



*The citizen's source of information about the City of Ashland*

## Stop Single-Use Abuse

Single-use disposable plastics like straws, lids, coffee cups, grocery bags, eating utensils, plates, bowls, bottled water, and to-go containers are everywhere these days simply because they make life more convenient. Disposables allow people to be less thoughtful and more absent-minded in our day-to-day happenings. We certainly don't use disposables because we feel like better people, or because we believe we're doing our best for our environment. Apart from bottled water, all the disposables listed above are not recyclable in your curbside recycling cart, and - unless reused - must go into your trash.

Disposable single-use plastics appeal to many because they save time and energy in our daily routine, but at what cost? It's true that some plastic bottles end up in recycling carts, depots or collection points where they travel off and are eventually made into new products, but what many recycling-conscious people don't realize is that many plastic bottles don't ever arrive in those locations, and therefore go unrecycled. This means that each time you buy a bottle of water you essentially support an industry that encourages convenience over consciousness.

The hard reality is that there isn't anything quick or convenient about the lifecycle of a plastic disposable. Single-use disposable plastic spends just a tiny fraction of its life serving a purpose. Estimates say that the United States goes through around 1,500 plastic water bottles every second.

*Continued on page 3...*

## Table of Contents

|                                |   |                                     |   |
|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| It's Easy to Save Water .....  | 2 | Low Income Assistance .....         | 3 |
| Wildlife Mapping .....         | 2 | World Music Festival Sponsors ..... | 3 |
| Let Us Know .....              | 2 | Events .....                        | 4 |
| Ashland Fiber Network .....    | 2 | City Holidays .....                 | 4 |
| Single-Use Abuse (cont.) ..... | 3 | City Calendar .....                 | 4 |

## Sign Up for City News

If you're interested in receiving email newsletters from the City of Ashland, you can sign up on our website. Just select the subscribe buttons either underneath the Calendar or the Email Updates section on the homepage. All you need is an email address to sign up!

Email notifications include:

- Agendas & Minutes
- Calendar Events
- City News
- Employment Postings
- Projects
- RFPs

You can select to receive news from all Departments and Commissions or just the ones you prefer. At anytime if you would like to change your preferences or unsubscribe you may do so by the same way.

You can still sign up for text and email alerts from Nixle, our Community Notification System. These alerts will be focused on emergency or advisory warnings and will be sent out immediately. To sign up you can text [97520 to 888777](tel:97520888777) or by going to [ashland.or.us/nixle](http://ashland.or.us/nixle). The webpage also describes how to manage alerts.



# Giveaways

The Water Conservation Department is offering **FREE** showerheads, bathroom aerators, kitchen aerators, and moisture meters. Come see us in the Public Works Building!



51 Winburn Way Ashland, Oregon 97520

Conservation Staff: (541) 552-2062 • Email: [julie.smitherman@ashland.or.us](mailto:julie.smitherman@ashland.or.us) • Website: [www.ashlandsaveswater.org](http://www.ashlandsaveswater.org)

## It's Easy to Save Water Indoors

By choosing WaterSense and Energy Star labeled products in your home or business you can attain the same performance and quality you've come to expect, but with the added benefit of water and energy savings.

Look for the WaterSense and Energy Star labels to help you identify high-efficiency products.

Remember, when you conserve water, you also conserve energy.



## Wildlife Mapping Tool

The City of Ashland's Police Department (APD) with the help of the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Division has instituted a community-driven and education mapping tool that allows residents to track and view wildlife encounters. This tool can be found at [ashland.or.us/wildlifemap](http://ashland.or.us/wildlifemap) and is meant for educational purposes and to report non-emergency situations only. For emergency situations call 911 or dispatch at 541-770-4784 as appropriate.

All wildlife encounters beginning with the end of October have been entered. APD will strive to review submissions on a daily basis before they are populated on the map. If you have additional entries please click the "add" button in the lower right corner and provide as much detail as possible. Thank you to APD and the GIS division for the development and monitoring of this tool!



## Let Us Know...

Is there a street light out in your neighborhood? Potholes on your street?

Other information you'd like the City to know, so we can fix it accordingly?

Contact the City of Ashland by using our Let Us Know section at the bottom of the homepage. All you need to do is fill out the form and the information will get circulated to the appropriate Department for action.

## High Speed Internet for Residents & Businesses in Ashland

Great news for all customers: Our speeds just **doubled**—at no extra charge to you!

**Max Home—Up to 60Mbps \$55/month**  
Email, surfing and music

**Max Streaming—Up to 120Mbps \$65/month**  
Great for video streaming

**Max Small Business—Up to 180Mbps \$95/month**  
Make your business fly



**Get Started Now!**

Call 541-552-2222  
Or visit [ashlandfiber.net](http://ashlandfiber.net)



A Service of the City of Ashland

## Stop Single-Use Abuse (continued page 1)

According to the EPA, one-third to two-thirds of the debris found on beaches comes from single-use disposable plastic packaging from food and beverage-related goods and services. Collectively cutting just bottled water out of our lives could significantly reduce the amount of waste we find on ocean beaches.

Consider acting on this problem of single-use abuse by taking a hard look at your dependence. Consider making small changes in your habits. Bring a reusable cup and cutlery wherever you go. Store a reusable to-go container at work. Decline a straw before you order a drink. Skip a lid. Store reusable bags in your car. And remember – there is no such thing as “away” when it comes to single-use plastics.

## Low Income Assistance for Utility Bills

The City of Ashland has funds available for the Ashland Low Income Energy Assistance Program, which assists low income residents with electric bill costs during the cold winter months.

Eligible Ashland residents include those whose income are at or below 65 percent of Oregon’s median income. These levels are based on household income and household size. Qualified recipients will receive a credit on their electric utility charges. Credits of up to 50 percent will be given to seniors and disabled persons for up to six months and credits of 50 percent to other qualified residents for up to three months. The maximum allowed credit is \$300.00 for either group.

As of October 1, applicants may call the request line at (541) 552-2038 to request a Low Income Assistance application packet or may pick one up at the Utility Billing Counter at City Hall. If you know of someone who might qualify and needs assistance, please let them know about this program. The deadline to submit the application is January 31, 2019.



## Sponsor the Ashland World Music Festival

The 3rd annual Ashland World Music Festival is a family-friendly event full of music, dance, food and fun from cultures near and far. The Festival will be taking place on **Saturday, May 18**, from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Lithia Park and is free. The festival is produced by Rogue World Music and Ashland Parks & Recreation Commission with support from generous local sponsors.

If you are interested in becoming one of these sponsors for the 2019 event, please go to [ashland.or.us/AWME](http://ashland.or.us/AWME). You can also find more information about the entertainers and current sponsors at the URL listed above.

Join the party and get your global groove on at the Ashland World Music Festival!



## Events

### ***Gentle Hatha Yoga for Adults 60 & Better***

Want to stretch and strengthen while easing stress? This class is designed with the belief that yoga can be practiced by anyone, and is instructed at a slow and gentle pace. Includes yoga postures, breath work and deep relaxation. Wear comfortable loose attire and bring your yoga mat. Try your first class at no cost! *Pre-registration not required.*

AGES 60 & up  
DAYS Mondays  
DATES Jan 7, 14, 28 & Feb 4, 11, 25  
TIMES 9:30-10:30 a.m.  
PLACE Ashland Senior Center  
1699 Homes Ave

### ***Project FeederWatch***

Help count birds that visit the feeders at North Mountain Park while learning to identify species with expert birders. The information collected will be submitted to Cornell University's FeederWatch project, a nationwide citizen science bird monitoring effort. This is a great opportunity for all-level birders to get acquainted with local birds and mingle with other birders under a covered pavilion. *Pre-registration is not required for this free program.*

AGES 9 & up  
DAY Alternate Saturdays  
DATE Jan 5 & 19, Feb 2 & 16, Mar 2, 16 & 30  
TIME 9-10 a.m.  
PLACE North Mountain Park Pavilion  
620 N Mountain Ave

### ***Ashland Rotary Centennial Ice Rink***

The Ashland Rotary Centennial Ice Rink is open! Skate rentals are available for toddler size 9 and up to men's size 15. Please come prepared to skate, as changing rooms are not available. Hot chocolate, coffee and a variety of snacks will be available for purchase. The rink offers skate trainers for select sessions available at no charge. For more information on prices, schedules, lessons, programming, hockey, scholarships and all offers, visit [ashland.or.us/icerink](http://ashland.or.us/icerink) or call the ice rink directly at (541) 488-9189. You may also call the APRC office at (541) 488-5340.

AGES All  
DATE Nov 15 through Feb 18  
PLACE 95 Winburn Way

**The City of Ashland will be closed on  
Tuesday, January 1, 2019 for New Years  
Day and Monday, January 21, 2019 for the  
Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.**

**We apologize for any inconvenience this  
may cause.**

## January City Calendar

### City Council

Business Meeting: Jan. 15 | 7 p.m.

Study Sessions: Jan. 14 | 5:00 p.m.

### Airport Commission

TBD | 9:30 a.m.

### Conservation Commission

Jan. 23 | 6 p.m.

### Forest Lands Commission

Jan. 8 | 5:30 p.m.

Fire Station #2, 1860 Ashland Street

### Historic Commission

Jan. 2 | 6 p.m.

### Housing and Human Services Comm.

Jan. 24 | 4:30 p.m.

### Parks and Recreation Commission

Business Meeting: Jan. 28 | 7 p.m.

Study Session: TBD | 5:30 p.m.

### Planning Commission

Business Meeting: Jan. 8 | 7 p.m.

Study Session: Jan. 24 | 7 p.m.

### Public Art Commission

Jan. 18 | 8 a.m.

### Transportation Commission

Jan. 17 | 6 p.m.

### Tree Commission

Jan. 3 | 6 p.m.

### Wildfire Mitigation Commission

Jan. 16 | 11 a.m.

Fire Station #1, 455 Siskiyou Boulevard

▲ Meetings are held at Council Chambers, 1175 East Main or at 51 Winburn Way (unless otherwise noted) and are open to the public. ▲ TTY 1-800-735-2900.

▲ City Council and many other city meetings are broadcast live on channel 9. Charter Communications customers will find city meetings on channels 180 and 181. Meetings also stream live on the internet at [rvtv.sou.edu](http://rvtv.sou.edu).

