

RIDGERUNNER

AUGUST, 2018

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Living next to and enjoying the mountainside is a stunning feature of Fruit Heights City. It is also one of our greatest challenges during fire season. We live in what is known as the wildland-urban interface (WUI), where the places we live and play meet the wilds. These

wildlands carry a substantial risk of burning in a wildfire due to accumulated fuel such as dried grass, trees and brush. Dead and living vegetation often is distributed continuously across wildlands, and fire can spread easily across the entire area. Also, many of the plant species in our area are readily adapted to wildfire, so their means of reproduction, fire survival strategies, and growth habits all

contribute to making fire a natural and common part of the landscape. Cultivated landscapes within WUI areas, with mown grass, pruned trees, and carefully placed groups of appropriate vegetation, are less likely to burn. In these well-tended areas, continuous fuel corridors are disrupted, so fire is less likely to spread. It is imperative that we trim our trees, as well as maintain and clear debris from around our properties. Clearing pine needles, dead leaves, and branches from around our homes can make the difference if a home will survive a fire while the neighbors may burn.

"Firewise Landscaping for Utah" has extremely valuable information we as residents should read and implement suggestions to protect our homes and property.

https://ffsl.utah.gov/images/Fire/wui/FirewiseLandscaping07.pdf.

Fruit Heights City staff are actively working to prevent fires within our city limits, including regular maintenance on the fire break road above 1800 East; clearing and removing brush, adding road base and grading improvements for better accessibility for brush trucks. Dumpsters are available to residents at no cost for both delivery and hauling, for those who would like to organize a neighborhood green waste clean up. Contact City Hall at 801-456-0861 to schedule.

Farmington City has already had several mountainside brush fires this season and last summer Uintah had a devastating fire that destroyed several homes in a WUI very similar to that of Fruit Heights. City Staff and Council are working to implement a "Community Wildfire Protection Plan"- a joint venture between the City and various agencies to help pay fire fighting costs in the event of a wildfire occurring in Fruit Heights.

Last year in Utah, 62% of all wild fires were human caused. "Partnerships are key," said Clair Jolley, the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) acting assistant fire manager in Utah. "Fire knows no boundaries. ... We need the cooperation of the public."

- Julia Busche, Councilmember

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: John M. Pohlman

Council Members:

Diane Anderson Gary Anderson

Julia Busche Jeanne Groberg

Brandon Halliday

Email: citycouncil@fruitheightscity.com

City Hall hours:

8 a.m.—5 p.m. Mon.—Fri. Phone: 801-546-0861. <u>After hours emergency call the Sheriff's Dept. 801-451-4150</u>, they will call our Public Works representative.

KAYSVILLE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE

There is an Open House October 3, 2018 from 6:00—8:30 p.m. at the Kaysville City Fire Department.

Bring a can of food for a fire truck ride. Tour of the Station. Medical Helicopter. Utah State Highway Patrol Crash Sled. Give -A-Ways!

Please come and honor Fire Prevention Week with Kaysville Fire Department.

Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health observance in our nation. President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed the first National Fire Prevention Week on Oct. 4 thru 10, 1925, beginning a tradition of the President of the United States signing a proclamation recognizing the occasion. It is observed on the

Sun.-Sat. period in which October falls, in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire,

9th.

tion of the Great Chicago Fire, which began Oct. 8, 1871, and did most of its damage October





Effective July 1, 2018 the Storm Drain charge on your utility bill increases to \$14.25 (was \$13.75) per month for each household. Culinary water rates were approved by City Council April 2015, monthly base rate is \$32.60 (formerly \$32.40), and water per thousand gallons is now \$1.15 (was \$1.10) up to 8,000 gallons. Over 8,000 gallons is charged in tiered increments.

The new rates are reflected in the August 1st billing.



FIRE HYDRANT FLUSHING

Our Public Works Department will commence flushing fire



hydrants in sections throughout the city during the months of August and September. It's possible that sediment could be stirred up in the culinary water. Please let the water settle by keeping your tap water turned off for several minutes or longer. Thank you for your

patience.

NOTICE BENCHLAND WATER USERS NOTICE

Benchland Water District is facing a **severe water shortage**. At the current water usage rate, all irrigation water will be used up by Sept. 1st. The following restrictions are in place *immediately* and will run through the rest of the summer:

- No irrigation/secondary water use on weekends, from 8 am Sat. to 8 am Mon. Also no water from 10 am to 6 pm weekdays.
- Restrictions enforced by Benchland and citations will be issued. Fines are \$50 for first offense; \$250 for second offense; and disconnected from the system on the third offense.
- A moratorium for new landscaping for the remainder of this season. Benchland Water Dist. 801-451-2105

FOLLOW US.....

In our efforts to improve communication with residents, please consider following Fruit Heights City on Twitter at @FruitHeightsGov and/or on Facebook by following the page "Fruit Heights City". Social Media is a



great way to quickly disseminate important information such as water line breaks, power outages, road closures, etc. as well as community events and happenings.



FOOD TRUCK NIGHT

Food Truck Night—Monday

9p. Movie **August**13th—"Wonder" at Harvey Park (City Hall).

Come and enjoy the evening!



REMEMBER - LEASH YOUR DOG

Please remember to leash your dog(s) at all times. Please take your plastic



containers for proper waste pick-up when walking dogs in residential areas and public parks. Also, respect your neighbors by keeping your dogs from barking.

CITIZEN'S ACADEMY

Next Citizen's Academy: Tuesday August 7th, 2018

6:00-7:00 pm at City Building

This is an interactive educational meeting where members of the City Council are available for residents to meet with and discuss issues and topics that may be of concern.

It will also be an opportunity where Council members can help educate and inform the community about upcoming projects, city budget, and other outreach programs and opportunities.

Anyone is invited to attend. Meetings will be informal with an open discussion and dialogue. All items discussed will be taken under advisement, and if necessary, will be dis-

cussed in an upcoming Council meeting.
It is anticipated that these meet-



ings will be held bi-monthly. Watch the City's website, the Ridgerunner, and social media sites for more dates and information.

ON STREET PARKING

Now that summer is here, many will be making family vacation plans. As a reminder, the City has ordinances pertaining to the parking of vehicles, boats, RV's, and trailers on city streets overnight. We understand that it takes time to prepare for a vacation and to clean up after vacation. The City's Ordinances allow for boats, trailers, RV's and vehicles to be parked on city streets for a period of 24 hrs. Please be mindful of the City's ordinances, if you have questions or concerns please contact the City Office. Have an enjoyable summer.