

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2020



CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY
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Riddle answer: the letter M

BILL PAY OPTIONS DUE TO CITY HALL CLOSURE

Online: You can access your water and sewer bills online. This allows you to see your billing and usage history. Also save paper by signing up for e-bills and receive the newsletter electronically. Contact City Hall if you have any questions or need assistance.



Available at –

<https://columbiacity.merchantransact.com>

Drop Box: Payments may be placed in our drop box located just to the left of the entrance to City Hall.

Auto-Pay: Complete the information on page 4 and return to City Hall either by mail or drop box and your bill will automatically come out of your checking or savings account each month.

Website Payment: Go to www.columbia-city.org and click on the “Make A Payment” link on the home page.

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) EVENT CANCELLATIONS

Due to the unknown conditions surrounding the COVID-19/Coronavirus Pandemic, and its potential impacts to the health and safety of the community, the City Council decided to cancel the following events:

Spring Clean Up – 4/4/2020
Easter Pancake Breakfast – 4/11/2020
Michael Allen Harrison Concert – 5/4/2020
Memorial Day Celebration – 5/25/2020

BIANNUAL BURN PERIOD

The biannual burn period will **begin on Saturday, April 4th, and end on Sunday, April 19th.** The burn period is for yard debris only and it must be a burn day. Burn barrels are prohibited. **Call (503) 397-4800 for burn day information before you burn. Burn permits are required prior to burning!** Permits may be obtained online at <http://www.crfr.com/burn-permits.html>.



WHAT TO DO IF YOU'RE SICK

MILD ILLNESS

FEVER
COUGH
MILD SHORTNESS OF BREATH

- Stay home.
- Stay away from others in your home.
- Keep everyone in your household home.
- Stay in touch with your doctor.
- Wear a face mask.

3 / 24 / 20

Stay Home Save Lives



WHAT TO DO IF YOU'RE SICK

EMERGENCY SIGNS

TROUBLE BREATHING
CHEST PAIN / PRESSURE
NEW CONFUSION / CAN'T AWAKEN
BLUISH LIPS OR FACE
OTHER SEVERE SYMPTOMS

- Call 9-1-1 **OR**
- Call the Emergency Room so providers can prepare for you.

3 / 24 / 20

Stay Home Save Lives



2020 CENSUS

The U.S. Census Bureau is carefully monitoring the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and will fulfill its obligation to deliver the 2020 Census counts to the President of the United States.

It has never been easier to respond on your own, whether online, over the phone or by mail—all without having to meet a census taker. To date, over 2 million households have already responded online, and the Census Bureau is ready for you to do the same. If you do, there will be no need for census takers to knock on your door.

That said, the 2020 Census is adaptable and equipped with an approximate \$2 billion dollar contingency budget for circumstances like the COVID-19 outbreak.

When a community, facility or service organization is impacted by a COVID-19 outbreak the 2020 Census will adapt their plans to make sure they are getting the same population counted another way.

They will share information about any change in operations with Congress, state and local authorities, community partners and the media. They will also work with community partners to continue to encourage self-response through the end of the nonresponse follow-up phase. **Currently, the planned completion date is July 31- but that can and will be adjusted if necessary as the situation dictates in order to achieve a complete and accurate count.**

As the 2020 Census continues to assess the current situation, they will always make decisions that ensure the health and safety of their staff and the public in consultation with public health authorities.

My Country Counts!
The 2020 Census is here, and the results will shape the future of the



United States
for years to come.

I challenge you to complete the census.

#shapeyourfuture

GOOD NEWS FOR PASTA LOVERS!

Similar to Columbia City, Ticino in the south of Switzerland has experienced a relatively mild winter resulting in a bumper spaghetti crop! With the virtual disappearance of the spaghetti weevil and no late frost to deal with, local farmers can anticipate getting top dollar for their stellar crops.

In Switzerland, cultivation is not on a grand scale like the spaghetti plantations seen in Italy, but are more of a family affair. Over centuries of farming, patient endeavors have led to the Swiss strain that produces the perfect length noodle. The whole family participates in Harvest Day, and it, of course, ends in a spaghetti feast!

There is nothing like the taste of home grown pasta and YouTube has several videos about “Spaghetti Trees”. The simplest advice we’ve found for cultivating your own tree is to “place a sprig of spaghetti in a tin of tomato sauce and hope for the best”.



CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDER

Keep grass and weeds cut: Between April 15th and September 30th weeds and grass cannot exceed 10 inches in height within the City limits.



SERGEANTS CORNER

Fraudulent Phone Calls. Thank you to all our citizens who are doing their part to protect themselves and others by participating in the Stay Home Stay Safe order. These are difficult times and I want to warn you about people trying to take advantage of this unfortunate situation. If you receive any phone calls asking for money, your personnel information, or offering you something for free or an unbelievable price, this will most likely be a scam to defraud you or steal your personnel information to commit other crimes under your identity. If you are not sure who is calling feel free to contact your local Police Department. We are dedicated to protecting you and your interest as best we can.

The following is a summary of the Police Department Activity for the month of February. 3 animal complaints, 4 agency assist, 4 assist persons, 3 civil complaints, 2 DHS assist, 2 Domestic violence calls, 1 DUII, 10 follow up investigations, 2 threat/harassment calls, 2 hazard calls, 3 noise complaints, 11 radio calls, 4 suspicious circumstances, 3 suspicious persons, 2 welfare check and 45 traffic stops.

The Police Department would like to request 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 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

TRESTLE BEACH PARKING CHANGE

The Trestle Beach Parking Area & Trailhead will be closed from approximately April 14 – July 13 for use by an industrial tenant. Parking will be available at an alternate lot through the Industrial Park access gate. Please walk along the beach under the dock to reach the Trestle Beach Recreation Area.

Trestle Beach is a portion of the Port's Columbia City Industrial Park property that the Port has opened to the public as a recreational river access point. The Port does not employ staff to maintain the Trestle Beach property. Please be respectful of

tenants and their property so that access to this beach can continue to be provided to the public.



LIBRARY NEWS

With the library being closed, we have put a little library out on the front porch. It has fiction, nonfiction, and some children's books. Unfortunately it is just a bin rather than one of those cute house-like structures, but please use it! We are using sale books to fill it. If you have an author you'd like to see in the box, please email ccclibrary@live.com with your suggestion. I will refill it at least once a week.

Please keep your library books at home until the library reopens. You will get an automatic overdue notice through email, but please don't bring them back! We are not accepting donations during the closure. We will reopen when the schools reopen. Stay home and stay safe, I hope to see all of you soon.

Cathy Lundberg - Library Director

2000 Second Street
PO Box 189 / Columbia City OR 97018
ccclibrary@live.com

NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING PLAN

Research is currently underway to setup the next City Council meeting as a conference call. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 16, 2020 at 6:15 p.m. instead of 6:00 p.m.

The dial in information will be sent out the week of the meeting. As a resident or interested party if you wish to participate in the conference call, please contact City Hall.

COLUMBIA CITY PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY

After watching people buying up all of the bottled water in stores, the City's Public Works Superintendent wanted to address the current virus situation and what impact, if any, it could have on the City's public water supply.

In short, there is nothing to worry about with the water that runs from our taps. Research through the WHO, CDC, EPA, and the state Health Authority has shown that there is no evidence at this time that COVID-19 can even enter let alone travel through a water supply. The COVID-19 virus is an enveloped virus, with a fragile outer membrane. Enveloped viruses are generally more susceptible to oxidants, such as chlorine. Even if the virus was able to enter our public water supply,

it would be quickly neutralized by the chlorine that we use in treatment.

The Source Monitoring we use with the state for our water treatment requires 4-Log disinfection, maintaining a certain free chlorine residual throughout the water system, and monthly reporting of daily readings to the state Drinking Water Program. 4-Log disinfection in simple terms is the 99.9% removal or neutralization of all viruses or pathogens in the public water supply.

LOST AND FOUND

A grey Carter's kids hat was found on the street in the area of First and I Street. If you think it might belong to you, please contact City Hall.

AUTOMATIC BILL PAY CUSTOMER AUTHORIZATION FORM

Automatic bill payment pays your water and sewer utility bill through an **automatic deduction from your designated bank account**. You'll receive your monthly utility bill in the mail, around the first day of the month as usual, showing your water usage and other charges. Then the amount due will be automatically deducted from either your specified checking or savings account around the 10th of the month. Automatic bill payment is easy to setup, and even if you're on vacation or ill, you'll never have to worry about paying your bill again. If you would like to sign up for automatic bill payment, please fill out and return this form to the City Hall.

I authorize you and the financial institution listed below to initiate electronic debit entries to my **Checking Account** or **Savings Account** on the 10th of each month, and if necessary, credit entries and adjustments for any debit entries in error. This authority will remain in effect until I have cancelled it in writing or until the water/sewer account is closed. This request has been made for the following account and service address:

NAME (PLEASE PRINT) _____ SERVICE ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ WATER ACCOUNT NO. _____

FINANCIAL INSTITUTION _____ BRANCH _____ CITY & STATE _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

TRANSIT ROUTING NUMBER (must be 9 digits)

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 ACCOUNT NUMBER INFORMATION

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MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - APRIL 2020

April 4 th	dawn	First day of open burning season
April 7 th	5:00 p.m.	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall - Canceled
April 16 th	6:15 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting via conference call
April 19 th	dusk	Last day of open burning season
April 21 st	6:30 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall - Canceled
April 27 th	6:00 p.m.	Hazard Mitigation Group Meeting at City Hall - Canceled
April 28 th	2:30 p.m.	Audit Committee Meeting at City Hall - Canceled