



TOWN HALL NEWS

TOWN OF COUPEVILLE

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WHO TO CONTACT AT TOWN HALL • 678.4461 • www.town.coupeville.wa.us

Nancy Conard, Mayor
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General questions, community issues

Malcolm Bishop, Public Works Director
mbishop@whidbey.net

*Questions about water, sewer,
streets, permits*

Larry Kwargsick, Town Planner
townplan@whidbey.net

Questions about land use, design review

David Penrod, Town Marshal
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Questions about law enforcement issues

Judy Thomas, Clerk Treasurer
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*Questions about meetings, budget and
finance, public records*

Nanc Garner, Utility Clerk
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Questions about utility bills

SUMMER WATER RATES IN PLACE

Coupeville, like other utility systems in the State, is required to encourage conservation of water use. To accomplish this, the water rates are increased in the summer, to discourage too much of an increase in water use for landscaping purposes. (Water rates are calculated to generate sufficient revenue to operate the system. If rates were at the same level all year, the winter rate would have to be increased to ensure the same amount of revenue is generated in a year.)

Our highest demand for water use is on hot summer days. We are required to build and maintain a system as if the peak day of water use happened 365 days a year. So, when you conserve water, you also help to keep rates down.

WATER EFFICIENCY OUTDOORS

Most Coupeville residents enjoy green grass during the spring and fall months when rain keeps it watered, and allow their grass to go dry during the summer.

If you water plants, there are a few things you can do to maximize benefit to the plants and minimize use of water:

- Water in the evening or during early morning hours when evaporation is least likely to occur. Drip irrigation may be used during the day with minimal loss due to evaporation, and helps deliver water directly to the plant.
- Consider water consumption when selecting plants. Some plants use more water than others. Consult a good gardening book to determine low water-using and drought tolerant plants. WSU Master Gardeners are a great resource for such information, and are often at the Farmer's Market and other public events.
- Use mulches to help planting beds retain moisture.

WATER EFFICIENCY INDOORS

The Town offers free faucet aerators for bathrooms and kitchens, shower flow restrictors and toilet leak detection kits to all of our water customers. Stop by Town Hall and ask for them.

Typical bathroom faucet aerators are 2.2 gallon per minute (GPM), so replacing them with a .5 GPM aerator can reduce your water usage at that source by 77%. Typical kitchen aerators are 2.2 GPM so replacing them with a 1.5 GPM aerator can reduce your water usage at the sink by 32%. Shower flow restrictors can reduce flow by 40%.

You can reduce your water consumption and save money on your water and water heating bills.

More information about this and other sustainability issues is available at the Town web site www.town.coupeville.wa.us/sustainability.htm

ADVANCE NOTICE! Coupeville Arts and Crafts Festival Plans Street Closure

For pedestrian and traffic safety, the Coupeville Arts and Crafts Festival held August 14 and 15, 2010, will be closing Alexander and Coveland to through traffic. Access to the Post Office will be via Hwy 20 to Broadway then Coveland. Access to Main Street will be via Hwy 20 to Main only. Traffic approaching from Madrona will be detoured up Broadway to Hwy 20 to reach Main Street. Please contact the Coupeville Festival Association at 678-5116 with any questions or concerns.

GARDEN PLOTS AVAILABLE

We still have a few plots available in the Community Garden. The 10' x 12' plots include access to water. If you are interested, please contact Town Hall. Also, please visit the Garden Blog site <http://coupevillecommunitygarden.blogspot.com/>

CPR/1ST AID CLASSES

Central Whidbey Fire and Rescue offers CPR and First Aid Classes on the 4th Saturday of each month. CPR begins at 9:00 a.m. and First Aid at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$20 per class. Please call 678-3602 to reserve a seat and verify date.

4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS

The 4th of July is the only date in the year when legal fireworks are allowed to be discharged. The discharge times are from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Although legal (or safe and sane) fireworks are allowed, this is a time when the grass is dry - please take every caution to prevent an accidental fire.

GRASS AND WEED CONTROL

Tall grass and weeds, when dry, present serious risks as a fire hazard. Our Town Code prohibits grass and weeds exceeding 12 inches in height. If you have a vacant lot or a lot with a home on it, and the grass has grown to this height, you will be receiving a letter from the Town, asking you to cut it. If it isn't cut, we have the authority to have it done and charge you.

Please help us to keep our community fire-safe, by keeping your grass and weeds trimmed.