



# CITY OF BINGEN NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2016

## 2016 Community Pride Weekend

Do you need more space in your garage, shed, basement, attic and backyard? What about your front yard?

Community Pride Weekend is scheduled for the weekend of April 22 through April 24. The drop off site for junk and recyclable materials will be open as follows:

Friday, April 22	10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 23	10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 24	10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

***Do not bring items to the site prior to 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 22.***

See interior flyer for more information regarding Community Pride

**Senior citizens or those with no vehicle for transporting unwanted items can call the Chamber of Commerce to arrange for pickup. Call 509-493-3630.**

## City Yard & Garden Debris Pickup

The city is coordinating our spring yard and garden debris pickup with Community Pride Weekend. Bingen residents can call city hall at 509-493-2122 to arrange for ***yard and garden debris pickup***. Yard and garden debris pickup by the city is not available to businesses (including apartments). However, the Community Pride collection site is open to everyone.

City crew will collect yard and garden debris Thursday, April 21 through Friday, April 22. Yard and garden debris must be placed curbside during the week but no later than 7:00 a.m. on Friday, April 22. You must call city hall to have the yard and

garden debris picked up. Community Pride volunteers request that yard and garden debris be bagged in paper lawn and leaf bags. Residents can pick up free paper bags (limit 5) at City Hall and additional bags can be purchased at Ace Hardware and Home Depot.

**Call Bingen City Hall  
at 509-493-2122  
to arrange for yard and garden  
debris pickup April 21 & April 22.**

## Parking in Bingen

Most of the parking in downtown Bingen is 2 hours parking with a few parking spaces designated for 15 minute parking. When parking, look around for signage that may indicate 2 hours parking, 15 minute parking, no parking, etc. Parking violations can result in a parking ticket. The city has provided a parking lot for daily long-term downtown parking. It is located at 400 W. Steuben and is designated as public parking. Vehicle sales are not allowed at 400 W. Steuben

Certain types of vehicles are not allowed to be parked along city streets. These include

- Vehicles with flat tires
- Vehicles that do not operate
- Vehicles with expired license plates/tags
- Vehicles without license plates
- Boats
- Utility trailers
- Snowmobiles
- Recreational vehicles
- Motor homes
- Camper (pickup)
- Trucks and/or trailers that exceed 20 feet in length or 30,000 pounds gross vehicle capacity

## Hydrant Flushing

The City of Bingen Fire Department will open fire hydrant valves for flushing on May 11th. Opening the hydrants enhances water quality by flushing sediment from the main line pipes, verifies the proper operation of hydrants and valves, and ensure that the hydrant is operational in case of a fire emergency.

When a hydrant is opened, there will be temporary incidences of discolored water while the fine sediment particles are flushed.



Some things to be aware of:

- If tap water is used during flushing, it may be discolored by fine sediment particles dislodged from the main line. If you see discolored water, shut off the tap and wait several minutes. Then check the clarity by running cold water for a few minutes, allowing new water to work its way into your pipes. If the water is still unclear, repeat this process. In some cases, there might be slight discoloration for a few hours. The discoloration affects only the appearance of the water; it does not affect water quality. There are no health hazards associated with discolored water.
- Avoid washing laundry until water runs clear at the tap.
- If pressure or volume seems low, check your faucet screens for trapped particles.

If you are still experiencing problems with water quality or pressure after a flushing event, please contact the City of Bingen at 509-493-2122.

## Vegetation Management

It is a property owner's responsibility to keep vegetation, including brush and trees, from growing

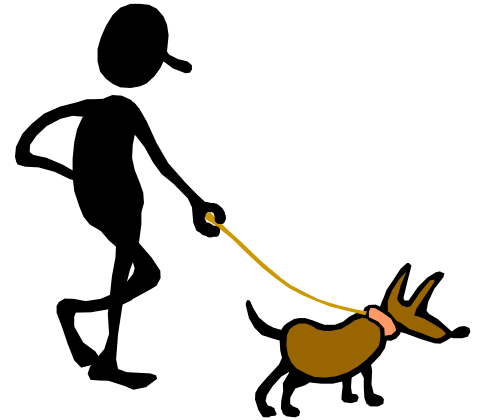
into the city right-of-way (streets or sidewalks). Please keep all brush, trees, and any other vegetation trimmed back so that it is not growing into the streets or sidewalks.

If the city has to remove vegetation that is growing into the right-of-way, the property will be billed for the associated expenses.

Take the opportunity of Community Pride Weekend to check your property and trim back the vegetation. Keep sidewalks and rights-of-way open for pedestrians and vehicles.

## Where is Your Dog?

When a dog is found running loose, the city will make every effort to find the dog's owner. Having a current dog license will assist in locating owners. However, if a dog is picked up and the owner cannot be located, the dog will be taken to the Hood River County impound facility. To retrieve the dog from the Hood River County impound facility, owners of dogs will have to show that a current dog license from the City of Bingen and prove that all fines and fees have been paid (if applicable).



Every dog that resides in Bingen is required to have a dog license. Dog licenses can be obtained from City Hall, 112 N. Ash. To obtain a dog license you must have proof of current rabies vaccinations. Dog licenses cost \$25.00 per year. If the dog is neutered or spayed, the fee is reduced to \$10.00 (written proof of neuter or spay is required).

**Dog licenses are required  
for all dogs living in Bingen  
(even part-time).**

In 2007, the city adopted a dog ordinance that addresses dogs running at large. When a dog or dogs leave your property they must be restrained by a

leash, rope, device, or cord not exceeding eight (8) feet in length. The lease, rope, device or cord must be of such material and of such size to ensure that the dog is controlled and restrained at all times.

The city's ordinance also provides that habitual barking that disturbs any person or neighborhood to an unreasonable degree is considered a nuisance and the person having control of the dog is subject to a notice of infraction. Be respectful of your neighbors and help prevent ongoing barking by your dog.

Dog owners or custodians will be ticketed if caught violating this ordinance. The first violation of the ordinance within a six-month period is an infraction with a civil penalty not to exceed \$100. Second and subsequent violations within the six-month period will be charged as a misdemeanor (a crime).

It is important that dogs be restrained when they leave your private property. Not everyone is a dog lover and some people are actually afraid of dogs. Please help in making people comfortable by keeping your dogs on a leash.

## **Burn Ban**

Burning is not allowed within the city limits including "wood-burning" fire pits. The city does allow barbecues and fire pits using charcoal briquettes, propane or natural gas..

## **Fireworks Prohibited**

Fireworks are not allowed within the city limits of Bingen. The Port of Klickitat with support from the Cities of Bingen and White Salmon allows fireworks at a designated location at Bingen Point on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July only.

## **Building Permits Required**

Building permits (including mechanical and plumbing permits) are required in Bingen. If you are unsure whether or not your project requires a permit, contact City Hall at 509-493-2122.

## **Update Your Voter Registration**

Don't forget to register or update your voter registration if you have moved by going to <http://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/myvote/>.

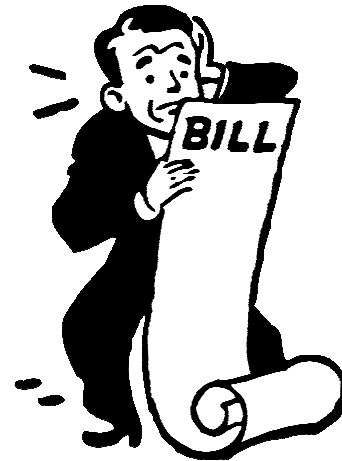
## **Water/Sewer Utility Billing Utility Discount for Low-Income Seniors or Low-Income Disabled Persons**

The City of Bingen offers a 20% discount on base fees to qualifying low-income seniors or low-income disabled persons. Applications or questions about qualifications can be submitted to Washington Gorge Action Programs at 509-493-2662.

## **Paying Your Water/Sewer Utility Bill**

Your utility bill can be paid several ways:

- Mailing your payment
- Depositing your payment into the payment box at the entrance of City Hall, 112 N. Ash
- In person at City Hall, 112 N. Ash
- Through direct payment/ACH payment (contact City Hall 509-493-2122 to make arrangements)



The city does not take credit or debit cards or payments over the phone.

Payments are due on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month unless that date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, Monday or holiday, then the payment is due on the following business day.

Questions regarding water/sewer utility billing can be answered by calling city at 509-493-2122.

This newsletter is available in Spanish online at <http://www.bingenwashington.org> or at city hall 112 N. Ash.

Este boletín está disponible en español en línea <http://www.bingenwashington.org> o en el Ayuntamiento 112 N. Ash.

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**Call Bingen City Hall at 509-493-2122 to arrange for yard and garden debris pickup April 21 and April 22.**

**Join the Community Youth Clean-up on Saturday, April 23 at 10:00 a.m. at Bingen City Park.**

### Bingen Council Members and Staff

Betty J. Barnes, Mayor  
Dan Armstrong, Council Member  
Stephanie Porter, Council Member  
Catherine Kiewit, Council Member  
Isolde Schroder, Council Member  
Vacant, Council Member

Jan Brending, City Administrator  
Cheyenne Willey, Deputy Clerk  
David Spratt, Public Works Superintendent  
Jay Hicks, Public Works Maintenance  
Tom Hons, Treatment Plant Manager  
James Buckland, Treatment Plant Operator  
Marlon Morat, Building Official

City of Bingen  
P.O. Box 607, 112 N. Ash  
Bingen, Washington 98605  
Telephone: 509-493-2122  
Fax: 509-493-1391  
E-mail: [cityhall@bingenwashington.org](mailto:cityhall@bingenwashington.org)  
Web page: <http://www.bingenwashington.org>