



Living by the Nooksack

A Quarterly Newsletter from the City of Ferndale

May 2021

What is This?

While many of our residents follow us on social media and check our website, we know that plenty of you don't have time for that.

This quarterly newsletter is our latest effort to help you understand what is going on in your city.

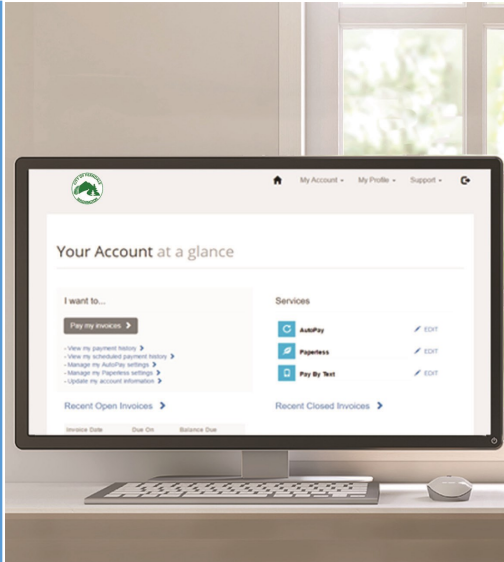
Inside this article, you will find:

- Rules on keeping chickens within the city limits
- Plans to reopen public facilities
- What is stormwater and why it matters
- Ferndale Police donated unclaimed bikes to Rwandan children
- Details on the 2021 Summer of Fun!

... and more!

If you have thoughts about this newsletter, please call Communications Officer Riley Sweeney at (360) 685-2353 or email him at Rileysweeney@Cityofferndale.org

Accessible online at www.cityofferndale.org/newsletter



Paperless billing -
Fast. Easy. Green.



Coming Soon

www.cityofferndale.org

New Online Utility Billing Portal Coming This Summer

The City is bringing you a brand new utility billing portal, coming live this summer from InvoiceCloud. The new interface will be free to use and allow you to receive your bill through your email, set up Autopay, pay online with a credit/debit card or e-check, set up bill reminders, update your contact info, pay by text, Apple or Google Pay, and so much more.

Best of all, you can review up to 24 months of past bills as they become available.

In short, everything you expect of a modern online billing system.

This new system is good for the customer, but it also helps us. It interfaces with our accounting software and provides better transparency for the public ensuring all have access to their own account information.

This does not mean you have to give up your paper bill. If you like good old fashioned paper and check, the City will gladly continue to process your payments. You could even receive the paper bill and then go pay online, if you like.

Watch your mailbox for future instructions on how to sign up for the new online billing system as we bring it online.



Griffintown Park Trees Host Handmade Art Installation

Thanks to a free crochet class and materials from the Ferndale Arts Commission, volunteers were able to create several tree sweaters to decorate the trees at Griffintown Park. This temporary art installation will be in place throughout the summer.

For more Arts Commission activities, check out www.cityofferndale.org/arts



Reopening Public Facilities

With vaccination rates increasing and Whatcom County currently in Phase 3, the Ferndale Police Station and Court have reopened to the public with limited hours.

The lobby is open Tuesdays and Thursday from 10am-2pm and as conditions continue to improve, those hours may expand towards normal business hours.

All staff at City Hall will be returning from remote work as we move into summer and City Hall will be expected to reopen later this year as soon as it is safe for the public.

Keeping Chickens as Egg-cellent Pets

Dogs and cats may make excellent pets, but did you know that the City allows up to 12 domestic fowl on parcels less than ½ acre within the City limits?

Domestic fowl means “chicken, hens, ducks, geese, turkeys, quail, pigeons, doves and other birds kept chiefly for their eggs, flesh, or for enjoyment.” They are free to roam in your enclosed back or side yard, but be sure to keep them on your own property and not let them trespass into your neighbor’s yard or the City right-of-way.

They can only be kept for personal use, which means no selling of eggs or manure, or breeding for commercial purposes. There are also specific setbacks and regulations related to chicken coops and other enclosures that must be followed, which include keeping them clean and tidy, so that there are no odors or other noticeable nuisances. Also take note that roosters, peacocks, and guinea fowl are outright prohibited.

Keep in mind that your neighborhood CC&Rs may have stricter regulations than the City’s rules. So be sure to check in with your HOA before moving forward with any plans for your new pets. For more information, or if you have any questions, please reach out to the City’s Code Compliance Officer, Kyla Boswell, at (360) 685-2365 or codecompliance@cityofferndale.org.



Ferndale Police Donate Unclaimed Bicycles to Rwandan Children

The Ferndale Police Department recently donated unclaimed bicycles to children in Kigali, Rwanda, where they will be used to set up a bicycle shop and provide transportation to the community.

This program, a branch of Bicycles for Humanity, is organized by Terry Mahoney. “The people over there need bicycles desperately. This allows children to get to school, and doctors to get to appointments,” said Mahoney.

The bicycles which would have traditionally been surplus and disposed of by the police department, will be shipped to Rwanda in a shipping container provided by Blaine company Kam-Way Transportation.



Mandatory

Water Conservation Schedule (June 1st—September 15th)

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ODD	NO WATERING	EVEN	ODD	EVEN	ODD	EVEN

Mandatory Water Conservation Measures Begin June 1st

To help ensure that everyone has the water they need throughout the dry season, the City is implementing a mandatory water conservation schedule based on street address, and limiting outdoor watering to the hours of 5pm-10am for a period no longer than 30 minutes. Drip irrigation systems, food-bearing gardens, potted plants, hanging baskets, rain barrels, recreational uses, and newly installed landscaping are all exempt from the restrictions.

Following this schedule will help you save money on your water bill, reduce the impact on our environment and help ensure our water system runs strong throughout the season. But that's not the only way to save water this summer. Here are some other ideas to get you thinking:

4 Tips for Conserving Water

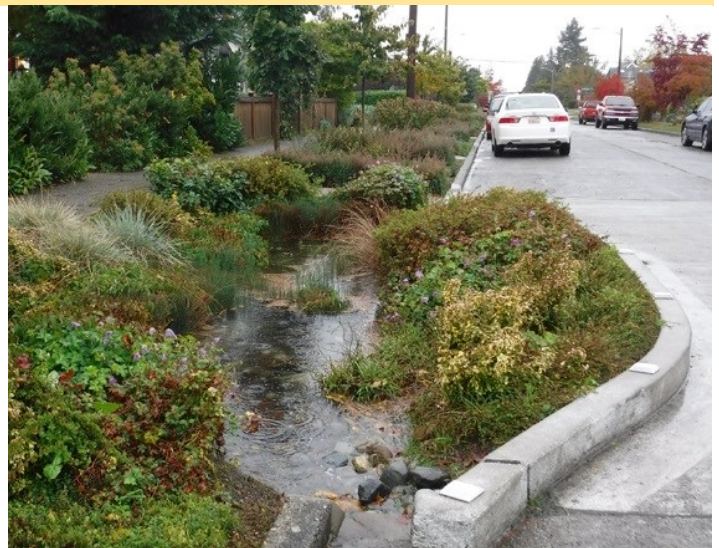
- 1) Install a rain barrel. Learn how to at www.cityofferndale.org/rainbarrels
- 2) Spot those leaks! A leaky toilet can mean a big bill. Take the time to find the drip or upgrade the faucet.
- 3) Gold is the new Green for lawns. Consider letting your lawn fade to gold. It will return in spring, we promise!
- 4) Plant native plants. They use less water and fare better in the heat.

Stormwater Management:

Stopping Floods and Pollution One Pond at a Time

Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground or other surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, and streets, and into the stormwater system or surface water. As this water flows over surfaces, it can pick up contaminants such as sediment, oils, fertilizers, pet waste, and more. While some precipitation that falls in Ferndale evaporates or soaks into the ground, most eventually ends up in one of our streams or the Nooksack River. Much of the stormwater in Ferndale flows directly into streams and other surface waters without treatment.

To protect our waterways and prevent flooding, the city collects a stormwater fee from each utility bill and uses these funds to build and maintain our stormwater infrastructure, including new storm drains, pipes, and stormwater pond for the Thornton Overpass project, levee maintenance, flood fight activities, cleaning catch basins, street sweeping, and maintaining City owned facilities like regional ponds. These funds also support outreach efforts to protect and improve our water quality.



To see some of the stormwater infrastructure near you, find your home on our GIS Map at www.cityofferndale.org/maps. For more information, or to report spills or pollution, contact the City of Ferndale Stormwater Department stormwater@cityofferndale.org or call 360-685-2357.

Ferndale Parks 2021 SUMMER OF FUN

Free - Open to the Public



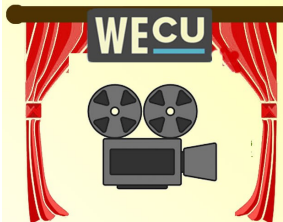
Food Truck Fridays

1st Friday of Each Month - June 4th, July 2nd, Aug. 6th
Star Park



Music in the Park

June 18th, July 17th, & Aug. 14th
Pioneer Village Stage



WECU presents Flicks in the Park

Friday Night Movies
June 25th, July 9th, & July 16th
Pioneer Village



Stargazing

with the Perseids Meteor Shower
Aug. 13th
VanderYacht Park

Masks &
Social Distancing
Required at all
park events

6ft
↔



THE GREAT FERNDALE FRONTIER FOLLY

CITYWIDE SCAVENGER HUNT - JULY 2021

June 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

JULY 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

More details at www.cityofferndale.org/parks