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Are you a landlord or property manager with rental properties?

Recent modifications to the City's utility service application will now require your tenants to bring a copy of their lease or rental agreement when they sign up for service. These agreements must show all adult tenants or lessees and be signed by the property owner or property management company.

To best serve you and your tenants, please be sure to have your tenants sign-up for service at least 2 business days before their move in date. Tenants who are moving out, must also submit a discontinue service form prior to their actual move out date. This insures that a final read is processed for the closing bill. Once the closing bill is generated the account will automatically transfer back into the owner's name as an active account. Both forms are available on our website or at City Hall.



South 38th Avenue Overlay Project

South 38th Avenue will be overlaid from Van Giesen to Grant Street in August and September. Improvements will also be made to pedestrian facilities.

There will be times of traffic control and possible detours during paving operations. We appreciate your patience during this time.

For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 967-5434.



Meetings

- Aug. 6 City Council meeting canceled for National Night Out
- Aug. 7 West Richland Chamber meeting Sandberg Event Center - Noon
- Aug. 8 Planning Commission meeting Library - 6:00 PM
- Aug. 12 Economic Development Board mtg Canceled
- Aug. 20 City Council meeting Library - 7:00 PM
- Aug. 26 Park Board meeting Library - 6:30 PM

Events

- Aug. 6 National Night Out Flat Top Park 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Mark Your Calendar

- Sept. 21 Harvest Festival & Unboat Rally
- Sept. 28 & 29 A Time of Remembrance

Fourth of July Holiday Update from Police Chief McElroy



July 4th has once again come and gone in the City of West Richland. As most of our residents are aware, the City of West Richland fireworks ordinance allows the use of aerial fireworks, in accordance with Washington State law. The City of West Richland has made an effort over the past several years to curtail the unrestrained

display of fireworks by some of our residents by narrowing the days of the year when discharge of fireworks is legal.

Effective this July 4th fireworks season was a reduction in the number of days when it was legal to discharge fireworks. The lawful dates for 2013 were July 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, and December 31st. In addition, the number of hours lawful for discharge was reduced. The lawful hours are now 6:00 p.m. to 11 p.m. except July 4th which is 6 p.m. to midnight. We at the police department feel this change in hours and days of lawful discharge helped reduce the number of complaints due to fireworks.

Often times, city staff is asked about the number of fireworks related incidents in the City of West Richland. The number of complaints received in 2013 was 48 complaints for 36 separate incidents. This appears to be fewer complaints than previous years and is confined to fewer days. In addition there appears to be fewer fire and EMS responses during this same period of time. According to Benton County Fire District Number #4 the total calls for the period of June 28th through July 6th is 61 calls. These dates are the legal dates for discharge of fireworks according to Washington State law. Of those calls, 43% were outside of the city limits of West Richland. Within the City of West Richland, there were a total of 18 calls. Of these calls 14 were EMS incidents and none related to fireworks. The four remaining calls were fires. Three of these were fireworks related with only two being in the City of West Richland.

Overall the feedback I have received from the public has been positive regarding the 2013 fireworks season. The fireworks displays were large in some neighborhoods, but it appears that precautions were taken to a greater extent than in years past. The future of fireworks in the City of West Richland will likely remain the same. There are currently no plans to change the fireworks laws within the City of West Richland. The emphasis for law enforcement will remain on compliance with the West Richland municipal code. Future efforts will also include continued education and information regarding fireworks safety. The West Richland Police Department will also continue working with Benton County Fire District #4 on prevention efforts and enforcement.

Did You Know...

City Council passed an ordinance prohibiting parking on Butte Court (east side/Yakima River frontage) beginning 300 feet east of the intersection of Butte Court and South 38th Avenue south a distance of 465 feet along the Yakima River frontage to the end of the roadway.

The ordinance also restricts parking on Butte Court (west side), from end of roadway north a distance of 140 feet, to front in parking only. It also prohibits vehicles from utilizing more than one space.

The purpose for this ordinance amendment was to mitigate impacts to the residents on Butte Court from those accessing and departing the river from that area.

RV Dump Station

There is a free RV dump station on 35th Avenue (north end in the cul-de-sac next to the Yakima River Bridge). You can access it via South 38th Avenue and Everett Street. The station is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

New Police Officers

Welcome to the City's new police officers, Drew Hendrickson, Cruz Garcia, and Justin DeRosier.