



CEDAR HILLS

OUR HOME TOWN

City Newsletter • September 2013

Office Hours:
Mon-Thurs: 8 to 5
Fri: 8 to 4
801-785-9668
www.cedarhills.org



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Upcoming Events

Story Time at the Rec Center—11:00 a.m.	Sept 11
Summer Concert Series - 7:00 p.m.	Sept 14
City Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Sept 17
Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m.	Sept 26
Upcoming City Council Meetings	Oct 1 & 15

City Phone Numbers:

Dial 801-785-9668 then ext. number:
 Front Desk, 100
 City Recorder, 503
 Zoning & Code Enforcement, 501
 Business Licensing, 504
 Building Dept, 200
 Public Works, 200
 Utility Billing, 400
 Recreation Dept., 302 or 601
 Vista Room, 300
Other Phone Numbers (801):
 Public Works After Hours, 420-2243
 Golf Pro Shop, 796-1705
 Animal Control, 763-3020
 Police, 763-3020

Water Outlook: Residents Asked to Limit Outside Watering

The City has been monitoring water levels this year, as snow pack and reservoir levels are low, which means that water supply is significantly lower than in previous years. A recent review of water consumption determined that the City has supplied approximately 1.2 billion gallons of water through the pressurized irrigation system this year to date. Based on state recommended outdoor water usage, this amount is enough to water 9,160 homes. The City has just over 2,500 homes. At this rate, there is a concern that the City will not have the necessary water infrastructure capacity for current households, combined with additional growth.



Because the level of water consumption through the pressurized irrigation system is higher than anticipated, the City is being forced to supplement the PI system with culinary water from City wells. While we are not experiencing any culinary water shortages at this time, it is always a concern when this occurs.

At this time the City asks all residents to **voluntarily reduce outdoor watering** as the season winds down. The State-recommended watering schedule for North Utah County during the month of September is one cycle every six days, with no watering necessary in October. Staff will continue to monitor levels to determine how this reduction is affecting water levels. If voluntary participation is not enough to reduce overall water usage, then the City may need to enact an official ordinance to ration pressurized irrigation water times and amounts.

Any questions or concerns may be directed to the City. The State of Utah's recommended watering schedule may be found online at www.conservewater.utah.gov/monthly.



Summer Concert Series Continues

The City of Cedar Hills, Sammys Café, and *Seventy3 Creative* continue this month with their free Summer Concert Series. Bring your blankets and chairs and enjoy the music of **The Neighbors on Saturday, September 14**. Pre-show entertainment will be provided by Cedar Hills residents the Jenks and Maddie Rees. The concerts are held at the Heritage Park Amphitheater, 4425 W Cedar Hills Drive. The last concert of the season will be held on October 12 with Ashley Hess. The concerts begin at 7:00 p.m.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets Federal and State requirements. View the City's 2012 Drinking Water Quality Report on the City's website. **Click on Utilities>Culinary Water**. The City's constant goal is to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. The City wants each customer to understand the efforts that are made to continually improve the water delivery process and to protect our water resources. For more information regarding the drinking water in the City, including water hardness and iron content, please visit the Culinary Water page on the City's website.



OUR HOME TOWN



Mayor's Minute

"Back to school!" As a child I didn't look forward to hearing those words, but I did enjoy going shopping with my mom for new clothes and school supplies. It turns out I still don't like those words, as we have had so much fun with our children this summer, and I am still being the cool, fun dad. I imagine that in a few years that will change, but for now I will take it.

Like many of you, we just sent our children off to school so they can learn new things in order for them to have a good life someday. I want to talk to you about something I have learned as an adult that we didn't think much about as children. That is recycling and being a good steward of our environment. I don't think I need to drone about the virtues of recycling, as they are self evident; but more about how we as a city are doing in our efforts.

We have 2,510 homes in our city, and everyone has at least one garbage can. But, 1,405 residents have more than one can, and of this group 955 homes have a recycling toter. This represents a 68% take rate for recycling in a city that has an opt-in rather than an opt-out program. The homes that have selected a second tote have chosen the recycling one as their tote of choice. This is good, but we can do better, and I want to explain how.

The cost of the first garbage can is \$10.92 a month, and a second garbage can is also \$10.92 a month. The recycling tote is \$4.79 a month and a second recycling tote is just \$2.24 a month. It's simple math: It is cheaper to have the recycling tote as your second tote. So I am encouraging those who would like to turn in their

second garbage tote for a recycling tote to do just that. Not only will it be good for the economy, but it could save the City some money through reduced tipping fees at the transfer station, North Point Solid Waste Special District. I have noticed some cities that have used an opt-out program and achieved an 80% take rate, but I think we can get there without the opt-out policy. Help me to do this.

On a related topic, as a city, we have been watching our water levels, particularly the pressurized irrigation (P.I.) water, and the news is not good. This summer we have supplied about 1.2 billion gallons of P.I. water, which is enough for 9,160 homes. As I mentioned, we only have 2,510 homes, so I believe everyone is going to have to watch their outside water usage. This of course includes the City and the watering of all our grassy areas. We hope to not ration P.I. water this year, but ease into it next spring where it would be recommended that you water a maximum of three times per week during June, July, and August, and even less in May and September. We have seen neighboring cities rationing water this year, so please try and reduce your usage so that we don't have to ration P.I. water. The State already recommends this. Another option is to meter the P.I. water, and we are looking at our options, but I fear it may be too expensive to implement right now.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and beginning of fall. I hope your garden harvests were good. My squash, zucchini, and cucumbers really produced this year.



Mayor Gary Gygi

Save on Monthly Charges with a Recycling Toter

A recycling toter is only \$4.79 per month, and each additional toter is only \$2.24 per month. Now is the perfect time to save some money and help the environment. The City's recycling program accepts plastic bottles and jars #1 through #7; junk mail and newspapers; old phone books and magazines; aluminum, steel, and tin cans; and broken down cardboard, but no glass or Styrofoam. Call the City office today to order your recycling toters.

Water Conservation in September

A typical Utah lawn has a water demand curve that begins in mid-April, rises to a peak in July, and then falls rapidly until mid-October. Adjusting your timer monthly to better follow this demand will save water and money. An easy way to do this is to keep the minutes constant and increase or decrease the number of days between waterings. **The recommended watering for the month of September is 21 minutes every 6 days. Non-rotary sprinkler heads require less time.** (Information provided by the Utah Division of Water Resources).

Winterizing Pressurized Irrigation

The pressurized irrigation will be winterized on October 15. On that date the system will be turned off until April 15. The City asks that you leave the pressurized irrigation shut-off valve in the "open" position for a time to allow for proper drainage of the system. Prior to the system being energized in the spring, make sure that you remembered to shut the individual shut-off valve. This will prevent sprinkler components from being damaged when the water pressure is re-established in the spring.

Storm Water Tip of the Month

We Can Make a Difference!

Properly Dispose of Travel Trailer Waste

What do you do when it's time to dump your travel trailer waste? Remember that sewage dumped on the ground or in the storm drain is a danger to public and environmental health and pollutes our waterways. It is also illegal. Make sure to end your trip with a visit to a dump station! Visit www.sanidumps.com for a list of dumps by state and major interstates.

Fitness Classes and Karate

A variety of fitness classes and personal trainer-led BOOTCAMPS are being offered by **Tree Fitness with Jill Griffiths** at the Cedar Hills Community Recreation Center, 10640 N. Clubhouse Drive. For more information, visit: www.cedarhills.sportsites.com.

Karate classes are being offered by Cedar Hills Community Services and can be paid for separately on the above website. For more information on Karate call Nicole Allen with Cedar Hills Community Services at (801) 785-9668, ext. 302, or e-mail Nicole at: nallen@cedarhills.org.

City Council Corner

Jenny Rees, City Council Member

Recently we've had some residents ask why their water and sewer bill is higher than other cities and higher than they were ten years ago. There are a few reasons for this:



Jenny Rees

1. There was a large spike in residential building, especially from 2002 to 2007. This resulted in a need for increased infrastructure, including the pressurized irrigation (PI) system, the Public Works building, and an additional water well. Because of the expenses associated with these larger infrastructure projects, the City needed to bond for them. The bond payments for the PI system and the water well come out of the water, sewer, and storm drain fund, so this has an impact on utility rates. Some of the infrastructure that was needed when the City expanded (such as streets, sidewalks, etc.) was not bonded for, but the PI and water well did require a bond. The infrastructure items we bonded for are also bonded for by other cities as they grow.

2. Going back to the growth, Cedar Hills is relatively young (most of the growth occurring in the last 10 years), where older, nearby cities built most of their infrastructure many years ago and have had those years to pay off their infrastructure debt.

3. The EPA created laws with regards to storm water and required cities to comply. These laws were created to reduce pollutants from entering streams and rivers. You can find more information at <http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/fact2-0.pdf>. These laws are enforced in Utah by the Department of Environmental Quality. These laws were phased in over the past decade but really hit us financially beginning in 2011. Reviewing the budget on page seven, it shows the expenses associated with these storm drain requirements. The expenses went up from \$79,657 in 2010 to \$404,362 expected for 2014.

4. In 2012 the City hired Bowen, Collins & Associates (BC&A) to do a utility rate study to determine what our operations and infrastructure needs would be over the next 10 years and how to appropriately budget for these items. BC&A looked at the costs for operations and maintenance, the bond payments, and the improvements that would be needed in order to keep the water, sewer, and storm drain systems functioning as they should. After doing an in depth review of each utility service and determining future needs, BC&A suggested a rate increase for each year over the next ten years. The rate increases will be for culinary water, sewer, and storm drain. There is no increase proposed for the PI system. The overall utility increase for each year ranges from 3.7% to 4.3%, which is just above normal inflation rates. Doing a small increase each year instead of dramatically raising property taxes when major repairs are needed is preferred in order to minimize the hardship on residents. The entire analysis may be found online at <http://www.cedarhills.org/sites/default/files/utility-rate-study-2012.pdf> or you can view an in depth summary in our State of the

City from last year, found on pages 11-16 at <http://www.cedarhills.org/sites/default/files/state-of-the-city-report-2012-09-18.pdf>.

5. It is hard to compare a city like Cedar Hills to larger cities, as some have more sources of tax revenue than we do. For example, many of these cities have larger commercial areas, which bring in much more sales tax revenue than ours do. Our goal is to get our commercial zone developed as soon as we can in order to reduce tax burdens on our residents.

Hopefully, this explanation answers these questions. Any resident with additional questions is encouraged to contact the City's Finance Department or any member of the City Council.

Residents Recognized for Yards of the Month

The City's Beautification Committee gives awards each month through September to recognize some of the nicest yards in Cedar Hills. The City has been divided into five areas according to voting precincts, and one winner from each area will be selected each month. The winners are announced on the City's website along with pictures of their beautiful yards. Go to **Residents>News & Events>Yards of the Month** to see August's winners.

Municipal General Election – November 5

The ballot for the Municipal General Election will contain candidates for the following offices:



- One (1) Mayor, four-year term
- Two (2) City Councilmembers, four-year terms each
- One (1) City Councilmember, two-year term
- Proposition #4 – For or Against Initiative Petition: Construction or Purchase of Public Buildings Requiring a Vote of the Citizens.

For candidate information, voting locations, early and absentee voting, or any other election information, please visit the City's website at www.cedarhills.org, or contact the City Recorder, Colleen Mulvey.

Story Time Is Back!

Stephanie Martinez, Council Member

I'm excited to announce that Story Time is back! Come listen to some super fun books, songs, and rhymes and participate in some marching and a coloring activity. Story Time is for children up to age six and a caregiver. Join Mrs. Marisa, Mrs. Stephanie, Mrs. Jennifer, and Mrs. Aimee each week on Wednesdays beginning Sept. 11 at the Community Recreation Center from 11:00 to 11:40 a.m. We will be downstairs in the multi-purpose room. I would also like to give a shout out to Mrs. Marisa for her dedication to story time last year. Everyone who joined us had a great time!



Stephanie Martinez

YCC 2013-14 Kickoff

Teens in Cedar Hills know how to start off a year of service right! In August the Youth City Council gathered at Mesquite Park, armed only with the knowledge that they might get a little messy, while enjoying a fun team-building meeting. The group quickly noticed paint and chalk, which would later cover their clothes and hair.

The event was filled with fun new games and activities, which helped the youth grow closer as a team and not be afraid to shove a little paint in each other's faces. The activities consisted of games, such as a colored chalk fight and paint twister, where the boys and girls of the Council got pretty crazy. This was followed by a more serious but entertaining personality color-coding test, which proved to be a great way to find out more about each other's personalities and characteristics, which make up each teen.

After the fun and games, the crew headed over to the Cedar Hills Recreation Center, where there were beautifully piled boxes of pizza from the very generous Pizza Pie Café in Highland. After lunch each member was then given their individual assignments and responsibilities on the council, and the YCC mayor was revealed.

The newly structured YCC then broke into their particular committees and discussed what they each had in mind for the year, while enjoying some scrumptious shakes from Sammy's Café in the Cedar Hills Recreation Center. After every committee had a good idea of their plans, the whole crew met up again and shared their ideas with each other. This year is most definitely going to go down in YCC history as one of the best! Everyone on the Council is excited for an enjoyable and successful year. All we can say is: Be ready!



The Cedar Hills Youth City Council is a youth-led, service and events organization, which focuses on the needs of the residents of our city. Membership is open to high school students who live in Cedar Hills.

Free Choir Concerts at Lone Peak High

The Lone Peak High School choirs have two free concerts coming up this fall: Patriots Day Concert on Sept. 11 and a Fall Concert on October 17. Both are held in the school auditorium at 7:00 p.m. The choir will also hold two fundraising events to help with tour expenses. The first is a yard sale, which will be held in the school parking lot on Sept. 14 and 21 beginning at 7:00 a.m. Donations may be made to any choir member. On October 24 and 25 the choirs will present a Disney concert in the auditorium at 7:00 p.m. Tickets may be purchased from Chamber Choir students or at the door.

September is National Preparedness Month

Preparedness on a Budget: It Doesn't Cost a Lot to Be Prepared

It is no secret that many families and individuals look for ways to cut back on spending. But with the frequency of disasters, both natural and manmade, can you afford not to be prepared? Preparedness doesn't have to cost an arm and a leg. September is National Preparedness Month, and we are asking you to help your family and friends prepare for whatever may come. Here are a few tips on how you can protect your families and possessions without spending a fortune. **Make a Plan:** Work with your family and neighbors to make an emergency plan for the types of disasters that affect our area. Make sure everyone in your family understands where to go and what to do in case of an emergency. You can download Family Emergency Plan templates online. **Update Contact Information:** Having accurate records for family, friends, and neighbors will help you stay in contact with them and possibly help those in need. Make sure updated contact information is posted in visible places throughout your home and workplace. **Check Your Policy:** Review your insurance policy annually and make any necessary changes—and tenants, do the same. When a disaster strikes, you want to know that your coverage will get you back on your feet. **Make a Ready List:** You may not need all of the items in ready-made preparedness kits. Choose the essentials that fit your needs and budget. Don't forget to keep supplies at the workplace and in your car. Sample lists for all of the above are at www.ready.gov. **Plan Your Purchases:** You can save money by thinking ahead. Don't buy preparedness items just before an expected storm when they're expensive and supplies will be in high demand. Buy items at the end of the season when you can get good deals. **Shop Sales:** Shop at sales and used goods stores. Buy preparedness items throughout the year, instead of all at once, and you won't notice the expenditures as much. **Make Sure It Keeps:** Store water in safe containers. You don't need to buy expensive bottled water; just make sure your water containers are disinfected and airtight. **Request a Gift:** We all get things we don't need. Suggest preparedness supplies as gifts from your friends and family. **Trade a Night Out:** Trade one night out to fund your 72-hour kit. Taking a family of four to the movies can cost upwards of \$80. Just one night staying at home could fund your Ready kit. **Start Now:** Take small steps toward preparedness, and before you know it you will be Ready! For more information, visit FEMA's website at: www.ready.gov. The City's emergency manager contact is Laurie Petersen. She can be reached by e-mail at: lpetersen@cedarhills.org or 801-785-9668, ext. 104.

Transit and Community Planning Open House

October 17, 2013, 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

American Fork Senior Center: 54 East Main, American Fork

You are invited to learn about air quality, road/highway improvements, new community development, and transit plans that may affect you. Representatives from Mountainland, UDOT, UTA, and communities in Utah County will be on hand to answer questions on transportation plans and community development. Bring the kids and discover the future vision for Utah County. Questions? Contact Nan Kuhn at: nkuhn@mountainland.org or 801-229-3834.