



TOWN OF SOUTH PRAIRIE

121 NW Washington Street | PO Box 870 | South Prairie, WA 98385

Phone: (360) 897-8878 § clerk@townofsp.com



WELCOME NEWLY ELECTEDS

On November 23, 2021, Mayor Carolyn Norris and Councilmembers Mark Kauzlarich, Jeff Robbins and our newest member Stephani Ebenstiner were all sworn into office. It is an honor to work with these folks as well as our veteran Councilmembers Barb Wigton and Jan Twardoski. We have to say goodbye to Jan in January and will have an open position upon her departure. Jan has served for many years and we all owe her our gratitude. Former Mayor Tony Caldwell has also been serving the community for many years. Since 1996 to be exact. He has done so much for the Town and thank you just doesn't cover it.

Open Council Position

The Town will have an open Council position, beginning January 2022. This position is open for appointment by the Council in January. This is a great opportunity to serve your community and learn the ropes of small government. You must be at 18 years old, a registered voter and a resident of the Town for at least one year. If you are interested or know someone in the community who is, please contact Town Hall or submit your letter of interest to clerk@townofsp.com or US mail to Town of South Prairie at PO Box 870, South Prairie, WA 98385.

Late Fees/Shut Offs

Several accounts were hit with a late fee this month. Make sure your payment is received **no later than the 19th** of the month and that it is for the **full amount** shown on the bill. Submitting a payment even a few cents shy of the total amount due can trigger a late fee. If you pay after the 19th, make sure to include the \$25 late fee. **If not paid in full, including late fees, by the 28th of the month will result in your water being shut off. Shut off and turn on fees will also be assessed.** Please be mindful of the due dates provided to avoid additional fees.

For help paying your utility bill, dial 211 for resources. These processes take time so call early!

Please only use **black** ink on your checks. Other colors do not work in the check scanner. Please always **include your account number** and **do not staple or tape checks**. Stapled/taped checks sometimes tear and jam up in the check scanner.

Parking Violations



There have been a number of parking complaints and violations occurring in Town. This issue will begin to be addressed in the very near future. We will be marking vehicles in violation and, if the violation is not addressed in a timely manner, vehicles will be towed and stored at the owners' expense.

Our parking regulations are in place for the safety and consideration of all citizens. Please refrain from parking near fire hydrants, along painted curbs (no parking zones), driveways, corners and near stop signs. For safety reason, parking close to a corner or stop sign creates sight issues and can cause accidents. Blocking or impeding access to a fire hydrant has obvious safety concerns. Blocking access to another property, driveway or access easement is also not allowed and will be subject to towing and storage. Please be considerate of your neighbors and their access to their properties as well as safety conscious when you decide where to park.



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ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES & COMPLAINTS

Animal bites, animals running loose, cruelty reports, injured animals and vicious animal complaints. Pierce County Animal Control (PCAC) provides services to South Prairie residents for most all animal related issues. Should you have any animal issues, please contact them directly at 253-798-PETS or online at piercecounitywa.gov/3966/Animal-Control-Home. There you can report animal related concerns.

Barking Dogs. The reporting party must provide the address for the suspected dog owner and the details of the problem when reporting an issue. Upon receiving the first complaint for animal noise, PCAC will issue a warning letter to the pet/property owner informing them of the complaint, what municipal code they are violating and what the fines will be assessed should the noise continue. Upon receiving a second complaint, an Animal Control Officer will respond in person to make contact with the owner. Noise affidavits/barking logs will be sent to the complainant so that they can log dates and times when the noise is happening. Once affidavits are returned to PCAC, an Animal Control Officer will review the logs and issue infractions. They do not take anonymous complaints for animal noise.

Roaming Animals. An Animal Control Officer responds on the first complaint. An area check will be completed to try locate the animal so a good description of the animal must be provided at the time of the call. If the owner is known, an Animal Control Officer will make contact with the pet owner, a warning will be issued and the animal may be impounded. If owner is unknown, the pet will be impounded. Upon the second complaint, if the officer does not see the animal loose, the caller will be requested to get a photo of the loose animal and complete a handwritten statement in order for an Animal Control Officer to take action. If the Animal Control Officer sees the dog loose, he/she can impound the animal and/or issue infractions to the owner on the spot. It is up to the officer to decide what action to take.

WATER/SEWER/SEPTIC SYSTEM

SAVE THIS INFORMATION FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

The Town's system has seen an increase in non-flushable items. Only toilet paper and human waste should be flushed. Even items that say *flushable*, like hygiene/disinfecting wipes, should **not** be flushed. Other unsafe items include:

- Disposable diapers
- Sanitary napkins or tampons
- Paper towels or bandages
- Dental floss
- Condoms
- Hair
- Cigarette butts
- Coffee grounds
- Kitty litter
- Food waste or grease from cooking

Let's all do our part to keep our system as healthy as it can be. It is also very important that you not park vehicles on top of water meters or block them in any way. **As always, with water, sewer and septic utility emergencies, contact Tony Caldwell at (360) 947-4734. He is the Town contact for these issues.**

