



## West Richland Animal Control

West Richland Animal Control (WRAC) impounded 124 animals in 2016, including 36 cats and 88 dogs. Of those, 67 were reunited with their owners, 44 were adopted or transferred, 3 were dead on arrival, 8 escaped and 2 were euthanized. Both animals were euthanized due to health considerations. As the city grows, so does the number of animals. In fact, a dog license survey conducted in 2015 estimates each household in the city has one dog.

Due to the growing number of dogs and cats in the city, there was a greater need for veterinary care and adoption/foster homes. WRAC pairs with Adopt Shelter Animal Pets (ASAP) in aiding these homeless animals. ASAP places the dogs/cats in temporary foster homes until either reunited with owners or a new adoptive home is located. A foster home benefits the animal by keeping him/her out of the extreme weather and also keeping it socialized and stress-free. ASAP also provides aid with veterinary care for impounded animals in need. You may contact ASAP at 509-416-6637 for donations or questions regarding foster care and available, adoptable animals.

The city requires every canine over 7 months old to be licensed for the following reasons: To ensure every dog has a rabies vaccination; to track the number of dogs living within the city; and to ensure the quickest reunification with the owner if the animal were to become lost. A fine of \$75.00 may be charged to the owner of an animal that does not have a current license.

Thank you to the following organizations for taking custody of, providing the necessary veterinary care, and then finding a loving forever home for our homeless pets in West Richland. Without them, more animals would have to be euthanized.

Adopt Shelter Animal Pets  
Benton Franklin Humane Society  
Pet Over Population Prevention

Northwest Boxer Rescue of Idaho  
Waggin Tail Dog Ranch, Bowie Texas



## Meetings

- Feb. 1 West Richland Chamber meeting  
Sandberg Event Center - Noon
- Feb. 7 City Council meeting  
Library - 7:00 p.m.
- Feb. 9 Planning Commission meeting  
Library - 6:00 p.m.
- Feb. 21 City Council meeting  
Library - 7:00 p.m.

A meeting and events calendar is available on the city website on the home page under Quick Links. Agendas are also posted on the web pages for City Council and Boards and Commissions. On the top menu of the home page click on Governance, then click on either City Council or Boards and Commissions.

## City Holiday Closures

City offices will be closed on February 20th in observance of Presidents Day.



## Code Red Emergency Alerts

Emergency Management Agencies of Benton and Franklin Counties uses CodeRed - a high-speed mass notification system designed to keep you informed in the event of an emergency. This system allows for the delivery of emergency messages to you via phone to your landline or mobile device, as well as through text and email.

Generally, non-life threatening alerts will be sent to email only. Alerts that pose a higher threat or cause significant adverse conditions may be sent to email and text message. Emergency alerts that pose a serious or significant risk to life and/or property will be sent from all devices that you have selected.

To register, visit [www.bces.wa.gov](http://www.bces.wa.gov) in Benton County or [www.franklinem.org](http://www.franklinem.org) in Franklin County and click on the CodeRED icon. Contact Benton County Emergency Management at 509-628-2600 for more information.

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## Reports to Police Department

The Police Department has received information on suspicious persons or circumstances, loud music, and other types of reports from citizens via voice messages on the city's general delivery mailbox after hours.

Please do not use the online action form or general delivery mailbox to report issues to the Police Department because these messages may not be seen for several days. If your issue is an emergency, please call 911. If you are reporting a non-emergency police related complaint, please call non-emergency dispatch at 509-628-0333.

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## Yellowstone Trail Park Community Garden

Applications are being accepted for garden plots at the Community Garden at Yellowstone Trail Park. There are 42 raised garden plots available to rent for the 2017 growing season on a first-come, first-serve basis. Handicap accessible plots are also available. The City will provide water and garden hoses, but gardeners are responsible for providing all tools. The fee to reserve a garden plot is \$10 for the 2017 season.



Registration forms and garden policies are available at [www.westrichland.org](http://www.westrichland.org). For more information or questions, call the Community Development Department at 509-967-5902.

## Water Meters are City Property

Water meters are the property of the City of West Richland. Please do not touch or tamper with the City's meters. If you are experiencing issues with your water service, please contact the Public Works Department at 509-967-5434.

West Richland Municipal Code 13.96.020 states, No person shall maliciously, willfully, or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface or tamper with any structure, appurtenance, or equipment which is a part of a city-owned utility. No person shall commit, authorize, solicit aid, abet, or attempt to:

- A. Divert, or cause to be diverted, utility services by any means whatsoever.
- B. Make, or cause to be made, any connection or reconnection with property owned or used by the utility to provide utility service without the authorization or consent of the Public Works Director.
- C. Prevent any utility meter or device used in determining the charge for utility services from accurately performing its measuring function by tampering or by other means.
- D. Tamper with any property owned or used by the utility to provide utility services.
- E. Use or receive the direct benefit of all or a portion of the utility service with knowledge of, or reason to believe that, the diversion, tampering, or unauthorized connection existed at the time of use or that the use or receipt was without the authorization or consent of the Public Works Director.