



## TOWN OF SOUTH PRAIRIE

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

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### ~ 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*

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### ~ SPRING CLEAN UP EVENTS COMING IN MAY ~

- ✓ Thurs., May 18<sup>th</sup>: (regular pick-up day) they will collect up to 3-32-gallon bags of trash; (regular yard waste pick up day) they will collect up to 3-32-gallon biodegradable bags of yard waste.
- ✓ Sat., May 20<sup>th</sup>: by 7:00 a.m. they will collect 1 Appliance - Range, refrigerator, freezer, furnace, dryer, washing machine, dish washer, hot water tank, trash compactor, or air conditioner but no BBQ's.  
**Appliances will only be collected Sat., May 20<sup>th</sup>.**

#### Helpful Hints:

- DO NOT use personal cans for extra garbage or yard waste as they cannot be responsible for them being returned. No credits will be given for lost cans.
- Please be sure all items are accessible by 7:00 a.m. to ensure pick up.
- Only the above listed appliances will be accepted for Spring Clean Up. Please place on the curb (sorry no alley pick up due to truck size).
- Please label your extra yard waste so it is not confused as trash.
- In inclement or rainy weather, please try to ensure items are covered. (Paper biodegradable yard waste bags tend to break and create a mess if left out in the elements.)
- Do not exceed 45 lbs per bag for trash or yard waste.
- No tires, car parts, BBQs, furniture, mattresses or bulky items. All items must be contained in a bag.

Questions? Contact Waste Connections 253-414-0345

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### ~ 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!**

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### ~ 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 19<sup>th</sup> of the month. **If not paid by the 19<sup>th</sup>, a \$25 late fee will be assessed. If not paid by the 27<sup>th</sup>, 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 by at Town Hall no later than the 19<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

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### ~ 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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