

COLLEGE PLACE IN REVIEW

Your City Representatives

Mayor

Rick Newby

Council Members

Larry Dickerson
David Beamer
William Jenkins
Marge Nyhagen
Steve Dickerson
Bernard Yanke
Alexander Scott

City Administrator

Patrick H. Reay

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QUICK FACT:

City Water Usage
November 11
16,386,000
November 10
17,114,000
YTD 2011
368,040,000
Total 2010
384,805,000

Sewer Utility Rate Increase Scheduled

The January 2012 utility bill will have a \$2.00 per month (per unit) increase for sewer services. This increase was approved by the City Council on November 14, 2011 at the request of the administration.

With regard to the sewer utility's history of rate increases, the last increase was on 1/1/2007 when the rate was increased by \$4.00 per month. Five years later, the city is increasing the rate by \$2.00 (5%) in order to maintain the fund's financial integrity and an adequate cash flow to operate. This change is vital to the financial well being and operation of the sewer utility.

The administration and City Council did not just increase the rate without due consideration of the impact on the residents of our community. In fact, half of the increase needed to meet the needs of the utility was taken from the utility's debt service fund's collections. The debt service requirement has declined slightly, therefore it was felt that some of these collections each month could be used for the operation and maintenance costs of the utility. This change cut the rate increase that was needed in half for the residents.

An annual rate study has been requested by the City Council which will be conducted by the administration in 2012. This study will be used to determine a plan of implementing utility rate changes if required in the future. It is the desire of the administration and City Council to ensure residents that the city utilities are maintained in good working order and that rates are only increased when needed to maintain that stability.

Comprehensive Plan Amendments

The City of College Place is accepting applications for Comprehensive Plan Amendments for 2012. Applications may include land use map and text amendments. All applicants are required to show cause as to why their proposed change should be made. Plan Amendment Applications may be obtained from the City of College Place Community Development Department, 625 S. College Ave., College Place, WA 99324, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Fridays. Applications will be accepted through January 31, 2012. For questions or additional information, please contact the Community Development Department at 509-525-0510.

Snow and Ice Control

We all know how unpredictable our weather can be. We have experienced winters with no snow accumulation to winters with over 36 inches of measurable snow. With 40 miles of streets, the City strives to provide an acceptable level of snow and ice control.

Normal Snow and Ice Conditions

Plows remove snow from the travel lane when snow depth and estimated accumulation indicate the need to plow. Our fleet of snow fighting equipment consists of a grader, salter, sander and two backhoes which are readied and manned by our crew of trained equipment operators by October 31 each year.

The City's present snow control policy establishes the degree of snow control to be used on the streets with the following priority:

First Priority: All major arterial streets and arterial intersections considered to be the minimum network which must be kept open to provide a transportation system connecting hospitals, fire stations, police stations and emergency medical services.

College Avenue, SE 12th Street, NE Rose Street, Lamperti Street, SE Meadowbrook Boulevard, Taumarson Road, Whitman Drive, Larch Avenue, 4th Street and "C" Street.

Second Priority: Intersections, topographical difficult streets, and those streets serving public/private schools.

Third Priority: Residential streets.

Emergency Snow Conditions

When winter weather conditions are severe, the City Administrator may declare a snow emergency. Factors such as wind, temperature, current and projected snow accumulations influence this decision. Newspapers and local radio and TV stations are immediately informed in an effort to alert the public.

Equipment operators may work in shifts for a 24 hour per day operation and appreciate courteous and friendly drivers and pedestrians. Please help them help you!

Citizen Responsibilities and Tips:

Snow can be beautiful, but it can also create hazards. When residents fail to clear their sidewalks, the results can be a treacherous ice patch. We need your help in protecting pedestrians from possible injury.

Residents are responsible to maintain the sidewalks adjacent to their property, if your sidewalk is icy, you may correct the hazard by applying a heavy coat of sand.

- Give plenty of room to snow plows and sanders. These vehicles frequently stop, turn, and back-up.
- Park cars off the street where possible to avoid being plowed in. This also allows the plow to place the snow next to the curb.
- Keep the sidewalks in front of your home free from snow and ice.
- Please pile the snow on your yard, not in the street.
- Shovel snow to the right hand side of driveway when facing the street. This will reduce snow being plowed back into your driveway.
- Clear the entrance to your driveway after the snow plow has plowed your street.
- Keep a clear path to your mail box.
- Please help your neighbor(s) with snow removal from their driveway and sidewalk. Your kindness will be greatly appreciated.
- Some local organizations have volunteers who are willing to assist the elderly or handicapped with snow removal.

Common Questions about Snow Control

Can't the City remove the snow they put in my driveway and sidewalk?

When you consider the large number of driveways and amount of sidewalks in the City, it is too costly and time consuming to use additional people and equipment to perform this service. Our primary duty is to open and keep open the main roadway system.

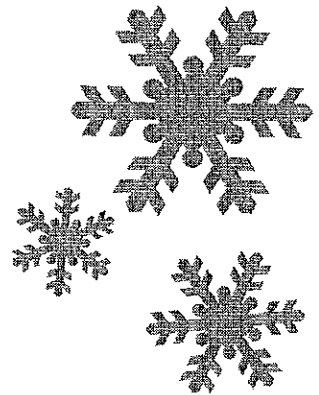
Can I park my car on the street?

Sure, but to help our operators perform their plowing duties in a safe and efficient manner; we ask that residents park elsewhere when snow begins to accumulate. Vehicles will only be towed when a snow emergency is declared on those designated streets where parking is normally allowed.

Having to maneuver a snowplow in and out between parked vehicles is not only dangerous, but also nerve-wracking for our drivers. We cannot do an efficient job with parked vehicles on the street. Also, your car may get blocked in by a snow bank.

Why are residential streets seldom plowed?

With over 40 miles of streets to maintain, limited equipment and staff, it is usually not possible to plow all of the streets. *We make every effort to get to lower priority streets when conditions allow.*



City of College Place
625 S. College Ave.
College Place, WA 99324

Phone Numbers:

City Hall— 529-1200
 Court— Ext. 16
 Utilities— Ext. 11
 Building/Planning/Public
 Works/Engineering—
 525-0510
 Fire Dept.— 529-6506
 Police — 525-7778 or 7773
 Dispatch— 527-1960

We're on the web!
www.ci.college-place.wa.us

Municipal Building Hours:

Monday through Thursday
 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday
 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Police Department Hours:

Monday through Friday
 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.



New Business Registration Requirement

Beginning in January, the City of College Place will require the registration of all businesses physically located within the City limits. Businesses are currently required to be licensed through the Washington State Department of Revenue. The City will partner with the Washington State Department of Revenue, Business Licensing System, which allows for the city's registration to be an additional component of the state's registration form. After the first of the year, the State Business Licensing office will send out a letter to every business inside the City limits and provide instruction on how to comply with this requirement. The registration for the City does not have a fee associated with it, although the fees for the state license and any other licenses will continue as per State requirements.

The purpose in requiring the registration will allow the City to track businesses that are located in the City, who the emergency contacts are and what types of products might be stored in the businesses. This information is very important for public safety and economic development information.

People who have home occupations may be required to apply for home occupation permits. Additional information on Home Occupation Guidelines will be available after the first of the year through the Community Development Office or on the City's website. If business owners have any questions regarding the new requirement or need assistance registering their business, please contact the Community Development office at 509-525-0510.

Christmas Tree Disposal

Trees can be disposed of by taking them to the City of Walla Walla landfill on Sudbury road or you can make arrangements with Basin Disposal Incorporated at 525-1711 to have them picked up. If your tree is being picked up by BDI, please do not place it in the street. Placement behind the curb or sidewalk is appropriate.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

January

- 2 - VFW Post 466, 7 pm, Fire Station
- 9 - City Council, 7 pm, Council Chambers
- 16 - VFW Post 466, 7 pm, Fire Station
- 17 - Planning Commission, 7 pm, Council Chambers
- 23 - City Council, 7 pm, Council Chambers