



[www.westrichland.org](http://www.westrichland.org)

### Upcoming City Meetings:

**October 4**

**City Council Meeting**  
3100 Belmont Blvd  
6:00 p.m.

**October 13**

**Planning Commission Meeting**  
3100 Belmont Blvd  
6:00 p.m.

**October 18**

**City Council Meeting**  
3100 Belmont Blvd  
6:00 p.m.

**October 31**

**Parks Board Meeting**  
3100 Belmont Blvd  
6:00 p.m.

*Additional meeting information can be found at: [www.westrichland.org](http://www.westrichland.org).*



## Irrigation Water Turn-Off Date

The City's Brotherhood, Luanne Estates and Flat Top Irrigation Systems will be turned off for the season the week of October 13<sup>th</sup>.

Stay tuned to the City's Facebook page and website for updated information.



## Remember to Vote! Ballots due November 8th

West Richland has two 24-hour secure ballot drop boxes within City Limits, one located next to the West Richland Library at 3803 W. Van Giesen Street and one at the Municipal Services Facility, 3100 Belmont Blvd, available until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. Both of these boxes are drive-up boxes, meaning you shouldn't have to get out of your car to deposit your ballot. For more information on the election and the candidates that appear on your ballot, log on to [www.bentonelections.com](http://www.bentonelections.com)

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City of West Richland

## Garbage Utility Rate Increase

In July, the city received a request from Ed's Disposal to adjust rates due to increased costs of operations and fuel. On September 6, 2022, City Council authorized two increases to Solid Waste Collection rates.

The first is a rate adjustment due to increased fuel costs and will take effect on October 22, 2022. The second increase is tied to the Comprehensive Solid Waste Agreement, which allows Ed's Disposal to increase their service charges once per year based on the Consumer Price Index. This rate adjustment will take effect on December 22, 2022.

A letter was sent to all utility customers in early September that included the new rates. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (509) 967-3431 or by email to [utilities@westrichland.org](mailto:utilities@westrichland.org).



## Code Red – Emergency Alerts

Emergency Management Agencies of Benton and Franklin Counties have begun using 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.



## Did You Know?

The West Richland Municipal Code is updated regularly by the passage of ordinances. Ordinances are adopted by the City Council during City Council Meetings, and after adoption, are published in the Tri-City Herald, as well as posted on the City's website.

Shortly after the ordinance is effective, the City's online Municipal Code is updated with the change. You can access the online Municipal Code on the City's website at [westrichland.org](http://westrichland.org).

## Southeast Communications Center Launches Text to 911

**Text to 9-1-1** is now available in Benton and Franklin Counties through the Southeast Communications Center (SECOMM). Callers in the area will be able to send a text message to 9-1-1 in an emergency. This service will officially launch to citizens on September 11, 2022.

**Text to 9-1-1** provides another method of contact for the deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired persons. In addition, it will assist those who are concerned about alerting others they are calling 9-1-1 such as in a home invasion, when in close proximity to an abusive partner, or if the caller is in a location where cell phone coverage is unreliable. While **Text to 9-1-1** is available, the preferred method for those who can speak, is to call.

If you do need to text 9-1-1, enter the location and type of the emergency, keep text messages brief, refrain from using emojis, slang, or special characters, and stay with your phone to follow instructions from dispatchers.

"**Text to 9-1-1** is a capability that has been encouraged by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and has been implemented successfully in other regions in Washington State," states Assistant City Manager, Drew Florence. "There are several components to successfully implementing this important resource and we appreciate all of our partner agencies, wireless carriers, and SECOMM staff who have made it possible for our community."

Remember, **Text to 9-1-1** is now available - call if you can, text if you can't.

