



# NEWSLETTER



**CITY OF YACHTS**

**August 2003**

Visit [www.ci.yachats.or.us](http://www.ci.yachats.or.us) for the minutes of City Council and Commission meetings

FROM THE MAYOR

## CONSTRUCTION SEASON IS HERE

Between now and the beginning of the winter rains Yachats will be under construction in a number of places. The good news is that after many years of planning we're actually going to accomplish a number needed construction projects. The bad news is that there will be traffic interruptions and some inconvenience. Whenever possible advance notice will be given to minimize the inconvenience.

The primary construction projects include:

- Repaving of Marine Drive from Highway 101 west to Ocean View and on south to 6<sup>th</sup> Street and then from the state park east to Highway 101. The pedestrian trail along these roads will be constructed at the same time. The piece from the state park north to 6<sup>th</sup> Street is scheduled for next year after a determination is made as to how to treat the erosion at the foot of 4<sup>th</sup> street.
- Construction of the trail link from marine drive to aqua vista. This is expected to start this month.
- Construction of a viewing platform and trail on Lot 1, which is the vacant lot at the end of 7<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Construction of a connecting trail from The Commons to the Ocean View trail at 6<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Replacement of the main water line on west 2<sup>nd</sup> street. Work will be starting shortly.
- Construction of a new main sewer pump station on ocean view Drive with construction expected to be in October.
- Inflow and infiltration correction work including replacement of sewer lines on Yachats Ocean Road to be accomplished

prior to the rainy season. This work will include repairs and/or replacement of numerous manholes throughout the community.

- Construction of a new sidewalk on the West side of Highway 101 starting where the current sidewalk ends at 6<sup>th</sup> street and going north to the north end of the Union Station. A new sidewalk will also be installed in front of Whale Park. This work is to be completed by Mid-October.
- Several small paving improvement projects, particularly on Beach Street.

Much of this work is possible because of funds from the mediated 804 settlement agreement. Additional funding is from grants obtained from State Parks, Regional Investment Board and DLCDD. This will go a long way toward implementation of the Village Circulation Plan and will be a start toward linking the 804 trail on the North with Amanda's trail and Cape Perpetua on the South.



### PROGRESS REPORT ON THE SPEED DISPLAY SIGN

The 25 for 25 Committee would like to thank everyone that sent in donations towards the radar sign. \$2,835 was collected for purchasing the monitor.

The Public Works and Streets Commission is in the process of completing a grant application with the Oregon Alliance for Community Traffic Safety in Oregon. Grant submissions are due by September 8, 2003. According to guidelines awards will be done by January 1, 2004, contingent on congressional approval of funding, with completion of the project must be no later than September 30, 2004.

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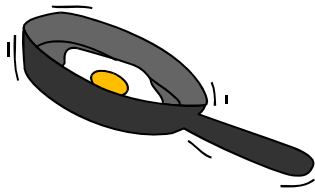
**"CUT AND FILL" ORDINANCE ADOPTED**

The excavation and erosion control ordinance, which establishes natural grade as the baseline for measuring maximum building height. Natural grade is the grade before grading or fill and forms the natural elevation of the lot.

Mayor Lee Corbin explained that the excavation and erosion control ordinance had been forwarded from the Planning Commission to the City Council two years ago, but it was set-aside until the courts settled questions regarding Measure 7 which had been passed by the voters two days before the scheduled public hearing. The courts have since overturned the measure.

The City Council held a public hearing on May 8, 2003 during which it became apparent that although the definition for natural grade was established the ordinance failed to set that as the standard for building height, the way it was drafted. Therefore, City Council continued their deliberation to the August 14 meeting to provide time for the necessary test to be included.

The ordinance also establishes a permit process for any changes to the natural contour of the property. There is no fee for the permit.



**"FAT TRAPPERS" REQUIRED IN VACATION RENTALS**

City Council adopted Ordinance No. 237 which requires all transient rentals to provide containers for the disposal of cooking grease in the solid waste receptacles (trash can) to prevent the grease from entering the sewer system. In adopting the ordinance, Councilor Ray Meehan encouraged all residents to use "fat trappers" like the ones the City is giving away.



**CITY STILL GIVING AWAY FAT TRAPPERS**

City Council approved purchasing fat trappers for distribution to residents free of charge as a way of keeping grease out of the sewer system. With the fat trapper you can store hot grease in an airtight canister. When the foil-lined bag is full you fold the top down and just throw it in the trash.

The restaurants in town are required to have grease traps so most of the grease that finds its way into the sewer system comes from the homes and transient rentals. This grease becomes a problem for the pump stations and the treatment plant.

One fat trapper will be given away per residence. Present the coupon below at the City Hall to get your free Fat Trapper.

**FREE FAT TRAPPER**

Bring this coupon to the City of Yachats City Hall to receive your free fat trapper with two bags.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Sewer Customer Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Service Address**

**Customer must be on Yachats City sewer service to qualify.**

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### IN OTHER CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS

- City Council approved requests for use of alcohol on city property by the Yachats Lions Club and Tracy Boussetot
- City Council adopted Ordinance No. 238 dealing with the collection and disposal of solid waste, uniform rate reporting and continuing the franchise with Dahl Disposal.
- Council adopted Resolution No. 416 -A Resolution Acknowledging a Grant from ODOT for Construction of a Sidewalk. This is the same sidewalk project that was planned for June. If was necessary to carry it forward to the new fiscal year since it was not constructed by the end of June.
- Council adopted Resolution No. 417 - Authorizing expenditure of some of the visitor amenities funds held in reserve for trail development.
- Authorized the replacement of the telephone system in City Hall.



It has been suggested that it would make the town a much more pleasant place for everyone if pet owners would clean up after their animals.

<i>Reporting Through</i>	<i>7/30/03</i>	
<b>Program</b>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
General Administration	\$542,118	\$230,226
Library	\$16,503	\$3,890
Little Log Church & Museum	\$8,423	\$1,156
Parks & Commons*	\$86,905	\$15,586
Streets	\$88,613	\$10,551
Water	\$510,600	\$130,480
Sewer	\$351,138	\$77,738
In Reserve for Future Uses	\$1,210,960	\$1,036,159
Debt	<u>\$128,426</u>	<u>\$7,960</u>
	<u>\$2,943,686</u>	<u>\$1,513,746</u>

### PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT



John McClintock reported as follows:

- Sewer Plant Operator, Kevin Chesshir, will be able to come home from the hospital August 20, however he will still require a lot of rehabilitation and recovery time.
- The alarm system needs to be updated with auto-dialers. A proposal for the work necessary will be ready for the September meeting.
- The water efficiency was about 80% last month.
- The public works crew has been working on implantation of some items identified in the Mutual Order and Agreement with the Department of Environmental Quality.
- State Parks may be doing a complete overlay on the entire length of Yachats Ocean Road as a part of the sewer line replacement project.
- The Commons trail from Fourth Street to Sixth Street has been opened up and it is ready for development.
- A "new" used John Deere backhoe was delivered last week.

### **Even when City Hall is "closed" we are "open for business"**



Most of the time, you can count on emergencies happening when City Hall is closed. Additionally, the public works department has different hours than City Hall so there may be times when they are working, but there is no one at City Hall to talk to. Although there are answering machines at both the Sewer Plant and the Water Treatment Plant, those Public Works Department numbers are not the best numbers to use when reporting emergencies

Even when City Hall is closed, the phones are forwarded to an answering service so it is answered by *real people 24 hours a day*, making it the best one to use for reporting any situation that requires a timely response. The answering service will dispatch the Public Works Department crewmember currently on call.

So if you need to get in touch with the City, day or night call 547-3565. Whoever answers the telephone will be able to help you in case of an emergency; it doesn't matter if it is a City employee or the answering service!

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## SAVING WATER OUTDOORS

Don't over-water your lawn. A hearty rain eliminates the need for watering for as long as two weeks. Plant it smart, Xeriscape. Xeriscape landscaping is a great way to design, install and maintain both your plantings and irrigation system that will save you time, money and water.

Water lawns during the early morning hours when the temperature and wind speed are the lowest. This reduces losses from evaporation.

Don't water your street, driveway or sidewalk. Position your sprinklers so that your water lands on the lawn and shrubs ... not the paved areas.

Install sprinklers that are the most water-efficient for each use. Micro and drip irrigation and soaker hoses are examples of water-efficient methods of irrigation.



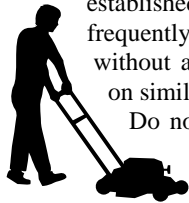
Regularly check sprinkler systems and timing devices to be sure they are operating properly. Install a rain sensor device or switch that will override the irrigation cycle of the sprinkler system when adequate rainfall has occurred. To retrofit your existing system, contact an irrigation professional for more information.

Raise the lawn mower blade to at least three inches. A lawn cut higher encourages grass roots to grow deeper, shades the root system and holds soil moisture better than a closely clipped lawn.

Avoid over-fertilizing your lawn. The application of fertilizers increases the need for water. Apply fertilizers that contain slow-release, water-insoluble forms of nitrogen.

Mulch to retain moisture in the soil. Mulching also helps to control weeds that compete with plants for water.

Plant native and/or drought-tolerant grasses, ground covers, shrubs and trees. Once established, they do not need to be watered as frequently and they usually will survive a dry period without any watering. Group plants together based on similar water needs.



Do not hose down your driveway or sidewalk. Use a broom to clean leaves and other debris from these areas. Using a hose to clean a driveway can waste hundreds of gallons of water.

Outfit your hose with a shut-off nozzle that can be adjusted down to fine spray so that water flows only as needed. When finished, turn it off at the faucet instead of at the nozzle to avoid leaks.

Use hose washers between spigots and water hoses to eliminate leaks.

Do not leave sprinklers or hoses unattended. Your garden hoses can pour out gallons or more in only a few hours, so don't leave the sprinkler



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running all day. Use a kitchen timer to remind yourself to turn it off.

Check all hoses, connectors and spigots regularly.

If you wash your own car, park on the grass to do so.

## FIRE DANGER HIGH THIS YEAR



At the August meeting, Council discussed their concerns regarding the potential fire danger present by uncleared lots this year. Because the weather has been so warm and dry this year tall, dry, dead grass is much more

of a problem than normal.

City Hall staff mailed letters to all the owners who have undeveloped lots asking them to make sure they rid their property of any vegetation that may be a fire hazard. Absentee owners of vacation homes should also be aware of the potential dangers this summer.

City Council is considering amending the nuisance ordinance to include a requirement that all lots be cleared of vegetation by July 1 each year. However, that code would not be in place until next year. Therefore, this year the City Council has asked the Fire District to conduct a survey of all the lots in town to determine which ones pose an eminent threat. Council will then consider ways to deal with any urgent situation.



## VISIT THE CITY OF YACHATS ON THE INTERNET!

The City web page is the place to check out information about:

- *City Council and Commission Members, Minutes, and General Government*
- *The City Code, Comprehensive Plan, and Land Use*
- *The Commons, Little Log Church, and Library*
- *News*
- *History*
- *Emergency Information*
- *Links to other County and State Government Internet Sites*

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