



The City Newsletter

April 2014

Welcome to the CITY OF JEROME

www.ci.jerome.id.us

Jerome Police Drug Detection Team Hits the Streets

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City Council

Council meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm at Council Chambers, located at 100 East Ave A, Jerome, ID 83338

Council Meets:

- April 1st
- April 15th
- May 6th
- May 20th

For a copy of the most recent agenda, visit our website or email: sfraser@ci.jerome.id.us

A police officer stops a vehicle for a traffic offense. As one police officer deals with the driver of the vehicle, another police employee checks around the vehicle with his nose in the air. This police employee does not wear a dark blue police uniform, but has on a collar and leash. He is a police drug detection canine. As the dog passes the driver's door of the stopped vehicle his behavior changes, he suddenly sits and he becomes focused on the driver's side door. The officer handling the dog recognizes that his canine partner has just indicated, as he is trained to do when he has located a drug odor. The handler opens the door and deploys the dog inside the vehicle. The dog pinpoints a bag in the car. A closer examination by the officer exposes a small bag containing a white crystalline substance and a pipe commonly used to smoke methamphetamine. This is a typical example of how police canine teams are used to detect illegal drugs.



Officer Jason Summers and his canine partner Biz are the Jerome Police Department's newest drug detection team. Though both have been working for the department for some time, they were only recently paired together. Officer Summers has been working for the JPD since 2011 and had several years of law enforcement experience before coming to the JPD. Biz was obtained by the JPD in 2012 and served with another handler. In late 2013, the officer handling Biz left to work for another police agency and Officer Summers was selected to be the department's new dog handler. Though Biz was an experienced drug detection dog, Officer Summers was not an experienced handler. New handlers must undergo a minimum of 160 hours of training before becoming detection certified. In order to meet training requirements and develop the officer and canine into a team, Officer Summers and Biz attended the Detector Dog Course at the Utah Peace Officer Standards and Training Academy. The detector course is an intense eight week class that uses reality-based training to prepare the dog/handler team for the conditions they will experience on the street. Officer Summers and Biz successfully graduated from the course on March 6, 2014. Upon returning to Jerome, the new team completed another rigorous testing process to become certified in Idaho. The pair are now actively patrolling the streets of Jerome as a fully trained team. On their first night of patrol, Biz alerted on a ½ ounce of methamphetamine which resulted in an arrest. Officer Summers and Biz are a valuable resource helping promote a safe living environment within the Jerome community.

- Police Chief Dan Hall

The City of Jerome is on Facebook!



Stay informed and learn about events happening in our community. Get notifications on your phone! You are invited to "like" our page and follow the City on Facebook (City of Jerome, Idaho).

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

EMAIL ENEWS@CI.JEROME.ID.US OR CALL (20)324-8189

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Water Rights 103 – Curtailment

For the past couple months, the Public Works Department has compiled a series of informational articles. The purpose of these articles was to give the community a basic understanding of the water supply. This month's article, which discusses curtailment, will wrap up the series on "Water Rights". You may have seen recent news stories addressing the curtailment order given by the Idaho Department of Water Resources in February. Curtailment essentially means 'to cut short or reduce'. It is a very complex subject; this article will provide a basic understanding.



The first article discussed "Seniority" as it applies to Water Rights. Seniority is a key component when it comes to curtailment, since the dispute is regarding the age of the water right. In times of water shortages, senior (or older) rights, are given priority to use the water before junior (or newer) rights. For example, you and your neighbor both have water wells. His water rights date back to 1901, while yours only date back to 1905. During a time of drought, your neighbor decides he needs to protect his water, so he petitions the Idaho Department of Water Resources to issue a curtailment order. Since your water right is newer than his, you will be unable to use water during the curtailment. Thus, your neighbor is assured he will have enough water to meet his needs. The golden rule of water rights is 'first in time, first in right'.

There have been a series of curtailment orders in the last several years that have brought a focus of attention on water use in the Magic Valley. Larger water users often have multiple water rights that range in age from older to newer. The City of Jerome is no different, we have water rights ranging from the 1900s to the 1980s. Recent curtailments orders could have impacted the City's ability to provide water to its citizens in the amount of roughly 20 percent of its total water supply. Fortunately, the Director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources granted a "temporary stay" on the curtailment order while the affected parties discussed the details. We will undoubtedly hear more about this matter in the days and years to come. Water is the foundation of life since every living creature needs it to survive.

- Larry Bybee, Water Operations Supervisor

Burn Permits

The City of Jerome requires burn permits within City limits. Below is a brief overview of the permit requirements.

- Burn permits are weather permitting, wind speed less than 10 miles per hour is required.
- You must be of responsible age (18 years or older) & must remain with the burn the entire time.
- You must have a water source available and large enough to extinguish the fire if needed.
- You are only allowed to burn during daylight hours.
- Only natural vegetation can be burned, no trash including plastics or rubber may be burned.
- Burn piles must be small, if larger than 2 feet by 3 feet they need to be 50 feet from a structure or combustible materials.
- No burning shall cause a nuisance or hazard to neighbors or the community.
- All permits are revocable by any fire department official or police officer with cause.
- You are responsible for your burn and a permit does not relieve you of any liability or consequences from your burn.
- Burning requirements from the department of environmental quality must also be followed.



You can obtain a FREE permit at Jerome City Fire Headquarters at 110 W Yakima Avenue or online through the City of Jerome Website. A complete list off all of the requirements can be found on the city's website and are also on the burn permit.

Please feel free to call Fire Headquarters 324-2323 with questions.

- Fire Chief Tom Hughes

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DOOR HANGER NOTICE

Effective June 1, 2014 the City of Jerome will **no longer issue a door hanger** as notification prior to disconnection of water service for delinquency, you will still continue to receive notices in the mail.

Helping Homeowners Weather the Storm

Prepare Your Family

Making sure your family is prepared for any natural disaster is important. Below are some of the steps you can take to prepare your family and protect your home from natural disasters. Your actions can ensure that no matter what nature brings, you, your family and your community will be resilient.

Here are a few tips to follow from the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes – (FLASH®) when preparing your family for any emergency.

- Develop a family disaster plan that includes a list of food and water supplies needed for each member of your family and supplies for your pets. Make copies of important documents like insurance policies, the deed to your home, and other personal papers, important phone numbers and a home inventory. Create a checklist of important things to do before, during and after a disaster.
- Review your evacuation route and emergency shelter locations with your family. Options for evacuation would include staying with friends and relatives, seeking commercial lodging, or staying in a mass care facility operated by disaster relief groups in conjunction with local authorities.
- Taking shelter is critical in times of disaster. Sheltering in place is appropriate when conditions require that you seek protection in your home, place of employment, or other location where you are when disaster strikes.

Review your plan regularly. If you make changes that affect the information in your disaster plan, update it immediately.

Protect Your Home

The power of these natural disasters can be overwhelming. While you can't necessarily stop natural disasters from happening, there are steps you can take to increase your home's chance of survival, even in the face of the worst Mother Nature can dish out.

Earthquakes

If the earthquake occurs in a populated area, it may cause deaths, injuries and extensive property damage. Here are some helpful tips to prepare your family and protect your home.

- Plan and hold earthquake drills for your family.
- Identify two ways to escape from every room in the home.
- Keep a flashlight and sturdy shoes by each person's bed.
- Select a safe location away from the home where your family can meet after evacuating.
- Have an earthquake kit containing water, food, medicines and other necessities for at least three days
- Make sure your home is securely anchored to its foundation
- Strap water heaters, appliances and TVs to wall studs.

Fire

In 2010, more than 362,000 residential fires caused 2,555 deaths, more than 13,000 injuries and more than \$6.5 billion in property damage costs.

The United States Fire Association (USFA) states that the top five fire-safety topics most frequently identified with home fire deaths are smoke alarms, escape plans, child fire safety, older adult fire safety (cooking and heating) and careless smoking.

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So what can you do to prevent fires in your home? The USFA offers these statistics and tips:

- Children under age 5 are twice as likely as the rest of us to die in a home fire. Create an escape plan and make sure everyone in your home practices it. Plan two routes of escape from every room and designate a meeting place outside of the home. Remember: get out and stay out.
- The third leading cause of fire death for older adults is cooking. Never leave cooking unattended because a serious fire can start in seconds. Don't wear loose clothing while cooking. Keep towels and pot holders away from the range. Double-check the kitchen before you go to bed or leave your home.
- The second leading cause of fire death for older adults is heating. When buying a space heater, look for the auto-off feature should the heater fall over. Keep space heaters at least three feet away from other objects. Your fireplace should have a screen large enough to catch flying sparks and rolling logs.
- The number one cause of preventable home fire deaths is smoking. If you smoke, practice these fire-safety tips to avoid putting your life, your home and your family at risk: Don't leave a burning cigarette, cigar or pipe unattended. If you feel drowsy, put it out immediately. Use deep ashtrays. And, never smoke in bed.
- More than 2,500 Americans died in home fires last year. In most cases, the home did not have a working smoke alarm. A sounding smoke alarm gives you with the extra seconds you need to get out of your home - alive. Install and maintain a smoke alarm on every level of your home. Replace the battery every year. It's a simple way to help keep you and your family better protected 24-7.



Residential fire sprinkler ordinances have been adopted by several hundred U.S. communities for use in one and two family dwellings. Such systems have been shown to provide significant life safety benefits. Adding residential fire sprinklers to the 2009 International Residential Code so that communities can adopt them as part of their local building code is the most important step to reducing residential fire deaths since requiring smoke alarms in residential structures.

Information about Home Fire Escape Planning

Children as young as three years old can follow a fire escape plan they have practiced often. Yet, many families don't have detailed escape plans, and those that do usually don't practice them. Practicing a fire escape plan and fire-safe behaviors on a regular basis can mean the difference between life and death. Draw a basic diagram of your home, marking all windows and doors, and plan two routes of escape out of each room.

Consider various fire scenarios when creating your plan and develop actions for a safe escape. Plan for each member of your family, including babies and toddlers who may be unable to escape on their own. Keep exits clear of debris and toys. Keep your child's bedroom door closed. If a hallway fire occurs, a closed door may hinder the smoke from overpowering your baby or toddler, giving firefighters extra time for rescue.

Teach toddlers not to hide from firefighters. Their uniforms can be scary in times of crisis. Teach children that firefighters are there to help in an emergency. Take children for a tour at your local fire station so that they can see a firefighter in full gear. Teach your children how to crawl under the smoke to reduce smoke inhalation. Also, teach your children how to touch closed doors to see if they are hot before opening. If so, use an alternate escape route.

Have a safe meeting place outside the home and teach children never to go back inside. Practicing fire-safe behaviors and knowing what to do in an emergency can give your family extra seconds to escape.

- Dave Richey, Building Official

Chickens: What You Should Know

Spring is here and you might be interested in raising a few chickens. Some people enjoy keeping chickens as pets, for eggs and to educate their children. In order to provide clear and consistent guidelines the City Council updated the chicken ordinance. A special use permit is required in order to keep chickens in the city limits. The following criteria must also be met:



- Limiting each property to owning six (6) chickens, poultry or fowl.
- Prohibits Roosters
- Identifies that the birds must be contained to the site or kept in a fenced and they cannot be kept in the front yard.
- Identifies that chicken coops must meet the accessory structure setback requirements.
- Identifies that the required special use permit can only be granted for two years and reviewed on a biennial basis.

Chickens can only be kept in the City of Jerome if the owner has an approved special use permit. Chickens are allowed through a special use permit in the R-1, R-2 and R-3 residential zones as well as the C-1, C-2, C-3, M-1 and M-2 zones. The special use permit process allows residents and property owners the opportunity to go through a review process to request permission to do something that is not permitted outright in the zone, such as keeping chickens. This process is in place to allow additional uses and ensure that it is a good fit for surrounding areas. Special Use Permits require a public hearing and they are reviewed by the Planning & Zoning Commission.

To apply for a Special Use Permit please fill out the application form. This form is available on the City's website at www.ci.jerome.id.us/forms. Please submit the application, supporting documentation and \$75 fee to the City of Jerome. City staff will send out public notice and schedule a public hearing. The Planning Commission meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7PM.

If you have questions about the proposed chicken ordinance, special use permits or the process please contact the Planning Department at 324-8189.

- Zoe Monahan, Community Development Director

Dog Licensing

The City of Jerome requires all dogs, six months of age or older, to be licensed and possess a valid rabies vaccine. Dog Licenses are available at the Jerome Police Department, 124 South Lincoln. Licenses are also available at the Sawtooth Veterinary Hospital or Jerome Veterinary Hospital. (These licenses are not sold through the mail). Please bring a copy of the dog's current proof of rabies vaccination. Licenses will not be issued without proof of vaccination. It is not necessary to bring your dog to the police department at the time of licensing. The fine for an unlicensed dog is \$50. For more information please contact Jerome Police Department at 324-4328.

The costs for licenses are as follows:

- Neutered/Spayed: 1 Year \$2.00
- Not Neutered/Spayed: 1 Year \$4.00
- Neutered/Spayed: 3 Years \$4.00
- Not Neutered/Spayed: 3 Years \$6.00



- Gordon Leining, Animal Control Officer

Home Occupation Guidelines

Whether you are starting a business from home or looking to move your business to your home office, it is important to familiarize yourself with the City Code. By knowing what to expect, you will spare many headaches down the road.

Home occupation is defined as any use conducted entirely within a residence and carried on by the people living there; it must not change the character of the house nor adversely affect the surrounding neighbors. The first step in determining if you may operate a business out of your home is to check the zoning of your residence. Home occupations require a Special Use permit in all three residential zones within the city limits.

To apply for a Special Use permit, you will need to fill out the Planning & Zoning application, which may be accessed on our website at www.ci.jerome.id.us or you may pick one up at City Hall. Once your completed application is received along with a narrative addressing the special use permit criteria and home occupation criteria and required fee, a Planning & Zoning Commission meeting will be scheduled to evaluate your proposal. Special Use Permits require a public hearing be held for each applicant. During the public hearing, the public is invited to offer testimony regarding the proposal. Testimony may favor, be neutral, or oppose your project. The Commission may approve, conditionally approve, or deny a special use permit.

If your special use permit is approved, you may move forward with your home occupation. Depending on the type of home occupation, you may require additional permits and inspections by the Building Official and the Fire Department. For more information please contact the Planning & Zoning Department at 324-8189.

- Esmeralda Chavez, Administrative Assistant

Southern Idaho Solid Waste

Revised April 4, 2014

Southern Idaho Solid Waste (SISW) has a new wood waste policy that begins April 1.

The policy affects Cassia County, Minidoka County, Blaine County, Gooding County, Jerome County, Lincoln County and Twin Falls County. Under the new policy, SISW will accept yard wood waste and untreated wood waste. Untreated wood waste does not contain metal, plastics, chemicals or other wood treatments.

Acceptable materials include yard wastes like tree trunks and limbs, bark, bushes and shrubs, Christmas trees with no lights, decorations, tinsel or stands. Acceptable untreated wood waste includes untreated dimensional lumber, wood fencing, pallets and wood poles. **Grass and weeds are able to be placed in the blue bins for disposal.**



Unacceptable wood wastes include wood with any metal attachments, wood treated with chemicals, glue, paint or varnish, Christmas trees with decorations, flocking or stands, particleboard, plywood, doors, wood siding, **bulk loads** of grass and leaves.

SISW is working to find ways to transition to the new policy as smoothly as possible. For more information, call SISW at (208)432-9082.

- Sonny Henry, Assistant Building Official

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WWW.CI.JEROME.ID.US

What's Happening At The Library

'Make It At The Library' has officially taken flight at Jerome Public Library (JPL)! JPL hosted its first ever 'Make It' programs during Teen Tech Week. On Monday, March 10th, the teens worked with the 'Brick Lab' to make their own versions of the Egyptian Pyramids. They learned the basic construction of pyramids, and took it to the next level by incorporating different levels, pathways and burial chambers into their pyramids. On Thursday, March 13th, the Teens used the 'Brick Lab' to construct different body parts. They made hands, eyes, a nose, and even a brain! The most recent 'Make It' program was on Monday, March 17th, where we pulled out the Discover E! kits and made Cart Launcher's! The kids learned engineering and construction concepts, and they were even able to witness Newton's First Law of Motion firsthand! To get more information about the programs available at the library see page 8.



Trash Collection Notice Reminder

Alley pick up has resumed. All residents who normally have alley pick up will need to place their trash cans back in the alley. Pick up days will remain the same; to ensure proper pick up please have your trash cans out the night prior to your pick up day.

A few years ago the City of Jerome and PSI changed the way your trash is picked up in the winter months. Beginning the first full week of December, residents who have alley pick up are asked to start placing their trash cans out on the front curb. This change was made because the alley ways were becoming soft and rutted from snow fall it made it difficult for the garbage trucks to reach all residents. It also helps protect the infrastructure that the City has laid throughout the alley. Beginning the first full week of March, the residents are asked to place their trash cans back in the alleys.

Code Enforcement Reminder: Remember to Mow

Spring is in the air! The grass is greener and trees are blossoming as the weather gets warmer. The City of Jerome would like to remind you that grass and weeds cannot be over 8 inches tall within the City limits. If you have shrubs or branches that overhang onto a public street or sidewalk, they need to be trimmed. A notice is published in the newspaper each year to inform property owners of these requirements. The City makes every effort to give advance notice of a violation to property owners who are not repeat offenders. However, if you don't correct the issue, the City is permitted by law to mow the lawn or clean the property of rubbish and/or other declared nuisances and charge the property owner.

If you would like to obtain the definition of nuisance, per Chapter 8 of the Jerome Municipal Code or for more information please contact the Building Department at 324-8189. Thank you for keeping Jerome beautiful!

- Sonny Henry, Assistant Building Official



**Jerome
Recreation
District**

Kid's Night

- April 18th – 7-9 PM
- Crafts, Snacks & Activities!
- It's a fiesta!

Youth T-Ball & Coach Pitch

- Registration open until April 21st
- 5 – 8 years old
- T-Ball – Monday
- Coach Pitch – Tuesday or Wednesday
- 6 week session

Adult Co-ed Softball

- Registration open until April 21st
- Limited to 6 lower and 6 upper league teams

Tumbling

- April 2nd, 16th, and 30th
- Aerials 5PM
- Super Twisters 5:45PM

Adult Co-ed Softball & Youth T-Ball Coach Pitch

- Registration open until April 21st

Taekwondo

- Adults – Saturdays 9-10:30AM
- 4 – 17 years olds – Tuesday & Thursday 4-5PM

Kids Fitness Class

- Tuesday & Thursday 5:30-6:15PM

**Check out their website for class schedules and the latest JRD information:
www.jeromerecreationdistrict.com**

Jerome Recreation District
2032 South Lincoln, Jerome, ID 83338
(208)324-3389

EVENTS IN MARCH

YOUTH LIBRARY PROGRAMS

- Game Day – Tuesdays 3:30PM
- Story Time – Fridays 10AM & 1PM
- Movies – Fridays 2:30PM
- Anime Club – Fridays 3:30PM

Contact the Library at 324-5427 for adult programs.



EVENTS AROUND TOWN

Meet the Candidates Night, May 15, 7 p.m., at the Jerome Public Library. Meet the incumbents and challengers running for office. Hosted by the Jerome Civic Club. Refreshments will be served. 324-8210

American Legion Auxiliary meeting April 3, 4 p.m., at the American Legion Hall, North Lincoln and Seventh Street East. 944-4300

Jerome Civic Club meeting April 8, 1 p.m. at the Jerome Public Library. All women are welcome. We support the Library and CASA. 324-8210

Friends of the Jerome Library meeting, April 10, 10 a.m. at Jerome Public Library. 324-5427

Jerome County Historical Society meeting, April 10, 6 p.m. at the Depot Museum 212 East First Ave, Jerome. 324-5641 or 421-6632

Idaho Writers League Twin Falls area chapter meeting April 19, 10 a.m. KMVT Community Room, North Blue Lakes Blvd, Twin Falls. 324-4813 or 421-6632

Square Dance lessons every Monday and Wednesday 7 p.m. at American Legion Hall, North Lincoln and Seventh Street East. 324-5120

- Esmeralda Chavez

SUNSHINE ROGERS IS EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Sunshine Rogers has worked for the City of Jerome, in the Public Works Department, since late 2010. She has been a valuable member of the crew and always does the best work that she can. Walt Appell, Public Works Director, stated "She has taken upon herself to step up to the plate to learn all the skills needed for the water operations division within Public Works. When she does not have a specific skill set, she takes the time to continue to learn new tasks and trades. This makes her a very valuable asset to the Public Works Department and the City of Jerome as a whole".



Recently, Ms. Rogers smelled smoke while she was out in the field. She took the initiative to identify where the smoke was coming from, and contacted emergency services. She also notified the residents that their house was on fire. She helped the family and small puppies evacuate the home. A co-worker stated, "Sunshine always goes above and beyond for the City of Jerome, the residents, and fellow employees".

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