A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

As spring swiftly approaches, the weather seems to fluctuate from one extreme to the other, and it is a struggle for each one of us to try and transition during this time. The beautiful new blooms of tulips and daffodils are a very welcome sight to the valley and a sign of great things to come.

First off, I would just like to take a minute to give my sincere congratulations to our City Wastewater Treatment Crew on their stellar performance evaluation they received this year. On February 12, 2021 Jeff Studenka, Environmental Scientist and Permit writer from the Utah Division of Water Quality (DWQ), met with Eric Bonzo and Jeff Lennert of the Cedar City Wastewater Treatment Plant (CCWTP) to complete the annual inspection and audit of the facility. Mr. Studenka commented on how well the facility was run and maintained, and the cleanliness of the grounds and buildings. During his visit and inspection, NO Deficiencies and NO Corrective actions were found. Each operator and plant personnel was congratulated on a job well done.

The CCWTP has been recognized as one of the most cleanly and well maintained wastewater facilities in the state of Utah among DWQ personnel, Rural Water, WEAU and engineering firms. The CCWTP’s motto has always been “Just because we are a sewer plant doesn’t mean we have to look like a sewer plant,” and it shows because of the hard work, dedication and pride that each of our personnel and staff shows on a daily basis. CONGRATULATIONS and thank you for making Cedar City an even greater and safer place to live. If you would like to view the full report, visit our website at https://www.cedarcity.org/1315/Compliance-Evaluation-Inspection.

As the weather warms up, please keep in mind that we still live in a desert and that water is a precious resource. Furthermore, on March 17, 2021 Governor Cox issued an Executive Order declaring a State of Emergency due to drought conditions. For more information on the State of Emergency visit https://governor.utah.gov/2021/03/17/gov-cox-issues-drought-executive-order/.

Here in the Cedar valley, there are multiple water users. There are agricultural operations that purchase the right to use water and develop their own water delivery systems. There are small unincorporated subdivisions that have their own water systems. There are customers supplied by systems developed by the Central Iron County Water Conservancy District. There are also municipalities, such as Cedar City, that have developed water delivery systems for the benefit of their residents, businesses, industries, and all sorts of users.

All of these groups of water users have one thing in common: they all rely on an increasingly limited resource. This year our snow pack isn’t looking good, and therefore, Cedar City recognizes the need to conserve water.

Cedar City’s water use spikes during summer months due to outdoor irrigation. During the heat of the day water is lost to evaporation. One conservation step the City took a number of years ago was to adopt an ordinance related to time of day outdoor watering restrictions. Between April 1 and October 31, those using Cedar City’s culinary system are prohibited from outdoor watering of grass, gardens, trees, shrubs, or any other vegetation between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

It is easy to tell if you are using culinary water. One piece of information to consider is if you are receiving this notice in your water bill. Irrigation with water from a ditch system would be outside of Cedar City’s culinary system. Lastly, large users such as a school or recreational venue using Cedar City’s secondary irrigation system are not using the culinary system. So, if you are not on the ditch system or secondary irrigation system for your outside watering, you are using Cedar City’s culinary system, and the ordinance applies to you.

There are a couple of exceptions to the time of day watering restrictions you may want to be aware of. If you have just planted grass, there is no watering restriction for the first 30 days. If you are present and using short cycles of water to maintain your irrigation system, there is no restriction. If you are present at a business licensed as a nursery there are no restrictions. Also the City’s water superintendent may issue a permit. If you don’t fall into one of these categories, you are regulated by the City’s watering restrictions.

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2021 UDOT Projects

The Utah Department of Transportation has announced two projects for 2021 on the north side of Cedar City. UDOT will work with its contractors to minimize traffic interruptions caused by these projects. Both projects may have some occasional impact on traffic traveling from the east side of I-15 to the west side of I-15.

The first project is going to take place along Coal Creek Road, and it will include replacement of the bridge over I-15 as well as the reconfiguration of the intersection of Bulldog Road and Kittyhawk Road. The west side of the bridge will be re-aligned, and a round-about will be installed to provide a new connection for Coal Creek, Bulldog, and Kittyhawk. This project has a proposed start date in April 2021, and the project will take a substantial amount of time to complete. The image below is the area that will be impacted.

The second project is going to take place at the intersection of I-15 and Nichols Canyon Road. UDOT is going to replace the bridge decks that pass over Nichols Canyon Road and do associated upgrades to the portions of Nichols Canyon Road that pass under I-15. This project has a projected start date of May 2021, and this project will also take a substantial amount of time to complete. The image below is the area that will be impacted.

Please consult the UDOT.Utah.gov web page for more information as these projects commence.
CEDAR CITY SPRING CLEAN-UP 2021

The Cedar City Street Division will begin its annual Spring Clean-Up in April 2021.
This year, crews will begin collection as follows:

- Area 1: North of Center Street and east of I-15 on April 12, 2021
- Area 2: West of I-15 on April 19, 2021
- Area 3: South of Center Street and east of I-15 on April 26, 2021

- Crews will begin collection in each area on a Monday. Crews will NOT come on Friday, Saturday or Sunday and WILL NOT return to streets that have already been completed.
- Please have your debris out on the curb by 7:00 a.m. on the Monday your area is scheduled for the clean-up date. A maximum of one (1) 10-wheeler drum truck load will be picked up at any one residence.
- We WILL NOT pick up furniture, carpeting, appliances or electronics. Any of these items or unacceptable piles will not be picked up and must be removed from the street by those who placed them there.
- Debris MUST be in front of the curb in the street. City crews will not load debris if it is piled on private property. City crews will pick up brush, branches, clippings, leaves, grass, untreated wood including pallets and crates, asphalt, dirt, rocks and concrete. Tires - 4 or less per pile (NO RIMS).
- This service is provided to Cedar City residents, except those living in a Planned Unit Development (PUD) and is NOT for commercial or industrial properties.
- Please keep vehicles off the street during your scheduled week and the following week, so that City crews can sweep the street.

Please call the Public Works Department at (435)586-2912 for additional information.
Cedar City’s water department and code enforcement will be out enforcing this ordinance in the coming months. If you are found in violation of the ordinance, you can expect to receive one warning. Repeated violations will result in water service being shut off and financial penalties.

Water conservation is important for all living in the west. Cedar City hopes that all can adopt the time of day water restrictions into their conservation practices. Please help us conserve water by being more conscious of your water usage and watering only during the designated hours. If you have questions regarding the time of day watering ordinance, please contact the Cedar City Public Works Department at (435)586-2912. For more information on how you can help with water conservation, please visit www.conservewater.utah.gov.

With spring fever on the rise, and garage sales on the horizon, we are asking you not to put signs up on the streets, sidewalks, and support post or poles. Cedar City Ordinance chapter 26- Article XVI – 1, states “Signs are an important aspect of the City. Besides providing identification to commercial and industrial businesses, creative and attractive signs show a community’s economic vitality. The proliferation and disrepair of signs can deter their effectiveness, as well as cause dangerous conflicts with traffic-control devices. When abused, signs create a visual blight which detracts from the quality of the environment. The purpose of the sign ordinance is to manage the use of signs as to be compatible with their surroundings, provide effective identification of business establishments, contribute to the protection and the promotion of the health, safety, and welfare of the traveling public and the citizens of the City, preserve and enhance property values, promote healthy commercial and industrial districts, and to enhance the community’s aesthetics by establishing standards and regulations for sign design, location, size, type and compatibility.”

We understand the importance of spring cleaning, but it can become challenging for our police department when they have to clean up these signs. There are other ways to promote your garage sales such as social media, so we are asking to please refrain from placing your for sale or garage sale signs on city property or right of ways. This has been an ongoing issue for quite some time now, and we are asking for your help in this matter. Our volunteers and code enforcement officers will be out trying to mitigate this issue, but if a continued problem persists, appropriate enforcement will take place. Please refer to the city ordinance for further information. This ordinance is in-depth and provides clarification, direction, and procedures.

Life is Better In Iron County Because of Nonprofits
Nonprofits in our community offer services and programs that impact lives in many ways. They bring smiles through art, theater, and song. They bring hope and help through meals and child care. They offer safety and comfort to children and adults through emergency shelter, advocacy, and disaster relief. And while they are known for providing services and programs in our community, they also play an important role in our economy because of those they employ, who live, work and shop here. In 2019 the Utah Nonprofit Association identified more than 10,000 nonprofits in our state, 170 of them in Iron County. As a group, nonprofits are active in the Chamber of Commerce and, from that association, are better informed about the needs of our community. When there are needs, they respond. In short, they exist to serve you, and they exist because of you. Thank you, residents and businesses of Cedar City and supporting communities, who support the work of non-profits, for your hours of service and contributions which help them thrive. They are always in need of the continued support of our community. If you are interested and would like to learn more, visit https://www.cedarcitychamber.org/chamber-non-profits. You can also reach out to the Cedar City Chamber or Peggy Green, Care and Share, Chair of Chamber Nonprofit Group at (435)708-0510 or peggyg@careandshare-ut.org.

We are surrounded by heroes in our city who go above and beyond on a daily basis to help our community be strong and unified. Foster families are one such example of those who serve tirelessly. As May is National Foster Care Awareness Month, it is a great time to let them know how much we value their unselfish efforts to help strengthen families. Foster parents open up their hearts and homes to children in our city who need a loving place to stay while their own parents take the necessary steps to provide a safe home for their children. The foster parents have completed hours of training and huge piles of paperwork and jumped through lots of other hoops in order to become licensed to provide a safe, loving place for children in trauma. They do this simply from a desire to help build the future through the lives of the younger generation. There are approximately 32 foster families licensed with the state to care for the 100 children in Iron County who are in foster care at any given time. Some ideas of ways to support these children and families are:

- Take over a meal
- Offer to watch the kids for a couple hours
- Donate new underwear or socks
- Donate to Utah Foster Care Wishing Well fund that sponsors special events
- Offer to help with home improvement projects
- Purchase a family pass or movie tickets for a night out
- Express your appreciation and support to them

While not everyone is in a position to become a foster parent, we hope that our community will continue to show their appreciation to those who can and do step up to care for one of our most vulnerable populations, this month and throughout the year. For more information about the needs of our community or foster care, contact Amy Bates (435)463-7404 or go to utahfostercare.org.