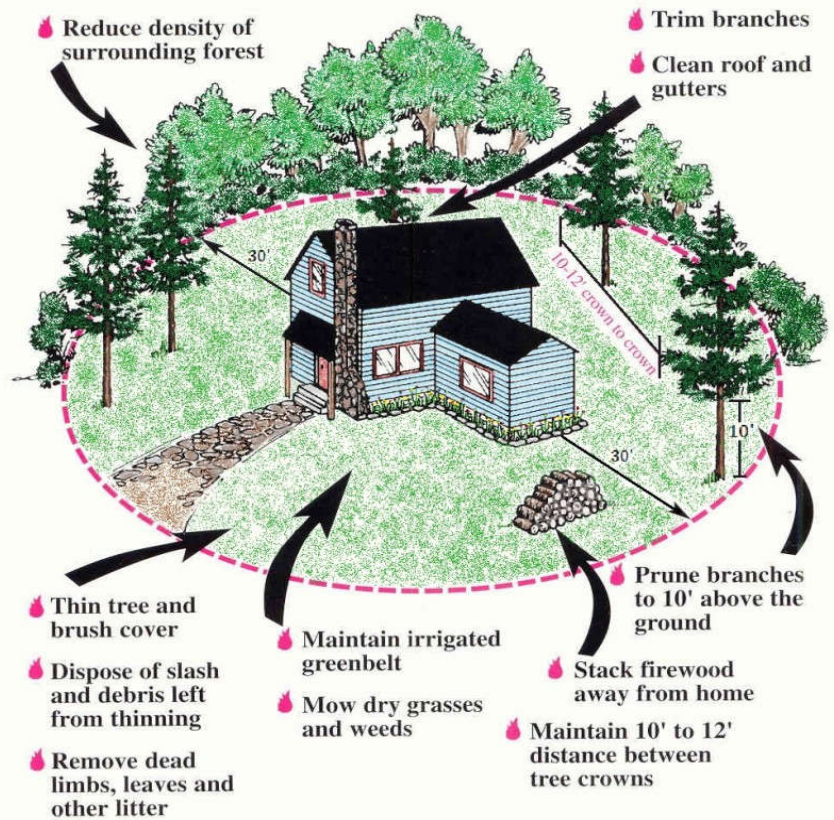
## SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT DEFENSIBLE SPACE

**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 - JUNE 2018

June 7 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 PM	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
June 14 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 PM	Municipal Court at City Hall
June 19 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 PM	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
June 21 <sup>st</sup>	6:00 PM	Hazard Mitigation Meeting at City Hall
June 26 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 PM	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall



