

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



211 is a nonprofit organization funded by state and municipal contracts, foundations, United Ways, donations and community partners in Oregon and SW Washington.

Mission Statement: 211info empowers Oregon and SW Washington communities by helping people identify, navigate and connect with the local resources they need

Programs: Childcare & Parenting, Utility Assistance, Emergency Management, Food, Health, Housing & Shelter, Winter/Severe Weather Shelters and more.

How to Use the Service? You can search the online community resource database on the website: 211info.org or you can phone call them directly by dialing 211 or 1-866-698-6155. You can text your zip code to 898211 (TXT211) Monday –Friday 9am to 5pm. Email help@211info.org or you can download their app.

City Calendar for February 2021

Tue 9: City Council meeting via Webex 6:45pm

Thurs 11: Donald Municipal Court 10:30am

Sun 14: Happy Valentine's Day!

Mon15: President's Day—City Offices Closed

Mon 15: Water & Sewer Bills Due

Tue 16: Red Tags Delivered at 10am

Thurs 18: Shut Offs at 10am

Mon 22: Late Fees Applied to Water & Sewer Accts. 8am

Tue 23: Water Meter Reads

Thurs 25: Planning Commission Meeting via Webex 6:45pm

City Hall:

City Manager: Heidi Bell
10710 Main Street
P.O. Box 388
Donald, OR 97020-0388

Phone: 503-678-5543

City Website:
www.donaldoregon.gov

Public Works:

Director: Alonso Limones
Phone: 503-678-1411

Donald's Emergency
Pager: 503-301-6479

Subscribe to
Flash Alerts to receive
Urgent & Emergency Notices

Bored at Home?

If you would like to keep yourself busy and finding that you have some extra hours, please consider donating your time to the Donald Beautification Group (DBG). The Group welcomes families, including youth to join. Oftentimes our community members have great ideas for improvements to the City. We welcome people taking their ideas and making them come to life. Feel free to contact Heidi Bell to help you get started on your project for the City.

The City would also love to have someone build another Little Library that is dedicated to children's books or an outdoor house for the Community Food Pantry. These are currently located at City Hall but more could be added throughout the City. If you have a desire to make something, hold an activity or another way to serve your community, please contact Heidi Bell at City Hall 503-678-5543 or email manager@donaldoregon.gov to brainstorm ways to make your ideas work. Of course, the ideas need to work within the COVID restrictions.

Examples include the Summer Scavenger Hunts that Wendy Scharich organized, Councilor Ostrander's Recycle 2020 Program, or Councilor Katie Gonzalez and Jan Olsen's Game Nights/Rock Painting events.

In March's newsletter there will be information about a survey to give feedback about the Donald Development Code.



February 2021

DONALD MONTHLY RECORD



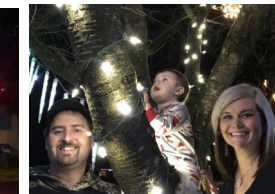
Mayor's Message: By: Mayor Rick Olmsted

At the January Council Meeting, we awarded the first and second place awards for the Holiday Lighting Competition. The City Council greatly enjoyed debating which house in Donald had the most impressive lighting. And, I must say that the vote was very close. We all agreed that Donald looked very festive this year. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, I choose to deliver the award by mail this year.

Hopefully, next year, we will be able to return to personally present the checks to the winners. The Council would like to also acknowledge the runners-up at 11013 Chantal Court and 11105 Main Street #27. Thank you to everyone



First Place \$50: Crissel ST: Jeff and Courtney Wilson



who participated in the Holiday Lighting Competition this year.



Second Place \$25: Rees St: Rick and Laurie Bressler

Budget Committee Recruitment

There are two openings on the Donald Budget Committee and applications are available online at www.donaldoregon.gov or pick up at City Hall. You would enjoy serving on this Committee if you like analyzing your own budget and/or are interested in helping the City to prioritize spending; including tax dollars and water/sewer revenues. You will learn in the class all the laws that regulate public funds, for example: money collected to pay a water bill can only be spent on the water system and the same for sewer revenues. The optional training is on 5/13/21 and the formal Budget Meeting is on 5/18/21. Terms are three years long. Application deadline is March 4th. You can submit it through the door slot at City Hall or scan and email to manager@donaldoregon.gov.

Water & Sewer Rate Study

The City is working with a consultant to update the rate study for the water and sewer rates. Back in 2016 the City had a professional who analyzed the City's resources and needs for water and sewer. He then proposed to the Budget Committee and Council his recommendations. Those were adopted by both bodies and continued to set the rates for the next five years, until June 2021. We are contracting for this process again. If this interests you, this is another good reason to apply to volunteer to be on the Budget Committee.

Red Tags

As a reminder, the City is again issuing Red Tags and will shut off water service for non-payment. Water bills are due on the 15th of the month and late fees applied at 8am on the morning of the 21st. If you miss two months of not paying on the 15th, then you will be issued a door hanger on the following business day. There are 48 hours given for customers to pay or make a payment plan arrangement. Red Tags have an additional \$20 fee, and late fees are \$5. By contacting City Hall before the 15th to setup a payment plan, fees can be avoided. If you need financial help, the best resource to contact is 211. More info on this resource can be found on this newsletter's back page.

Paying Your Water/Sewer Online: You can pay your bill online by visiting the City's website at www.donaldoregon.gov. It also offers features like auto-pay or paperless bills. You can also see a link to this newsletter in the portal.

Water Leaks

Here in the City, we encourage you to repair water leaks as soon as possible. Water leaks are problematic because they use our scarce resource of water inefficiently and they show up on your water bill. The minimum water bill comes with 1,000 gallons of water per month. Each additional 1,000 gallons of water will be \$2.98 (starting April 30, 2021). To prepare for a leak, you should know where your home's water shut-off valve is and learn how to shut off the water service in the connection box that is underground. This will allow you to respond quickly if you have a pipe break, water leak or need to do a repair. If you need to shut off water in the connection box, please be careful opening the lid since there is a radio read device in the box that has delicate wires. (Radio reads allow for an effective and efficient way for the Operator to read your water meter.) It is estimated that an average person can use about 100 gallons of water each day. An average leaky toilet uses 200 gallons of water per day, that means 6,000 gallons per month! If you suspect a leak, go to your meter in the connection box, write down the meter numbers, leave the property (i.e. go to the store) come home, and see if those numbers changed. If they did then you have a leak in your home or outside (like a hose left on or underground sprinkler with a leak). A quick way to see if it is a leaky faucet is to place a cup under the faucet while you sleep, and when you wake, see if it collected anything. Or for a suspected leaky toilet, (which can be very quiet), put food coloring in the tank, wait awhile, and see if it shows up in the bowl. The City provides a leak credit, but it does put the burden on the customer to fix the leak first. There are many costs associated with providing water to a City, including labor, treatment supplies, lab fees, repairs and maintenance, utilities, security, and other costs. Although the customer bears the largest burden to pay for the water leak, it is nice that Donald is one of few cities who offer a credit.

The Firefighter's Association's annual Bingo is cancelled for 2021, due to COVID. A big thank is deserved for our first responders!



Remember To...

Call Before You Burn!

Information is updated daily

Burn Line: (877) 982-0011

Follow the Fire District on Facebook or Twitter

Have you Signed Up To Receive Flash Alerts?

The wildfires that affected our beautiful state last September, and some are still recovering from, are unforgettable. During this time, the City communicated through Flash Alerts to its subscribers. Not everyone chooses to be a part of social media so Flash Alerts provides an alternative method of immediate notification. This is a way for the City to send a push notice to your smartphone or email to you immediately. You can sign up to receive the City's notifications at: www.flashalerts.net or download the app onto your smart phone. You can get step-by-step instructions on the City's website about how to sign up. Also, on Flash Alerts you will find many other organizations like: the Sheriff's Office, N. Marion School District or other nearby government agencies and nonprofit organizations. For those that don't have an email or smart phone, the City will continue to post emergency posters on all community bulletin boards, in the top left-hand corner.



DBG's Upcoming Events

This spring the Donald Beautification Group (DBG) plans to hold a few events, done in a way to uphold COVID compliance. One of the events is planting large pots of flowers and shrubs for placement downtown. The other is to let households paint fire hydrants. There will be announcement about this program's rules and a call for designs. The DBG is excited about this project because it will allow families an opportunity to be creative and get outdoors. If there is a fire hydrant near your home, or anywhere in the City that you would like to paint, please email Heidi Bell at manager@donaldoregon.gov and she will pass your email along to the DBG's leadership.

Do you like taking pictures? Email it to manager@donaldoregon.gov and it will appear in the newsletter with your name!

Results of Recycle Donald 2020



By Master Recycler Lauren Ostrander

Recycle Donald 2020 was a dream I had as a Master Recycler. Take all the knowledge I had learned from Marion County Public Works and put it into action in our town. The goal was to teach the public about recycling and improve the amount of garbage that was put in the blue bins. A year has come and gone! North Marion Recycle Depot works with the Marion Recovery Recycling Facility to collect this data. Due to staffing issues, the MRRF is unable to complete our year end findings at this time. We are hopeful this spot will be filled soon to see what the outcome was. Contact Lauren for more ideas about recycling. laurenostrander@gmail.com or 503-453-9228



Why Visit the City's Website?

www.donaldoregon.gov.

- ◆ Find out what is happening in Donald.
- ◆ Listen to Council or Planning Commission Meetings.
- ◆ See the water and sewer rates.
- ◆ Read past newsletters.
- ◆ Get information on the Donald Beautification Group.
- ◆ Look at City Maps.
- ◆ See local statistics from the police and fire district.
- ◆ And so much more!

Fire Tacos is Now Open!

Business Hours

6am to 8pm- Serving Breakfast

Call ahead and order your to go order: 503-522-2936

Breakfast orders come with a FREE coffee or hot chocolate!

The same family also owns

Happy Street Market and Café

Business Hours 7am to 8pm

Owners, Caesar and Maricelle recognize that some people are going through a rough financial time and if you are in need of a hot meal, please ask at the Food Cart or at Happy Street and they will make you a taco or burrito. Please keep in mind, that they are a small family-owned business and it is important for those that can to support them financially. This is yet another example of their demonstrated commitment to Donald.



City Council Update

The City Council met on January 12th to conduct a regular business meeting. Here is a summary of the outcomes from their meeting.

- Mayor Olmsted and three City Councilors took their Oaths of Office. Councilors Amanda McCracken and Lauren Ostrander are newly elected and Councilor Rod Scott was reelected to the Council.
- Mayor Olmsted delivered the State of the City Address
- Councilor Katie Gonzalez was voted as the Council President for 2021 and 2022.
- The Councilors made the difficult decision to reinstate the Red Tag process, which meant possibly facing turning off customers water. However, this was balanced against the need for revenue to operate water and sewer services.
- Updated the Mayor's Declaration for COVID-19. This can be found on a community bulletin board or on the City's website.
- Awarded the Holiday Lighting Competition Winners.
- Appoint City Manager Heidi Bell as Budget Officer for next fiscal year.
- Discussion of next steps for drilling a new well.
- Discussion of holding Council Work Sessions to include a Goal Setting meeting. Dates TBD.

Next Meeting: February 9, at 6:45pm

The Public Can Connect By WebEx or Phone