



West Richland Animal Control

West Richland Animal Control (WRAC) impounded 78 animals in 2017, including 4 cats and 74 dogs. Of those, 49 were reunited with their owners, 21 were adopted or transferred, 4 were deceased upon arrival and 4 were euthanized. Two animals were euthanized due to health considerations and two were dangerous. 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.

West Richland Animal Control holds impounded dogs at their recently upgraded kennels located at the police department. If the dog is not claimed within 24 hours, the animal is transported to Tri-City Animal

Control (TCAC). Impound fees must be paid at the WRPD prior to picking up a dog that has been transported to TCAC.

Cats are impounded on a case by case basis. The city utilizes Benton Franklin Humane Society (BFHS) if a friendly kitten/cat is picked up. West Richland Animal Control tries to have a foster arranged prior to picking up a cat, so the animal will not have to remain at the city's kennels. So far this year, 6 have been transferred to Adopt Shelter Animal Pets (ASAP), 8 to BFHS, 1 to Pet Over Population prevention, and 5 have been brought to the West Richland Animal Control kennels.

The city requires every dog 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 a dog that does not have a current license.

Thank you to all of the volunteers and organizations that assist the city with animal fostering and adoption!



Meetings

- Feb. 6 City Council meeting
New City Council Chambers
3100 Belmont Blvd. - 7:00 p.m.
- Feb. 7 West Richland Chamber meeting
Sandberg Event Center - Noon
- Feb. 8 Planning Commission meeting
Library - 6:00 p.m.
- Feb. 20 City Council meeting
3100 Belmont Blvd. - 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 19th in observance of Presidents' Day.

West Richland Police Citizens Academy

The West Richland Police Department Citizens Academy is a program designed to provide participants a better understanding of the West Richland Police Department and how it functions. Course instruction includes: Patrol Procedures, K-9 Operations and Demo, Gang and Drug Investigations, Use of Force, Firearms; and Tours of the West Richland Police Department, Benton County Jail and Dispatch Center. You will have an opportunity to meet several of the officers and staff that work for the Police Department, as well as individuals from around the Tri-Cities who are involved in the criminal justice field.

The academy is held every Wednesday night, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., from April 11th through June 6th. Attendees must be at least 18 years of age, and live or work in the City of West Richland.

Registration forms will be available online at www.westrichland.org or may be picked up at the West Richland Police Department beginning February 1, 2018. This Citizen's Academy class size is limited and registration is processed on a first come, first serve basis.

If you have questions related to the program, please contact Sergeant Ryan Boyce at 509-967-3425 or email at rboyce@westrichland.org.

City Council Meetings Moved to 3100 Belmont Blvd.

Beginning February 6th, City Council Chambers will be held at the new Municipal Services Facility at 3100 Belmont Blvd. (corner of Keene and Belmont).

Planning Commission, Parks & Recreation Board and Economic Development Board meetings will continue at 3803 Van Giesen Street (Library Building) for a short time. We will provide notice when those meetings are moved to the new facility.



West Richland Lion's Club Open House

The West Richland Lion's Club will host a membership open house at 6:30 p.m. on March 22, 2018 at the Sandberg Event Center, 331 S. 41st Avenue in West Richland (corner of Van Giesen and 41st). Kids are welcome to attend. A dinner will be provided to attendees.

The Lion's Club is looking for new members to help serve the West Richland community, including providing assistance with service programs for those in need and organizing community events such as the Harvest Festival and Summer Concerts. This is a great opportunity for individuals and families to meet new people and volunteer in the community! For more information about the Lion's Club and/or the event, please contact Lion's Club Membership Chair Darrell Toombs at dltjr73@gmail.com.

Allow Extra Time When Mailing Payments or When Using Your Bank Online Bill System

As you probably already know, the United States Postal Service (USPS) consolidated several of its mail processing centers. Locally, mail is sent to Spokane for processing which impacts mail delivery time significantly and can cause customers to be late with their payment. We recommend customers mail their payment at least 15 days before the due date.

When using your bank's online bill pay system, please be aware that although your bank may indicate a specific date that payment has been received by the City, we have found that this isn't always the case. Payments must be received by the City or its agent by the due date to avoid late fees. If you are using your bank's online bill pay system, your bank may actually mail a check to the city. If this is the case, we recommend setting this payment up at least 15 days before the due date to avoid late penalties and to ensure timely receipt of your payment.

The City offers a SmartPay program which allows utility customers to pay their bill automatically each month, then they never have to worry about being late. For SmartPay information and an application, visit www.westrichland.org or contact the finance department at (509) 967-3431 or utilities@westrichland.org.