



Snow and Ice Control



Living in West Richland, we all know how unpredictable our winter weather can be. Our winters can vary from little or no snow accumulation to extreme winters with more than 50 inches of snow. Storm events of freezing fog and rain along with wind driven snow drifts can also vary year to year.

With a population of over 14,000 residents and over 168 lane miles of roadways, the city strives to provide a safe and acceptable level of snow and ice control. Our fleet consists of four dump trucks equipped with snow plows and sander beds, a one-ton pickup truck with a snow plow, a one-ton pickup truck with a sander and a one-ton pickup truck with deicing equipment. In emergency situations, outside contractors and equipment may be used.

The city relies on information such as wind, temperature, humidity, current and projected snow accumulation, and monitors several weather forecasts to determine equipment and methods utilized for storm events. When the weather forecasts a high probability of a snow storm or icy conditions, the street division is mobilized to apply liquid anti-icing chemicals to arterial streets, collector streets and steep hill streets. The amount of accumulation and recurrence of storm events determine if and when plowing and sanding equipment will be called out in accordance with the following priorities: 1) Steep hill streets (Bombing Range Road, Collins Road, S. 45th Ave, Mazzard Ave, and Candy Mountain Ave); 2) Main arterial streets; 3) Collector streets and school zones; and 4) Residential streets.

During severe or prolonged snow storm events, priority 1 and 2 streets may have to be plowed numerous times before moving onto lower priority streets. On occasion the road conditions have become so severe the Police Department has had to close the hill section of Bombing Range. If this occurs, please use Paradise Way, Belmont Blvd., and Keene Road to access Van Giesen.



During minor snow events when temperatures are predicted to be well above freezing, priority 4 residential streets are typically not plowed. When residential streets are plowed, it is inevitable that driveways and sidewalks will be blocked. We're sorry for this inconvenience, but please understand that it cannot be avoided.

Meetings

- Jan. 2 City Council meeting
Library - 7:00 p.m.
- Jan. 3 West Richland Chamber meeting
Sandberg Event Center - Noon
- Jan. 11 Planning Commission meeting
Library - 6:00 p.m.
- Jan. 16 City Council meeting
Library - 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Tree Disposal

Ed's Disposal will pick up your Christmas tree free of charge. Just put it next to your garbage can on your regular garbage day.

City Holiday Closures

City offices will be closed on January 15th in observance of the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Happy New Year! Time to Renew Licenses and Discounts

Dog Licenses: The city requires dog owners to license dogs over 7 months old and within 30 days of acquiring the dog. Dog license renewals are due by February 28, 2018. If you have a current dog license, you will receive a reminder notice early in January. When renewing, you may need to provide a current rabies certification and if applicable, proof of spay or neuter. If the dog is no longer residing at the premise, or it has passed away; please email us at utilities@westrichland.org, call 967-3431 so we can update our records.

Low-Income senior citizen and permanently disabled: For low income senior and permanently disabled renewals, applications must be completed and approved by April 15th to avoid losing the discounted rates. Accounts with an existing discount will continue to receive the discounted rate until the end of the March billing cycle. For details on how to apply, qualifications, and an application, please visit www.westrichland.org/utilities, call 967-3431, or send an email to utilities@westrichland.org.



Meetings Moving to New City Council Chambers

Beginning on Tuesday, February 6, 2018, City Council meetings will be held in the new Council Chambers located in the Municipal Services Facility at 3100 Belmont Blvd (corner of Keene and Belmont).

Meetings will still be broadcast live on Charter Cable Channel 191. The quality of these broadcasts will be much improved due to new audio and visual equipment. The sound quality will also be better for those attending the meetings in person.



Comprehensive Plan Amendment Applications Due January 31st

Amendments to the West Richland Comprehensive Plan are considered on an annual basis. Applications to amend the text or maps of the Comprehensive Plan must be submitted by January 31, 2018, to be considered in the 2018 set of amendments. Application forms are available at City Hall and on the city website (www.westrichland.org).

If you are considering submitting an application, or have questions regarding the Plan, please contact Senior Planner Mike Stevens with the Community Development Department at (509) 967-5902.

Community Garden

Would you like to grow your own vegetables in 2018 but lack ground for growing? The city of West Richland's Community Garden program is currently accepting applications for interested residents. The Community Garden is located at Yellowstone Trail Park on Austin Drive, near the intersection of Bombing Range Road and Van Giesen Street. The city is partnering with WSU Extension Master Gardeners, who are excited to provide community gardeners with free seeds, expert advice, and mentor assistance throughout the 2018 growing season.

The garden was established through a partnership between volunteers and the city, with assistance from many generous local businesses. The garden project was launched by Mayor Brent Gerry as a community project to enhance the Van Giesen Corridor through beautification, volunteerism, and community involvement.

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 2018 season. A Garden Committee will oversee and help manage the garden. The \$10 fee will be waived for those who serve on the Garden Committee. Contact the Planning Department at 509-967-5902 for more information.

Registration forms and garden policies are available online at www.westrichland.org, by phone 509-967-5902, or in person at the Community Development Office, 3801 W. Van Giesen Street.