# **Dufur News**

#### August 2022

#### **Wastewater Project**

The City of Dufur is beginning the first phase of a wastewater system improvements project. The purpose of the first phase of the project is to update the existing wastewater effluent center pivot irrigation system and to remove sewage sludge from the wastewater treatment lagoon, Cell No. 1. The City treats its wastewater at the Wastewater Treatment Facility located East of Hogans Alley. The wastewater is irrigated in the summer months and discharged to Fifteenmile Creek in the winter months. The existing irrigation system is problematic and in need of replacement. The sewage sludge that has accumulated in the treatment lagoon needs to be removed to prepare for the upcoming phases of the wastewater system improvements project that will involve construction of new wastewater treatment lagoons.

During the removal of sewage sludge there is the potential for objectional odors to occur. Large dump trucks will be driving through town both to and from the park and we ask for your extra diligence with safe driving during this time.

On behalf of the City of Dufur, I would like to thank you for your patience and cooperation during this critical project for the City. The improvements that we are making will serve the City for many years to come.



#### **Express Bill Pay**

Online payments are finally here! Express Bill Pay will be ready to go in September for residents who would like to pay their water & sewer bill online, or set up auto-pay.

All you need is an internet connection through a web browser and an email address.

Every month you'll receive a reminder email to let you know when your bill is online. Then, you just log into your account at xpressbillpay.com and view your bill.

When you're ready to pay your bill, select a payment type. You can pay with credit card, debit card, or electronic funds transfer. Enter the information and you're done!

Sign up today by going to <u>www.xpressbillpay.com</u>

Complete instructions for setting up Xpress Bill Pay are stapled to the back of this newsletter.

#### **New Water Meters Coming Soon!**

The City of Dufur received 140K from the CARES act for infrastructure projects. Council voted to spend these funds on new digital meters.

Installation will be done by contractors sometime this Fall.

The new meters will have improved accuracy and will enable public works to read meters year-round.

### Water and Sewer Rate Increase effective November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Prior to Covid, the City of Dufur was 2 years in to a 3year rate increase plan for water & sewer service. The last increase was in October 2019, which was the second of three increases. These new rates helped the City qualify for grant funding to replace our aging sewer and water infrastructure. The forthcoming increase will add an additional 10% to water cost and a flat rate of \$10 to sewer. This is the last of the 3 increases.

Example bills reflecting new rates:

#### Inside city limits:

| Water*          | \$43.80  | Up to 10,000 Gallons |
|-----------------|----------|----------------------|
| Sewer**         | \$73.00  |                      |
| Capital Reserve | \$5.00   |                      |
| Total           | \$121.80 | Increase of \$13.53  |

\*includes \$5 meter charge

\*\*includes \$10 DEQ assessment

#### Out-of-town residents:

| Water           | \$65.89 | up to 10,000 Gallons |
|-----------------|---------|----------------------|
| Capital Reserve | \$5.00  |                      |
| Total           | \$70.89 | Increase of \$5.99   |

#### South-basin water system:

| Water           | \$65.89 | up to 8,000 Gallons |
|-----------------|---------|---------------------|
| Capital Reserve | \$5.00  |                     |
| Total           | \$70.89 | Increase of \$5.99  |

#### **Dufur Volunteer Fire & Ambulance**

Friendly reminder from the folks at the Dufur Volunteer Fire and Ambulance- please stay hydrated, do your part to prevent fires, and look out for your neighbors during this summer heat!

Dufur Volunteer Fire & Ambulance could use the help of a volunteer who would be willing to put some time into researching grants for a new ambulance. Lacking the funds to buy one with city dollars, we need to explore alternative funding options. If you would be interested in helping in this capacity, please contact Sarah Smith at <u>dufurmedic31@gmail.com</u>

Monetary donations can be sent to PO box 145 Dufur, OR with checks made out to Dufur Volunteer Fire & Ambulance.

#### Job Vacancy at City of Dufur

In July 2021, the City of Dufur created a new part-time position to provide support to the city recorder and librarian. The position is open once again. Duties include library outreach services to a local daycare and Potlach, and also include desk hours at Dufur City Hall. For more information or to pick up an application, contact Kathy Bostick, City Recorder at (541) 467-2349.

#### **New City of Dufur Website**

Our website was re-done in early 2022 and we are still getting the word out to residents. We've added online billing, more pages and information, and the site is easier to navigate. Find out the dates of city council meetings, contact information for the park, library & emergency services, and information about local resources like the foodbank & potlach. We also have a news section where we post announcements. Check it out at **www.cityofdufur.org** 

#### Dufur Recreation District Receives Oregon State Parks & Recreation Grant

Dufur City Park's Pool Resurfacing Project was completed in time for 2022 swim season – it is being very well used this summer!

Dufur Recreation District coupled a \$181,536 grant award from the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department's Local Government Grant Program with District funds to resurface the pool with materials to extend the life of our 81-year-old pool. The project included additional pool decking, upgrading mechanics and new fencing.

Looking forward, the District has applied for another grant with Oregon Parks & Recreation for \$470,400 – this project will include a new ADA compliant bathhouse, parking improvements and a splash park. The District received \$200,000 from Wasco County ARPA Funds for "infrastructure"; we will use these funds as a match to the OPRD grant funds if awarded.

Dufur Pool has been frequented for generations by the community's residents and visitors. The Pool brings community members from the area together to play and exercise. With many families located in the area, the Dufur Recreation District is happy to be able to continue to provide this service to the community.

OPRD gives more than \$6 million annually to Oregon communities for outdoor recreation projects, and has awarded over \$70 million in grants across the state since 1999. The grants are funded from voterapproved Lottery money. In the 2020 grant cycle, OPRD awarded \$4,036,089 in large grants to 7 entities; the cycle includes matching funds of \$8,103,212 for projects totaling \$12,139,301!

Dufur Recreation District's mission is to enrich the quality of life for the Dufur community by preserving and enhancing recreational opportunities and open space. This grant and this project will improve the swimming facilities for today, and help preserve it for future generations. Before:



After:



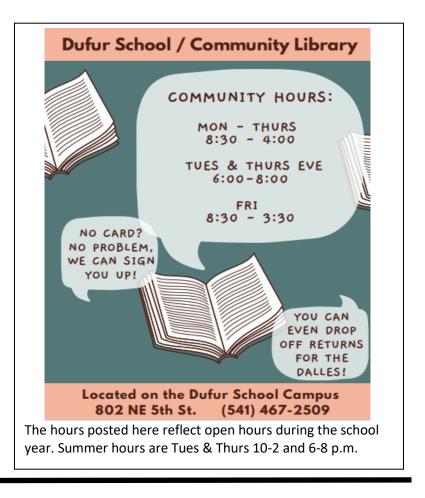
#### Dufur School & Community Library

Did you know that our library, which is located on the Dufur School campus, is a community library open to the public?

Come browse our wide selection which includes audiobooks & DVDs. If you don't find the book or item you're looking for, ask at the front desk and we may be able to order it in for you. We have internet access and computers available for use, as well as a copy machine. New books come in a few times a year. Come check it out!

#### Little Free Library

The City of Dufur was gifted a very cute little free library by Ron Carpenter from The Dalles who welded it himself. It will be installed right in front of city hall. We're excited to have this fun new resource in town for everyone to enjoy. Take a book, return a book. (Please make sure books are appropriate for a general audience) We will even be on the little free library map!



#### Calendar

#### City Council Meeting

Dufur City Hall Second Tuesday of Every Month at 7:00 PM Next Meeting: September 8th

#### **Dufur Park Board Meeting**

Dufur City Hall Second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM Next Meeting: September 14th

#### **City Hall Office Hours**

Monday – Thursday 8:30 – 3:00 p.m. Closed from 12 -1 for lunch Friday 8:30 – 12:00 PM

Phone number: 541-467-2349 Email: dufurcity@ortelco.net

#### **November 2022 Election**

There are three council positions (#2, #4 and #6) that are available for the November 2022 Election, as well as Mayor.

To qualify for a seat on council, candidates must be a registered voter, reside within Dufur city limits, and be a resident of Dufur for one year or more.

There are two options when filing for a position: Pay a \$10 filing fee, or file by petition by gathering 10 signatures. (Signatures must come from residents of Dufur, who are registered voters)

Applications can be picked up and turned in at Dufur City Hall. The deadline for applications is 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.



City of Dufur PO BOX 145 Dufur, OR 97021

FIRST CLASS MAIL US POSTAGE PAID Permit No. 001



For more info please call 541-467-2509

### Wednesdays 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Dufur Potlach

-community meal-

\$4 suggested donation Take-out option available

320 NE Aikin St. (Dufur Community Center)

### Dufur City Council

Dufur City Council's regularly scheduled meetings are <u>at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the</u> <u>month</u>, at Dufur City Hall. Agendas are posted online at **cityofdufur.org** and available 24 hours in advance at the Dufur Post Office & Kramer's Market bulletin boards.

### 2022 Council Dates:

September 13<sup>th</sup>

October 11<sup>th</sup>

November 8<sup>th</sup>

December 13th

#### **School Supply Drive**

Dufur Fire & Ambulance is sponsoring a School Supply Drive for students at Dufur School. Collection boxes and lists are located at We3, Kramers & City Hall. Your contributions will help students right here in Dufur with their school success. Thank you!

## The City of Dufur wishes a happy new school year to

our RANGERS!!