



City of Burns Newsletter

City of Burns

242 S Broadway

Burns, Oregon 97720

April 2017 Issue #1

Spring Cleanup

Following heavy snow brings additional cleanup with limbs, possible left over weeds, leaves and other items that need to go away when the dump is not open. The City of Burns will be joining the City of Hines in placing dumpsters around town May 12th-14th to encourage property cleanup. C & B Sanitary will be opening up the dump on Saturday, May 6th and are allowing community members to drop off their old appliances, brush and yard debris for FREE. All other items will need to be paid by cash or check. No credit or debit cards will be accepted.

We also want to encourage neighborhood cleanup. The City of Burns will also try a program offering 3 dumpsters free to residents and 3 to those properties along Broadway and Monroe extending a block on either side of these streets. These dumpsters will be available on a point system where 3 of more neighbors working together will rate higher than a single residence. After June 30th, any dumpsters not used will be available to all locations on a first come basis. We want to encourage everyone to do their part with cleanup.

Once again property owners will be contacted for nuisances and some citations will be issued. Please use this opportunity to help clean up your neighborhood.

Please stop by Burns City Hall for more information and how to apply for one of the dumpsters.

Cemetery Cleanup

In preparation of Memorial Day, the City of Burns respectfully requests that flowers and decorations located in the grass be removed from the Cemetery no later than Friday, May 5th. New flowers and decorations may be placed starting May 13th.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Planning Commission Vacancy

The Burns Planning Commission currently has 3 vacancies. We will be accepting letters of interest until April 30th 2017, or until filled. The letter of interest must express your reason for interest in serving on the Burns Planning Commission and verify that you reside within the City of Burns. For more information, please contact Mindy Clemens at Burns City Hall.

Important City Contacts

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Website: www.ci.burns.or.us

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Burns Fire Department

Burns Police Department

Harney County Safe

Communities

Did you know?

Weeds— With all the moisture that we have experienced this winter, it's a good year for weeds to grow. Burns Municipal Code 8.10.050 Nuisance Vegetation (2) The owner or person in charge of real property shall abate nuisance vegetation from the property. If weeds, grass, brush or other forms of nuisance vegetation are allowed to exceed 10 inches in height after June 1st. (6) No owner or person in charge of property shall allow nuisance vegetation to be on the property or in the right-of-way of a public thoroughfare abutting on the property.

Fences— We realize that everyone enjoys their privacy and to keep the deer out, but solid fences in the front yard cannot exceed 36 inches or 72 inches of wire. On a corner in the residential zone 20 feet along each lot line, there cannot be obstruction over 30 inches in height. Contact City Hall for full requirements.

Sidewalks— Last year the City had a visit from an elderly community member who had tripped on a sidewalk that had raised. BMC 8.10.110 (2) No owner of improved property, or unimproved, abutting on a public sidewalk shall permit the sidewalk to deteriorate to such a condition that, because of cracks, chipping, weeds, settling, covering by dirt, or other similar circumstances, the sidewalk becomes a hazard to people using it.

Deer— Reminder: **DO NOT FEED THE DEER.**

Chickens— Since the amendment of the livestock ordinance to allow chickens, only one property owner has filed an application for a permit. Zoning Ordinance 3.17 E . A livestock permit may allow up to one livestock unit per .5 acres. A livestock unit shall be one large animal or 5 poultry/fowl. No roosters.

Dogs— Please keep your dogs inside your yards or inside your house. Dogs will be sent to the vet clinic if found wondering by themselves. Dog tags are available with proof of rabies; spayed/neutered dogs \$10.00, unsprayed/unneutered dogs \$15. Animal impound fee is \$100 to get your dog back.

Disposal of Refuse and Garbage— BMC 8.10.060 No person shall deposit or collect for longer than 14 days on public property rubbish, trash, debris, refuse or any substance that would mar the appearance, create a stench or fire hazard, detract from the cleanliness or safety of the property, or would be likely to injure a person, animal or vehicle traveling on a public way.

Storage of motor vehicles on streets—BMC 10.20.060 No person shall store or permit to be stored on a street or other public property, without permission of the council, a motor vehicles or personal property for a period in excess of 24 hours.

Public Hearings-Transportation Fee

The Burns City Council has decided that it is time to take action to do something about the roads and implement a Transportation Fee. A Request for Qualification was advertised to have roads analyzed and we are in the process of negotiating a contract with a firm that will prepare a street report. This street report will describe the condition of the City's streets and identify an estimated funding amount required to repair, maintain, and improve the City's street system.

Once the engineer has completed an analysis of the City's street system, they will present the results to the Burns City Council and include public outreach.

After the Council receives the street report, it will determine the amount of funds desired to obtain through the Transportation Fee. An ordinance will then be drafted.

April is Distracted Driving Month.

Did you know that a Distracted Driver Crash occurs every 2.5 hours in Oregon?

Distracted driving is any activity that could divert a persons attention away from the primary task of driving.

Tips to avoid Distracted Driving:

Turn off your phone and put it away.

Prepare your route before you go.

Pull over if you need to make a call.

Secure your pets.

Don't multi-task: eating, drinking, reading, grooming and smoking take your attention off the road.

**2016 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
City of Burns**

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source, are wells located in five different locations within the City of Burns, each well is approximately three hundred feet deep, with a total pumping capacity of five thousand gallons per minute and storage of two million gallons.

At this time we are providing a clean quality water without continuous chlorinating. We have an ongoing cross connection program to protect the quality of the delivered water from reentering the piping system due to backflow or back siphoning. (i.e. Underground irrigation systems, hot tubs, swimming pools or any other undesirable substance that would affect the quality of our drinking water.)

I'm pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

The 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act require that all states conduct Source Water Assessments for public water systems within their boundaries. The assessments consist of (1) identification of the Drinking Water Protection Area, i.e., the area at the surface that is directly above that part of the aquifer that supplies groundwater to our wells, (2) identification of potential sources of pollution within the Drinking Water Protection Area, and (3) determining the susceptibility or relative risk to the well water from those sources. The purpose of the assessment is to provide water systems with the information they need to develop a strategy to protect their drinking water resource if they choose. The respective Drinking Water Programs of the Department of Human Services and Environmental Quality have completed the assessment for our system. A copy of the report is on file at City Hall.

If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please contact Pedro Zabala at 541-573-5255 or 541-573-6711 between the hours of 8:am and 5:pm. Mon. – Fri. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled City of Burns Council Meetings. They are held on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:pm.

The City of Burns routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st 2015. Due to the size of are system we are required to monitor once every three years instead of annually, for regulated contaminants. The results of the data presented are from the most recent sampling in accordance with the regulations. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level - (mandatory language) The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - (mandatory language) The "Goal"(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants					
1. Total Coliform Bacteria	N			0/1	Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Contaminants		Range of level Detected			
		Minimum	Maximum		
2. Arsenic	N	0.00303	0.00324 ppm	n/a	0.05 Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
3. Barium	N	0.0115	0.0126 ppm	2	2 Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
4. Selenium	N	0.00	0.000616 Mg/l		0.05 Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
5. Gross Alpha, EXCL. Radon & U	N		1.400 PCI/L		15.000 PCI/L Erosion of natural deposits
6. Nickel	N	.00	.00077 Mg/l		0.1 Metal alloys, electroplating, batteries, chemical production
7. Copper	N		0.0482 ppm	1.3	AL=1.3 Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
8. Fluoride	N	0.266	0.307 ppm	4	4 Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
9. Lead	N		0.0043 Ppm.	0	AL=15 Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
10. Sodium	N	17.3	25.0 Mg/l	N/a	Natural deposit.
11. Nitrate (as Nitrogen) + Nitrite	N	1.49	2.64 ppm	10	10 Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
12. Uranium	N	2.60000	3.100 ug/l		30 Erosion of natural deposits
13. Tetrachlorethylene	N	.00055	.00117 Mg/l		.0050 Mg/l Associated with dry cleaning and petroleum byproducts

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Total Coliform: The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio. To comply with the stricter regulation, we have added chlorine in the distribution system for thirty days, and will do this once a year to eliminate bacteria growth in the distribution system.

in our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, we will
make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the
rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.
Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.
Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have
undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and
infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water
from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection
by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water
Hotline (800-426-4791).

Please call our office if you have questions. (541-573- 5255)

We at City of Burns work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our
customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our
children's future.

Thank You
Pedro Zabala
Public Works Dir.
City of Burns

