



Summer 2010

Arlington Update

238 North Olympic Avenue • Arlington WA 98223
360-403-3421 • fax: 360-435-6055

MAYOR THANKS THOSE WHO RESPONDED TO THE CUSTOMER SERVICE SURVEY

Mayor Margaret Larson



In the last Arlington Update, we included a survey to gather feedback from you about the importance and the quality of the services we provide to our over 17,000 residents and over 900 businesses that call Arlington home. Thank you to all of you that took the time to provide the City with this important feedback. As I indicated in introducing the survey, this feedback will be used by the City Council and our entire staff to direct our future activities and improve the services we provide.

I was extremely proud to see that 87% of our respondents rated the overall quality of life in Arlington as either “excellent” or “good”. Our survey respondents also confirmed that the primary services we focus on: public safety (police and fire/EMS), drinking water, wastewater removal, storm drainage, and street repair/replacement are indeed the very services you find “very important”. And the respondents gave the City good marks for the quality of service we provide. Of course, there is always room for improvement and the survey has provided us with great information upon which to build.

One of the efforts that our city employees have focused on in the last two years is customer service. I was pleased to see that 75% of our survey respondents rated their overall impression of our customer service as “excellent” or “good”. I look forward to raising the bar and seeing that number climb even higher in 2011. I hope that many more of you will complete this survey in 2011 and beyond.

The 2010 Citizen Survey Results Report is available on the city’s website, www.arlingtonwa.gov. Look for the “2010 Citizen Survey Results” link on the homepage.

Also in this edition of the Arlington Update are articles on the transition to monthly utility billings, fireworks safety, the celebration of National EMS Week, our 4th of July and Arlington Festival activities, our new volunteers in the Police Department, and the results of our partnership with the Stilly Valley Little League. Community involvement and volunteering are the hallmark of Arlington. I hope that if you have time to spare, you will make the effort to help your community. It’s one of the reasons we have been able to preserve our high quality of life in these challenging times.

As a final note, after more than 50 years in the fire service and almost 5 years as Fire Chief in Arlington, Jim Rankin has announced his retirement, effective July 1, 2010. Jim brought an incredible set of skills and qualifications to Arlington and was instrumental in ensuring that our citizens received the highest levels of emergency medical and fire suppression services. He has strengthened our partnerships with our neighboring fire districts and led the department in the assumption of fire and EMS services in the Smokey Point, West Bluff and Island Crossing areas of Arlington that occurred in October 2009. He will be truly missed. We wish Jim all the best in his retirement and look forward to seeing Jim around town.



Erica Ewell selling fresh vegetables at the Arlington Farmers' Market last summer.

CITY OF ARLINGTON

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Building Division Fax 403-3418
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Permit Center 403-3551
Code Enforcement 403-3457
Planning Division 403-3434
Engineering Division 403-3500
Engineering/ Planning Fax 403-3447
Clerk/ Finance 403-3421
Fire business line 403-3600
Fire Fax 403-9267

Emergency ~ Fire & Police 911
Human Resources 403-3439
Parks and Recreation 403-3448
Police business line 403-3400
Police Fax 435-4677
Public Works
M & O Division 403-3455
Water Division 403-3526
Wastewater division 403-3508
Water/Wastewater FAX 435-7944
Airport 403-3470
Airport Fax 435-1012
Arlington Cemetery 403-3428

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Arlington Public Library 435-3033
Arlington School District 618-6200
Arlington-Smokey Pt Chamber 659-5453
Ball field Scheduling 403-3448
Cascade District Court 435-7700
Community Room Scheduling 403-3448
Lakewood School District 652-4500
N. County Transfer Station 425-388-3429

CITY COUNCIL ORDINANCE & RESOLUTION ACTIONS

JANUARY 19

Ordinance 2010-001 Making technical amendments to AMC Title 20 & adopting provisions relating to homeless encampments and administrative conditional use permits

Ordinance 2010-002 Amending AMC Section 2.44.040 regarding the Location of Airport Commission meetings

FEBRUARY 1

Ordinance 2010-003 Relating to imposing a use tax on natural gas and adding a new section to Chapter 3.20 of the AMC

Ordinance 2010-004 Amending Section 2.40.010 of the AMC relating to youth members of the Board of Parks, Arts, and Recreation

FEBRUARY 16

Ordinance 2010-005 Amending and repealing certain sections of AMC Title 8 relating to the treatment and control of animals

MARCH 1

Ordinance 2010-006 Amending and repealing certain sections of AMC Title 9 relating to peace, morals and safety

Ordinance 2010-07 Adding, amending & repealing certain sections of AMC Title 10 relating to vehicles & traffic regulations

Resolution 2010-001 Permanent EMS Levy to the Ballot
Resolution 2010-002 Fee Resolution – replacing Resolution #785
Resolution 2010-003 Adopting the City's 2010 Goals

APRIL 5

Resolution 2010-004 Supporting The Boeing Company to build the next mid-air refueling tanker

CITY CALENDAR

City Council

1st and 3rd Mondays - 7 PM Council Chambers, 110 E. Third Street.
Contact 360-403-3441.

Planning Commission

1st and 3rd Tuesdays - 7 PM Council Chambers, 110 E. Third Street.
Contact 360-403-3435.

Parks, Arts and Recreation Commission

4th Tuesdays - 7 PM Council Chambers, 110 E. Third Street
Contact 360-403-3448.

Airport Commission

2nd Tuesdays - 7 PM Airport Office, 18204 59th Drive NE.
Contact 403-3470.

Library Board

Meets quarterly. Contact 403-3441.

Civil Service Commission

1st Mondays - 9 AM Council Library, 110 E. Third Street
Contact 360-403-3439.

Cemetery Board

Meets quarterly. Contact 360-403-3428

ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL



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VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR BOARDS/COMMISSIONS

Volunteering on a city board or commission is a great way to get involved in the community.

The City is always looking for people willing to serve on the Civil Service Commission, Library Board, Parks Arts & Recreation Commission, Planning Commission, Airport Commission or Cemetery Board.

If you are interested in serving on one of the City's boards or commissions, you can get an application from the website at www.arlingtonwa.gov or by calling 360-403-3441 for more information.

"I SEE VERIZON FIOS BEING DEPLOYED IN ARLINGTON. WHEN IS IT COMING TO MY HOUSE?"

We have all seen the Verizon FiOS trucks running around the City of Arlington advertising the cable TV, internet and phone service. The big question is when is going to be available?

In order for a cable company to provide broadcast television, they need to have what is known as a local franchise agreement with the governing entity, in this case the City of Arlington. Verizon approached the City of Arlington to begin negotiations for this franchise early in 2009. Soon after that, the City received a formal letter from Verizon stating that they are in the middle of being acquired by Frontier Communications, a telecommunications based in Connecticut, and would like to put any further discussions regarding a franchise on hold until the acquisition is complete.

Verizon is not required to have a local franchise for telecommunication service, as they have a state-wide grant of authority to provide telephone service in Arlington. As of now, they are upgrading that service to fiber optics and which will also give them the ability to run cable TV over that existing fiber. Once they are ready to provide cable TV, they apply for a cable TV franchise.

Transfers of local franchise agreements currently in place with cities and counties in Washington are required for Frontier to offer its own subscription TV service using network facilities that it will acquire from Verizon. As of November 2009, Frontier has received 19 of the required 42 approvals. The transaction is subject to approval by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, utility regulators in five other states and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). It is projected that the acquisition will be finalized in June 2010.

Verizon has continued to install the infrastructure required to broadcast cable to the residents of Arlington, and is fairly confident that as soon as the acquisition is complete, Frontier will provide that service as well. As soon as the City knows more information, we will advertise it on the City TV Channel 21, and website at www.arlingtonwa.gov or (360) 403-3526.

WELCOME ARLINGTON POLICE VOLUNTEERS

On March 16, 2010, the Arlington Police Department added 15 new members to your police force. After a somewhat vigorous testing process Dennis Kelly (pictured middle back row) was selected as the Police Volunteer Coordinator. Dennis brings with him a wealth of experience, retired after 27 years as an Officer with the Everett Police Department, as well as working 8 years with the Arlington School District.

One of the first tasks as the Coordinator was to form a team of individuals who would be willing to assist the Police Department in a wide array of tasks. The first task would be to staff the front reception area of the Arlington Police Department. The reception area is the first contact a citizen has with the Police Department as they walk into the building whether for general assistance or to report an incident.

The Police volunteers are just ordinary people with a wide level of experience and knowledge. From ages 21 to 72, all have a desire to serve the Arlington community. Each volunteer is asked to commit to working 2-3 times

each month by signing up for 4-hour shifts. The interest of the volunteers quickly filled up the first month's calendar.

The vision of the Police Volunteer program is to expand to meet more of the immediate needs of the community such as block/neighborhood watch programs, statistical analysis, vacation home watch, business watch, security surveys, business notification program, and more to be determined in the future. One of the mottos in developing this program is **"Our creativity and imagination is our limit"**.

If you or someone else is interested in making a commitment to serving the community of Arlington as a Police Volunteer, you may pick up an application by stopping by City Hall, the Police Department, or City of Arlington's website at www.arlingtonwa.gov.



Left to right: Front Row – Karen Morse, Andrea Hill, Gail Minkler, Kristin Moroge, Lydia Kinsella-Draper, Don Williamson, and Jonathan Kaplan.

Back Row – Larry Carter, Bill Morse, Chad Monteith, Dennis Kelly, Cherylee Boatman, Barbara Jones, John Chatterton. Not pictured is Kaitlyn Roth.

FIREWORKS AND BBQ SAFETY

Summer brings both warmer weather and a greater chance for children's injuries. Nationally, children sustain approximately 116,600 injuries related to fire/burns each year. Of that in 2006, there were 2,304 fireworks-related injuries among children less than 15 years of age. Among the different types of fireworks in 2006, Firecrackers were associated with the greatest number of estimated injuries at 1,300. There were over 1,000 injuries associated with sparklers and 800 associated with rockets. Sparklers accounted for one-third of the injuries to children less than 5 years of age. Burns account for more than half of all fireworks-related injuries and primarily occur to the hands, eyes, and head. Fireworks-related injuries peak during the month surrounding July 4th, when 60 percent of them occur. Don't let fireworks ruin your holiday, follow local rules and have parental supervision over fireworks at ALL times.



The Arlington Fire Department encourages everyone to attend a public display of fireworks rather than purchasing or using consumer fireworks.

Be sure that the fireworks you purchase are not illegal. (NOTE: most fireworks sold on reservations are illegal. Illegal fireworks are often unpackaged and wrapped in plain brown paper.)

- DO NOT purchase any fireworks not in their original package or in an opened or damaged package.
- Be sure that you purchase fireworks from a licensed fireworks vendor.
- NEVER ALLOW CHILDREN TO PLAY WITH OR IGNITE FIREWORKS.
- Read and follow all warnings and instructions.
- Be sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks.
- Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface away from any buildings, dry grass, vegetation, or other flammable materials
- NEVER try to relight fireworks that have fully functioned or have not ignited completely.

BBQ Safety Tips from Nation Fire Protection Agency & Arlington Fire Department

Fire in the grill, under hot dogs and burgers, is a welcome sight at the family cookout. But fire anywhere else can make your summer kick-off barbecue memorable for all the wrong reasons.

- Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- Place grill well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Keep children and pets away from the grill area.
- Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- Never leave your grill unattended.

Charcoal grills

There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use.

- Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.
- If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
- Keep charcoal starter fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources. There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.
- When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

Propane grills

Check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles. If your grill has a gas leak by smell or the soapy bubble test and there is no flame, turn off the gas tank and grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department. If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call **9-1-1**. Do not move the grill.

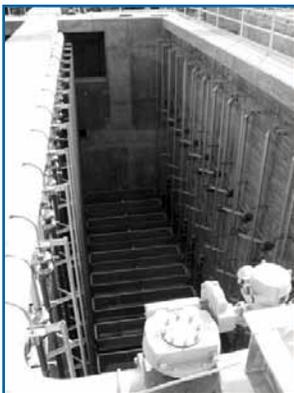
ALL DOWNHILL FROM HERE

After almost a year of construction, the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade is approaching the halfway mark. Systems will be coming on-line in the near future, such as the rebuilt head works pictured below.

The headworks is a treatment system component that physically screens and removes debris and grit from the influent. The new screens pictured in the photo came from Germany, manufactured by Huber Technology Inc., and have a flow through hole size of 3mm (approximately 1/8 inch). These screens, along with the grit removal chamber, will protect all the new plant systems from possible damage caused by large size debris, especially the new Membrane Bio Reactor (MBR). If not screened, large debris could possibly tear the new membranes or foul the MBR metering equipment. The MBR system will be the main treatment component of the upgraded and expanded plant; it is scheduled to be functional in June 2010.



Two new screens recently installed at the Arlington WWTP



An inside view of one of the MBR tanks - there will be a total of six MBR tanks.

Also nearing completion is the equipment building, the new plant laboratory building, and the expansion of the existing biosolids handling building. For the past year the WWTP office and laboratory has been operating out of a trailer; the crew will be glad when they move into the new building.

In the coming year the project will finish with the transformation of the existing SBR tanks (Sequential Batch Reactor) into an advanced biological nutrient removal treatment system and a sludge digester treatment system. The final treatment system that will be installed is a natural "biofilter" that will capture and treat all of the foul air.

The efforts of the City, the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians, and other entities who are all working together to clean and protect the Stillaguamish River are beginning to bear fruit. The Department of Health recently reopened approximately 1,800 acres of shellfish beds in Port Susan Bay to tribal harvest, Port Susan Bay is located at the mouth of the Stillaguamish River.

WASTE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT RENEWAL

The City of Arlington and Waste Management Northwest have met and began discussions for possible renewal of the Arlington refuse contract. Arlington enters into a contract with a refuse service provider to ensure that all of the City's citizens and businesses are offered a full range of refuse, recycling, and composting services at a fair rate. This contract also requires the refuse service provider to ensure that all of their collection drivers and vehicles have appropriate training and safeguards to protect the public and the environment. New service that will be available in the Fall includes residential composting in the green "Yard Waste" totes to be collected on a weekly basis year round.

SAVE WATER, SAVE MONEY



Good news for City of Arlington water customers (*and for those of you on the periphery, PUD and City of Marysville water customers*)! Two rebates are available to help you update appliances, quench the thirst of the two biggest water users in your house, and save money! If you have any specific questions that the web pages do not answer, then please call your helpful Utilities Specialist at 360-403-3526.

Washing Machine Rebate

The washing machine rebate will put \$50, \$75, or \$100 back in your pocket depending on the tier level of the washer you purchase. The WashWise rebate program is for premium-efficiency clothes washers which meet the WashWise program criteria; rebate levels are based on increasing efficiency as determined by Modified Energy Factors and Water Factors. You can find a list of qualified models and a WashWise rebate application at <http://www.washwiserebate.com>. **Remember to contact WashWise regarding this offer, not the City of Arlington or another utility.** Check their web site or call 1-866-632-4636.



Toilet Rebate

The toilet rebate program is not fully complete, but is *anticipated* to reward you with \$100 for water efficient toilets purchased since Jan 1, 2010. Until we know more, we advise folks to:



- check the City's water page for a list of toilet models that **MAY** be included (it's the 2008 list we used) <http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/index.aspx?nid=134>,
- make purchase if needed, or wait if desired, save receipts and documentation of purchase, and
- watch our web page for news that the rebate program is up and running, and then follow directions to submit the rebate application.

CITY PARK COMES WITH ADDED BENEFITS...WATER

The City's recent purchase of the Graafstra farmland, to be known as the Country Charm Conservation Area, means more than just parks and open space for Arlington residents. As a former dairy, the land held the rights to withdraw enough water to fill the farm's pasture land with two feet of water every year. Now that the dairy has closed, and the City owns the property and the water rights, that water is no longer needed for irrigating hay fields or watering cows. Instead, the City has applied to the State to transfer those water rights to its Haller wellfield.

The Department of Ecology approval process will evaluate the actual quantities of water that may be used for potable use rather than farm use. Expanding our right to withdraw more water from the Haller wellfield will increase the City's capacity to use high quality water that is, relatively speaking, inexpensive to treat. Water produced from this source - water from a largely undeveloped basin that is double filtered through a river bank and a state of the art filtration plant—has a clarity that is not surpassed in the State of Washington!

The water right transfer is a significant step in the City's development of a *sustainable* water supply. Water produced or purchased by the City, including Stillaguamish River water at Haller wellfield, is returned to the City's water reclamation facility, where, by year's end, it will be treated to reclaimed water quality standards before being returned to the river. On an annual basis, the City returns more water to the river than it withdraws. The City takes pride in operating with as small a "water footprint" as possible.

UTILITIES ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

154 West Cox Avenue Arlington, WA 98223 • Phone 360-403-3526 Fax 360-435-7944

BUYING LOCAL AND QUALITY OF LIFE

When asked why we enjoy living in Arlington, most of us would probably mention our special "quality of life." When we add up features such as our natural environment, access to recreation, excellent school system, and a good place to raise children, it's easy to understand why we choose to live in this unique community. In fact, there are not too many other places where mountains, rivers, and farmland are found in such close proximity to urban amenities like cultural events, year-round celebrations and accessible shopping. As we look to the future, preserving our special quality of life should be a goal of each of us.

The City of Arlington, Downtown Arlington Business Association and Arlington-Smokey Point Chamber of Commerce has teamed together to launch a Buy Local awareness campaign. The theme is "Live, Think and Buy Local in Arlington."

When we choose to support Arlington businesses by making our purchases locally instead of outside the City, we are making a small, but significant, contribution to our quality of life. Whether buying fresh produce from a local farm, dining at an Arlington restaurant, or visiting our local theater, we have voted with our dollars for the products and services that serve our community. Buying local is a theme that has gained attention during our prolonged economic downturn. Often overlooked is the importance of how local buying decisions affect our long-term quality of life. The economic health of a community, a key component of overall quality of life, depends on the countless purchases we, as consumers, make from Arlington businesses. Each of us has a vote, and when we vote locally with our dollars we have also voted in support of our quality of life. In effect, we have invested in one of the features that makes our community so unique.



Arlington Washington USA
Independence Day Celebration!
July 4th 2010

- Pancake Breakfast-Haller Park 7-11am
- Pedal, Paddle, Puff Triathlon 10:30
- Kiwanis Live Auction- Haller Park-noon
- Brass Menagerie Concert-Legion Park 3pm
- Kiddies Parade- Olympic Ave 5pm
- Grand Parade- Olympic Ave 5pm
- Stilly Duck Dash- Haller Park 7.30pm
- Fireworks-Quake Park at Dark

For more information visit www.arlingtonwa.gov

Arlington Festival ~ Fly-In Event July 7-11

Arlington Airport

www.arlingtonflyin.org

Street Fair July 9 & 10

Olympic Ave

www.arlingtonwa.org

Street Fair Entertainment

Third Annual Arlington Idol Contest

Friday, July 9 7:00pm Cash prizes.

Adult and Children's Divisions

Auditions: June 10, 17 & 24 7:00pm

Call to schedule your audition

360-435-7193 or email kara@movementarts.com

Second Annual Arlington Dog Parade

Friday July 9 at 6:00pm. Bring your pooch!

Valentines Performing Pigs

Saturday, July 10 at 1:00pm

Lots of entertainment for all ages, including music, dance, and more! If you are an entertainer who would like to participate, please call Kara at 360-435-7193 or email kara@movementarts.com



CITY PARTNERS WITH THE STILLY VALLEY LITTLE LEAGUE AND THE ARLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

For many years the City of Arlington and Stilly Valley Little League have had an enduring relationship. This year's partnership has produced some exciting improvements in the Bill Quake Memorial Park baseball fields. Jim Leavitt, SVLL President, met with Leroy Mills, Public Works Maintenance and Operations Manager, before the start of the season to outline the proposed improvements. The changes were acceptable to the City, so a work plan was developed for the construction of the improvements.

The area between the two ball fields at Quake Park has seen the most drastic changes. A new foul ball safety netting system was purchased by the Little League, then the Public Works Parks Department and community volunteers set the support poles, and the netting supplier installed the safety netting. This new foul ball safety netting will contain the foul balls from little leaguers for years to come.



SVLL provided a new flag pole, and the Umpires office was donated by Aurora Quality Buildings



New spectator safety netting installed between fields was provided by the SVLL

Other improvements included removal of the fence on the west side of the spectator area so power could be provided to the umpire's storage shed, along with repositioning the storage shed at the west entrance. All of the dugouts have been covered with a special screening fabric that allows the dugouts to have a free flow of air for ventilation while also providing privacy the coaches and ball players need to concentrate on the game. Two new score boards were installed along the outfield fences and a new flag pole was erected between both fields.

During all of the activity at Quake Field, the City and SVLL were also working on the Evans Memorial Park ball field; the ball field had a "face lift" and was also reseeded. The SVLL has postponed the use of the field so that the grass will have time to take hold and be ready for next season. The City and SVLL are talking with the Snohomish county Health District to get the concession stand located in the vicinity of the Quake restrooms up to code standards and will be pursuing that throughout the remainder of the year.

This ongoing partnership between the City of Arlington and the Stillaguamish Valley Little League will ensure our youngsters have ball fields and ball games for years to come!

Seasonal Hanging Baskets - The City of Arlington Parks Department is working with the Arlington High School Horticulture class to prepare the City's 2010 seasonal flower baskets that will adorn many of our city streets. The horticulture class teacher has the students assemble the baskets, arrange the plants, and care for the baskets prior to the scheduled pickup date.

This partnering with Arlington High School is a win-win situation for the City, the school, and the students. The City realizes a cost savings on the hanging flower baskets, the school receives cash for supplies, and the students learn important horticultural techniques. In addition, the students will have the honor of seeing their flower baskets beautifying the city. Look for the flower baskets during the 1st week of June.



Chris Fox, City Park Landscaper, works with Arlington HS horticulture class to prepare city flower baskets.

CELEBRATE NATIONAL EMS WEEK MAY 16 – 22



National EMS week is May 16- 22, 2010 and is an opportunity to celebrate and honor the Emergency Medical Personnel that humbly and faithfully provide medical care to those in need, often times under daunting circumstances. This year's theme underscores that commitment:

Isn't that so true? Our community knows that when they call 911, they'll get help, no matter what their circumstance. It's also true that much of the work of our first responders is part of what makes the Arlington area such a great place to work and live. The purpose of EMS week is to celebrate the contributions of EMS personnel, for the life saving and rescue efforts they put forth, their individual commitments and sacrifices and the many other ways they help our community.

Whether it's the Santa Runs that help stock our food bank, cooling us down during extended heat waves, helping those trapped during snowstorms, or volunteering at our community events, it seems this year's theme, "Anytime, Anywhere ~ We'll be There," is more than a slogan to these dedicated men and women.

In 2009, over 3,000 calls for assistance were received through the 911 system for our area. EMS week will celebrate the outstanding service our responders bring to our community. Check the City website for information on activities planned.

EMS information: Arlington Fire Department EMS staff of 11 paramedics and 16 EMTs provides both Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Life Support Services (ALS) to our community. This service is provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The service area includes Arlington, Arlington Heights, Oso and Darrington.



GRANT FUNDING IS KEY TO ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT

In today's economy every level of government services is challenged to find alternative funding sources for continued operations. This has been especially challenging for Public Safety. The City of Arlington is very fortunate to have a dedicated Fire Department team looking for grants to supplement general expense funds for the purchase of essential equipment and tools to keep the department up to date.

Since 2005, Arlington Fire Department has successfully obtained grant funding from Federal Emergency Management Agency through their Assistance to Firefighter Grant program totaling more than \$750,000. These funds have been used to purchase a complete new radio system which included base stations, mobile and portable radios, emergency stand-by generators for each fire station, self contained breathing apparatus and a breathing apparatus recharge station, diesel exhaust fume removal systems at all fire stations, a rescue boat, and physical conditioning equipment to improve and maintain the physical fitness of all personnel. All of these items have helped to improve the overall health and safety of fire personnel and our continued operations.

The Fire Department's success in obtaining these grant funds is largely due to a collaborative effort of several senior staff members led by Fire Captain Dave Kraski, who provides the central coordination and facilitation for the grant programs.

Without these grant funds it would have been extremely difficult for the Department to keep pace with the technological changes, requirements, and development in personnel safety equipment and physical fitness training standards. So, not only has the Fire Department augmented its budget but it has also been able to implement a much needed personnel risk management program. A win-win for the citizens for Arlington!

NEW BILLING SYSTEM IS INTRODUCED

Customers will soon be receiving utility bills on a monthly basis. This was done for several reasons. One was to help make it more affordable to pay a smaller monthly bill, rather than a larger two month amount. As rates have risen over the years it has become more difficult for some customers to pay the larger two month bill. This will also assist customers who are on a fixed income. Each meter will be read on a monthly basis, for better consumption management. This will also benefit the City in collection efforts from those who are not paying in a timely manner.

The City is beginning to review all utility rates and charges to see that all classes of customers are paying their fair share (single family residential, multi-family residential, commercial, industrial, etc.). The review will take into consideration water consumption as well as revenues to determine any rate changes. At several recent public hearings, many of the people who attended and spoke wanted to see utility rates weighted more towards water consumption, where smaller water users pay noticeably less than larger users, and less on a flat base rate. Everyone wants to see lower utility bills. Making the fee more dependent on consumption would make some bills go down, but others would go up.

In 2009, the average residential water bill was about \$43 per month with 725 cubic feet of water used. (A cubic foot is 7.48 gallons) Since the base rate includes 300 cubic feet of water consumption, the bill can be broken down to a base rate of \$24 and consumption charge of \$19. If you pay higher than the \$43 dollar amount for water, your usage was greater than 725 cubic feet. The sewer rate is currently a flat base rate and not calculated based on water consumption. A consumption based sewer rate would benefit low water users. To conserve on water usage, log on to <http://wateruseitwisely.com/100-ways-to-conserve/index.php> and see 100 ways you can help to conserve this precious resource. Get your whole family in the habit.

As the weather gets warmer and the gardens begin to grow, be sure you keep your water meter area free from overgrowth so we can easily read your meter. This is your responsibility, not the City's. Remember, we are now reading all meters on a monthly schedule.

Lastly, pay your utility bill by the DUE DATE printed on your bill. If you wait too long (about 10 days after that date) you will be charged a penalty of 5% of the outstanding amount. Please pay your bill by the due date.



CALLING ALL AIRPORT BUFFS!

One of the new displays this year at Arlington's Fly-In (July 7-11) is the barn-stormer's barn. Displays will also include rare restored aircraft and replicas. The NAVY's F-18 super hornet simulator will be available and will let you take control and launch off an Aircraft Carrier. Tour the FAA's DC3, WWII era Grumman Tracker, sit in the cockpit of a P2 Neptune, walk through an historic 1937 Lockheed Electra or take an actual flight in a helicopter or antique bi-plane. The Fly-In will also feature the largest WWII and Vietnam era military vehicle and weapons display, with tank demonstrations of actual full size WWII Russian, German and American tanks. As part of the display, climb aboard a Navy river patrol boat and visit the Medal of Honor memorial display. Other Fly-in features include daily airshows, the outdoor runway theater with feature films, the Cherokee aircraft 50th Anniversary gathering, radio control aircraft demonstrations, and the famous hot air balloon night glow at dusk. Mark your calendars today! For more information call (360) 435-5857 or visit www.arlingtonflyin.org. Discount tickets are also available online. Kids 15 and under enter free but must be accompanied by an adult.



The new Arlington Municipal Airport entrance sign has just been installed. Located at the corner of 59th Ave and 172nd St, it is the first of many directory signs to be installed around the airport. This signage will compliment the City's planned network of signs identifying Arlington neighborhoods, business districts and key locations around the City.

CITY NOTES UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES!

West Arlington Neighborhood Meeting

May 20, 2010, 5 PM @ Stillaguamish Senior Center 18308 Smokey Point Blvd, Arlington

A great opportunity for you to learn about the draft West Arlington Master Plan that affects the Smokey Point, West Bluff and Island Crossing neighborhoods. Provide your input on the proposed plans.

City of Arlington Free Code Seminar - 2009 Updates to the Residential & State Energy Codes

May 28, 2010, Noon until 4 PM - City Council Chambers adjacent to City Hall 238 N. Olympic Ave.

All Contractors: General, Plumbing and Mechanical welcome.

Come and learn the latest changes to the WA State Residential and WA State Energy Codes. Call the Permit Center to reserve a spot @ 360-403-3551.

Sponsored by Dept of Community Development.



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND ~ CITY OF ARLINGTON'S 2010 SPRING CLEANUP EVENT!

June 12, 2010 from 10 AM to 3 PM @ Arlington Airport, 188th St. Entrance

IMPORTANT: This year your City water/sewer billing statement will serve as your admittance to the event
Remember ~ your city utility bill must be presented at the gate to enter the event.

Free disposal of your televisions, computers and monitors at this event, provided by PC Recycle.

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

- Refrigerators / freezers
- Computers, televisions, monitors
- Printers, copiers, microwaves, keyboards
- Recyclable metals
- Furniture / debris
- Tires - 4 per household (must be removed from wheels)

THESE ITEMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED:

- Disposal services for household hazardous waste
- Disposal services for yard debris or household garbage
- Disposal services for commercial vendors & businesses

Questions: 360-403-3457 or mhayes@arlingtonwa.gov



SEE JULY'S COMMUNITY EVENTS ON PAGE 8 AND IN THE RECREATION GUIDE

COMPUTER SURPLUS AUCTION

The City of Arlington will hold a sealed bid auction for surplus computer equipment on Thursday August 12th at the Public Works Maintenance and Operations building located at 6111 188th Place NE in Arlington.

A variety of computer equipment will be available, including desktops and laptops. Be on the lookout for more information on the City website at www.arlingtonwa.gov and Arlington Community Television channel 21.