

# Yreka City Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 1

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## 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

David Simmen  
Mayor

Robert Bicego  
Mayor Pro Tempore

Bryan Foster  
Councilmember

Rory McNeil  
Councilmember

John Mercier  
Councilmember

Liz Casson  
City Clerk

Rhetta Hogan  
City Treasurer

## Yreka Creek Blackberry Project



The City of Yreka, in conjunction with multiple agencies and other groups, is working to remove blackberries and trimming various other brush and trees in order to allow for native vegetation to grow and offer greater physical and visual access along Yreka Creek. This will help facilitate law enforcement activities and establish sustainable maintenance procedures, while retaining important biological, ecological and aesthetic features along the Creek.

Police Chief Brian Bowles stated:

"The Yreka Creek Blackberry Reduction Project is off to a great start with approximately 1/5 of the project completed to date. The results are quite noticeable to all persons passing by. Once this multi-year project is completed, maintenance efforts and local support will still need to continue. I want to thank the community for its support of this project. Support from property owners and businesses along Yreka Creek have been critical to the project. Those property owners and businesses will continue to get permission letters that enable the City to continue its cleanup and trespass prevention efforts.

Yreka Creek trails are open to the public in established Greenway areas for recreational hiking and jogging. As with all trail activities, please be sure to take precautions such as:

- Go with another person or group.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Let someone know where you are going and when you are expected to be back.
- Be sure to report any suspicious activity to the police.

The completed project areas along Yreka Creek have greatly reduced visual obstructions and I am very proud of all the persons involved in this project and thank them for the great start."

## School Zone Traffic Safety

The Yreka Police Department and Police Chief Brian Bowles would like to remind the residents of Yreka to use extra caution when driving near schools or when dropping off and picking up students. U-turns are generally not safe or recommended near schools, especially when students are being dropped off (7:45am to 8:45am) or picked up (2:30pm to 3:30pm). The Yreka Police Department is increasing patrols near schools to raise driver awareness of these important safety considerations.

Please remember:

- Students and other pedestrians should **ALWAYS** use a crosswalk. Crossing mid-block around schools is very dangerous.
- Park your vehicle next to the curb; double parking is hazardous and illegal.
- **Do not make illegal U-turns.** U-turns are illegal if there is a vehicle approaching within 200 feet, the U-turn movement affects other vehicles, or if the U-turn constitutes a hazard. U-turns are potentially dangerous and should not be done near schools.



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## Update: Yreka Creek Projects

The City of Yreka has a number of projects planned for improving Yreka Creek, and two of those projects are expected to start construction later this year.

A new half-mile of trail for hiking and bicycling will be constructed along Yreka Creek near Deer Creek Way. Bathrooms, picnic tables and interpretive signs about the Creek

will be built, as well as a convenient parking lot. The floodplain will be expanded and native plants will be planted to improve habitat for local wildlife. The Greenway Visitor Center's outdoor classroom, near the Siskiyou County Museum on Main Street, will also get new seating, sculptures, and landscaping. There are also plans to construct a sound barrier that will lessen freeway noise for those using the outdoor classroom.

The area from Oberlin Road north to the Klamath National Forest Service Center on Main Street will get new trail paving along with picnic tables, trash receptacles, directional signs and a drinking fountain. A new parking lot will also be built at the Oberlin Road trailhead. The floodplain will be modified in this area to both reduce flooding and provide valuable habitat for local wildlife.



The Red Scarf Society  
presents  
*The Musical Legacy  
of Local Talent*

DATE: Sun, February 23<sup>rd</sup>  
TIME: 3:00 pm  
PLACE: Community Theater  
810 N Oregon Street

This will be their fifth show  
featuring great talent from  
our community.

Ticket prices are \$15 for  
adults and \$5 for students.

Tickets are available in  
Yreka at the Chamber of  
Commerce, Nature's Kitchen,  
and Shoppe Serendipity.

In Mount Shasta, tickets are  
available at Village Books.

Save the date and  
don't miss the fun!

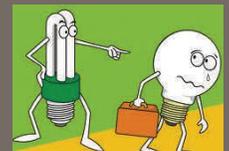
**Business license renewal letters have been sent out in the mail;  
be sure to renew your 2014 business license by March 31st.  
Dog license fees are also due; penalties will be applied on March 4th.**



## How the City of Yreka is Saving Money!

💧 Like many Yreka residents, the City of Yreka is working hard to minimize our use of water. Over the last two years, the Public Works Department's Maintenance Division has focused on reducing water consumption in parks, while still maintaining beautiful and enjoyable lawn areas. These efforts include: 1) installation of hundreds of new, more efficient sprinklers to reduce water use, 2) checking timers weekly to ensure they are working properly and not over-watering, 3) installation of new meters and timers in areas that previously did not have any, 4) institution of a green-recycling method of mulching which saves water and reduces the need for fertilizers, and 5) frequent checking for leaks. Residents can use these techniques to also reduce their landscape-related water use and still maintain a beautiful garden or lawn. Visit [ci.yreka.ca.us/utilities/water-efficiency](http://ci.yreka.ca.us/utilities/water-efficiency) for more ideas.

⚙️ In 2009, the Department of Energy eliminated most of the remaining commonly used types of T12 linear fluorescent lamps effective July 14, 2012. In December, Public Works retrofitted the fixtures at the Service Center at 856 North Main Street. All T-12 fluorescent fixtures were replaced with the newer high output, long life T-8, and exterior lighting was converted to LED. The Service Center houses the Fleet, Water, and Maintenance Divisions.



Working in cooperation with Evergreen Efficiency, Public Works was able to take part in a Pacific Power rebate program. This program allowed 41% of the materials cost to be refunded to the City of Yreka. An estimated \$2,300 in energy savings annually creates a payback of 2.3 years. Public Works has also completed a similar lighting retrofit at City Hall. This phase of the project includes a rebate of \$2,670 and will create an estimated \$1,978 annual savings. The payback of this second phase is 1 year.