

# NEWS FROM THE CITY

City of Ashton



VOLUME 22, ISSUE 7

## Summer Savings



In Ashton, water users used 10,081,101 gallons of water in June 2022! Experts estimate that Americans use more than 400 billion gallons of water per day. On average homeowners use 50 to 70% of their water outdoors, sprinkling lawns and gardens. Here are some tips to help conserve water right in your own backyard.

1. Put a layer of mulch around your plants. Mulching helps to retain moisture and prevents evaporation. A generous amount of 3- to 5-inches is best.

2. Automatic timers save water. With or without a home irrigation system, make sure you're getting the most out of your timer. Automatic, programmable

timers save more water than mechanical models. If you use a hose and portable sprinkler, you can purchase a hose end timer to regulate your watering time.

3. Water in the evening or early morning to avoid evaporation. With a timer, you can set watering times even in the middle of the night!

4. Don't fertilize during hot, dry weather. Applying fertilizer can actually enhance drought problems. When you do feed your lawn and garden



use a slow release fertilizer.

5. Raise the blade on your lawn mower. Closely cropped grass requires more water.

6. Recycle your grass clippings back into your lawn by using a mulching mower. You'll not only conserve water, you'll save time while mowing.

7. Cut back on routine pruning. Pruning stimulates new growth, and new growth requires more water. Only prune your plants when it wilts or leaves die out.

8. Sweep your sidewalks and driveway rather than hosing them down.

Conservation will protect our water resource and save Ashton citizen's money.



### JULY 2022

| 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  |     |     |     |     |     |     |

### AUGUST 2022

| 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  |     |     |     |

### SEPTEMBER 2022

| 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  |     |

### 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 |



## NEWS FROM THE CITY

# ASHTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

By Chief Greg Griffel

Ashton has a substantial number of short-term rental properties within the city limits. If you own or manage these properties, please contact the Ashton Police Department, give us emergency contact information as well as the address of your rental so our department has it on record in case of fire, crime or any emergency that may occur. You may call my office at (208) 652-8035 or leave a message if our office is closed.

Property Owners are required per city ordinance 8.20 to abate weeds within the city limits. I have observed several properties with leafy spurge, thistles and other noxious weeds growing on them. If you require assistance with weed control, you may contact a Fremont County Extension agent. They are knowledgeable and willing to help and may spray your property for you.

The city's burn ordinance has changed recently. Please read the new ordinance before burning anything within the city limits. You can ask for a copy of the new ordinance by calling the City Building at (208)652-3987.

We continue to receive complaints and respond to illegal fireworks being used in the city limits. Basically, if the firework flies, it is illegal and cannot be purchased in Idaho unless you acquire a permit through the state of Idaho. Even with a permit those types of fireworks cannot legally be used in the city limits of Ashton. Firecrackers are illegal in the state of Idaho as well as within the city limits. Because of the number of complaints and the fact that sound easily carries throughout the

town, we will respond to complaints and your illegal fireworks may be confiscated. You may receive one verbal warning to stop the use of those fireworks. If you continue to launch illegal fireworks after the verbal warning you will be cited for disturbing the peace, a misdemeanor crime. Please remember we have an assisted living center in Ashton where occupants are aged and in bed early. Please don't spend your money on expensive fireworks just to have our department confiscate and destroy them.

Thank you and have a safe July!



## Yard of the Month



The second Yard of the Month certificate was awarded to

Meredith Dexter.

Meredith is 94 years young and he built his home on his own with help from others. He and his wife Renee moved into it in the fall of 1978.

One of his sons reported that he doesn't remember if it was that year or in the spring of 1979 but he

remembers Meredith walking with a seed spreader planting that lawn from grass seed. So Meredith's yard was planted by hand and maintained by the same guy for 44 years.

If you have a chance, please take a drive down 5th Street to see the Ashton's July Yard of the Month.





# Wipes and Wastewater

**Remember this photo**

**from late last year?** There are still wipes ending up at the wastewater facility. These wipes are causing serious problems.

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 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 land application site.

These pictures were taken at the city's wastewater treatment facility on November 4th, 2021. The operators take a boat to get out to the aerators to try to pry the wipes out

of the motors. The top photo shows the wipes wrapped on the blades of an aerator.

It is difficult to work on the aerators. The city's public works department employees spend many hours trying to keep the facility working.

***Please only flush toilet paper and human waste. Anything else can cause problems with the sewer system.***



# Summer Street Work



There are a couple of Idaho Transportation Department concerning projects that will be happening in the area surrounding Ashton this summer.

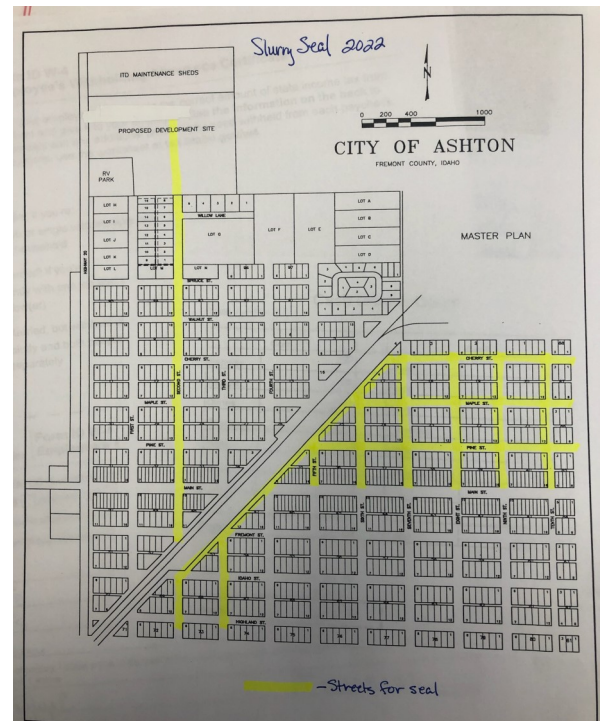
The work on the signal light at the corner of US-20 and SH-47 has begun. H-K Contractors are the contractors for this job. The contractors as that the public watch for the changes in traffic patterns as they complete each stage of the project. Public meetings are held each Wednesday in the City Council Chamber at the City Building each Wednesday, at 11am. If you have any questions or concerns, you discuss

them with the contractor and/or ITD representatives at the meeting. Please enter through the Main Street entrance.

Paving work on SH-47 from the Ashton City limits to Bear Gulch is also began on July 6th. This work was slated to be complete by the end of July.

The City will also be joining in by doing a slurry seal on another portion of the city streets. **The streets that will be sealed are shown in the map to the right in yellow.** The contractor now estimates that they will be here the week of August 8th and should complete the project at the end of that week.

Construction is never fun to navigate but the outcome should help with safety. The city hopes that everyone will be careful and patient throughout these construction projects.



# Ashton Swimming Pool



The Ashton Swimming Pool is open Tuesday through Saturday this season.

The Pool is feeling the national lifeguard shortage and will open with no lifeguards on duty. This will mean that there will be a **capacity limit of 35 swimmers** at the pool.

**Swimmers 13 and younger are required to have an adult with them in the water.** Adults can not just watch from the side, they must be in the water with the child.

The City will have a 'live' count on the City's website at [www.cityofashton.com](http://www.cityofashton.com) that parents can check before they head over to the pool.

Also, the pool hours are going to be a little different with more chances for families to swim together.

LAP SWIM will start at 8 am and end at 11 am. The cost for lap swim will be \$2.00 per person.

OPEN SWIM will be at 1 pm to 5 pm and costs \$3.50 per person.

NIGHT SWIM will be from 6 to 8pm and will cost \$2.00 per person.

Please come and enjoy some sun at the Ashton City Pool!



**Pool is Open**

**Ashton Swimming Pool**  
**Call 652-7800**  
**For Pool Parties**

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

Regular City Council meetings are held each month on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. The City Council's P&Z Meeting is each 1st Wednesday of the month. For specific dates & other meeting information please refer to our website:

[www.cityofashton.com](http://www.cityofashton.com)



## CITY OF ASHTON

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