

City of Union News Letter

"Promote rural values, protect local assets and foster community pride"

City of Union
342 South Main Street * P.O. Box 529
Union, OR 97883
541-562-5197 * Fax 541-562-5196
eMail: cityhall@CityOfUnion.com
Website: CityOfUnion.com

CITY HALL HOURS: Monday thru Thursday
10:00 am - 5:00 pm - Open during lunch

Union Carnegie Public Library
Mon 10:30am - 6:00pm Thurs 1:00pm - 6:00pm
Tue 10:00am - 5:30pm Fri 9:00am - 3:30pm
Wed 4:00pm - 8:00pm

July 2014



UTILITY RATE CHANGE

The City of Union ORD 508 requires every July utility rates (water and sewer) are adjusted by 2.5% to keep the water and sewer rates current with increased costs of operation.

ATTENTION

Effective July 1, 2014

WATER RATES PER MONTH

\$21.69 – each REU up to 1000 cubic feet on a ¾ inch meter
\$14.58 – small business up to 200 cubic feet on a ¾ inch meter
\$13.65 – vacation/reduced rate per REU
** additional water is .010 per cubic foot

SEWER RATE PER MONTH

\$41.63 – per REU
\$22.33 – vacation/reduced rate per REU

WATER PROJECT FEE

\$6.00 – per REU

EMS/FIRE USER FEE

\$10.00 – per REU

The Secret is Out!!

The City of Union is ranked as #20 in a national study of the best places to own a home in Oregon! Using a measure of stability, generally people are living in houses they own and they're not moving, this study shows a level of investment and pride in a community. Union's home ownership rate is 73.5%, meaning that of the homes in the city, 73.5% are lived in by their owners. Union also tied for eighth -among the top 20- on what percentage of their monthly income homeowners spend on their homes. Union residents spend about 30% of their monthly income on their homes. This is an important number that potential home buyers will look at when looking to move to the city. This study ranked cities on three factors; availability of homes, affordability and city growth.

We are all proud of Union and knew this is a great place to live, and now the secret is out!!



happy
4th
JULY!

UNDER SURVEILLANCE!!



Think twice before you dump that chair, carpet or tires!
Or any illegal items at the Transfer Station.
There are camera's watching you!!
Fines will be issued without warning!



Medical Marijuana Moratorium

Union City Council, in May of 2014, approved Ordinance 535 and ordinance of the City of Union declaring a moratorium on medical marijuana facilities and declaring an emergency. How is Union impacted by this ordinance? The moratorium removes the immunity provisions of Oregon Medical Marijuana Act for anyone operating a medical marijuana facility in an area of a moratorium, notwithstanding that they may be a medical marijuana card holder or previously registered with the Oregon Health Authority under ORS 475.314

City Council will spend the next 10 months creating policy for medical marijuana facilities to work cooperatively alongside other businesses and property owners within the city of Union.

Comments or concerns can be sent to your City Councilors by way of email cityhall@cityofunion.com or dropped off at city hall. You are also welcomed to attend City Council meetings the second Tuesday of the month at 7 pm. Public comment is allowed before and at the end of the meetings.

MAIN STREET

**Wagon Wheel Bike Racks
were made locally and purchased by
City of Union Chamber of Commerce
and local businesses.**



The Mayor's Corner



Hello Union Residents,

This month's subject is Buffalo Peak Golf Course, which is to bring economic development for both Union County and the City of Union.

At this time the golf course is losing about \$130,000.00 per year.

So what can be done to offset the loss? Facilitate programs that promote new players, add new facilities to improve the course while jointly benefiting the course and the city, how about a community center. A community center could be a host for many different activities such as tournaments, dinners, weddings and receptions, senior citizen activities, or meetings and conferences. It can be used as a higher end destination location for all of the above, such a building is difficult to find in Union County with hospitality, view, recreation with a great facility.

To accomplish this our City of Union Chamber of Commerce, working with the golf course, could apply for grants and loans to construct the new facility. Also the Chamber and the golf course could setup other incentives with our local business's to generate revenue for both.

Another project for activities in the city of Union is to have overnight campgrounds for cyclists. So that we could become the hub for riders in the area. Union is in the middle of the Grande Tour Scenic Bike Route, this means bikers that ride this route must pass through Union twice before returning to their vehicles. It would be beneficial to the city to give the bikers a place to spend the night, shop and eat in our community. Finding ways to setup groups of riders from around the state to come ride this scenic route would benefit Union and our county. If volunteers would seek out the groups around the state and promote the route more riders would come, and making it a reality.

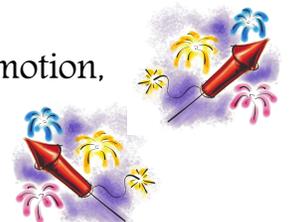
Yours Truly,
The Mayor



Quote of the Month ~

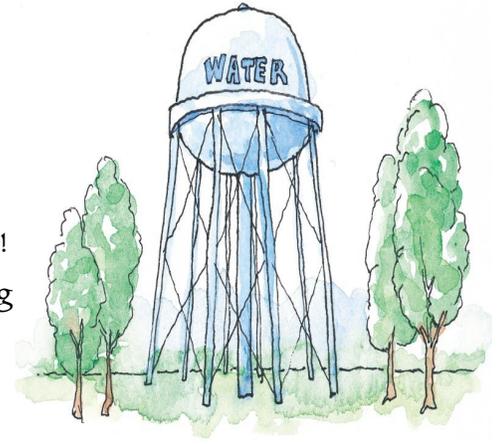
I venture to suggest that patriotism is not a short and frenzied outburst of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a life time....

Adlai E. Stevenson II



A MUCH NEEDED FACE LIFT!!

Union's water tower will be getting a much needed face-lift this summer!
It has been 25 years since her last paint job. She has held up well during some extreme weather conditions, but it is time to spruce her up!
So watch for the transformation!



NO BURNING!

Reminder:
There will be **NO** burning during the months
of **July through September**
(or longer if state and federal mandates)

Small portable burning devices, (such as those purchased from Wal-Mart) can still be used if it is screen covered and watched at all times. You can only burn clean dry wood.



If you have any concerns
or questions
call city hall 541-562-5197

Grassroots Festival

~
August 9th



City-wide yard sale
Vendors
Car Show



And a whole lot more!!

Become A Part of Your Local Government!

The City of Union currently has 2 city Planning Commission seats open, 3 Council positions and a Mayor position open as of January 1, 2015

For job descriptions, filing packets, information or any other questions regarding these positions contact city hall, 541-562-5197

Filing packets are available, the deadline to file will be August 25th, 2014

Support Your Community!



City of Union

PO Box 529

Union, OR 97883

Drinking Water Report 2013 Sampling Results

THIS IS OUR ANNUAL CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT (CCR)

We provide quality drinking water that meets all federal and state requirements.

During recent years we have sampled for many different chemicals and have found very little contamination. Contamination is anything other than pure water. We sample total coliform bacteria as an indicator of microorganisms (bacteria, viruses and other small creatures) that should not be present. The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the past calendar year or in our most recent tests as noted. 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 a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling [541-562-5197](tel:541-562-5197) or U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) **Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)**. EPA's website is www.epa.gov/safewater.

Terms and abbreviations

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): 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.

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

na: not applicable **nd:** not detectable at testing limit **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter **pCi/L:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

Regulated	MCLG	MCL	Our Water	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	0	15 AL	1.9	9-10-13	No	Corrosive water & home plumbing
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3 AL	0.058	9-10-13	No	Corrosive water & home plumbing
Arsenic (ppb)	na	10	4.3	6-4-12	No	Natural deposits, orchards, glass & electronic production wastes
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.48	6-4-12	No	Naturally occurring
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.02	6-4-12	No	Naturally occurring
Sodium (ppm)	na	na	32.7*	6-4-12	No	Naturally occurring
Nickel (ppb)	na	100	0.001	6-4-12	No	Naturally occurring

*Sodium: There is no standard for sodium in drinking water at the federal level, but USEPA recommends that drinking water sodium be held to 20 ppm or less because sodium is so common in other beverages and food.

WE HAD NO VIOLATIONS!

The Drinking Water Program has identified criteria for determining whether a community public water system has provided safe water to the public and should be considered to have "**Outstanding Performance**." The City of Union received this designation in December 2009!

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The State of Oregon has completed this assessment plan for our wells which includes a map of where the water comes from, possible sources of contamination, and a review of the susceptibility of the source for contamination. This plan is available for public review.

Your drinking water comes from ground water

The City of Union presents this report to inform their water consumers of the quality of the drinking water supply.

The City is committed to supplying their water consumers with a safe and sufficient supply. The City's water is ground water derived from two deep wells that are tapped into a basalt aquifer. The two wells have the potential to produce four million gallons per day. During the high usage period from July through August the demand rarely exceeds 1.5 million gallons per day. Because of the nature of the aquifer, the water reaches the surface at 65° F.

The City's water supply and system are continually monitored in compliance with State and Federal laws. There are 105 different contaminants that the City tests for in the drinking water. This report will list only those contaminants that have been detected from the water samples. The samples are analyzed by laboratories certified by the State of Oregon.

Sources of drinking water: both tap water and bottled water originate as “surface water” from rivers and lakes or as “ground water” from springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and , in some cases, radioactive material. Water picks up wastes from both human and animal activities. Surface water is usually filtered and disinfected to remove bacteria, viruses, and protozoa. Ground water is usually filtered naturally.

Contaminants that may be present include:

Microbial contaminants such as bacteria, viruses, and protozoa are very small living creatures that may be natural and harmless or harmful if originating from septic systems, agricultural livestock operations or wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants such as heavy metals can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges.

Pesticides and herbicides may come from agriculture and residential uses.

Radioactive contaminants are naturally-occurring.

Organic chemical contaminants are usually man-made (synthetic) and vaporize easily (volatile). Petroleum products and degreasers are examples of gas station and dry cleaner waste transported by storm water and sewers.

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 lesson the risk of infection by *Crypto sporidim* and other microbial contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline, phone number 1-800-426-4791**

EPA ensures that tap water is safe to drink by writing regulations that limits both natural and man-made contaminants. We follow both state and federal regulations. Interstate bottled water is regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration.

HEALTH TIP

If present, elevated levels of **lead** can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components.

When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

If you have any questions or in emergencies please call:
Paul Phillips 541-562-5197



4TH OF JULY FACTS...

**Every 4th of July the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia is 'tapped' (not actually rung) thirteen times in honor of the original thirteen colonies.

**There was an estimated 2.5 million people living in the newly independent nation in 1776

** 31...places nationwide with 'Liberty' in their name

11...places nationwide with 'Independence' in their name

5...places nationwide with 'Freedom' in their name

5...places with 'American' in their name

1...place with 'Patriot' in the name

**A salute of one gun for each state in the US, called a 'salute to the union', is fired on Independence Day at noon at all capable military base's

**More than 81 million Americans BBQ on the 4th of July



The following Ordinances are being considered for adoption at either August 11, 2014 or September 8, 2014 by Union City Council. For the reason Ordinances must be read into the record one time before adoption the list below will be split into two lists. Further notification will be given on which ordinance will be on which night. If you would like to review any of the ordinances below a full copy can be picked up at city hall any time after July 14th, or we can email a copy to you or at a reasonable cost.

Ordinance 537 an ordinance repealing portions of chapter 95 of the City of Union code and re-codifying others.

Ordinance 538 an ordinance concerning arrest procedures, municipal court appearances and forfeitures, and contempt of court penalties.

Ordinance 539 an ordinance concerning warrants for inspections for public nuisances, health, safety, sanitation, and zoning.

Ordinance 540 an ordinance regulating noxious vegetation.

Ordinance 541 an ordinance regulation solid and other wastes.

Ordinance 542 an ordinance concerning the abatement of dangerous and nuisance buildings.

Ordinance 543 an ordinance amending and restating City of Union code chapter 92 relating to fire protection and regulation.

Ordinance 544 an ordinance amending 50.013 of the City of Union code relating to exemptions for system development charges.

Ordinance 545 an ordinance amending city of Union code section 50.068 (F) (5) relating to minimum fees during periods of disconnection and providing for new provisions relating to water and sewer rates.**Ordinance 546** an ordinance repealing and replacing sections 92.60, 92.61, 92.62 and 92.63 of the City of Union code relating to emergency services fee

Update Your Info!

There are occasions when we need to contact our customers. In the case of an emergency, whether it's water/sewer related or fire/medical, we can't reach you unless we have your current information!

Please call city hall with new updated information!

It is also extremely important that you have proper identification on your homes. It is very difficult for the ambulance crew or fire crews to find you in the event of an emergency if there are no numbers on your homes.

In an emergency time is everything!! Something as simple as house numbers can save you or your neighbors life or home.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

If you would like to advertise your monthly event or activity email cityhall@cityofunion.com or call 541-562-5197.



SUPPORT ALL OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES!!

IT IS IMPORTANT TO OUR CITY'S ECONOMY TO FREQUENT, SHOP AND UTILIZE ALL OF OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES.



IT REALLY DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!



ORGANIZATION	MEETING DATE	LOCATION	TIME	PHONE
Booster Club Meeting		Old Music Room	6:00 pm	
City of Union Chamber	2 nd Thurs of the month	See Nick @ Union Drug	Noon	www.visitunionor.org
City Council	2 nd Mon of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
Cove/Union Medical Assoc	2 nd Tues of the month	Union Health Cntr	6:00 pm	541-562-5441
CUP Medical Association	3 rd Tues of the month	Health Clinic	6:30 pm	
CUP Senior Assisted Living	2 nd & 4 th Thursdays	Union Drug Co.	6:00 pm	541-562-5441
Order of Eastern Star	2 nd Wed of the month	Masonic Hall	7:30 pm	541-805-0779
EMS Department	1 st Mon of the month	Rural Fire Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5660
Food Bank	Saturday after 3 rd Monday	Methodist Church	9-11 am	541-562-5675
Food Alliance	Every Monday	Methodist Church	12:30-1 pm	
Friends of the Library	2 nd Tuesday of the month	Union Library	7:00 pm	541-562-5807
Int'l Rainbow for Girls	2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays	Masonic Hall	7:00 pm	541-975-9495
Library Board	1 st Wed of the month	Library	3:30 pm	541-562-5811
Lions Club	1st Wed of the month	Union Library	5:30 pm	541-562-5685
Municipal Court	1 st Wed/every quarter	City Hall	5:30 pm	541-562-5197
Planning Commission	3 rd Wed of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
Senior Lunch	Every Tuesday	Methodist Church	12:00 pm	541-562-5675
South County Health Dist	3 rd Tues of the month	Health Clinic	7:00 pm	
Stockshow Board	2 nd Tues of the month	EOLS Club House	7:30 pm	
TOPS	Every Wednesday	Union Health Cntr	8:30 am	541-562-9009
VFW Bingo	Every Wednesday night	VFW Hall	5 pm	541-562-6035
VFW Formal meeting	1 st Thursday of month	VFW Hall	7 pm	541-562-6035