



NEWS FROM THE CITY

City of Ashton

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 10

Rate Increase



Following the completion of the Wastewater Facility Upgrade the city council had the responsibility to update the customer rates. The rates reflect each customer's share of the debt payment, ongoing maintenance and future needs of the city's wastewater system.

The city council had two rate studies they considered in the rate update.

First, the engineers at the beginning of the latest sewer project in 2018 did a rate study and suggested that the

City raise the sewer base rate by \$19.77.

Second, the city auditor did a rate analysis following the fiscal year 2020 audit. She suggested that the base rate be \$83.07 for a 30-year depreciation OR \$75.30 for a 40-year depreciation.

The council decided to raise this rate by \$30 making the sewer base rate **\$75.36**.

The water rate was raised following the completion of the city's water system upgrades in 2013. The city has since paid off a 1995 water bond. The city's auditor did look at the water rates and suggested a slight raise (\$6.51).

The council decided to lower the base rate in the water fund as the fund has some savings and the 1995 bond had been paid in full. This decision set the

water base rate at **\$37.98**.

The council had been aware of the need for a rate update and had been discussing it throughout the wastewater project. They did not want to raise rates until the project was complete. They also are aware of the customers who are raising young families OR are on a fixed income. By lowering the water rate, the council was able to raise the total rate by \$20 making it less of a burden on the customers.

The garbage rate and the water usage rate will be raised by a 3% cost of living increase. This makes the monthly fee for a 95 gallon can **\$23.89** and the water usage fee **\$1.34** per 1000 gallons of water.

These rates will be effective as of October 1st 2021.



OCTOBER 2021

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						

NOVEMBER 2021

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				

DECEMBER 2021

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	

Calendar Key

City Council Meeting	Yellow
Public Hearing	Cyan
Utility Bill Payment Due Date	Red
Utility Bill Mailing Date	Green
City Building Closed	Orange
Holiday Garbage Pickup	Purple

CITY ELECTION DAY



NEWS FROM THE CITY

Don't Flush Wipes!



There are now products that are sold to replace toilet paper. These products usually have the term 'flushable' on the packaging. Many customers also think Sanitizing wipes and baby wipes are flushable. Of course, These products will flush down your toilet

BUT they are not biodegradable. As the wipes arrive at the City's wastewater treatment facility they often times get caught in the large fans (or aerators) which are used to help process the sewage. This can stop the aerators and sometimes burn up (ruin) the motors.

Stopping the aeration also affects the ability of the facility to process (or digest) the sewage in order to clean it for use on the city's the land application site.

The city is starting the process to build a building with a large screen

process to take the wipes out of the sewage. This project will cost \$750,000. Another \$200,000 will be financed in order to repair a block of sewer line and add some more aerators to the large storage pond.

So—please only flush toilet and human waste. Anything else can cause problems with the sewer system.



The City is having a DOG LICENSE SALE!

City Residents may purchase their 2022 dog licenses at the City Building for

\$ 7.50.

Buy now and get the next 3 MONTHS FREE

Police News

Autumn is here with cooler temperatures, fall colors and hopefully lighter traffic.

As you are aware ITD is in the planning stage of upgrading highway 20 from a two lane to a four lane from Chester to Ashton. Until that time please drive carefully on that section of highway. Do not pass unless necessary and when passing can be done safely. As we all know it is a very dangerous section of road to drive, especially with the high traffic volume we have ex-

perienced the last two years.

The children are back in school so please be aware of kids walking to and from school. Also watch and obey the school zone cross walk laws. Please be courteous to the school bus drivers entering and leaving our schools.

Also please always stop for school buses when they have deployed their red flashing lights and stop sign for children entering and exiting the bus. State

law states you must stop for school buses on any roadway with three lanes or less when the bus has its stop sign and red flashing lights engaged. This would include Highway 20 through Ashton.

Thank you.

Chief Greg Griffel



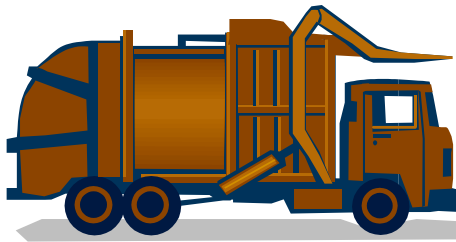


Garbage Holidays

If a residence's garbage is scheduled to be picked up on a week including the the following holidays, it will instead be

picked up on the day after it is normally picked up.

- THANKSGIVING**
- CHRISTMAS**
- NEW YEARS DAY**
- MEMORIAL DAY**
- 4TH OF JULY**
- LABOR DAY**



Cut on lines to place on fridge as a reminder.

CITY ELECTION

Cities in Idaho have city elections on odd numbered years. This year, citizens of the City will be choosing two council members who will each serve a 4 year term. The election will be held November 2nd, 2021.

Petitions for candidacy were filed earlier this fall. The candidates running for city council

are: Sheryl Hill, John Kaelberer (incumbent) and John Scafe. There is also a write-in candidate: Rachel Hatton.

Only city residents can vote in a city election. Those city residents who live north of Main Street vote at the Henry's Fork Foundation building located at 801 Main Street here in Ashton.

Those residents living south of Main Street vote at Fall River Electric building located at 1150 N. 3400 E. just off Hwy 20 south of Ashton.



Arbor Day 2021

What a great day we had to celebrate Arbor Day with our Ashton Elementary School third graders!!

We now have a Bur/Gambel Oak and Pin Oak trees in the Ashton City Park

The Pin Oak tree was donated to the city from Northfork

Nursery in St. Anthony. We will be guinea pigs to see how well that variety of Oak does in our area.

Many thanks to all that participated!

-Michele Smith

Ashton Parks & Recreation Supervisor





Getting Ready!

Not ready to start thinking about snow? Well, if we start now, we will be prepared! 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 property. The City property extends further than the pavement or gravel. It extends from the center of the road 40 feet to each side on most streets. On Spruce, Walnut & 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 with-
2. Any personal items in the City right-of-way need to be removed. Also, any items left in the right-of-way 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 caused by items that you have left in the right-of-way, you could be subject to reimbursing the City for the cost of that damage.
3. Mailboxes have many times been placed on City property and are in danger of being broken by plowing. Mailboxes must be placed on your

out notification if they are not removed. **There will be towing of vehicles in the right of way.** Please make sure and move your vehicles!

property. **Please move your mailboxes onto your property and out of the street property.**

4. Please remove any items from the alley . The alley is used for emergency vehicle access.
5. Garbage cans need to be removed from the street as soon as possible after being dumped.
6. When removing snow from your driveway, do not blow or plow snow onto the City Street. **Citations will be given.**
7. The City of Ashton is not liable for damage of any sort to your personal property when left in the City right-of-way.

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

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



CITY OF ASHTON

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