



Irrigation Water

Columbia Irrigation District (CID) will begin slowly filling their irrigation canals on March 21, 2021 to flush out debris. Assuming CID's canals are fully operational and the majority of the debris has been flushed through, the City's Public Works maintenance crew will begin turning on the City operated irrigation systems, Brotherhood, LuAnne Estates, and Flat Top, on **Monday, April 5, 2021**. During the first couple of weeks the City operated irrigation systems may need to be turned off to make repairs to the system. Please check the City's website at www.westrichland.org or the City's Facebook page, City of West Richland Government, for updated information on the City's irrigation system.



Meetings

- April 6 ----City Council Meeting
3100 Belmont Blvd - 6:00 p.m.
- April 15----Planning Commission Meeting
3100 Belmont Blvd - 6:00 p.m.
- April 20----City Council Meeting
3100 Belmont Blvd - 6:00 p.m.

*Meetings are held virtually via Zoom until Benton County enters a Phase of the Governor's Roadway to Recovery plan that allows in-person public meetings. More information can be found at: www.westrichland.org.

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.



Cancelled - Earth Day Cleanup Event

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the City has CANCELLED our annual Earth Day Event for 2021. We look forward to Earth Day 2022!

Field Reservations

The City is now accepting field reservation applications for the Bombing Range Sports Complex. There are important changes in 2021 that should be noted:

1. The applications now need to be signed by the Chair or Vice Chair of the organization reserving the field. Please provide documentation of your league's organizational structure showing who is Chair or Vice Chair.
2. Number 11 of the rules pertains to COVID protocols and the phasing of our region. We ask that you adhere to the Governor's orders and follow all guidelines as outlined. Also be aware if changes are made to our region we will follow those guidelines.

Please remember that we have a no refund policy on field reservations. Please request your application by emailing parks@westrichland.org.

April
15th



Fireworks

The July 4th holiday is only a few months away so the City of West Richland and the Police Department would like to provide an update on laws regarding fireworks for the year 2021.

What has changed?

WRMC 8.22.030, section (H) has been added and is effective this year. This new section reads as follows:

It is unlawful for any person to discharge fireworks on the property of another without a proof of permission of the owner of such property. Any rights-of-way adjacent to the owner's property is considered the owner's property for the purposes of this section.

So how does this affect me?

1. Increased fire prevention to our city. In the past, people from outside the city would find vacant lots, homes, driveways or roads in the City of West Richland to discharge their fireworks. This led to increased fire hazards and incidents of criminal negligence that could not be investigated properly.

2. Less litter for the city to clean up. Residents who use/discharge fireworks are responsible and clean up after themselves post event, this was not necessarily the case with non-residents.

3. Accountability and personal safety. Visitors from other locations will need to have proof of permission from the property owner to discharge fireworks from said property. Fireworks have a potential to cause property damage and injuries. Visitors or guest with permission ensures proper supervision is present for those underage helps reduce the potential for accidents or misuse.

How can I show proof of permission?

1. Providing guest with contact information, such as a phone number, so police can call and verify the permission granted.

2. A signed letter from the owner, again with *contact information.

**It is understood that not everyone is near a phone and other forms of contact may need to be used. Try to use the most efficient, quickest means of communication should police need to find out if the visitors have permission. This helps reduce the time necessary to conclude an investigation and everyone can go back to having a good time.*

What else can I do to prevent unwanted visitors?

You can post a sign in your yard or talk to your neighbors. Both of these work if you are gone.

WRMC 8.22.060, section (A) had been amended and now reads as follows:

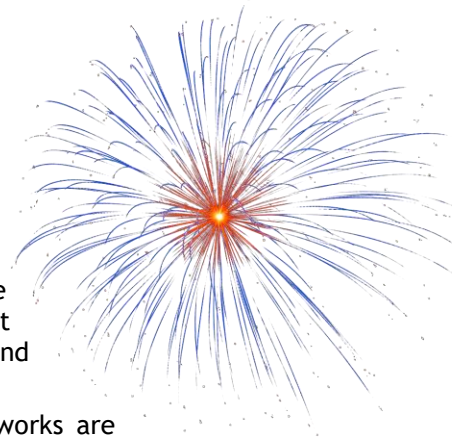
No person under the age of 18 shall be employed by the permittee in connection with the retail sale of fireworks except that persons ages 16 to 17 may be employed by the permittee with on-site adult supervision.

Why was this changed? This was to come into compliance with state law.

All other City Ordinances regarding fireworks remain the same and are still in effect. Additional information may be found at:

<https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/WestRichland/#!/WestRichland08/WestRichland0822.html#8.22>

As July 4th approaches, the West Richland Police Department will continue to provide information regarding safety tips and municipal codes for fireworks.



Spring Means Yard Cleanup Time!

Spring is here and with it comes the opportunity to clean up weeds, junk and debris. Property maintenance requires extra time and effort to make your property look nice, but it is quite rewarding. There are some things that are often overlooked. One is the easement attached to your property, (i.e., next to streets, sidewalks, alleyways, or just on the other side of your fence.) These areas are to be maintained by the property owner by keeping them free of trash, debris, unsightly nuisances, and weeds (or trimmed to six inches or less) per West Richland Municipal Code (WRMC) 8.16.030.

Another common issue is irrigation sprinklers going over sidewalks or roadways. Sprinkler heads need to be adjusted or blocked to keep the water on the intended property per WRMC 8.16.030.

Community Garden

There are a few spots still available for garden plots at the Community Garden at Yellowstone Trail Park.

The fee to reserve a garden plot is \$10 for the 2021 season.

Registration forms and garden policies are available at www.westrichland.org or call 967-5902.