In The News

Fall Message From Mayor Jim Hammond

Our summer is inching toward fall with cooler weather approaching. The summer was excellent with little smoke and many sun filled days. The young children are back in school and football games, volleyball matches and cross-country meets are keeping parents busy. The many deciduous trees in our city will begin turning bright red and orange which also means we will be experiencing Leafest before too long. Please remember that we only pick up leaves, not branches or other yard debris.

Thank you to all our employees for getting the streets paved, parks maintained, streets safe and other city business moving forward. Though we enjoy the warmth of summer, I hope you will also take time to enjoy the fall changes in weather cozying up to a fire with a warm beverage or a stroll through the neighborhood enjoying the fall colors.
Fire Department Canine Team Deploys to Maui

The Coeur d’Alene Fire Department is more than just engines and hoses. The Department offers a variety of other services to aid the citizens and valued guests of the City of Excellence. One of those resources is the Technical Rescue Team. There are three (3) technical rescue teams in the state. One in SE Idaho, one in the Treasure Valley, and the third one at the Coeur D’Alene Fire Department. Part of the Technical Rescue Team is a canine component. It is a small piece of the big picture, but is the only Canine Urban Search and Rescue Team in the entire state. Members of the community and Fire Department participate on this Canine Team as an extracurricular assignment. They put in countless hours making sure the canines and handlers are ready to respond when needed.

These teams have responded on the local, state, and federal levels. The Canine Team has a partnership with FEMA Washington Task Force 1, based in Pierce County, Washington. Three (3) of the Department’s handlers, and their canine partners, participate in this program. The City supports this partnership, which not only brings much needed training and experience back to the local area, but also helps to answer the call at a national level. In August, FEMA WA-TF1 was deployed to the Maui Wildfire event. Two (2) local search teams responded which included Firefighter/Paramedic Chad Matchell, with K9 Scout, and Firefighter/Paramedic Cody Moore, with K9 Murphy.

They traveled to Maui as part of the Type 1 USAR Team and were deployed for a total of 16 days. During the deployment, the Teams participated in countless searches for the victims of this horrific event and relied on their years of training and experience to formulate the best plan possible for a successful outcome.

Serving the citizens of North Idaho is always a top priority for the City and Fire Department. However, being able to send Coeur d’Alene resources to help others across this great nation, is an amazing opportunity. The ability to deploy the City’s resources to help others is only possible with support of the local community.

The destruction caused by the wildfire had a broad affect on many and the Maui community has a long road to recovery in which the Teams hope their contributions helped start the healing process.
Fire Department’s Annual Open House

On Saturday, September 9, the Coeur d’Alene Fire Department hosted its Annual Open House at Station 3. This year drew the largest attendance to date and with 500 hotdogs, chips, and cookies served to all that attended.

The following attractions made this year’s event a community favorite: Sparky the Fire Dog (Cadet Miranda Vargas), CDA Police Department, Idaho Disaster Dogs, Idaho Department of Lands, Safe Start, Fire Extinguisher Training, CDA Firefighters Pipes & Drums, Kids Combat Challenge course, Vehicle Extrication demonstration (Green Shift) and a dunk tank that generated over $400 for Muscular Dystrophy Association. Thank you Firefighter/Paramedics James LaVille, Ryan Munson, and Cory Miles, Cadet Miranda Vargas, and Councilman Dan Gookin for taking multiple dunks into the chilly water for a great cause!

Free Pumpkin Giveaway at the Coeur d’Alene Library on Friday, October 27

It’s that time of year again for the free pumpkin giveaway! For the past few years, the City’s Wastewater Department has grown a huge crop of pumpkins with their special Coeur d’Green compost and in partnership with the Coeur d’Alene Public Library, they will give them all away! On Friday, October 27, at 8:00 am, pick out a pumpkin from the Library’s pumpkin patch located on the lawn in front of the Library’s Community Room.

Decorate a pumpkin, take a photo of it, then submit it online by Saturday, October 28. Your decorated pumpkin will be posted on the Library’s Facebook page and entered into a contest for the best decorated pumpkin. Vote for your favorite pumpkin on Facebook and the pumpkin with the most likes will be chosen the winner on November 1.
Ready for Kindergarten Workshops

READY! For Kindergarten is a program that creates workshops for parents that show them different ways to foster their children’s essential pre-literacy, math, and social-emotional skills through songs, activities, and reading. **Register here for these free workshops.** Workshops are held in the Library Community Room from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm on the following dates:

- October 4 — Part 1: Language and Literacy
- February 15 — Part 2: Math and Reasoning
- April 25 — Part 3: Social and Emotional

Registering today will enroll you in all three (3) sessions of the workshop series. There are limited spaces available for this workshop, and if full, you will be placed on a waitlist.

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**Holiday Craft Vendor Search**

The Library is hosting a Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, December 2, from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm and seeks crafty vendors!

- Booth fee is $20 – due on the day of the event in cash or a check made out to the Coeur d’Alene Library Foundation.
- Register [here](#), or pick up a paper registration form from the Library Circulation Desk.
- Registration deadline is October 31, or until all spaces are full.
- Event space is a 6’ or 8’ table in the Library Community Room.
- This event is only intended for regionally produced handmade products.
- Vendors must have an Idaho seller’s permit and will be provided forms to report sales tax information.

For more information visit the [event web page](#) or contact JD Smithson at communications@cdalibrary.org.
Free Compost Giveaway

Can you guess how many pumpkins the Wastewater Department has grown this year? Whoever guesses the closest will win a **FREE** load of compost. Send your guesses to Administrative Assistant Torri Green at tgreen@cdaid.org with “pumpkin guess” in the subject line. The winner will be announced after the Library’s Pumpkin Carving Contest in late October.

Each day the City’s Wastewater Treatment Plant produces more than 20 yards of biosolids. It’s commonly thought that this is the “solid” portion of the influent wastewater, as Wastewater Superintendent Mike Anderson, often says. In actuality, it consists of the decomposed and digested microorganisms that are used to treat all the pollutants in the wastewater. These “bugs,” as the Department affectionately calls them, work tirelessly to clean the wastewater converting those nasty pollutants into a reusable resource that contains carbon, nitrogen, and phosphorous. After their work in the treatment facility is complete, they are composted into 5,000 cubic yards of class “A”, Coeur d’Green compost. The Department enjoys finding creative uses for the compost. One of the most popular is growing pumpkins for the annual pumpkin decorating contest held in cooperation with the City’s Library. This year’s crop is, in a word, abundant.

The Wastewater Department has three (3) pumpkin patches, two (2) are located at the treatment facility and one (1) at the compost plant.
History Hour Lecture

On Tuesday, October 24, at 5:00 pm, the Library will co-host a History Hour Lecture with the Museum of North Idaho in the Community Room.

In this one-hour lecture, local historian Britt Thurman will discuss the death and mourning rituals common in America during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Since the beginning of humanity, humans have always honored the passing of loved ones through various customs and rituals. This lecture is open to all ages but sensitive topics such as death and burial preparations will be discussed.

For more information on this and other adult programming events, contact Olivia Cretella, Adult Programming Coordinator, at 208-769-2410.

Basketball Registration Opening Soon

Basketball registration for youth and men opens in October.

**YOUTH BASKETBALL**

The Coeur d’Alene Parks & Recreation Department offers a youth basketball league for all 3rd – 8th graders.

Registration for 3rd – 5th graders is October 2 – 13.
Registration for 6th – 8th graders is October 16 - 27
Registration for K - 2nd graders is December 11 - January 4

Players are placed on teams by Recreation staff and according to grade level and school. Games will be played on weeknights and Saturdays. Cost is $40 for residents and $45 for non-residents.

**MENS BASKETBALL**

The Coeur d’Alene Recreation Department offers a men’s basketball league during the winter months. Team entry fee is $600. Teams should be formed before the entry deadline on Friday, October 13. Individual registration is not offered.

A complete information memo along with a team roster can be found on the Parks & Recreation web page. League is offered for ‘C & D’ divisions with games beginning Sunday, November 4.

For more information, contact the Recreation Department at 208-769-2250.

**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 [here](#).
City of Coeur d’Alene
LEAF-FEST
Begins November 13th

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13th, 2023 marks the start of the City of Coeur d’Alene’s annual leaf pick-up program. Please be sure to KEEP leaves on your property until Wednesday, November 1st. After Wednesday the 1st, please rake your leaves and pine needles about one foot away from the gutter/curb line to allow for water drainage. City crews and equipment are limited, so we need your help. Leaves will be picked up only once. Please do not put leaves in the street after city crews have completed your area and do not include bagged leaves, branches, debris or trash.

Pick-up will start south of Sherman Avenue and move north. We expect completion before December 1st. Follow our progress on maps.cdaid.org/leaf

**DO:**
- KEEP leaves and needles on property until Wednesday, November 1st.
- Please move cars off the street if at all possible during leaf pick-up.
- Keep the leaves about one foot away from the curb line to allow drainage.
- Be alert for leaf pick-up equipment traveling through your neighborhood.
- Keep a safe distance away from leaf pick-up heavy equipment.
- Recognize that we have a tough job to do in a very short window between when the leaves fall and when the snow flies.
- City and private trucks are exempted from covering loads during the leaf pick-up period. Sweepers will follow city trucks to collect remaining/excess leaves.

**REMEMBER:**
Needles and Leaves ONLY!
No branches, grass clippings or garden debris.
NO GARBAGE

**DO NOT:**
- Place bagged leaves in the street.
- Mix branches, debris or other trash in with the leaves.
- Miss the deadline...We only have time for one pass.

If you have questions or need additional information, please check the website streets.cdaid.org or call the Street Maintenance Information Line at 208-769-2235