



## Keep Your Pets Safe in the Heat

Summer months can be uncomfortable, even dangerous for pets. The following are tips for keeping them healthy and comfortable.

**Never leave pets in a parked car:** Not even for a minute. On a warm day, temperatures inside a vehicle can rise rapidly to dangerous levels. On an 85-degree day, the temperature inside a car with the windows opened slightly can reach 102 degrees within 10 minutes. After 30 minutes, the temperature will reach 120 degrees. Your pet may suffer irreversible organ damage or die.

**Limit exercise on hot days:** Take care when exercising your pet. Adjust intensity and duration of exercise in accordance with the temperature. On very hot days, limit exercise to early morning or evening hours, and be especially careful with pets with white-colored ears, who are more susceptible to skin cancer, and short-nosed pets, who typically have difficulty breathing. Asphalt gets very hot and can burn your pet's paws, so walk your dog on the grass if possible. Always carry water with you to keep your dog from dehydrating.

**Don't rely on a fan:** Pets respond differently to heat than humans do. (Dogs, for instance, sweat primarily through their feet.) And fans don't cool off pets as effectively as people.

**Provide ample shade and water:** Any time your pet is outside, make sure he or she has protection from heat and sun and plenty of fresh, cold water. In heat waves, add ice to the water when possible. Tree shade and tarps are ideal because they don't obstruct air flow. A doghouse does not provide relief from heat—in fact, it makes it worse.

**Watch for signs of heatstroke:** Signs of heatstroke are heavy panting, glazed eyes, rapid heartbeat, difficulty breathing, excessive thirst, lethargy, fever, dizziness, lack of coordination, profuse salivation, vomiting, a deep red or purple tongue, seizure, and unconsciousness. If you see any of these signs, move your pet into shade or an air-conditioned area. Apply ice packs or cold towels to the head, neck, and chest or run cool (not cold) water over your pet. Let your pet drink small amounts of cool water or lick ice cubes. Take them directly to a veterinarian for treatment.

## Meetings

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| Aug 4  | City Council meeting is canceled for National Night Out       |
| Aug 5  | West Richland Chamber meeting<br>Sandberg Event Center - Noon |
| Aug 13 | Planning Commission meeting<br>Library - 6:00 PM              |
| Aug 18 | City Council meeting<br>Library - 7:00 PM                     |
| Aug 31 | Park Board meeting<br>Library - 6:30 PM                       |

## National Night Out August 4<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM Flat Top Park

On Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, neighborhoods throughout West Richland are invited to join forces with thousands of communities nationwide for the 31<sup>st</sup> annual National Night Out (NNO) crime and drug prevention event.

Join your neighbors and officers from the West Richland Police Department for an evening of community fun! Visit with police officers, play games, and enjoy hamburgers and hot dogs as you learn about crime prevention.

## Public Works Project Updates

**LED Street Light Retro-fit Project:** At the end of May, the City began retrofitting the existing street lights with LED lights. The majority of the City lights have been replaced. The remainder will be completed when we receive our shipment of additional lights. When the entire system is installed and fully operational the City will be looking at dimming strategies for additional energy savings and will establish a dimming policy. The City will not dim individual lights simply on a request of a resident but will dim lights based on traffic/pedestrian volumes and roadway classifications. This process may take several months before a policy is fully implemented. The new LED street light system will generate approximately \$65,000 annually in energy savings. It will also provide cleaner and safer lighting.

**2015 Pavement Preservation Project:** In August, Bombing Range Road between Van Giesen and Keene Road, Keene Road between Bombing Range Road and Kennedy Road, and Kennedy Road between Fire Mountain Road and Bombing Range Road will be treated with an asphalt rubber chip seal and coated with a fog seal. Drivers can expect temporary traffic delays, possible road closures with detours, and night work, as well as some loose rock on the roadway. The asphalt rubber chip seal process greatly reduces the amount of loose rock compared to typical chip seals. The loose rock is swept up the same day as the application and followed by a fog seal to further bind the rock to the roadway. Please pay close attention to traffic control signs and construction personnel and abide by posted construction speeds.



Information on all Public Works projects can be found on the City website at [www.westrichland.org](http://www.westrichland.org).

## Be Part of Your Local Government



The City of West Richland is seeking volunteers to serve on City boards and commissions. Citizens who serve on boards and commissions help to enhance diversity and ensure quality services to meet the needs of our growing city. Appointments to boards and commissions are made by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council.

The City currently has vacancies on the Planning Commission, Park Board, and Economic Development Board.

More specific information on boards and commissions, including meeting schedules, eligibility, and application forms, can be found at: [www.westrichland.org/BoardsandCommissions.cfm](http://www.westrichland.org/BoardsandCommissions.cfm).

## Be In-The-Know!

Did you know the following information is at your fingertips?

- Up-to-date utility rate information
- The many different utility payment options available to you, including on-line bill pay and smart pay.
- What to do if you think your water consumption is too high
- What kind of garbage can be picked up at the curb along with your trash cans
- How to request an additional garbage can
- Cross connection testing information
- Senior discounts
- Temporary water disconnections
- Level payment program
- What happens if you are late on your utility payment
- Forms to be filled out for the various utility service changes

All of this and more can be found at [westrichland.org/Departments/Utilities](http://westrichland.org/Departments/Utilities)

## Why Wait in Line?

There is a new computer kiosk in the lobby at City Hall. Customers who come in to pay their bill with a credit or debit card can now use the payment kiosk instead of waiting in line for a cashier.