

# Yreka City Newsletter

www.ci.yreka.ca.us

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## Falling Leaves



The City of Yreka, Department of Public Works, is asking for your help in keeping the streets clean and safe this fall.

**Please do not put leaves in the street!**

The Department sweeps the streets as frequently as possible in the fall when leaves are falling. However, it does not have the resources to sweep more than once a week.

It is important to keep leaves out of the street because they obstruct the flow of water in the gutters and block the drainage inlets. Blocked inlets cause flooding problems in the street and on private property. Large piles of leaves in the street or wet leaves can also be dangerous for vehicles, bicyclists and pedestrians. Leaves that wash into Yreka Creek to decompose also degrades downstream water quality.

The California Vehicle Code and City of Yreka Municipal Code prohibit the placement of any type of debris, including leaves, into the streets. Leaves are a valuable free material for composting, mulching and enriching your soils. Check out

the article at [www.ci.yreka.ca.us/community/composting](http://www.ci.yreka.ca.us/community/composting) for more information or see the bottom of page 2 for December drop-off of bagged leaves. Leaves can also be burned with a valid Burning Permit (see next article) that can be obtained free of charge at City Hall. Your cooperation is appreciated.

## Burn Permits



For residents who are planning on burning yard debris on residential property, you will need to obtain a Burn Permit from the City of Yreka. These permits are free and do not expire. They are required and must be kept at the burn site. Burning is only allowed in 3' X 3' X 3' piles and is only permitted on permissible burn days. Call the Siskiyou County Air Pollution Control District at (530) 842-8123 to find out if it is a permissible burn day.

For residents who are planning on burning yard debris on non-residential property, please contact the Siskiyou County Air Pollution Control District to obtain a burn permit from them.

## Public Works Update

Over the past few weeks you may have come across your Public Works Maintenance Division performing various Fall cleanup tasks. The annual cleaning of the Sewer Collection System is underway. The hot mix asphalt patching has been completed for the season and we will continue to repair potholes with cold mix throughout the winter. Your new street sweeper has been placed in service in recent weeks and is catching up from an absence of the sweeper we replaced. Public Works will also be winterizing the parks system. This includes closing the "outer restrooms" at Greenhorn Park and Miner Street Park. For those of you who utilize and enjoy the parks in the winter, (continued on page 2)

### A Fall Update From Your Public Works Maintenance Division



### Inside this issue:

Falling Leaves	1
Burn Permits	1
Public Works Update	1-2
Dog License Fees	2
Frozen Pipes	2
Composting Leaves	2

### Important Numbers

City Hall/  
Utility Billing  
(530) 841-2386

Fire Dept  
(530) 841-2383

Police Dept  
(530) 841-2300

Public Works  
(530) 841-2370

Senior Program  
(530) 841-2365

### Elected Officials

Robert Bicego  
Mayor

David Simmen  
Mayor Pro Tempore

Bryan Foster  
Councilmember

Rory McNeil  
Councilmember

John Mercier  
Councilmember

Liz Casson  
City Clerk

Rhetta Hogan  
City Treasurer

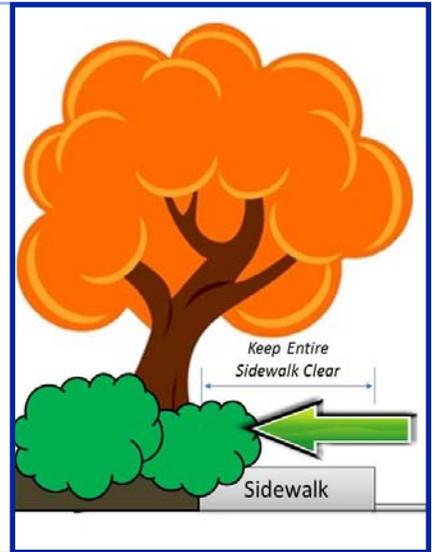
## Public Works Update (continued from page 1)

Works is also performing "line of sight" work, trimming the areas around traffic signs to ensure they are visible.

The Department of Public Works is working on a program of improving sidewalk safety and sight distance at intersections throughout the City. California Streets and Highways Code Section 5610 requires property owners fronting public sidewalks to maintain the sidewalk in a condition to not endanger persons or cause interference with pedestrians. Yreka Municipal Code 9.44.010 also prohibits "Every obstruction or encroachment on any part of any street, alley, sidewalk or gutter". Please take a look at the picture to the right to ensure your property is in compliance.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this program. It is the intent of Public Works to provide safe travel for citizens and visitors of our Golden City.

please keep in mind the "center" restrooms remain open. Public



## Dog License Fees - 2015

City of Yreka dog licenses for 2015 are due between January 5 and March 2, 2015. Per City ordinance, any dog that resides within the City limits must be licensed through the City of Yreka.



The Animal Control license fees for 2015 are:

**\$28.00 for Spayed/Neutered (Altered) Dogs and \$56.00 for Unaltered Dogs**

Any dog owner whose dog is not licensed by March 2, 2015, is subject to a penalty of \$10.00 for each unlicensed dog in addition to the license fee.

## Frozen Pipes

Each winter City Hall receives numerous calls from residents asking what they should do about frozen pipes. Below are some useful tips for what to do if your pipes freeze.

After water freezes in your pipe, the water flow will be cut off. The ice will expand and your pipes will be at risk of splitting if the clogs are not thawed promptly. When dealing with frozen pipes, it is important to act fast. A frozen pipe can turn into a broken pipe, transforming a small inconvenience into a big problem. To thaw frozen pipes, follow these steps:

- 1) Find and turn off the main valve that brings water into the house.
- 2) After turning off the main valve, trace the pipes around your house to locate any other shut-off valves.
- 3) Open all the faucets connected to the frozen pipes to minimize pressure and allow water to flow out once it's thawed.
- 4) To thaw pipes, you can use (a) a blow dryer, (b) a space heater for pipes under a sink or (c) electric pipe wraps.
- 5) When thawing your pipes, keep in mind, you should NEVER use a torch or open flame to melt an ice clog.
- 6) Monitor the pipes as they thaw because they may have cracked when they froze and may start to leak as they thaw.

The City would like to remind you that anything from the water meter to the property is the responsibility of the property owner/tenant. The City of Yreka encourages all property owners to install a "Customer Shut-Off Valve" on the customer side of the water meter. If you need the City of Yreka to turn water off or on, certain fees may apply. Visit our website at [ci.yreka.ca.us/utilities/frozen-pipes](http://ci.yreka.ca.us/utilities/frozen-pipes) for more information. If you have an after-hours water emergency and would like the Public Works Department to respond and turn off your water, call the Yreka Police Department at (530) 841-2300 (press 9 for dispatch) to request assistance. Alternatively, you may call a plumber.



## Composting Leaves

**"Put your leaves to good use; every leaf turns to compost gold."** There will be two days in December for the collection of bagged leaves. The bagged leaves should not contain any sticks, trash or metal. Leaf drop-off dates, times and location will be posted in the Siskiyou Daily News. Contact Ayn Perry at 598-4464 for more information.