



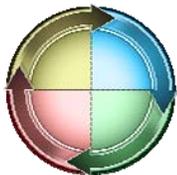
NEWSLETTER



CITY OF YACHATS

September 2009

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Mayor's Message

By Ron Brean, Mayor

Let us not seek to fix the blame for the past. Let us accept our own responsibility for the future.

--John Fitzgerald

Kennedy

Things seem to find a way of going wrong. It is a fact of life based in large part on the truism that "pobody's nerfect." We are all familiar with Murphy's Law and live with its predictable consequences. We find that interchangeable parts...won't. Easy to follow instructions ...aren't. The most reliable component or contributor, the one we knew wouldn't cause us trouble, is the one that fails. When we know we've made ourselves perfectly clear, we are misunderstood. When we know we fully comprehend, we've missed an important point. The universe in its inherently comical way seems to toy with us in practically every endeavor.

So, since we all have that common experience, why is it that so many times in life we get bogged down in a fruitless effort to find someone to bear the blame for something that went wrong? We all do it, even though we know that solutions to problems are seldom, if ever, found in placing blame. There is generally so much blame to go around, each individual's encounter with Murphy's Law that we become bogged in a quagmire of emotional finger pointing and continue to suffer from the fall out of the failure while we overlook the solution, which is often readily at hand.

I make these observations not because of something that went terribly wrong and melted down into a morass of acrimony and condemnation, but rather because I have recently witnessed the opposite in play in our community. While I recognize that Yachadians are as capable of falling

into the blame game as any other group of humans,

I have also witnessed that we, as a community, are much quicker to get out of that mire and to move toward collaborative problem solving.

As an example, Lincoln County employees in seeking to address a rather nasty invasive plant in our community found their approach was unacceptable to many of our neighbors. Their efforts to communicate their project failed to reach all that needed to know. Their desired approach, fairly liberal use of herbicide applications, was not acceptable to some. There was plenty of opportunity for recrimination and blame-laying, but the reality is simply that two different groups of people with laudable goals found themselves somewhat at cross purposes. County Commissioner Bill Hall and I convened a meeting of those involved. As a group, in spite of emotional commitment to the opposing competing "good," we talked through methods of reaching both goals. We sought to accept our "responsibility for the future" and avoided the fruitless placement of blame for failures. We believe we've found a workable solution.

The City is currently working with other groups with other problems to solve on a number of fronts. They are issues that deal with everything from the delivery of basic city services to quality of life in our community. So far, on virtually every front, the "players" involved have made a diligent effort to avoid the sticky fly paper trap that blame placing can be and have moved on to problem solving with respect and enthusiasm. We're all human and still we find that "pobody's nerfect." Nevertheless, it is a joy to be making progress without the wasteful expenditure of emotional capital on creating more injury before we can apply a cure. I am so glad to be part of this remarkable community.

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Public Works
Department
By John McClintock, Director

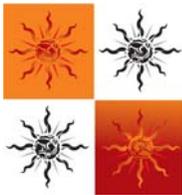
It is that time of year when we start to experience a dramatic decrease in available raw water flow to the water treatment facility. We are at approximately 25% below normal historical flows for the month of August.

Our raw water comes from two sources. Those sources are Reedy Creek and Salmon Creek. Both creeks have similar watershed areas located east of Yachats and discharge into the Yachats River.

With the influx of summer visitor's demand for treated water increases while the availability of raw water decreases. Water Treatment Plant Operator Rick McClung keeps a close watch on available water and demand put on the system for treated water. Rick has over 15 years experience in the water treatment field and does a great job of not only assuring our community of safe water, but also does a great job of making sure water is available at all times.

We always anticipate lower demand on the system after the Labor Day holiday, but we do not get back to normal raw water availability until the rains return to refill our watersheds in the winter.

If you have any questions about our water systems please give Rick McClung a call at (541) 547-3851, or the Yachats Public Works Department at (541) 547-3243 Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



Yachats Rural Fire District
By Frankie Petrick, Fire Chief

The hot dry days of summer will soon turn to the cool crisp days of fall. However, for now the drying index is quite high. That means that the little fuels (dry uncut grasses and weeds) make the bigger fuels (stacked yard debris and larger bushes) easier to burn. If you have vegetation that needs to be cut now is the time to

remove it. A reminder to those of you who cut and remove your own debris, Dahl Disposal in Waldport can accept your debris (call (541) 563-3888 for hours of operation). Also please note that dumping debris in the forest is a finable offense. If you are storing your debris until the next city-wide cleanup, please do so safely.

There is a lot of information about outdoor fire safety tips on the Oregon Department of Forestry website at <http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF> Help keep our community green and fire safe.



Public Works &
Streets Commission
Walt Weyand, Chair

**Water Everywhere, Except
Where You Need It**

The Yachats City Council is currently considering System Development Charges to pay for future storm water abatement projects and to encourage developers and builders to construct effective runoff mitigation installations for all new construction. The City Council, at its last meeting on August 13, 2009, held a public hearing to gather citizen input and to hear the report and recommendations of the FCS Group, the City's consultant.

As all Yachats residents are aware, Yachats averages about 72" of rain each year. Unfortunately, the bulk of this rainfall, about 69%, falls from November through March. December, the wettest month, historically averages nearly 15" of rainfall. This pattern results in large amounts of rainfall filling the ditches and swales and running off toward the Pacific. It is essentially wasted and can cause severe damage on its' trip to the ocean.

Conversely, rainfall during the summer months averages 1" per month or slightly less, just when our visitors and part-time residents fill the city and lawns and gardens require large quantities of water. Many homeowners have no choice but to use City-provided water to keep their plants alive and healthy. During unusually dry summers, such as this year, the City's water supplies become strained.

What can we do?

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How about rainwater harvesting? Rainwater harvesting is the capture, diversion, and storage of rainwater for the purpose of landscape irrigation and storm water abatement.

Basic Components

Regardless of the complexity of the system, the domestic rainwater harvesting system comprises six basic components:

- Catchment surface
- Gutters and downspouts
- Leaf screens, first-flush diverters, and roof washers
- One or more storage tanks, also called cisterns
- Delivery system

The Catchment Surface: Roof Types

The roof of a building or house is the obvious first choice for catchment. Water quality from different roof catchments is a function of the type of roof material, climatic conditions, and the surrounding environment. The quantity of rainwater that can be collected from a roof is in part a function of the roof texture: the smoother the better.

Suitable roof materials are metal, clay/concrete tile, composite or asphalt shingle, and wood shingle, tar, and gravel. All of these roof types are okay for lawn and garden irrigation catchment, but some are not suitable for drinkable water.

Gutters and Downspouts

Most existing metal or plastic installations are suitable.

Leaf screens, first-flush diverters, and roof washers

These are devices that prevent debris from reaching the storage tank. These may not be needed for many systems unless bird or rodent droppings are a problem.

Water Storage

Water storage can be as simple as above-ground plastic barrels, or as complex as underground plastic or concrete cisterns. The size of the lawn or garden, and the budget available will dictate the type of storage selected.

Delivery System

The delivery system is comprised of pumps and piping necessary to push water from the cistern and deliver it to the plants through a sprinkler or drip

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system. Most existing sprinkler or watering hose systems may be suitable.



Yachats Public Library

By Marie Green,
Commission Chair

The library has had a good response to our expanded hours this summer and is expanding hours on school days in the fall. Library hours for September are:

Monday 12:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.; and Saturday 10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

New books keep arriving and we always welcome your suggestions, just stop by the desk and have the librarian take your request.

Are there any western buffs among our patrons? A whole carton of Louis L'Amour paperback books from the 1970's came in from a friend of the library this week. We will check to see if there is a jewel among them and then have the rest of them available on our sale book shelf.

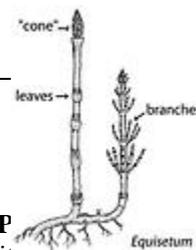


City Business Licenses

By Nicole Clark, Administrative Specialist

Anyone hired to do work in and around your home must have a City Business License even if the physical site for their business is located outside the city limits. Licensure may be confirmed with City Hall during regular business hours Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m..

Business License applications can be obtained inside City Hall or online at the City's website www.ci.yachats.or.us. There is a \$40 licensing fee and a \$25 application fee for businesses within the city limits. If you have any questions regarding business licenses call us at (541) 547-3565 or e-mail us at cityhall@ci.yachats.or.us.



In the Garden

By Jodi Sones, Landscape

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Coordinator

Help! The Little Log Church was buried in Equisetum! Now that is a wild horse tail if I ever heard one. You say you don't know what Equisetum is. Well, I guess you are just going to have to Google it. Thanks go to Buck Henderson and his father who did a great job getting it out.

Well, it is almost time for my little fund raiser, "Art and Music in the Garden." It will take place on September 23, from 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Interested participants have until September 10 to sign up. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the music, vendors demonstrating their arts and speakers. There have been a couple of schedule adjustments. Mary Crook will speak in the morning with a history of The Little Log Church and Joanne Kittel will speak at 4:00 p.m. about the early inhabitants of our area. Helping Joanne will be Robert Kentta, Cultural Resources Director of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians and Tribal Council Member. She may have other surprises for us too. I've tried to line up musicians to play most of the day and there will be picnic type lunches available for purchase as well. I will have a silent auction and a few things I took from the gardens for you to purchase as well. Again, I am doing this to raise monies to purchase signage for the plants in the gardens. We are still looking into different possibilities for those, but what I can raise at this event will be the main determining factor on what we can get.

Again, please call me if you can participate or make a garden-related donation for the silent auction. I can be reached from 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. at (541) 563-4529 or via e-mail jodean@peak.org anytime. Please help out the Little Log Church and Museum.



Yachats Youth & Family Activities Program
By Debbie Jackson,
Director

Yachats Musicians' Showcase Features Young Composers

Musicians are rehearsing for the 3rd Annual

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Musicians' Showcase to benefit local youth. The concert will be held Saturday, September 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the Yachats Commons. This year's line up includes five young musicians playing piano and violin solos. Joining them are local teachers Mary Lee Scoville, Jessica Treon, Cheryl Waide, and Barbara Wilcox. Tommy Jackson, 16, has been playing piano for 10 years. He also plays bass guitar and composes.

Asher Doyle, also 16, started piano 10 years ago. Milo Graamans is 17. In addition to playing piano for the past 13 years, he is in a bell choir and composes for various instruments. Reina Morgan, 16, plays violin whenever she can, and has opened for professionals in Yachats. New to the stage this year is Gordon Schlosser, 15. Gordon plays piano and guitar.

These young musicians are all local residents. This talented group is putting together a program that includes Bach, Liszt, Beethoven, Handel, Debussy, Villa-Lobos, Nazareth, Schubert, Veracini, Mozart, Satie, Chopin, and original compositions by Graamans and Jackson.

Admission is by donation (\$5.00 suggested), with those under 14 free. All proceeds benefit the Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program that provides important services to children and families in the Yachats area. For more information call (541) 547-4599.

YYFAP Fall Hours

The Yachats Youth & Family Activities Program will take a week off before school starts. There will be no YYFAP programming from September 1 through September 7. School year hours will begin on Tuesday, September 8. The after-school program, Recreation PLUS, will be open Monday-Friday from 3:30 p.m.-6:00 pm. There will be no charge for attendance in September. Beginning in October, families are asked to pay \$25 per quarter. Yachats Indoor Park, for little ones ages 0-6 and their parents, will happen every Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. The charge is \$1 per child. For information about these and other YYFAP programs, call (541) 547-4599 or go to www.yachatsyouth.org.



The Citizen Review Board (CRB) needs volunteers to serve on a

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local board in our community that reviews the cases of children in foster care. Boards usually meet one day a month. For more information, contact (888) 530-8999 or crb.volunteer.resources@ojd.state.or.us.

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