

City of Union Oregon Newsletter

"PROMOTE RURAL VALUES, PROTECT LOCAL ASSETS AND FOSTER COMMUNITY PRIDE"

342 South Main Street P.O. Box 529 Union, OR 97883 541-562-5197 Fax 541-562-5196 cityhall@CityOfUnion.com www.CityOfUnion.com

CITY HALL Monday - Thursday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Open During Lunch

UNION CARNEGIE LIBRARY Monday 10am-6pm
Tues ~ Thurs 10am-5pm Friday 10am-4pm

May 2023



From The Desk Of

Doug Wiggins

City Administrator

WOW, it has been so nice to get some warmth coming this last week of April. Projects are getting started and the hustle and bustle shall soon be in full swing.

The bids for the Ranger Station remodel were disappointing. We received 1 bid for over \$270,000. The council and staff have decided not to proceed in that manner and will be our own general contractor for the project. A bit slower process, but this project should be complete for under \$100,000.

The new wastewater screen project is under foot. This is an exciting upgrade to our plant, and we can't wait to get it finished and online soon.

Budget meetings are finishing up as I write this message and seem to be going smoothly. It appears the budget to be forwarded to Council for deliberations in June will be around \$7.2 million. I am grateful for the volunteers that have stepped up to help through this process. It is appreciated, and their input is so valuable during this time in preparing a final budget for approval. If you see any of these volunteers listed below, please thank them for the few long evenings they give up in making Union a better place:

Brian McDowell
Theresa Stratton

Tyler Griffiths
Dawn Bruce

Becky Platz

Yes, it's true, we have an opening for a full-time benefited position in the public works department. We hope to begin interviews within the next week (first part of May). As an additional surprise, we have had an overwhelming response to our part-time labor position. It's nice to see our youth applying for these positions as in years past it has seemed we have had to beg steal and borrow to get someone for the job. We will be interviewing and talking with these kids in mid-May and hopefully have a couple working as soon as school is out.

On another exciting front, the lots at the bottom of the Golf Course are beginning to fill in. With some good luck there could be 4 finished houses there by the end of the year. It is so good to see the growth and building happen especially at this scale.

The council will be meeting May 8, 2023, in Council Chambers to discuss placing the annexation of city fire and EMS services into the Union Rural Fire Protection District on the ballot for August. Stay tuned and please reach out and ask what this could mean for city residents. There will be some important town hall and informative meetings coming on the issue.

I know this note has been short, but as we get heated up and going this summer there will plenty to report on in our future newsletters.

Stay safe and have some fun in the welcoming sun.



CLEAN UP DAY!

May 6th ~ 9:00am ~ 1:00pm

410 Treatment Plant Road

City of Union Residents Only



Accepted Items:

- * Yard Debris
- * Household Items (appliances, furniture, mattresses)
- * Tires without rims - 8 per household Limited Space, once box is full no more will be accepted
- * Electronics
- * Bikes
- * Outdoor Kids Toys

Not Accepted:

- Household Garbage
- * Hazardous Waste (paint, chemicals, etc)
- * Shingles
- * Ashes
- * Batteries

A great time to clean up that yard and get rid of those things just sitting around gathering dust!



Notice of Public Hearing/Comment

Please join us May 8th ~ 7pm

Public Hearing and comment period for placing the annexation of the City Fire & EMS district into the Union Rural Fire Protection District. Please join the City Council as they discuss the resolution proposing to place this annexation on the August 2023 special ballot.

Public Hearing will be held at City Hall in the Leonard Almquist Chambers.

COME TO THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING! JUNE 12TH, 2023

WE WILL BE DISCUSSING

THE 2023~2024 BUDGET

SEE YOU THERE....

UNION CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

May Storytimes ~ Tuesdays 10 am ~ 11 am

2nd - Jump Rope

9th - Mother's Day Bead Bracelets

16th - Paper Chain Snakes

23rd - Oreo Moon Phases

30th - Tower Challenge



Summer Reading Program begins June 12th. Sign up now.
To volunteer contact the library, 541-562-5811 or email us at library@cityofunion.com



Adult Events:

15th - 6-7pm at Catherine Creek Community Center

Sourdough 102 with Tea House Bakery

22nd - 6-7pm at Union Carnegie Library

Whole grain baking with Teahouse Bakery



Library Hours

Monday 10am - 6pm

Tuesday thru Thursday 10am ~ 5pm

Friday 10am ~ 4pm

182 N Main

541-562-5811

Check us out on Facebook @Union,OR Carnegie Library

Thunder At The Peak

Coming soon.....!!

Fireworks Show at Buffalo Peak

July 4th, 2023



If you would like to make a donation to the fireworks show it can be sent to...

City of Union Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 76

Union, OR 97883

EOLS



June 4th-11th

“Rodeo Fans & Cattle Brands”



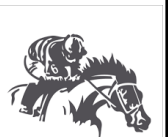
Extreme Bull Riding

PRCA Rodeo

4H ~ FFA Livestock Shows

4H ~ FFA Livestock Sale

Pari-mutuel Racing



City of Union

342 South Main Street***PO Box 529***Union, OR 97883

Drinking Water Report 2022 Sampling Results

This is our **annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)** on your drinking water system. The most recently required sampling results have been gathered to inform customers about their tap water. With this information, we hope you will learn more about your water and will help protect the water for future use.

We provide quality drinking water that meets all federal and state requirements.

During recent years we have sampled for many different chemicals. Contamination is anything other than pure water. We sample total coliform bacteria as an indicator of microorganisms (bacteria, viruses and other small creatures) that should not be present. **The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the past calendar year or in our most recent tests as noted.** Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling **541-562-5197** or **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).**

EPA’s website is www.epa.gov/safewater

Terms and Abbreviations

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. **IDEAL GOAL**

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology. **HIGHEST LEVEL ALLOWED**

Action Level (**AL**): the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. **na:** not applicable **nd:** not detectable at testing limit **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter (1 drop in 1 million gallons) **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter (1 drop in 1 billion gallons) **pCi/L:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation).

Regulated Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Our Water	Sample Date	Exceedance / Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	0	15 AL	2.1	7-10-22	No	Corrosive water & home plumbing
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3 AL	0.032	7-10-22	No	Corrosive water & home plumbing
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.296	1-3-22	No	Natural occurring
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	3.55	2-5-18	No	Natural deposits, orchards, glass & electronic production wastes
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.61	6-1-15	No	Naturally occurring
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.02	6-1-15	No	Naturally occurring
Sodium (ppm)	Na	Na	37.9#	6-1-15	No	Naturally occurring
Nickel (ppl)	Na	100	0.56	6-1-15	No	Naturally occurring
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	Na	80	0.99	9-13-21	No	Disinfection byproduct
Combined Radium (226/228)	0	30	0.8	6-7-21	No	Naturally occurring

WE HAD NO VIOLATIONS!

#Sodium: There is no standard for sodium in drinking water at the federal level, but USEPA recommends that drinking water sodium be held to 20 ppm or less because sodium is so common in other beverages and food.

The Drinking Water Program has identified criteria for determining whether a community public water system has provided safe water to the public and should be considered to have “**Outstanding Performance.**” **The City of Union received this designation in December 2009 and again on September 30th, 2014, and October 15th, 2019!**

The City is committed to supplying their water consumers with a safe and sufficient supply. The City’s ground water derived from two deep wells that are trapped into a basalt aquifer. The two wells have the potential to produce four million gallons per day.

The City presents this report to inform their water consumers of the quality of the drinking water supply.



What’s Happening At The Museum in May:

We are finally getting close to the Museum's opening after what has seemed like one very long winter. Museum volunteers, Board Members and our Curator are so looking forward to visiting with friends as well as meeting new ones at the May 14, Mothers' Day Open House from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy refreshments and to look at a vast variety of history ranging from period rooms to a unique display of antique clocks, a carpenters' shop filled with amazing tools and even a replica of the look out tower from Point Prominence where tower employees had to stand on a small wooden stool with insulators for legs during lightening storms so they could telephone lightening strike information to a main fire base.

Often items from long ago seem to be a mystery. In the kitchen area there are two round objects on the floor that have four holes in the sides and a strange wire apparatus on the top. There was speculation as to its use. Guesses ranged from something to do with musical instruments to some sort of useful garden tool. After some research it was identified as the perfect mouse trap that could exterminate four of the furry pests at one time. Check it out. There is a catnip mouse sitting on top of one of these clever traps.

Please reserve a little time on Mothers' Day afternoon to join us for a reflection on Union Countys' past. We are looking forward to visiting with you.



Snippet of Union’s History.....

The city now owns a very complete system of water works - built last year at an expense of about \$20,000. It is a gravity system - the water being taken from Catherine creek, a pure , cold mountain stream at a point a little over two miles east of town, from which it is conducted in a ten inch main to the city, where it is distributed. It has a vertical pressure of about 110 feet. Hydrants have been placed at suitable intervals throughout the city, providing ample protection against fire. There is no expense in pumping and the city gets its water free. Besides furnishing water to private parties at a nominal price. It is one of the best systems in the west. The city is also supplied with a complete system of electric lights for street, business and residence use.

Union has been exceedingly fortunate in the matter of destructive fires. This is owing largely to the vigilance of our volunteer department. There are three companies, Union Hook & Ladder Co. No.1, Hose Co. 's No.1 and No.2. The latest and most improved apparatus is used. A large amount had been expended on new apparatus within the past few months. It is believed that these companies, with the water system, will be able to control any fire that may break out in the city.

*Union Through a Camera -
Jones Brothers - May 10, 1894*

Tick exposure can occur year-round, but ticks are most active during warmer months (April-September).

Before You Go Outdoors

- **Know where to expect ticks:** Ticks live in grassy, brushy, or wooded areas, or even on animals. Spending time outside walking your dog, camping, gardening, or hunting could bring you in close contact with ticks.
- **Treat clothing and gear by Using:** [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)-registered insect repellentsexternal icon](#) containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus (OLE), para-menthane-diol (PMD), or 2-undecanone. EPA’s helpful [search toolexternal icon](#) can help you find the product that best suits your needs. Always follow product instructions. Do not use products containing OLE or PMD on children under 3 years old.
- **Avoid Contact with Ticks:** Avoid wooded and brushy areas with high grass and leaf litter. Walk in the center of trails.

After You Come Indoors

- **Check your clothing for ticks.** Ticks may be carried into the house on clothing. Any ticks that are found should be removed. Tumble dry clothes in a dryer on high heat for 10 minutes to kill ticks on dry clothing after you come indoors. If the clothes are damp, additional time may be needed. If the clothes require washing first, hot water is recommended. Cold and medium temperature water will not kill ticks.
- **Examine gear and pets.** Ticks can ride into the home on clothing and pets, then attach to a person later, so carefully examine pets, coats, and daypacks.
- **Check your body for ticks after being outdoors.** Conduct a full body check upon return from potentially tick-infested areas, including your own backyard. Use a hand-held or full-length mirror to view all parts of your body. Check these parts of your body and your child’s body for ticks:
 - Under the arms
 - In and around the ears and in and around the hair
 - Inside belly button and around the chest
 - Back of the knees and between the legs



Ordinance Education Corner...

It is the time of year that we start watching for tall grasses and weeds. And the presence of noxious weeds.

What constitutes as tall grasses?

Grass over 10” tall, not including ornamental garden grasses

What constitutes as tall weeds?

All weeds over 10” tall

What is considered a noxious weed?

A few noxious weeds that are common and detrimental to our area are Puncture Vine, Knapweed, White top and Thistle. There are 28 species of noxious weeds on the Tri-County Cooperative Weed Management List, visit the Union Public Carnegie Library to check out A Field Guide to Eastern Oregon’s Noxious Weeds or call Tri-County Weed Management at 541~523~2740

Noxious weeds must be eradicated prior to going to seed.

We want to remind you that it is the property owner and tenants responsibility to take care of tall grasses and weeds, and to kill and remove noxious weeds.

Citations will be issued for noncompliance.

COUNCIL CORNER:

Current City Council Topics Include:



- ⇒ Ranger Station project
- ⇒ Wastewater Influent Screen
- ⇒ Water System Update Project
- ⇒ Rural & City Fire/EMS merger

~City Council Members ~

Jay Blackburn Dick Middleton
Tim Cox John Black
John Farmer Anita Davis

Mayor Susan Hawkins

May 2023 Council Meetings

- May 8th
Council Work Session @ 6:00pm
Council Meeting @ 7:00pm

- May 22nd
Council Work Session @ 6:00pm
All meetings are held in the Leonard Almquist Chambers at City Hall.

Meetings are live streamed and can be viewed on our Facebook page. Or you can view them any time later on our website

www.cityofunion.com



Like us on Facebook!

ORGANIZATION	MEETING DATE	LOCATION	TIME	PHONE
Awana	Every Thurs/during school year	Baptist Church	6:30pm	541-562-5870
Catherine Creek Community Center	4th Thursday of month	Community Center	6:00pm	
City of Union Chamber	2nd Thurs of the month		6:00 pm	unionchamber@eoni.com
City Council	2nd Mon of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
Council Work Sessions	2 nd & 4 th Mon of month	City Hall	6.00 pm	541-562-5197
CUP Medical Association	2 nd Tues of the month	251 S Main	6:00 pm	541-910-6268
Order of Eastern Star	2nd Wed of the month	Masonic Hall	7:00 pm	541-805-0779
EMS Department	1st Mon of the month	Rural Fire Hall	7:00 pm	
EOLS Board	2nd Tues of the month	EOLS Club House	7:00 pm	541-562-5631
Food Bank	3 rd Friday of the month	Catherine Creek CommCtr	10-11:00am	541-562-2038
Friends of the Library	2 nd Tues January, April, July & November	Union Library	7:00 pm	541-562-5807
Grande Ronde Valley Masonic	3 rd Wed of the month	Masonic Hall	7:30pm	
Historic Preservation	3 rd Wed of the month	City Hall	6:00pm	541-562-5197
Library Board	4 th Wed of July, Oct, Jan, April	Library	4:00 pm	541-562-5811
Lions Club	3 rd Tues of the month	Sports Complex	5:30 pm	PO Box 337
Mainstreet Union & Economic Development	2nd Thursday of the month	Call contact # for location	7:00 pm	541-910-7048
Planning Commission	3rd Wed of the month	City Hall	7:00 pm	541-562-5197
Senior / Community Meals	2nd Friday of the month	Catherine Creek Community Center	12:00 pm	
School Board	2nd Wed of the month	Athletic Complex	6:00 pm	541-562-5166
South County Health Dist	Last Friday of month / Oct, Jan, April, and July	Health Clinic	1:30 pm	541-562-2222
Union Cemetery Board	2 nd Tues of the month	Union Cemetery Office	9:00 am	541-562-5212
Union FFA Alumni & Supporters	3rd Wednesday	EOLS Clubhouse	6:30pm	541-975-9495
VFW Bingo	Every Wednesdaynight	VFW Hall	6 pm	541-562-6035
VFW Formal meeting	1st Thursday of month	VFW Hall	7 pm	541-562-6035

Community Calendar