



The City of Prosser's

7TH STREET NOTICES

~ A Pleasant Place with Pleasant People ~

~Our Mission~

To provide dependable service to a safe, sustainable community of businesses, families, and neighbors with integrity, accountability and stewardship.

Do You Qualify for a Rate Reduction?

Are you a low income senior or disabled citizen? Apply for the low income senior and low income disabled citizen rate. The rate reduction is available to low income senior and/or low income disabled citizens that qualify for the discount in accordance with the Prosser Municipal Code (PMC). Eligibility requirements include:

- Must be 61 years of age or older on or before January 31, 2016
- Retired from regular gainful employment by reason of a physical disability
- Have a combined disposable income and assets of less than \$18,000 for the preceding calendar year.

Applications (included with this

newsletter) are due by March 18, 2016, and must be accompanied with all documentation verifying your eligibility. Documentation includes:

- Copy of your identification card
- Current tax statement
- If you did not file taxes, we need a copy of your social security or disability information, as well as, a copy of a current bank statement.

If you have questions regarding your eligibility, please contact our Utility Billing Clerk at (509) 786-7300 or by email at lindsayb@cityofprosser.com. We hope qualifying citizens will take advantage of this offer of a reduced rate.

Cross Control Connection Reminders

State health regulations require all water purveyors to have a program for identifying and eliminating cross connections to the potable water system. A cross connection is any actual or potential link between the water system and any other liquid or gas. A drop in pressure caused by a line break, repair project, or

fire hydrant use can cause a reversal of flow that could siphon unwanted material into the water system. That is why we **require** that a backflow assembly device be installed and tested annually on properties/businesses where potential backflow conditions may result.

Our Cross Control

Connection specialist will notify property owners in writing when test reports are due for any backflow devices. After 60 days from the notice and a test report is not received, additional notices are sent to property owners and fees are assessed on the property utility account.

BACKFLOW TESTING
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Can You Serve on the Board of Adjustment?

City staff would like to take the opportunity to review some important information regarding the Board of Adjustment. We ask that after you read the following information you consider the question, “Can I serve on the Board of Adjustment?”

What does the Board of Adjustment do? The City of Prosser has enacted a body of building and land use codes that protect the City, businesses, and it’s residents from unsightly development and unsafe or shoddy building practices. The Board of Adjustment (BOA) acts as an outlet in cases where a request for a variance meets the intent but not the literal interpretation of the corresponding regulation within the PMC. Variance requests may include changes to dimensions, structural location, and setbacks from property lines, landscaping, fences and walls, lighting, surfacing of parking areas, or other development requirements.

When a variance application is submitted to the City, the BOA will hear on a case-by-case basis whether the variance is in harmony with the general intent of the PMC and potential impacts to neighboring properties or public welfare.

The BOA is essential as it’s impossible to write a perfect set of codes which meets all the needs of citizens, while at the same time avoiding hardships in individual cases. It is important to remember that in the cases of variances only the BOA has the authority to grant these exceptions to the rules.

The BOA meets the first Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. If there are no business items for consideration, the Board may not meet on those months. The Board is comprised of 7 positions, two of which

are vacant. The City is currently accepting applications for those vacated positions. If you are interested in serving on the Board of Adjustment, you can pick up an application at City Hall or go online to apply at www.cityofprosser.com by going to “Forms and Publications” and select the “Boards and Committees Application.” If you have any questions regarding potential duties as a member of the BOA, please contact City Planner, Steve Zetz at (509) 786-8212, or by email at szetz@ci.prosser.wa.us.

Our community has a wonderful volunteer base. All of us at City Hall value the time and effort that our residents put forth to serve on the various boards, commissions, and committees. This service is what helps run our City and make it the place we call home.

Reminder from the Prosser Police Dept. ■

Winter has arrived and with it those bitter cold temperatures and icy cold vehicles. The Prosser Police Department would like to remind citizens that, while it may be tempting, **it is illegal to leave a vehicle running while unattended.** The Department asks that you start your car and then use the warm up time to remove snow and ice from windows and external lights. This will ensure that your fields of vision are clear and that your vehicle’s lights can be seen by other motorists, reducing the potential of accidents causing damages to person or property, as well as, eliminating the risk of car theft while vehicles are left unattended to warm up.

Thank you!

From the Desk of the City Planner—

From a planning point of view, 2016 is off to a great start. The Department is currently in preliminary discussions with developers for a variety of new projects extending out through 2018. While there are a great many changes that will begin this spring, it is our goal to ensure that development does not outpace the needs of the community and are sustainable additions. Our goal is to manage growth in order to preserve and protect Prosser's small town charm. That being said some of these projects and changes will require some patience during the construction phase.

Wine Country Rd. & Merlot Dr. Traffic Signal

For many years there has been talk of improvements to this intersection, that day has finally arrived. It is anticipated that reconstruction of the intersection will begin this spring. The reconstruction will also modify the intersection from uncontrolled to signalized (no roundabout). During the construction there may

be delays and closures. The City will work with the contractor to minimize delays and will provide notices in advance.

Wine Country Rd. & Chardonnay Ave. Crosswalk

The Planning Department through mitigation and donations from the business community has secured enough funding to install an in-pavement LED crosswalk lighting system. The system will be push button activated and will provide an extra level of warning to motorists. For more information on this exciting project, suggestions on where other systems might be located, or if you would like to donate, please contact myself at (509) 786-8212.

7th St. from Wine Country Rd. to Meade Ave.

Through the hard work of HLA, Inc. and Public Works Director L.J. DaCorsi, the City of Prosser has received funding for a full reconstruction of 7th Street. This will include new sidewalks, curbing, removal of old tracks, as well as, street lighting. The City will work with the downtown to keep them up to date as construction begins.

These are just a few of the larger street projects that may impact your daily travels as construction gets underway. We will continue to keep the public informed and provide updates and estimated timelines. I want to thank the citizens and business owners in advance for their patience. We are all looking forward to enjoying these finished projects.

Steve Zetz, City Planner

FAQ

Q: How do I request my water be turned off/on?

A: If you would like your household water turned on or off, please contact City Hall at (509) 786-2332. Only property owners are allowed to make changes to service. If you are a tenant, you must contact the owner and have them make the request. You can also e-mail this request to: lindsayb@cityofprosser.com but please understand that at times employees are not always able to receive e-mails. In order to ensure the request is filled promptly, a phone call may be the quickest solution.

BACKFLOW TESTING (Continued from page 1)

It is important to note that it is the property owner's responsibility to ensure that test reports are completed and submitted to the City as required. Contractors are often used to complete these tests but it is solely the responsibility of the property owner to ensure their backflow devices

are in compliance with State and local law. It is also important to note that extensions are not available and will not be provided.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this notice. It is our objective to ensure the safety and security of the public water system. It is your contribution and support of this program which protects this essential resource. If you have any questions regarding your test, please call our Cross Control Specialist at (509) 786-2037.



Meet Your Mayor and Council



Randy Taylor Mayor
 Don Aubrey Position No. 1
 Morgan Everett Position No. 2
 Rob Siemens Position No. 3
 Bob Elder Position No. 4
 Mary Ruth Edwards Position No. 5
 Steve Becken Position No. 6
 Humberto Rodriguez Position No. 7

Email the Mayor and City Council: citycouncil@cityofprosser.com

City of Prosser

601 7th Street
Prosser, WA 99350

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(except holidays)

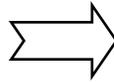
NEED INFORMATION?

www.cityofprosser.com

Contact Us:

Main Office 786-2332
 Building 786-8210
 Clerk 786-8218
 Finance 786-8215
 Fire Station 786-3873
 Library 786-2533
 Mayor 786-8216
 PAC (Pool) 786-0097
 Police* 786-1500
 Public Works* 786-7300
 *After Hours 786-2112

Follow Us On:



UTILITY BILLING

Dates

- Feb. 10 BILLS DUE
- Feb. 16 24HR Door Hangers & \$25 Penalty Assessed
- Feb. 18 Water Shut Off & \$50 Penalty Assessed
- Feb. 22 Balances Assessed 5% Late Fee

No Additional Fee to Use Credit/Debit Card

Reminders:

- City Hall will be closed on the following holiday:
Presidents Day, 2/15/16
- There will be no changes to garbage service on the holiday.
- Request a FREE extra garbage pick up online at www.cityofprosser.com or by calling (509) 786-2332.
- If you want to pay a lower sewer fee for the 2016 calendar year, conserve water from Nov. 19th until Feb. 18th for a lower winter average.
- Sign up for Open Gym Basketball and/or Pickleball. A session is \$10 and there is one session (Jan-May) left for this season. Registration forms are available online or at City Hall.
- The drop box for payments is located to the right of the main entrance for your convenience. The drop box is checked daily for payments and is another option for our customers who do not have time to speak with a cashier.
- City Hall is collecting Box Tops for Education. Send in your Box Tops with your utility statements or drop them off at City hall.

Meetings in February 2016

Transportation Benefit District	2/2	6:30pm
Work Session	2/2	7pm
Board of Adjustment	2/4	6pm
Budget & Finance Committee	2/9	5:30pm
Regular City Council	2/9	7pm
Planning Commission	2/18	6pm
Budget & Finance Committee	2/23	5:30pm
Regular City Council	2/23	7pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Participants

The Prosser City Council would like to extend a Big Thanks to Prosser Heights Elementary "Kids that Care" Luke Wolters and to members of the Prosser Boys & Girls Club for leading the Pledge of Allegiance at the recent Prosser City Council meetings.

Thank you!

Water Conservation Tip



Cook smart. Peel and clean vegetables and fruits in a bowl

of water instead of under a running faucet.

Look for more Water Conservation Tips in next month's newsletter and stop by City Hall to see our display of water saving products and ideas!