



Quick Fact:

City Water Usage

January 2018

13,396,000

January 2017

2,034,000

YTD 2018

13,396,000

Total 2017

502,241,000

Your City Representatives

Mayor

Harvey Crowder

Council Members

Jerry Bobbitt
Michael Cleveland
Marge Nyhagen
Loren Peterson
Melodie Selby
Heather Schermann
Larry Dickerson

City Administrator

Mike Rizzitiello

625 S. College Ave
509.529.1200

City News

Note from the City Administrator

I hope everyone has had a good Winter. Spring is almost here. Thanks to everyone who has participated in the Comprehensive Plan/Parks Master Plan Open House and Surveys. The planning work will set the course of our City for the next twenty years, so it is very important to stay involved. As the project progresses we will post additional material on the city website (cpwa.us) and have several Planning Commission meetings. Thanks to the State Capital Budget passing, we are now working on the engineering for replacing two of our drinking water system wells. In about a month we will put out a request for bids for our 4th & Academy Way project. Thanks in large part to a grant from the State, we are rehabbing 4th from Davis to Academy and Academy Way from 4th to Whitman. The City is also planning for a chip seal street program this year for some city streets.

The City is monitoring the recycling market situation. As stated in a memo included in this newsletter from Basin Disposal, the price point has gone from \$10 to \$-92 per ton due to the Chinese government tightening up quality requirements on materials. Should requirements get too tight, there is a threat that the recycling company Basin Disposal sends materials to could end up sending some material to a landfill. If we get notice that this will happen I would suspect the City would suspend the curbside recycling program until true recycling once again occurs. We are monitoring the price per ton as well, and report quarterly to City Council. Recycling is currently a volatile market.

The City uses a paperless agenda packet program called BoardDocs for City Council and Advisory Boards and Commissions. If you want to see what is on the agenda for the various meetings, please visit this link: <https://www.boarddocs.com/wa/cocp/Board.nsf/Public> Meeting information is also shared over our social media pages.

The City through its Economic Development and Events Commission is planning community events once again for the 2018 season. Our first event will be a Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 28th at 11 AM. The Farmers Market is coming back as well and will once again be held on Thursdays, from May 31st to September 27th from 4 to 7 PM in the City Hall parking lot. Folks interested in vending at the event can fill out a form and submit payment to City Hall. It is \$50 for the entire season if signed up and paid for before April 30th, or \$20 to vend for one date. Please stay up to date on community events by visiting this webpage:

<http://cpwa.us/residents/events/index.php>

Walla Walla Valley Chamber Business Awards Showcase

“There is nothing permanent except change...” (Heraclitus, circa 500 B.C.)

If you’ve been following along, you’ve noticed that we’ve done a few things differently here at the Chamber recently. Well, we’re not done tweaking. Consistent with our efforts to fine-tune our energy and focus toward business and economic development, we are moving our Chamber Business Awards Showcase (held in the Fall for the past several years) to the Spring, in conjunction with our Annual Business Summit. This will be a great dual event; a day of learning, followed by an opportunity to recognize businesses in the Valley that are doing great things! It’s a natural fit.

The Business Awards Showcase is our opportunity, as a community, to honor businesses doing great things in the Valley. We are accepting nominations in the following categories. So if you know of businesses, or entrepreneurs, that you think should be recognized for their contribution to the success of our business community, please let us know! Here are the categories. There are some new ones this year!

Start-up Business of the Year Award

Start-up company in business less than three years that shares a commitment to professional excellence, business growth and the community.

Business of the Year Award

A company in business three plus years that shares a commitment to professional excellence, business growth and the community.

Duane Wollmuth Catalyst Award

The Duane Wollmuth Catalyst Award honors an individual, business or organization that initiates positive change and motivates groups and individuals to move the Walla Walla Valley forward.

Agribusiness of the Year Award

A person, business or organization that has been instrumental to the success and excellence of agriculture in Walla Walla Valley, either as a farmer or in an agriculturally related field.

Not-For-Profit Organization of the Year Award

The Not-For-Profit of the Year Award recognizes successful and impactful philanthropic efforts that bring significant benefit to the Walla Walla Valley and/or its residents.

Workforce Development Award

Business committed to strengthening our community's *workforce* by providing access to a system of employment and education services. Activities include: internships, job shadowing, mentorship, guest speakers, workplace visits, career talks, education programs.

Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award

A local businessperson 21 years of age and younger who has displayed the necessary drive and determination to make their business a success.

If you would like to nominate a local business or business person for one of these awards, please visit our website (www.chamber.com) or give us a call (509-525-0850). And please don't be shy. We need your help to recognize our local business champions!



Cheris Current Receives WWU Community Service Award

Cheris Current, Walla Walla University professor of social work and sociology, received the 2017 WWU Community Service Award at the 135th Annual Walla Walla Valley Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet in December. Current has served as a member of the Junior Club of Walla Walla, on the SonBridge Advisory Board, and on the Blue Mountain Action Council. She has worked for Habitat for Humanity as Vice President and as coordinator of WWU student volunteers. She has also coordinated and taught a naturalization preparation class at SonBridge for immigrants to the Walla Walla Valley. Current has taught in the WWU School of Social Work and Sociology since 2007. She teaches classes on subjects such as the historical development of social welfare, privilege and oppression, immigration and identity, and human behavior. She is currently Chair of the faculty at WWU. Current has a bachelor's degree in history from Southern University, and a master's degree and doctorate in American studies from Washington State University. Much of her professional focus is on culture, race, gender, social policy, and justice issues. She is a devoted advocate for groups of disadvantaged people.

Note From Basin Disposal



Quarterly Price Adjustments

Last year, on November 28th, 2017, the College Place city council, in open session, voted to allow the price for curbside recycling to be adjusted on a quarterly basis. In a normal year, the price received from the recycle material collected exceeds the expense to process the recycled goods, which helps keep the monthly collection fee down.

When the price for the material and the processing expense behave normally, then the monthly collection rates are adjusted once a year and rates stay relatively level.

Recently the cost of processing recycling material has increased dramatically and it has become necessary to adjust pricing on a more frequent basis to reflect these increased processing costs. This change will allow revenue from the recycling program to adequately cover the costs associated with recycling.

The component of the curbside recycling being adjusted is the cost that is actually required to process the recycling materials collected. There is no adjustment to the service component of recycling.

Recycling costs for January, February, and March 2018 will reflect on the April 1, 2018 invoice and will be shown as RES_RECYCLE_COMMOD-EXPENSE. Similar charges will be shown on the July 2018, October 2018, and January 2019 invoices.

Basin Disposal is diligently tracking the cost of recycling this material and the adjusted curbside recycle price is meant to compensate for this rising cost, not to increase profits. If the market price for recycled materials goes down then the adjusted bill amount will also decrease.

Continuance of the Curbside Recycle Collection Program

Due to rapidly rising costs in the recycling commodity market, the cost to recycle materials currently being collected has increased.

The material we place in the cart for pickup is collected by the recycling truck locally, then is shipped to a regional facility for processing. Once the different recycle materials are separated into their component commodities (plastic, cardboard, newsprint, etc.), these commodities are sold to manufacturers who reuse these commodities to make new products and packaging.

Several years ago the price paid by manufacturers for the recycled material was steady and the demand for recycled commodities was relatively high, though the quality of the recycled commodities was relatively low due to contamination (such as food waste in with the cardboard). Recently, a new program that was implemented by the Chinese government has forced recycling facilities to dramatically increase the quality of their commodity products, or Chinese manufactures would stop buying recycled commodities. This change in policy from the Chinese government has dramatically reduced the demand for Residential mix recycled products.

This abrupt change in quality standards has reduced the net return for our recycled material (Commodity sale price minus processing and transportation costs) from \$10.00 per ton in July, 2017 to \$-92.00 per ton in February, 2018. This means that instead of receiving \$10.00 per ton for our recycled material, we have to pay \$92.00 per ton for the recycling processor to take our recycled material.

As a result of this significant disruption in demand, it is anticipated that some quantity of the material collected for recycling may be added to landfills because there are not enough customers for the material. This has not happened at this point, but it is important that we inform you of this possibility.

In the near future, the College Place City Council will discuss how to handle the possibility of there being no market for recyclable materials.

One possible outcome would be that the Curbside Recycling Program in College Place would be terminated. Since putting recycled materials in landfills is not the intended purpose of the Curbside Recycling Program, and it runs counter to the intentions of those who recycle, it may be that we need to cease collection of material that cannot be

recycled. Please note that neither Basin Disposal, nor the City of College Place would purposefully dispose of recycled materials.

The materials collected are shipped to a regional processing center, and it is there that the current marketability is determined. If, at some future date, the market for this material disappears, it will be that processor who will be forced to dispose of the material. We will continue to communicate with you as market conditions change over the next few months.

Note on Residential Unlimited Collection

Please be aware that with unlimited collection comes some requests from Basin Disposal. When leaving garbage or yard waste (tree limbs, grass clippings, etc.) curbside for collection, please ensure the waste is either in your collection cart, or is placed in a bag, box, or is bundled together in a manner that our collector can easily place in a bin to tip into a collection truck. Each bag, box or bundle must not exceed 65 lbs. If you have larger items to dispose of, please call (509)525-1711 or (509)547-2476 to coordinate a pickup with the appropriate vehicle.

*HOW TO STORE
BAGGED, BOXED,
& BUNDLED WASTE*

MAXIMUM OF:

- 32 Gallons
- 2' x 2' x 5'
- 65 lbs.



Price Adjustment

In your April 1st invoice you will see a slight pricing adjustment of \$0.47 on a 96 gallon residential cart. This is a result of a 5.3% increase in disposal fees at City of Walla Walla - Sudbury Landfill.

Thank you,
Basin Disposal

BASIN
disposal

Community Calendar



Mar 2nd at 8 AM – Park, Abor, and Recreation Board

Mar 6th at 5:30 PM – City Council Workshop

Mar 13th & 27th at 7 PM – City Council

Mar 15th at 4 PM – Historic Preservation Commission

Mar 19th at 5 PM – Economic Development, Tourism, and Events Commission

Mar 20th at 7 PM – Planning Commission

Mar 23th at 8 AM – Park, Abor, and Recreation Board

Mar 26th at 4:30 PM – Youth Advisory Commission

Mar 27th at 6 PM – State of the City Address

Unless specified all events are at
City Hall— 625 S. College Ave

Rogers Adventist School New Parent Dinner/Info Night

Interested in checking out Rogers Adventist School
for your child's education?

Join teachers and administration for a school tour, delicious complimentary meal, and important information about RAS curriculum and community on

March 1st at 6pm.

Teachers will be on hand to answer specific questions about their classrooms.

Childcare available.

RSVP to
cindy.mccrery@rschool.org

