

CITY OF SCAPPOOSE
33568 E. COLUMBIA AVE.
SCAPPOOSE, OR 97056

503-543-7146



SCAPPOOSE
Oregon

SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

Attn: Utility Billing Customers

If your phone number
has changed please let us
know by calling
503-543-7146

Scappoose Library presents ~ Movies in Heritage Park

September 3, starting at
6pm

For more information,
please contact the Library
at 503-543-7123



Streetlight out?

Please contact
City Recorder
Susan Reeves
503-543-7146, ext. 224

Watts House Information

The Watts House will
remain closed until further
notice. If you have
questions, please contact
Janet at 971-645-3320.

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**Thank you to all who attended, sponsored,
or volunteered at the Scappoose 100-year
Celebration. Please look for highlights of
the event in the October newsletter.**

City Meetings Calendar

- City Council meeting - September 7 & 20, 7:00 pm
- Economic Development Committee - September 16, 12:00 pm
- Parks & Recreation Committee meeting - September 16, 5:50 pm
- Grabhorn Park Ad Hoc Committee meeting - September 16, 6:00 pm
- Planning Commission - September 23, 7:00 pm



Comments may be emailed ahead of time to sreeves@cityofscappoose.org, or attend meetings by phone, in addition to watching Council & Planning Commission meetings online.

Meetings are held in the Scappoose City Council Chambers at 33568 East Columbia Avenue and/or virtually.

Call City Hall at 503-543-7146 for more info and to confirm meetings

**Utility bills are due the 15th of each month
pay online at www.xpressbillpay.com or call 1-800-720-6847**

Looking for another fast and convenient way to pay your utility bills? Pay your utility bills using the mobile app from Xpress Bill Pay! The new and improved Xpressbill App is now available for download from the Google Play and App Stores. **Now available on Android and iPhone.**

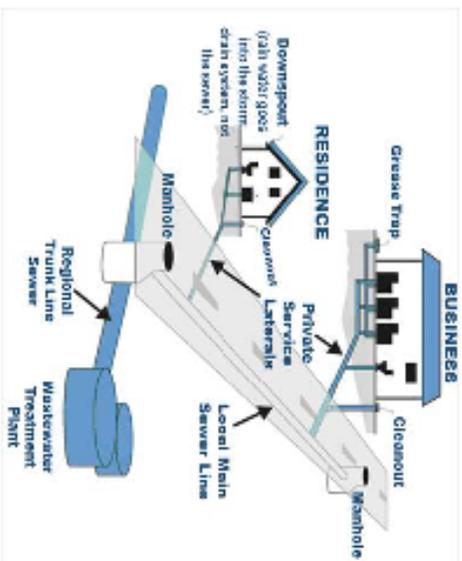


City of Scappoose 33568 E. Columbia Avenue Scappoose, OR 97056

Small Town, Big Community



SEWER LINE AWARENESS



PREVENTING SEWER ISSUES

Sewer systems age. People and nature can both cause sewer blockages. In some cases, blockages cannot be prevented without replacement of pipelines. Sewer blockages are most commonly found in the private service lines caused by soil settlements, misaligned joints, tree roots, pipe collapse, grease/FOG build up or by other items being flushed. Sewer backups and blockages in the private lateral lines between the sewer main and the home are the responsibility of the property owner.

Photos of a few sewer pipes in Scappoose:



THE GOOD



THE BAD



THE UGLY

MULTI-TENANT PROPERTY OWNERS/MANAGERS: Please share with all tenants.



FOG is a byproduct of cooking and is usually found in the following:

- Meat
- Lard, Oil, Butter, Margarine, Shortening
- Sauces, Salad Dressings, Gravy
- Baking goods
- All Dairy Products; yogurt, cheese, ice cream, etc.
- Food scraps, coffee grounds

When grease washes down the sink, it sticks to the insides of the pipes that connect your home or business to the city's sewer.

Eventually, the grease can build up until it completely blocks the sewer pipe. These blocked sewer pipes can cause raw sewage to back up into your home, business, or overflow into streets and streams polluting our waterways and harming our fish and wildlife habitats.

Myths: *Garbage disposals do not keep grease out of sewer pipes. It only grinds it up before passing them into your sewer pipes. Products that claim to dissolve grease may dislodge a blockage – they will only cause problems farther down the line when the grease hardens again. *Dish soaps lose their effectiveness eventually and grease will solidify and congeal on pipes. *Running hot water as a grease-chaser might only help a little but hot water will eventually cool as it travels down the pipes.

The only safe method of FOG removal is to place all Fats, Oils & Grease in the trash.

Can It - Cool It - Trash It



What Not to Flush

Although Grease in sewer pipes is a big problem, there are other things that should never enter the sewer system because they can also cause blockage in your pipes leading to messy and expensive sewer backup into your home or business. They also cause mechanical problems at pump stations and treatment plants and pollute our local environment.

The only thing you should ever flush down a toilet is human waste (urine & feces) and toilet paper.

DON'T FLUSH THE FOLLOWING:

- cleaning wipes
- disposable wipes
- facial tissues and paper towels
- disposable or cloth diapers/undergarments
- feminine/personal hygiene products
- cotton balls and swabs
- dental floss
- condoms
- bandages and bandage wrappings
- razor blades, syringes or needles
- disposable toilet brushes
- cloth or plastic materials
- kitty litter and animal waste
- unused medications (*To properly dispose; put in original containers (no needles or liquids) then seal in a plastic/zip-lock bag, bring to free RX Drug Drop-Off at the Scappoose Police Station*)



Many of today's products claim to be **FLUSHABLE**. But they are **NOT**. They do not dissolve easily and can clog your sewer lines which can lead to **RAW SEWER BACKUP INTO YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS**.

To view a sewer scope video or for more info: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/Des/Article/247465>

Use Water Wisely...

Shaving/Toothbrushing

Leave the water off when brushing your teeth or shaving. Turn it on again to rinse. A faucet left running wide open puts about 3 to 5 gallons a minute down the drain.

Kitchen

Make sure the dishwasher is full before you turn it on. For most dishwashers, you do not need to rinse the dishes first—just scrape them clean.

When you wash dishes by hand, don't leave the water running. Use a sink or dish pan full of wash water and one of rinse water.



Keep a jug of water in the refrigerator for drinking so you don't need to let the faucet run while waiting for the water to get colder.

When waiting for hot water from the faucet, save the cool water for other uses.

When preparing vegetables and foods, put a stopper in the sink instead of letting the faucet run.

Laundry

A washing machine can use 40 gallons of water or more—whether you wash a full load or one sock! Use water more efficiently by washing full loads.

Studies have shown that front-loading machines reduce water use by up to 40% or 16 gallons per load.

Save hot water and energy by using detergents formulated for cold water washing. Cold water is gentler on synthetics and delicate fibers.

Remodeling

If you are remodeling, shop for appliances that are designed to reduce water use. Many manufacturers offer washing machines, dishwashers, toilets and showerheads that can help you save water.

*Water Conservation -
Making the most efficient use
of the state's most precious
natural resource.*

State of Oregon
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
 725 Summer Street NE, Suite A
 Salem, OR 97301-1271
 Phone: 503-986-0900
 Fax: 503-986-0904
 Website: www.wrd.state.or.us



Water Conservation

Indoor Water Use

A GUIDE TO
WATER CONSERVATION



Use Water Wisely...

Most people use 70 to 90 gallons of water per day indoors. While it may be difficult to imagine how all that water is used, a quick look often shows that much is wasted due to leaks or careless habits.

From the kitchen, to the bathroom, to the laundry room, changing your habits can save money on your water, sewer and energy bill and help conserve a vital resource.

Water conservation is not just for emergencies. Water conservation today saves you money on your next water bill, reduces the cost for developing new supplies, and leaves more water in the rivers for fish and recreation.

This pamphlet provides a few tips on how to conserve water in your home. For further information on water conservation, please contact your local water utility, Extension agent or the Oregon Water Resources Department.



The key to using water efficiently is knowing your water use habits. Do you take long, hot showers? Do you leave the water running while brushing your teeth? Do you flush the toilet needlessly? Do you have plumbing leaks? Water conservation actions involve both changing habits and replacing old, inefficient plumbing fixtures.

Leaks

Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you will save almost 6,000 gallons a year.

Check for hidden leaks in your water system. Turn off all faucets in and around your house, then locate your water meter and check the reading. Wait 15 minutes without turning any water on, then check the meter again. If the reading has changed, you have a leak.

Showers and Baths

A 5-minute shower uses from 15 to 40 gallons of water. A low volume showerhead, however, uses only 12 to 15 gallons for a 5-minute shower. Low volume showerheads are inexpensive and can pay for themselves in water, sewer and energy savings in less than a year.

Shower or bath? It depends on how long you stand in the shower and how you fill the tub. A partially filled tub uses far less water than a long shower... and a short shower uses less than a full tub.

Flush only when needed. Do not use the toilet for discarding tissue, gum wrappers, cigarette butts, spiders and so on.

Toilets

Put a water displacement device inside the tank of every toilet. You can make one with a plastic bottle of water weighted down with pebbles.



Check your toilets for leaks. Drop a dye tablet or a teaspoon of food coloring in the tank. If the color appears in the bowl after 15 minutes, replace the "flapper" valve.

A GUIDE TO WATER CONSERVATION

State of Oregon
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
725 Summer Street, NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301-1271
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