

FYI Forest Grove . . .

COUNCIL CONSIDERS UTILITY RATE INCREASES



Forest Grove City Council will hold a public hearing on June 14, 2010, to consider proposed rate increases for water, surface water management, and sewer.

The City is proposing to increase the monthly water rate paid by citizens as of July 1, 2010. The amount of the increase is yet to be determined. The increase will be used to maintain current operations and save for large capital infrastructure investments, including improvements to the jointly owned Joint Water Commission water treatment plant, and ensuring water pipelines are free of leaks and corrosion. The City's water utility continues to efficiently provide citizens with clean and safe drinking water. Forest Grove receives its summer water supply from the Joint Water Commission plant.

Clean Water Services is proposing to increase the monthly surface water management fee by \$0.50 as of July 1, 2010. Currently, the monthly fee per equivalent service unit is \$5.00. The increases by Clean Water Services will bring the total monthly charge per equivalent service unit to \$5.50. This fee pays for activities that decrease pollution from entering local streams and that prevent localized flooding on city streets, such as the leaf-pick up program and street sweeping. More stringent environmental regulations have increased the costs of these activities.

Clean Water Services is also proposing to increase the monthly sewer fee approximately 5.5% on July 1, 2010. The average residential monthly sewer bill will increase about \$2.00. This increase is necessary because the cost of meeting federal water quality requirements has increased, along with the costs for power and chemicals used at the wastewater treatment plants.

Public comments on the proposed rate increases will be heard during the City Council meeting on June 14, 2010, at 7 pm. For more information regarding the proposed rate increases, please contact the Utility Office at 503.992.3221.

Average Monthly Pay (AMP)

Now is the time to sign up for the Average Monthly Pay (AMP) program for your utility bill. This program allows you to pay an equal amount from month to month, based on the estimated average of your utility use over the past twelve months, adjusted for the rate increases mentioned above. To sign up for or inquire about this program, please call the Utility Office at 503.992.3221.

Forest Grove utility customers are now able to view and pay Utility Billing accounts online at <http://www.forestgrove-or.gov/city-services/utility-billing.html> under UB Online.

CODE CORNER: NOXIOUS VEGETATION



This time of year we look forward to spring. With that comes increased growth of lawns, weeds and shrubs. In order to be a good neighbor, we ask your help in keeping your lawn mowed and your bushes and trees trimmed. This will also help meet the Municipal Code requirements for noxious vegetation. To be considered noxious vegetation, grass or weeds must be more than 12 inches high. It also includes vegetation such as poison oak, poison ivy and out-of-control blackberry bushes. Noxious vegetation can result in health hazards, fire hazards, and traffic hazards.

When City staff receives a complaint, they may send a notice to the property owner to take care of the noxious vegetation. If the property owner does not, the City may clean up the vegetation and place a lien on the property for the cost of the clean-up. Please contact the Community Development Department at (503) 992-3227 with any questions or complaints regarding noxious vegetation.

"IF I WERE MAYOR" Contest for Students Grade 4—College

sponsored by Oregon Mayors Association

- 3 ways to win: Poster, Essay, Video
- Entries Due **May 28, 2010**
- Applications at City Hall, 503.992.3234 or Online at www.forestgrove-or.gov

WIN LAPTOP COMPUTERS!

COMPOST BINS will be available to purchase at the Farmers Market on the first Wednesday of each month starting in June. Sponsored by the FGUCC Be Earth Stewards Today (BEST) Team.



Forest Grove Center
2012 Main Street
Forest Grove, 97116
(503)-747-3395
Open 8:30am-5:00pm

Provides a professional environment to access resources and conduct your job search.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICES

Basic Computer Classes	On-The-Job Training
Career Planning	Resume Workshop
Job Readiness Workshops	Job Skill Upgrades
Online Job Search Tools	Workplace English
Occupational Skills Training	Job Clubs
GED and Adult Basic Education	

www.worksourceoregon.org

TAKE 30 SECONDS AND YOU COULD WIN FREE FARM FRESH PRODUCE!

Just complete this quick survey and send it in with your electric bill!



2010 Forest Grove Farmers Market Community Survey

We value your input to help make the Farmers Market benefit everyone in our community. Thank you for helping Forest Grove grow!

Personal information (please print clearly)

Your Name: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Note: Your email will ONLY be used to communicate if you have won the drawing. You can elect to be added to an email list later to receive monthly Farmers Market updates.

1) How often do you attend the Forest Grove Farmers Market?

- I've never been to the market
- Occasionally (1-5 times/ year)
- Often (6-10 times/ year)
- Almost every week

2) If you have been to the Forest Grove Farmers Market, what is your primary reason for attending the Market? (If you have never been, skip to question #3)

- For the community atmosphere
- For the fresh fruits and vegetables
- For the music and entertainment
- For special events and other activities
- Other _____

3) Why haven't you been to the Forest Grove Farmers Market? (If you have been, skip this question)

- The Farmers Market seems too expensive
- I don't have time from 4-8pm on Wednesdays to go downtown to shop at the Market
- I don't know how to cook with fresh produce
- I didn't know Forest Grove had a market
- Other _____

4) Please rank the following in order of importance to YOU (1=least important, 5 = most important):

- ___ Use fresh produce to cook my meals
- ___ Buy local food to support local farms and businesses
- ___ Purchase Organic food
- ___ Buy the least expensive food possible
- ___ Eat healthy food

4) Are you interested in learning about shopping for and cooking fresh, healthy food on a budget? Would you attend a class if it was offered?

- Yes I'd like to learn (but I don't have time for a class)
- Yes to both questions
- No to both questions

5) If you have been to the Forest Grove Farmers Market, what would you like to see improved?

6) Would you like to receive monthly email updates from the Forest Grove Farmers Market? These updates will include:

- Vendor Specials of the Week
- Scheduled Entertainment
- Special Events and Activities
- Produce Availability
- Market Map/Vendor List
- Market News
- Yes, keep me informed!
- No

The Forest Grove Farmers Market opens on May 12th from 4-8pm. We look forward to seeing you in downtown Forest Grove!

For any questions or more information about the Market or this survey, please call (503) 992-0078 or email farmersmarket@adelantemujeres.org

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NEW SIGN CODES: IN RESIDENTIAL ZONES

The City's new sign code and public way use permit took effect on December 23, 2009. The City Council directed staff to provide information about the new code provisions over the next six months (by the end of June, 2010). After that date until the end of September, the Council directed a lenient enforcement of the code (i.e. staff will send notices of violation with no penalties or citation). After September, the City will begin regular enforcement. Of course, staff will work with individuals to assist in compliance at anytime. As part of the informational effort, this article is part of a series explaining various aspects of the new sign code. It describes regulations pertaining to real estate signs.

These types of **temporary** signs are allowed for each lot:

- One temporary sign per frontage, up to four (4) square feet in area, erected for a maximum of eight (8) days in any calendar year and removed by sunset on any day it is erected. Such signs are typically used for garage sales.
- Two temporary signs up to 24 (twenty-four) square feet in area are allowed per subdivision during the build-out of the residences in the subdivision. These types of signs are typically used for subdivision and model home identification. No sign may be erected for an inhabited residence.
- One temporary sign per lot, up to six (6) square feet in area and 30 (thirty) inches in height. Such signs are typically used for open houses.
- One temporary sign per frontage, not exceeding six (6) square feet in area and six feet in height, during the time of sale, lease or rental of the lot/structure provided that the sign is removed within 30 (thirty) days of the sale, lease or rental of the lot/structure.
- One temporary sign per frontage, not exceeding six (6) square feet in area, during the time of construction, landscaping or remodeling of the property. The sign must be removed within thirty (30) days of the completion of any construction, landscaping or remodeling.
- No permit is required for any of the above signs, however, please note: *signs are not permitted to be attached to utility poles, street signs, street trees or any other improvement in the public right-of-way.*



These types of **permanent** signs are allowed for each lot:

- Each subdivision, manufactured home park, or multi-family complex is permitted one permanent monument sign not to exceed eight (8) feet in height and 40 (forty) square feet in face area. The sign shall be non-illuminated or indirectly illuminated.
- Each church or public school is permitted one permanent monument sign not to exceed eight (8) feet in height and 40 (forty) square feet in face area. Each sign may include changeable copy (manual or electronic). Any electronic changeable copy sign must have all illumination turned off between the hours of 9 p.m. and 7 a.m.
- Home occupation signs, not exceeding six (6) square feet in area, non-illuminated and professionally prepared.
- Each sign shall meet the setbacks applicable to the residential zone in which it is located. Permits are required for all permanent signs.



PERMIT FEES through June 30, 2010, for permanent signs are calculated as follows: A base fee of \$64 + \$2.83 for each square foot of sign face area. The maximum fee is capped at \$1,755. A building permit and electrical permit may also be required.

This article is intended only to provide a general overview of the new regulations. The sign code in its entirety has been incorporated into Development Code Articles 8 and 12 which may be viewed on the City of Forest Grove website: www.forestgrove-or.gov. If you have any questions, please contact Senior Planner James Reitz @ (503) 992-3233 or jreitz@forestgrove-or.gov.

2010 Summer Reading for all Ages @ the Forest Grove City Library

CHILDREN:

- Grades 1-6
- Read-to-Me (Entering Kindergarten & Younger)

SIGN UP JUNE 1st

Or anytime through the summer before August 31st
LIBRARY READ-IN for all ages JULY 14th
Bring a pillow and comfy clothes and join the reading party. Activities and refreshments provided.

TEENS

- Grades 7-12
- ## ADULTS
- 18 & Up



CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Free tickets will be given out beginning **15 minutes** before each performance on a first-come, first-served basis

Read-to-Me Performances

for children entering kindergarten & younger and their adults

Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m.

June

- 22 - Ted E. Bear's Travels**
Fun & Action with Penny's Puppets.
- 29 - One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish** – with Red Boot Cinda

July

- 6 - Create, Make & Take**
Simple craft to make & take!
- 13 - Cancioncitos para chiquitos/ Little Songs for Little Kids** - Active Family Music & Fun with Mona Warner- **Bilingual**
- 20 - Pink Pig Puppet Theatre** with Steven Engelfried – and his puppet friends
- 27 - Gallium!** "Kid Tunes" and puppets with Terri Finck & Patricia Harris

August

- 3 - Clowning with BJ**

All programs sponsored by the Friends of the Forest Grove Library

2010 Summer Performers

for those entering grades 1-6

Thursdays at 11 a.m.

June

- 24 - Creative Creature Feature***
with Reptile Man: Richard Ritchey

July

- 1 - Set Sail**** Magic, Puppets, Stories, Music with Slightly Illusional / Captain Curt
- 8 - Imagination Celebration!*** Use your imagination & be creative with cool crafts
- 15 - Seriously Funny Juggling**** Curtis Carlyle, award winning juggler & comedian
- 22 - Myrna the Mermaid and the Golden Key**** with Penny's Puppets
- 29 - Somos la Música**** with Grupo Condor Bilingual

August

- 5 - Presto the Magician***
The magic & humor of Kevin Witt

*Sponsored by the Friends of the Forest Grove Library

** Sponsored by Washington County Cooperative Library Services

Drop in for weekly incentives and a children's book bag drawing

August 1–31: Turn in your completed reading record and receive a **FREE AWARD BOOK** for ALL children



TEEN PROGRAM "Make Waves at Your Library"

Sign-up: Set your reading goal and pick up a reading record. Take a Library Bingo card with your reading record when you sign up. Participate and return the card in August to enter a prize drawing.

July 8th: 11 am Imagination Celebration: Creative Crafts ▫ Beach Marbles ▫

August 1–31: Turn in your completed reading record and receive a **FREE AWARD BOOK**. Turn in your Library Bingo card and enter a **prize drawing** just for teens. *Winners announced the first week in September.*



ADULT PROGRAM "Water Your Mind – READ"

July 12th - July 17th: **Double Ticket Week** Adult Summer Reading members receive 2 prize drawing tickets for each book. Get your card stamped at the Reference Desk to receive tickets.

August 31st - 5:30 - 7:30 pm: **Adult Summer Reading Reception** Celebrate reading and join us for refreshments and a prize drawing! Turn in your reading card before the reception and receive a reusable book bag. Winners must be present to receive a prize. Drawing at 6:30pm.