



TOWN OF SOUTH PRAIRIE

121 Washington Street | PO Box 870 | South Prairie, WA 98385
Phone: (360) 897-8878 § clerk@townofsp.com

~ MESSAGE FROM MAYOR NORRIS ~

The Town needs to address repair and replacement of various components of the wastewater system. We are investigating the most cost-effective way to make the necessary repairs and replacements to the system. **As part of the funding application process, we have contracted with an impartial third party to perform a focused household income survey of the residents of our wastewater system.** This income survey will be used by funding agencies to determine the Town's eligibility for grants or other optimal funding alternatives. An income survey letter and form has mailed to you from Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC). Additional correspondence may also be sent to residents regarding the survey so watch your mail for these important mailings. These mailings will come from RCAC's California office.

RCAC is conducting the survey; an independent third-party organization. The information you provide will **only** be used by RCAC and will be kept confidential. **No State, County, City, District, or community members will have access to any individual's response.** No identifying information will be provided to the funding agency or representatives of the Town. Responses to this survey are **strictly** confidential. A high response rate is necessary in order for the survey to be considered valid; therefore, it is very important that surveys are completed and returned. We strongly urge you to complete the short survey form and return it to RCAC in the postage-paid envelope that is included.

We need your assistance to obtain the best possible funding from federal and state agencies. Please complete and return the survey form as soon as possible. Thank you!

Mayor Carolyn Norris



~ IMPORTANT UTILITY BILLING INFORMATION ~

If someone calls you and threatens to shut off your service without an immediate payment, hang up and call the number on your bill. This applies to all of your utility providers.

BE SURE YOUR PAYMENT IS PROCESSED CORRECTLY: Payment is always due by the 19th of the month. **If not paid by the 19th, a \$25 late fee will be assessed. If not paid by the 27th, the water will be shut off, you will incur a \$50 shut off fee, and a \$50 turn on fee, which must be paid with the full balance before water service, will be restored.** Keep in mind our mail service in Town is very slow and unpredictable. The best way to ensure your payment is received on time is to drop it in the drop box at Town Hall no later than the 19th.

NEED ASSISTANCE: Pierce County has several resources including the Community Action Program at 253-798-6266 and the Human Services division at 253-798-4500. Plateau Ministries is also an option at 360-825-8961. Washington 2-1-1 is your free connection to vital services including access to food, transportation, health care and much more. Just dial 211 to find help. Most churches also offer assistance.

~ WATER/SEWER/SEPTIC SYSTEM EMERGENCIES ~

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

- Disposable diapers (adult & baby)
- Sanitary napkins or tampons
- Paper towels or bandages
- Dental floss
- Condoms
- Hair
- Cigarette butts
- Coffee grounds
- Kitty litter

Please do your part to keep our system the best it can be. **It is also very important that you not park vehicles on top of water meters or block them in any way.** For water, sewer and septic emergencies, contact Tony Caldwell at (360) 947-4734.



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3rd ANNUAL PRAIRIE DAYS IS COMING IN AUGUST

The Town Council has again approved a Prairie Days community picnic on Saturday, August 19th from 2:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. This year's event is shaping up to be even better than last year! The Daffodil Princesses will be there, we have amazing prizes from places like the Tacoma Art Museum, King County Fair, the Puyallup Fair, Maris Farms, Wild Waves, Museum of flight, just to name a few.



We are in the planning stages and wanted to put the word out. We are also looking for volunteers to assist with various games and activities. If you are interested in volunteering, you can access the survey regarding the event at <https://forms.office.com/r/WyLCLKNzy5> It will ask you what you want to do as a volunteer and other questions to aid us in finding a few volunteers.

Cash donations are happily accepted and we encourage Town businesses to find creative ways to get involved. Last year, businesses and community members donated goods and services that can be game prizes and give-away items for the event or even items we can add to the kids' goodie bag. Some also donated cash, which paid for things like the balloon twister and band. If you wish to support this awesome event, we'd love to hear from you **sooner than later**. Knowing how you plan to support the event will help us get our ducks in a row. A big thank you Murrey's Disposal, Honey Bucket, Coast Exteriors and Carports of Washington for already donating to this year's event!!



If you are interested in supporting our 3rd Annual Prairie Days, please contact Meag at Town Hall via email at clerk2@townofsp.com or phone at 360-897-8878. We are excited to spend time with our neighbors, enjoy some music, grab a bite and/or a beer from a local food vendor/truck, play some games, meet your Town officials and just enjoy this wonderful little community together. This year we will have a DJ early in the day followed by the band for the last few hours. More details will be provided in your newsletters each month. STAY TUNED!!

~ CONSUMER DRUG TAKE-BACK PROGRAM ~

The DEA's National Prescription Drug Take-Back program provides an opportunity for citizens to help prevent drug addiction, overdose deaths and to protect the environment and our community. During the previous two Take-Back events, more than **500 pounds of unused and/or unwanted drugs** were collected. The Town has partnered with Inmar Intelligence to provide citizens a drop off point at Town Hall for unused and unwanted medications that will be sent to them for proper disposal.

WHY IS A CONSUMER DRUG TAKE-BACK IMPORTANT IN OUR COMMUNITY?

Each year, more than 60,000 children are treated in emergency departments due to accidental unsupervised ingestions. 51% of people who misuse prescription drugs say they received them from a friend, relative or taken them from a home, friend or relatives medicine cabinet without their knowledge. 37 different drugs were found in water, after it being treated, at 25 drinking water treatment plants across the US.

Consumer Drug Take-Back program reduces the statistics above, leading to safer and healthier communities. Thank you in advance for making sure unused medications are safely disposed of!
