



FALLS CITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 13, ISSUE
JULY 2022

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City Hall Hours are Monday – Thursday 8:30 am – 4 pm Closed on Fridays

Thank You Spring Clean Volunteers

City staff, and 8 volunteers, worked for several weeks coordinating with Republic Services to organize and put on another successful Clean-up Day. TJ Bailey, Big Mike, Jim Miner (and assistant), Chris Warren, Pete Veronesi, Virginia Creekmore and Guy Mack all generously donated a precious weekend day to help gather:

- Six 40-yard drop boxes of trash totaling roughly 48,000 pounds of garbage
- 1.5 50-yard drop boxes of metal
- 2 large gaylord containers of electronics
- 10-freon appliances

Our wonderful volunteers helped 35 of their fellow community members, who couldn't drop off their recycling materials, with curbside pickups, and helped to receive and stack 213 tires. We owe a great debt of gratitude to these civic-minded individuals and to Republic Services for helping to make Falls City a little cleaner in 2022.

Signs of a Failing Septic System

- Water and sewage from toilets, drains, and sinks are backing up into the home
- Bathtubs, showers, and sinks drain very slowly
- Gurgling sounds in the plumbing system
- Standing water or damp spots near the septic tank or drain field
- Bad odors around the septic tank or drain field
- Bright green, spongy lush grass over the septic tank or drain field, even during dry weather

Like most components of your home, septic systems require routine maintenance. If maintained, the septic system should provide reliable service for many years. A failed or malfunctioning septic system is a risk to human and animal health and can pollute the environment. A responsible septic owner is alert to the signs of failure, regardless of the age of the system, and responds quickly when any are discovered. A quick response may save the owner money in repairs and may prevent illness and negative impact on the environment.

CITY SCHEDULE JULY 2022

CITY COUNCIL MEETING:
JULY 11TH, 2022 @ 6PM
LOCATION- COMMUNITY CENTER

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:
LOCATION- COMMUNITY CENTER
DATES AND TIMES BELOW

- PUBLIC WORKS
JULY 28RD, 2022 @ 6PM
- PARKS AND RECREATION
JULY 20TH, 2022 @ 6PM

Do Your Part, Be SepticSmart:

The Do's and Don'ts of Your Septic System

Learn these simple steps to protect your home, health, environment and property value:



Protect It and Inspect It:

Do:

- Have your system inspected (in general) every three years by a licensed contractor and have the tank pumped, when necessary, generally every three to five years.

Think at the Sink:

Don't:

- Pour cooking grease or oil down the sink or toilet.
- Rinse coffee grounds into the sink.
- Pour household chemicals down the sink or flush them.

Do:

- Eliminate or limit the use of a garbage disposal.
- Properly dispose of coffee grounds & food.
- Put grease in a container to harden before discarding in the trash.

Don't Overload the Commode:

Don't:

- Flush non-degradable products or chemicals, such as feminine hygiene products, condoms, dental floss, diapers, cigarette butts, cat litter, paper towels, pharmaceuticals.

Do:

- Dispose of these items in the trash can!

Shield Your Field:

Don't:

- Park or drive on your drainfield. The weight can damage the drain lines.
- Plant trees or shrubs too close to your drainfield, roots can grow into your system and clog it.

Do:

- Consult a septic service professional to advise you of the proper distance for planting trees and shrubs, depending on your septic tank location.

Don't Strain Your Drain:

Don't

- Concentrate your water use by using your dishwasher, shower, washing machine, and toilet at the same time. All that extra water can really strain your septic system.

Do:

- Stagger the use of water-generating appliances. This can be helpful especially if your system has not been pumped in a long time.
- Become more [water efficient](#) by fixing plumbing leaks and consider installing bathroom and kitchen faucet aerators and water-efficient products.

For more SepticSmart tips, visit: www.epa.gov/septicSMART



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