



CITY OF BINGEN NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2014

2014 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 25 through April 27. The drop off site for junk and recyclable materials will be open as follows:

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Friday, April 25 | 10:00 to 4:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, April 26 | 10:00 to 4:00 p.m. |
| Sunday, April 27 | 10:00 to 3:00 p.m. |

Do not bring items to the site prior to 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 25.

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 24 through Friday, April 25. Yard and garden debris must be placed curbside during the week but no later than 7:00 a.m. on Friday, April 25. 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 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 24 & April 25.**

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.

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

Stormwater Pollution Prevention

Stormwater drains lead directly to streams, rivers or lakes. Household stormwater pollution happens when contaminants from our homes and cars go down the storm drain. This can happen through illegal dumping into the storm drains, or more commonly, when rainwater washes pollutants and other debris from our yards and driveways to the storm drain and into our streams, lakes, and wetlands. Common sources of household pollution are motor oil and antifreeze left on driveways, soapy water from car washing, fertilizers and pesticides in lawns, and pet waste left in yards.

What Can You Do?

You can protect our water quality by following the simple effective steps in this article. Your actions make a difference. You have a direct impact on the health of our natural water ways.

Around the House

Properly dispose of household chemicals. Never wash or pour chemicals, cleaners, or solvents into the storm drain. It is toxic to aquatic life and it is also illegal. Take antifreeze, solvents, gas, brake fluids, and other hazardous substances to an approved location. These materials can be taken to one of the Klickitat County transfer stations in BZ Corners, Dallesport, Goldendale or the Roosevelt drop-box site. There is no charge to dispose of household hazardous wastes at the transfer stations.

Sweep your driveway. Sweep up debris instead of hosing off or pressure washing your driveway. Not only is the sediment harmful, but there can also be residue from vehicles on the driveway.

Working on Vehicles

Wash your car on a lawn or at a licensed facility. Car wash water contains dirt, road grime, heavy metals, oils and soaps which are toxic to fish and aquatic life. Sending soap runoff down the driveway and into a storm drain is not only harmful to the environment; it is a violation of state and federal laws.

Maintain your vehicle. The liquids from leaky cars are harmful to aquatic life and are washed directly into the storm drain every time it rains. Test to see if your vehicle is leaking by placing clean cardboard

on the ground under your engine and checking it the next day. Repair all leaks as soon as discovered.

Properly dispose of oil and other auto waste at an approved waste facility. Don't pour liquids down the drain.

Clean up spills. Use kitty litter, sawdust, or commercial absorbent pads to dry up any spilled liquid, then sweep it up and place it in the garbage. Don't wash it into the street or storm drain.

In the Lawn & Garden

Pick up after your pets. The rainwater can wash bacteria and parasites from pet waste into the storm drain which flows untreated into our natural waterways.

Avoid pesticides and herbicides when possible. Not only is it better for the health of our lakes and streams, but it is also better for the health of your family. If you must use pesticides, use them sparingly and only where needed to ensure excess will not be washed into the storm drain. Always follow the directions on the label.

Use organic, time-release fertilizers. These fertilizers slowly release nutrients to your lawn, reducing the amount of pollutants washed into our waterways.

Dispose of yard waste properly. Compost yard debris or have it hauled away. Yard debris can release excess nutrients which promotes algae growth in the waterways.

Use a mulching mower. By using a mulching lawnmower you can decrease your use of fertilizers by 25 percent.

Around the Neighborhood

Pick up litter. Clean up any trash to reduce the change of litter or contaminants entering the storm water system.

Report pollution. It is illegal to dump chemicals or other materials in the storm drain. If you notice illegal dumping, call the City of Bingen 509-493-2122.

Educate neighbors. Share the importance of adopting stormwater pollution prevention practices with your neighbors.

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?

The City of Bingen has contracted with the City of Goldendale for animal control services. You will see Brad Fulton driving around in Bingen in a vehicle marked "Canine Control."

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

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 Goldendale impound facility. To retrieve the dog from the Goldendale impound facility, owners of dogs will have to show that a current dog license from the City of Bingen and prove that all fines have been paid (if applicable).

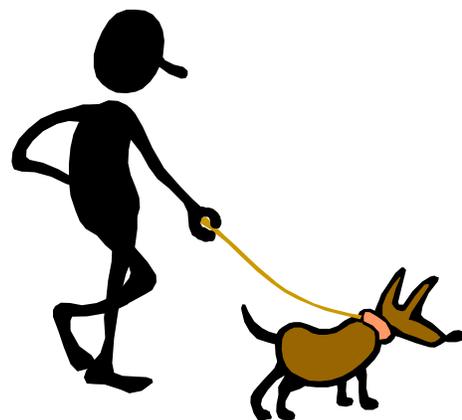
Every dog that resides in Bingen is required to have a dog license. Dog licenses can be obtained from City Hall, 112 N. Ash. To obtain a dog license you must have proof of current rabies vaccinations. Dog licenses cost \$25.00 per year. If the dog is neutered or spayed, the fee is reduced to \$10.00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

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.



When a dog or dogs leave your property it must be on a leash.

**Local
Postal Customer**

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Join the Community Youth Clean-up on Saturday, April 26 at 10:00 a.m. at Bingen City Park.

Bingen Council Members and Staff

Betty J. Barnes, Mayor
Sandi Dickey, Council Member
Stephanie Porter, Council Member
Catherine Kiewit, Council Member
Maria Perez, Council Member
Isolde Schroder, Council Member

Jan Brending, City Administrator
Dena Riggelman, Deputy Clerk
David Spratt, Public Works Superintendent
Jay Hicks, Public Works Maintenance
Tom Hons, Treatment Plant Manager
James Buckland, Treatment Plant Operator
Dave Nail, 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: bingen@gorge.net
Web page: <http://www.bingenwashington.org>