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## City Receives Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) established the Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program to encourage and assist state and local governments to prepare budget documents of the very highest quality that reflect both the guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting and the GFOA's best practices on budgeting, and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal.

Documents submitted to the budget awards program are reviewed by selected members of the GFOA professional staff and by outside reviewers with experience in public-sector budgeting.

The City of West Richland received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its 2013-2014 Biennial Budget.

## REMEMBER TO VOTE!



Your ballot must be returned by Election Day, November 5th. If you are returning your ballot by mail, your ballot requires postage. There is a ballot drop box located outside of the West Richland City Administration office that requires no postage. It is open until 8:00 p.m. on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Holiday Garbage Pickup

Ed's Disposal works on all holidays, including Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4<sup>th</sup>, and Labor Day. If your collection day falls on a holiday please set out your garbage the night before, or by no later than 6:00 a.m. on your collection day.

## Meetings

- Nov. 5 City Council meeting  
Library - 7:00 PM
- Nov. 6 West Richland Chamber meeting  
Sandberg Event Center - Noon
- Nov. 11 Economic Development Board mtg.  
Canceled
- Nov. 14 Planning Commission meeting  
Library - 6:00 PM
- Nov. 19 City Council meeting  
Library - 7:00 PM
- Nov. 25 Park Board meeting  
Library - 6:30 PM

- Nov. 5 Election Day
- Nov. 9 Veterans Day Parade  
9:30 a.m., Van Giesen Street
- Nov. 11 Veterans Day  
Thank a Veteran!
- Nov. 28 Happy Thanksgiving

*City offices will be closed on Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> in observance of Veterans Day, and Thursday and Friday, November 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving holiday.*



## Veterans Day Parade Saturday, November 9th

The West Richland Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to continue to honor our Veterans with the Regional Veterans Day Parade on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.

The parade begins at the intersection of West Van Giesen and Grosscup, traveling through downtown and finishing at West Van Giesen and 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

### Van Giesen Street Closures - November 9th

Van Giesen Street will be closed for a few hours on November 9th during the Veterans Day Parade. Road closures are as follows:

- 62<sup>nd</sup> to Grosscup 7:00 AM - 11:00 AM
- 38<sup>th</sup> to Grosscup from 9:30 AM to approximately 11:00 AM

### Credit Card Merchant Services Changing November 1st



The City has partnered with Retail Lockbox Merchant Services as our credit card vendor. Customers using credit cards will still be able to make payment online or at City Hall but will now be charged a fee for this convenience. Fees vary based on the amount of your payment. The City will continue to accept Visa and MasterCard but American Express will no longer be accepted.

All credit card fees are paid directly to our credit card merchant. The City does not receive any portion of these fees. The benefit is not having to pay the credit card acceptance fees as a part of doing business. The 78% of our customers who do not pay by credit card benefit by not having this additional cost passed on to them in the form of increased utility rates or increased service charges.

The change in merchant providers also brings some exciting changes to our online payment system. You will now be able to schedule reoccurring or one-time payments using your credit card or e-check. You will also be able to sign up for paperless billing and view up to six bills. Customers who create an online account will receive electronic notification when your bill is ready. Even if you don't use the online payment system to make payment you can still receive notifications and view bill history.

Utility customers who prefer to avoid credit card fees can save money and time by signing up for Direct Debit auto pay. Direct Debit payments are processed automatically on either the 10th or 25th and you never have to worry about late fees. Contact our office or visit our website to learn more about Direct Debit auto pay.

### Did You Know?

West Richland Municipal Code 8.04.070, "Refuse - Points of collection," states:

The placement of refuse cans shall be on the day designated for collection by the collector and 12 hours immediately before said day of collection and the 12 hours immediately following the day designated for collection. *On all other days the refuse cans shall be removed from the street right-of-way.* The area from which the refuse can is removed shall be maintained free and clear of refuse and garbage.

### Red Cross City Blood Challenge

West Richland participated in the Red Cross City Blood Challenge 2013 and coordinated a drive on September 26th in the Library.

There were 14 employees and 9 community members who registered and the result was 17 units collected, which will potentially help 51 patients in need.

According to the Red Cross, more than 44,000 blood donations are needed on any given day, and a new person needs blood about every two seconds. One donation can save the lives of up to three people.

We hope to continue our support of the American Red Cross in the future. To find other blood drive opportunities, visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)