



Living by the Nooksack

A Quarterly Newsletter from the City of Ferndale

Spring 2022

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 newsletter, you will find:

- Insight into Ferndale business licenses
- 5 ways to conserve water this summer
- The full schedule for Ferndale parks 2022 Summer of Fun
- Details on the City Council "Hybrid" meetings
- Reminder from our local PD about driving during warm weather
- . . . 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



Join Us May 31st for a Citywide Community Meeting

Get the inside scoop on what is happening in Ferndale directly from council members, city staff and community leaders at our in-person Citywide Community Meeting on Tuesday, May 31st at 6:30pm in the Pioneer Pavilion (2007 Cherry St). The City will be holding an open Q & A session, as well as providing opportunities for the public to give feedback on a number of upcoming city initiatives.

At this event, participants can

- Learn about progress on the Thornton St. Overpass and Metalworks Skatepark
- Offer feedback on the best use of remaining COVID relief funds
- Explore the recent investments in City's utility infrastructure and utility rate equity
- Connect with community groups and non-profits
- Meet your neighbors!

Open house begins at 6:30pm, with a presentation at 7:00pm. If you have any questions, call Communications Officer Riley Sweeney at (360) 685-2353.



Contractors at the Thornton Overpass construction site applied shotcrete to the side of the west approach embankment and then sculpted it into these unique artistic features. You can follow the latest updates at www.cityofferndale.org/ThorntonOverpass



Access Your Utility Account Online

Tired of trying to find your printed bill? Love the ease of paying online?

Check out your previous bills or set up recurring payments with a click of a button. You can pay your bill by credit card (Visa/Mastercard/Discover), debit card or electronic check 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You can also use pay by text, Google or Apple pay and many other digital options.

Check out www.cityofferndale.org/utility-billing/ for all the details and save yourself the hassle of a paper bill.

Looking for a Ferndale

Business License?

Applications for Ferndale business licenses are handled by the Department of Revenue. If you operate a business in Ferndale, you need a Ferndale business license. Please go to the Washington State Department of Revenue website to apply. While there, you can get licenses for other cities in Washington and ensure you are complying with local regulations.

For more information, see www.dor.wa.gov

Trim Your Hedges



Spring is just around the corner and that means plants are beginning to grow throughout the City, including growing over sidewalks. We love plants, but what we don't want is for them to block the sidewalks or streets.

Please take a few moments to trim back your bushes, edge your lawn, and cut branches that are overhanging past your property line. It allows for easy passage on sidewalks and prevents people from walking into traffic to move around that overgrown hedge. A little bit of overgrown grass might not seem like an issue, but it reduces ADA accessibility and can affect the City's infrastructure.

Trimming your hedges is about more than being a friendly neighbor. It is actually required by City Code, which dictates that as the abutting property owner to the sidewalk, you are required to maintain the vegetation to allow free and full use of said sidewalk and/or street. If it becomes too much of a hazard, or a complaint is made, then this can also turn into a formal enforcement case, which can cost you money. So please, help your neighbors out and keep those sidewalks clear of vegetation and debris! For more information, contact City's Code Compliance Officer, Kyla Boswell, at (360) 685-2365 or CodeCompliance@cityofferndale.org

Nice Weather? Ease off the Accelerator

With weather finally getting nice, too many of our residents have suddenly developed a need for speed. Whether you are taking a spin through our neighborhoods or powering up Vista Drive, remember to ease off the accelerator and take it slow.

As the weather gets nice, there are more pedestrians out and more construction in the streets. We promise, you will get to your destination about the same time if you go the speed limit, so slow down and be safe on the road. Put down the phone and focus on your driving because it could save a life.

Thank you for all your help keep our streets safe for everyone moving through Ferndale.

-Ferndale Police Department



City Council

Transitions to Hybrid Meeting Format

After two years of remote council meetings, the City held its first “hybrid” meeting to do the people’s business in April. Retaining the online capabilities gained during the pandemic, the City Council now participates and interacts both in-person and remotely to allow for the safety and health of all attendees.



Participants can stream the meetings online live starting at 5 p.m. by clicking the link on the home page of www.cityofferndale.org or attend the meetings in-person at the City Annex (5694 Second Avenue). Recordings are also accessible after the meeting on the city website dating back over the last decade of council business.

Five Ways to Save Water This Summer

All reports point towards it being another hot summer this year which can have a drastic impact on the local water supply. 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. Drip irrigation systems, flower and vegetable gardens, potted plants, hanging baskets 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:

- 1) **Install a rain barrel.** Rain barrels are great ways to capture water for use on plants and lawns and they are easy to use. For more information on rain barrels, check out www.cityofferndale.org/rainbarrels
- 2) **Become a leak detective.** Swing by city hall and pick up your free leaky toilet detection kit. A leaky toilet can add up to an expensive utility bill— a little bit of searching can save you a bundle of money.
- 3) **Consider a new nozzle or faucet.** A more efficient faucet, showerhead or garden hose nozzle can give you the same pressure with a fraction of the water use. Swing by your favorite Ferndale hardware store and for a few bucks, you can pick up just what you need.
- 4) **Plant native plants.** As tempting as those exotic flowers can be, a native plant garden uses less water and is more resistant to those sudden Pacific Northwest weather fluctuations. Check out the WA Native Plant Society (www.wnps.org) for more details.
- 5) **Gold is the new green for lawns.** This summer, consider letting your lawn fade to gold. It will return come Spring and in the meantime, experience the cycle of the seasons as your lawn showcases its golden hues during the summer.

| Water Conservation Schedule (June 1st—September 15th) | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|------|-----|------|-----|------|
| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
| ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| ODD | NO WATERING | EVEN | ODD | EVEN | ODD | EVEN |

FERNDALE PARKS 2022



Presented by **WECU**

SUMMER OF FUN

Always Free! Open to the Public



Food Truck Fridays

First Friday of Summer Months
June 3rd, July 1st, Aug. 5th, Sept 2nd
Pioneer Village Stage - 5:30PM
JUNE 3rd - Special performance by
the Bellingham Circus Guild



Music in the Park

June 11th, July 9th, July 22nd
Pioneer Village Stage - 6PM



Baby Cakes



Flicks in the Park

June 17th, June 24th, July 8th
Pioneer Village - 9PM



PLUS these exciting activities!

July 16th Field Games VanderYacht Park 1PM

August 13th Morning Yoga Pioneer Park 10AM



Courtesy of Flow Motion

www.ferndaleparks.com