City of Coeur d'Alene Municipal Milestones Newsletter January 2023 Issue 104



In The News

Preventing Frozen Pipes

When cold weather arrives, the City receives calls regarding frozen pipes. Most often the freeze-up occurs on the customer's side of the meter due to exposed pipes. Unfortunately, frozen water pipes are the customer's responsibility.

Customers can reduce their chances of having their pipes freeze by taking a few steps as outlined below:

- Make sure you have disconnected all outside garden hoses.
- Check your foundation or crawl space vents if they aren't covered, or the vents aren't closed for the winter, they should be, and they can be insulated.
- Along with foundation vents, check for any other openings that might cause wind to blow into your crawl space. A frosty draft quickly primes a pipe to freeze.
- Exposed pipes freeze first. If you have a crawl space, make sure these pipes are covered with appropriate insulating material and possibly heat tape.
- On very cold nights, you might want to open the doors on any cabinets installed near an exterior wall. Opening cabinet doors allows warmer, room-temperature air to circulate which helps prevent freezing.
- Be prepared know where your water shut-off is located in the house or apartment.

If a freeze-up occurs and if the structure is a trailer or a home with a crawl space, go into the crawl space and check the pipe bringing water into the structure. This is most commonly the problem. DO NOT THAW WITH AN OPEN FLAME! Cont. pg 2



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CITY DEPARTMENTS

Main Line 208.769.2300 **Building Services** 208.769.2267 Engineering 208.769.2235 Finance/Utilities 208.769.2227 208.769.2340 Human Resources 208.769.2205 Legal 208.769.2348 Library 208.769.2315 Municipal Services 208.769.2300 Parks 208.769.2252 Planning 208.769.2274 Police 208.769.2320 Recreation 208.769.2250 Streets 208.769.2235 Wastewater 208.769.2281 208.769.2210 Water



Preventing Frozen Pipes, cont.

The best way to thaw the pipe is to use a hair dryer, although it can also be done with a portable or area heater that does not use an open flame. Any electric devices used to thaw frozen pipes should be placed in such a way so that they do not get wet should the pipe begin leaking water once the ice is thawed.

You can prevent a recurrence by making sure the pipe is covered with insulation (heat tape is best) and ensuring that the vents and openings are closed. The second most common cause of a freeze-up is an outside faucet where a hose has been left in place. You can use the same methods as above to thaw it out.

It is not recommended that people leave water running. While this can be an effective way to prevent freeze-ups, people often run too much of a stream of water and end up with very high utility bills. Utility billing will not adjust bills for customers who choose to do this.

When thawing a frozen pipe, it is a good idea for the customer to know how to turn off the water. Most houses have a master shut off. If ice has split a pipe, the water won't run until it has been thawed out.

Water pipes usually aren't high maintenance household items until they freeze and burst. With a little preventative care now, you can avoid frozen pipes.

If you have any questions about preventing freeze ups, call the Water Department at 208-769-2210.

Holidays and Heroes

On December 4, 2022, Coeur d'Alene Police Officers participated in the annual Holidays and Heroes event in Post Falls. Officers from all of the surrounding law enforcement agencies were paired with children from the community. Some officers helped the children shop for gifts for their families, while other officers picked out gifts for the children themselves.

After shopping, officers took the children to Greyhound Park to wrap the gifts before delivering everything back home with the kids. It was a great opportunity to make a huge difference for local families that are struggling and it's something officers look forward to all year.



Officer Jake Brazle (L) and Officer Zach Johns (R)



Officer Amy Knisley (L) and Officer Emily Taylor (R)

THIS MONTH'S **EVENTS AT THE** LIBRARY

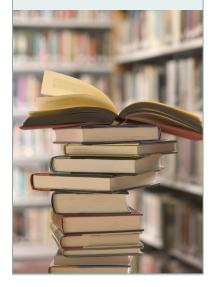
Yoga for You! Mondays in January 10:30 am - 11:30 am

PAWS to Read Saturday January 4, 10:30 am - 2:00 pm January 18, 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

4-H Outside of the Box Ages 8 - 13 Wednesdays in January 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Friends of the Library Tuesday, January 24, 10:30 am

For more information on any Library event, call (208) 769-2315, or visit the Library's events calendar.



Winter Reading Challenge



From January 2 through the Winter Reading Challenge by logging your reading and writing reviews. Complete the challenge to earn a grand prize entry! The challenge is to earn 30 points. Earn 5 points each from reading,

reviewing, and recommending!

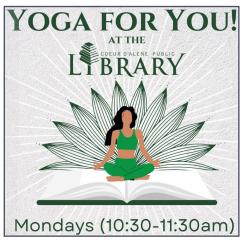
Pick up a log at the circulation desk, track the books you read (5 points each), then review and recommend the books you read for an additional 5 points each.

Beginning January 2, submit your review or recommendation here. Prizes: \$50 gift card to Well-Read Moose or a mini library craft.

Yoga for You!

Join us in the Library Community Room on January 9, 23, and 30 from 10:30 am - 11:30 am for this free Yoga program for adults. This blend of stretching, strengthening and balance work, along with relaxation, may be just what you're looking for.

Come enjoy the many benefits of practice! ancient Your instructor, Gerry Bryak, will adapt poses to your needs so this yoga is truly for YOU!



All levels are welcome, from beginners to experienced. Please bring a mat to class.

Re-Leaf CDA Planting Program Applications Available Soon



At the end of January 2023, the City of Coeur d'Alene Urban Forestry Division will begin accepting applications for the Re-Leaf CDA planting program. Through this program, street trees are planted at residential locations within public right-of-way areas in the City limits. Trees are planted at no cost to the homeowner in order to enhance neighborhoods and provide many street-side benefits such as mitigating storm water and reducing pollution.

Trees are available to homeowners who are willing to provide care, including watering and protecting from mowers and trimmers. The tree species for the 2023 program will be finalized when the application process begins. If you have powerlines over your planting space, there will be a limited amount of powerline-rated trees for these sites. Trees will be planted by a contract tree planting crew in late April or early May.

There are a limited number of trees available and they will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline to apply for this program is April 11, 2023.

More information is available <u>online</u>. You can also send an email to <u>ngoodwin@cdaid.org</u>, or call the Urban Forestry Division of the Parks Department at 208-769-2266 to claim your tree today. These trees may not be used to fulfill street tree requirements.

Assessing Local Housing Needs for Community Funds

The City of Coeur d'Alene receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The City is required to submit a five-year Consolidated Plan to outline various aspects of the program. The Consolidated Plan presents an assessment of local housing, homelessness, and community development needs, identification of priority needs for use of funds received from HUD, and presents strategies to address these priority needs.

Forecasting projects and the use of funds is a crucial component to the plan. Citizen outreach and participation in the planning are critical to ensure community needs are met. The Consolidated Plan Survey will be posted on the City's website in mid-January and emailed out to those on the email list. Questions are intended to identify needs within the City. Please sign up to be added to the email list and notified when the Consolidated Plan Survey is ready.

Welcome New Employees!

A warm welcome to the following new City employees. The City is privileged to have these talented individuals join as new team members.

James LaVille Firefighter Fire Department



Meagan Myrberg *Reference Clerk* Library



Cory Miles *Firefighter*Fire Department



Dakota Van Rossum
Heavy Equipment Operator
Streets and Engineering
Department



Ryan Munson *Firefighter*Fire Department



Goodbye and Thank You!

A heartfelt thank you and best wishes to the following employee who is retiring after over thirty five (35) years of dedicated service to the City.

George 'Tom' Steeley *Collection Operator III*Wastewater Department



The City of Coeur d'Alene is Hiring!

Visit the City's employment website if you are interested in working for the City of Coeur d'Alene. Up-to-date job postings are listed <u>here</u>.

