



STUMPTOWN *Scoop*

City of Whitefish
PO BOX 158, Whitefish, Montana 59937

LETTER FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER

Our last newsletter shared important project updates and plans anticipating yet another bustling spring and summer ahead. Little did we know our lives would forever be changed by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

By mid-March, it was evident that we were facing a serious threat to the health of our fellow Montanans. Unprecedented and swift action was taken at the local and state level to slow the spread of COVID-19. On March 15th, Governor Bullock closed all public schools. Shortly thereafter, the Flathead City-County Health Department (FCCHD) closed dine-in restaurants and bars in Flathead County, which was later replicated by similar closures state-wide. Beginning March 28th, the State of Montana was under a stay-at-home directive allowing travel only for essential activities.

While these initial steps were critical in slowing the spread of COVID-19, a concerning trend began to emerge. Data showed that individuals from larger cities with higher rates of COVID-19 were seeking refuge in small rural communities like Whitefish promoting Governor Bullock to issue a mandatory 14-day quarantine requirement for certain travelers arriving in Montana on March 30th. On April 5th, after consulting with the FCCHD Health Officer, the Whitefish City Council passed an emergency ordinance prohibiting motels, hotels, short-term rentals, and other lodging facilities from accepting reservations or accommodating walk-ins for non-essential purposes through April 30, 2020. On April 23, 2020, these lodging restrictions were extended to May 10th with additional extensions or a plan for

a phased re-opening determined by the City Council on May 4th. For up to date information, please visit our COVID-19 Updates and Ongoing Notifications at <http://www.cityofwhitefish.org/public-safety/covid-19-updates-and-ongoing-notifications.php>.

While we look forward to a safe and prudent re-opening of our community in accordance with the Governor's phased approach, "Re-opening the Big Sky," we know recovery will take time and the impacts may last longer than we want. Many of our local businesses and individuals have faced unprecedented financial hardships. Businesses have experienced closures, adjusted operations and established protocols to ensure the safety of their employees and customers. Parents continue to support their children with remote learning. These sacrifices we endure during the phased re-opening will hopefully get us back to the new normal sooner, while most importantly keeping our community safe.

Thank you for your continued efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19. We must remain vigilant and continue practicing proper social distancing (6-foot apart), washing or sanitizing our hands, not touching our faces, wearing a mask or cloth face covering in public settings that do not allow for social distancing, and continuing to support our local businesses as they work to recover during the phased re-opening of our State and community.

Stay healthy friends.

CITY HALL
418 E. 2nd St, Whitefish, MT
Customer Service 863-2400
Human Resources.....863-2407
Legal Services 863-2445
Parks & Recreation 863-2470
Planning & Building 863-2410
Public Works/Streets..... 863-2460
Utility Billing 863-2457

EMERGENCY SERVICES CENTER
275 Flathead Ave, Whitefish, MT
Fire Department 863-2483
Municipal Court 863-2440
Police Department 863-2420

LIBRARY 862-9914
9 Spokane Ave, Whitefish, MT

CITY COUNCIL
City Council Meetings: 1st and 3rd
Mondays of every month at 7:10 P.M. in the
Council Chambers (City Hall, 2nd floor). View
live stream meetings online at [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)
and search for the "City of Whitefish" channel.

Sign up for weekly email notification from me at www.cityofwhitefish.org



Dana Smith
City Manager
City of Whitefish

John Muhlfeld
Mayor
City of Whitefish



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DOWNTOWN EMPLOYEE PARKING



City Council adopted the Whitefish Parking Management Plan in October 2019 and city staff is moving forward with implementing the plan. The COVID-19 pandemic delayed implementation of the pilot employee permit program until summer 2021. However, there are many places that allow all day parking for downtown employees noted in (yellow and orange on the map). Employees parking in unrestricted areas free up 2-hour parking for customers, and improves employee efficiency by not having to leave work every two hours to move their vehicles.

NEW WEBSITE IN THE WORKS!

Exciting news coming soon! City staff have been working diligently to update the current website. The updated website will allow increased accessibility and make notifications;

alerts; reporting issues, and paying bills easier. We are looking forward to enhanced community engagement and communication through this new web portal to the city.

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

CITY MANAGER
Dana Smith

CITY ATTORNEY
Angie Jacobs

CITY CLERK
Michelle Howke

FINANCE DIRECTOR
Ben Dahlman

HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR
Sherri Baccaro

FIRE CHIEF
Joe Page

LIBRARY DIRECTOR
Joey Kositzky

MUNICIPAL JUDGE
William Hileman

PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR
Maria Butts

PLANNING AND BUILDING DIRECTOR
Dave Taylor

POLICE CHIEF
Bill Dial

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
Craig Workman



Old Website



New Website



If you're in a rut, I'll sell your hut!

Give me a call today
to find out what
your home is worth!

Courtland Chelmo
Cell: 406.249.0437
 REALTOR®/Agent
 National Parks Realty
 601 Spokane Avenue
 Whitefish, MT 59937
 Office: 406.862.8400
 Courtland@NPRMT.com









CITY BEACH UPDATES

Watercraft Inspection Protocols

Whitefish City Beach and Whitefish Lake State Park Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Inspection hours are 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. the months of May and September, and 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. June through August. The City of Whitefish has developed Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination Station protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Protocols for inspection stations will be as follows:

- Boaters are required to assist with removing covers, lowering motors, and opening compartments.
- Boaters must maintain a 6-foot social distance from inspectors.
- Inspectors will not be issuing receipts, passports, paperwork, or outreach materials at this time. Passports or paperwork will not be stamped.
- All data will be entered directly into the data application. Proof of inspection will be verified using boat seal and the data application.
- All rangers will wear a mask and safety/sunglasses when interacting with the public. Rangers will sanitize hands between each boater.

Aquatic Invasive Species Self-Certifications

All self-certification tests must be completed online, including non-motorized, early angler and off-season certifications. Test links can be found at www.cityofwhitefish.org on the City Beach page under Whitefish Parks and Recreation.



National Park Service

ADOPT-A-TREE PARTICIPANTS

If you currently have a green watering bag for your Adopt A Tree, please start watering your tree once a week on June 1st. Thank you!!

If you are scheduled to receive a tree this Spring, please be aware that tree plantings are likely to be delayed this season due to Stay at Home Orders. Staff will be in contact once planting begins. Thank you for your understanding.



Decontamination Station Update

The City and Whitefish Lake Institute, with grant funding from the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, are making building and site improvements at the City Beach Overflow Parking Area. Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks has donated one of their inspection buildings, which will serve as the City's decontamination station. New drainage, an expanded area for performing watercraft decontamination, and pavement striping are all additional improvements to the site. Please be patient as we make these improvements.

Decontamination Station Hours:

May 2020: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
June - August: 8:00 am to 8:00 pm
September: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

ENJOY THIS PLACE AND GIVE SOME SPACE



CROWDED PARKS LEAD TO CLOSED PARKS

Visit us on Facebook

@ [Whitefish Parks and Recreation](https://www.facebook.com/WhitefishParksandRecreation)

or

www.cityofwhitefish.org

MEET YOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT



Reece Stahlberg was born and raised in Montana. Upon graduating from Flathead High School, he attended community college before pursuing a career in law enforcement. Reece comes from an esteemed family of law enforcement professionals and has proudly served the community of Whitefish for over 12 years. Reece is a certified firearms instructor and holds certifications in taser and defensive tactics. He has a beautiful wife and three amazing children. As a parent of a child with Down Syndrome, his passion is volunteering his time and continual support for Montana Special Olympics. Reece is an avid outdoorsman enjoying hunting, fishing, and competitive shooting.

Since Summer is approaching, the Police Department would like to remind everyone of issues they deal with daily hoping you consider a “new beginning” for the year. Outlined below are some dos and don’ts as we look forward to better weather and of course, better times:

DON'T	DO
Walk your dog without a leash unless you are in the dog park or on private property	Clean up after your dog
Leave your trash container at the curb at unauthorized times	Keep your trash can in an animal resistant area or contact your provider to get an animal resistant trash can. Put your trash can out no earlier than 4:00 a.m. the day of pickup and take it in before 7:00 p.m. later that day.
Leave your car unlocked or the keys in the ignition	Remove valuables from your car and place them in the trunk
Ignore pedestrian crossings	Proceed with caution when approaching crosswalks
Pass on the shoulder. Shoulders are delineated by a solid white line on the edge of the road	Proceed with caution if you pass someone on the right where permitted
Provide any financial or personal information to anyone over the phone, internet or social media. Scammers are always looking to take your hard-earned money	Hang up or hit delete if someone is asking for personal or financial information
Make a U-turn downtown to get to a parking space. It is illegal and blocks traffic	Enter parking spaces on the same side of the street in which you are traveling
Park with your driver’s side door to the curb	Obey all parking signs
Speed. We regularly receive complaints about speeding violations. Our streets are engineered to certain standards that accommodate the posted speed.	Encourage others not to speed
Roll through stop signs	Stop completely at all stop signs
Drive drunk	Get a ride home or have a designated driver



Thank you for your continued support during the past several weeks. We are proud of the positive reaction our citizens have demonstrated during this unprecedented time and the encouragement and thanks we have received. It is our pleasure and honor to serve and protect this special place and such special people.



Whitefish Fire Department would like to extend a special thank-you to SERVPRO of Flathead County for their assistance in keeping our ambulances clean during the COVID-19 crisis. EVERY time Whitefish Fire transports a patient that could have symptoms of COVID, SERVPRO has immediately responded to the station afterward to fog and decontaminate the ambulance. We greatly appreciate their help.



The coming summer warmth and winds will soon dry things out. We remind everyone that we live in a wildland urban interface with the threat of wildland fires. Now is the time to work with your neighbors and realize you are in this together. Recent fire events in Paradise, California and Fort McMurry, Alberta, Canada have shown us that wind driven wildland fires can result in home to home ignitions. Here are some fire safety tips everybody should take:

Tip #1

No matter your emergency, visible street signs and house numbers are key. Fire code requires house numbers be displayed in Arabic numbers at least 4-inches high, with a 1/2 inch minimum stroke width; and visible from the street in a contrasting color to the background. Additional marking at the end of your driveway is required if the house is not visible from the street or road.

Tip #2

If you have a wood stove or fireplace have your chimney cleaned and check the spark arrester. Move firewood piles away from your home or other structures. Change your smoke and Carbon Monoxide detector batteries.

Tip #3

Pine needles and other debris need to be removed from the roof, gutters, under the deck, and anywhere next to the house. Pay special attention to the accumulation between deck planking, ridge vents and gaps between metal roof sections.

Tip #4

Harden your home from embers. Wind drives fire embers out in front of the fire, often as much as a mile or more. These embers find ways onto and into your home.

- Cover all openings with an 1/8 metal mesh, pay specific attention to vents, eaves, and soffits.
- Check along your foundation, often there are openings where embers can get in.
- Check for decayed wood, usually found at lower windowsills and decks; these ignite easily. Chip it out, and caulk any gaps.
- Lattice work is like adding kindling to your home, consider replacing it.
- Remove flammable materials from under your deck.
- Repair any damaged roofing or siding.

Tip #5

Work on your home ignition zone. Don't become overwhelmed; start at your home and work your way out.

Immediate Zone, zero to 5-feet

- Remove flammable materials
- Consider replacing mulch with rock

Intermediate Zone, 5 to 30- feet

- Clear vegetation from under propane tanks
- Keep your lawn mowed
- Remove ladder fuels that allow fire to climb up into trees
- Open up your tree canopy, the spacing between trees

Extended Zone, 30 to 100-feet

- Remove dead trees and plants
- Dispose of heavy accumulations of ground litter/debris

Tip #6

Pre-evacuation planning is key, everybody in your household must know the plan. Make a checklist, during emergencies it's amazing how much people forget. Have your checklist available for whomever is home at the time. Build your plan as a family, have those hard discussions now. What's important to one may not be for another.

Whitefish Fire Department, DNRC and US Forrest Service will meet with your neighborhood to review your specific fire risk and provide wildfire safety tips. Contact Kerry Harrison at 406-863-2490, to schedule a meeting or visit the wildfire-preparedness page at www.cityofwhitefish.org

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN UPDATES

Here are some of the current projects the City of Whitefish is working on from the adopted Climate Action Plan.

Grouse Mountain Rain Garden

A rain garden is a depressed area that collects water from impervious surfaces allowing it to slowly soak into the ground rather than entering the storm water system. Less runoff reduces channel erosion, lowers suspended solids, and limits reduced pollutants from our waterways. The garden is often filled with native plants that decrease maintenance and water needs. Currently, the city is working on plans for a rain garden at Grouse Mountain Park to help with drainage and water quality.

Plastic Bag Use Reduction

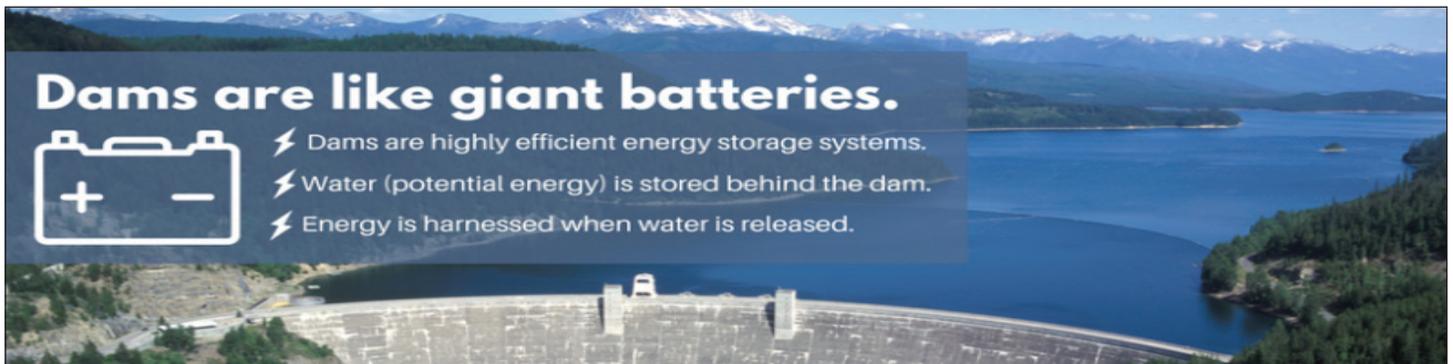
The Climate Action Committee is collaborating with Whitefish High School students and local businesses to reduce the community's carbon footprint. The production of single-use plastic bags requires 12 million barrels of oil annually, and the average bag is used for 14 seconds. Through this plan, reusable bags would be provided to help ease the transition away from single use plastics. This project will move forward post COVID-19.

Walk to School Program

The Connect Whitefish subcommittee is working on a plan to encourage kids to walk to school through increased safety measures. The idea, affectionately called the "walking school bus", sets up meeting zones for young students so that a group can be chaperoned by an adult. Walking to school in the morning can increase brain flow and improve concentration in class. This project is expected to "gain more traction" when kids return to school.

Increasing Community Resilience to Fire Through Awareness & Safety

Climate Smart Glacier Country, a local non-profit, and the Climate Action Committee are working to minimize wildfire risk for community residents, infrastructure, and amenities. To achieve this goal, there are family friendly education events planned with community experts. While this plan has shifted due to COVID-19, look for online resources (i.e. how to properly reduce fuels tutorial, movie screenings, etc.) coming out soon at www.cityofwhitefish.org



While many utilities across the country struggle to find a clean, reliable and affordable power supply, Flathead Electric continues to enjoy the benefits of hydropower through the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA).

Advantages of hydropower:

- Hydropower has virtually no carbon footprint.
- Hydropower is reliable. Unlike solar or wind energy, it is unvarying and independent of weather and other factors. Intermittent resources like solar or wind need hydropower to fill the gaps when the sun isn't shining, and wind isn't blowing.
- Hydropower projects in our rivers provide effective flood control for Northwest communities and create recreational opportunities.
- Water from rivers is a purely domestic resource that cannot be interrupted by foreign suppliers, production strikes or transportation issues.
- Even though the law states that existing hydropower is not defined as renewable, it is largely viewed as a renewable form of energy that does not rely upon finite resources like natural gas or coal.
- Hydropower turbines can convert 90 percent of available energy into electricity, which is more efficient than any other form of generation.

PROJECT UPDATES

Depot Park

Knife River, Inc. is well underway on the construction of Phase III of the Depot Park Project. The project completion is expected by July 1st, and includes a seating area/raised planter at the southwest corner of Depot Park, reconstruction of Central Avenue north of Railway Street, as well as improvements in the northwest corner of Depot Park. These improvements mark the final phase of the Depot Park Master Plan.

Water Treatment Plant Expansion

The city has been rapidly working on the design of a project aimed to expand the capacity of the existing Water Treatment Plant. Morrison-Maierle was the engineering firm selected to complete the design of the expansion and work began in the early summer of 2019. The design is complete, and the project construction is scheduled to bid in June. Once the project is awarded, it is anticipated the selected contractor will begin work in August. Part of the project includes the addition of two new pipelines in Reservoir Road. This work to be completed early in the project has the goal to have Reservoir Road re-paved by the time the snow begins to fall later this year. Residents and recreational users of Reservoir Road should expect single lane traffic and delays while work takes place in the road corridor.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements

Construction of the city's new Wastewater Treatment Plant is moving full steam ahead. Swank Enterprises along with their sub-contractors have been working for nearly six months completing construction of a new biosolids handling basin, new plant piping, a new effluent diffuser, and retaining wall structures. The extensive foundation work necessary to support the new facility structures has also been completed and crews are now actively working on installing process piping as well as forming and casting building foundations and process treatment basins. Work is on schedule with the new plant expected to be online by late summer of 2021.

2020 State Park Road Reconstruction

Haugen Heights Road to the Railroad Tracks

The second phase of the State Park Road reconstruction project started on April 6th. The project takes off where Phase 1 ended at the intersection of Haugen Heights Road. The contractor this year is LHC, Inc. and the impact to neighborhood traffic will be less compared to Phase 1 construction last year. The project extends from Haugen Heights Road to the railroad tracks (about 2,500 linear feet). The project includes roadway reconstruction, a bicycle/pedestrian path on the west side of the roadway, drainage improvements and new streetlights. Temporary mailboxes are set up at the intersection of Haugen Heights Road and Patton Lane.

During the spring of 2020, LHC, Inc. will complete utility construction and roadway preparation work. LHC, Inc. will suspend work in late June to facilitate a summer "shut down". During the summer "shut down" LHC, Inc. will be periodically onsite to perform maintenance and cleanup. During the summertime, expect to see private utility contractors completing underground gas, power, and communication line relocations. After Labor Day weekend, LHC, Inc. will resume roadway construction activities.

Detours will be in place through November with Detour A in place during the majority of the project. For details on the road detours go to www.cityofwhitefish.org. The project is scheduled to be completed in early November.

This project is funded by the Resort Tax Fund.

Follow us on Facebook for updates:
[facebook.com/whitefishpublicworks](https://www.facebook.com/whitefishpublicworks)

NEW CURRENT LAND USE ACTION PORTAL ON CITY WEBSITE

The Planning & Building Department is pleased to announce a new feature available on the city's website at www.cityofwhitefish.org to help the public find information on land use projects around the city, the Current Land Use Action Portal. Under 'Departments' and 'Planning & Building', you will find a link to a page called "Current Land Use Actions". That page will show a table of all current land use proposals around the city such as conditional use permits, variances, or subdivisions. The table shows the proposed use, applicant's name, the address, if; or when, it is scheduled to the Planning Board or City Council, the name of the planner to contact for more information, and a link to the application material submitted.

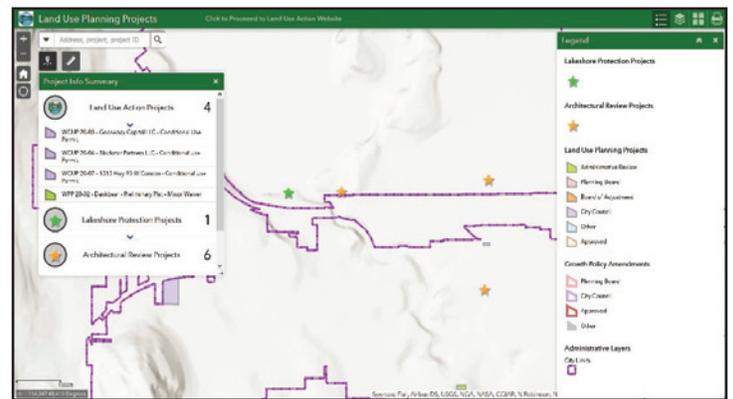
Current Land Use Actions	Planning Board	City Council
<p>FILE #: WPP 20-01 APPLICANT: ██████████ PROPOSED USE: 17 lot townhouse subdivision ASSIGNED PLANNER: Compton-Ring</p>	May 21, 2020	June 1, 2020
<p>FILE #: WCUP 20-07 APPLICANT: ██████████ PROPOSED USE: 52 Condos in Three Bldgs ASSIGNED PLANNER: Compton-Ring</p>	April 16, 2020	May 19, 2020
<p>FILE #: WCUP 20-05 APPLICANT: ██████████ PROPOSED USE: Bar/Tavern ASSIGNED PLANNER: Minnich</p>	April 16, 2020	May 4, 2020
<p>FILE #: WCUP 20-06 APPLICANT: ██████████ PROPOSED USE: Expanded bar/tavern ASSIGNED PLANNER: Taylor</p>	April 16, 2020	May 4, 2020

Current Land Use Action page

Current Land Use Applications WebMap

Another feature is a button that links to the Current Land Use Applications Webmap. The Webmap is a tool

showing a map of the city with icons of all the current land use projects. Clicking on the icons will provide more information on a project. Besides applications going to the Planning Board and City Council, it also includes projects approved administratively as well as projects being reviewed by the Architectural Review Committee and Lakeshore Protection Committee. We hope you find these new tools useful.



Current Land Use Application WebMap

REMODELING? NEED A PERMIT?

Trying to determine if you need a building permit for your home remodeling project can sometimes be difficult. The Whitefish Building Department is always available to answer questions about when and why a permit is needed. To help clarify, the following short list of our most common questions regarding when a permit is needed.

PERMIT REQUIRED

- Alteration of internal floor plan and walls
- Changes to the roof system and roofline
- Changes to the building envelope
- Retaining wall repair
- New construction or repairs of decks
- Adding windows and doors to a residence
- Changing a garage into a living space
- Alterations to electrical, plumbing, mechanical and fuels gas systems

NO PERMIT REQUIRED

- Painting
- Replacing plumbing fixtures
- Changing electrical fixtures
- Replacing countertops and cabinets
- Changing flooring
- Bathroom tile upgrades

PERMIT NOT ALWAYS REQUIRED

- Replacement of roof coverings
- Residential siding

Not every project will fall under this list and other projects that start small often grow as they progress. Please call the Whitefish Building Department at 406-863-2410 with questions you may have regarding both new construction and your remodel projects.

SEEK AND DESTROY NOXIOUS WEEDS

Spring and summer is a beautiful time of year in Northwest Montana. As trees and flowers begin to bloom the City of Whitefish would like to remind all residents they are responsible for keeping their property, boulevard, and any ditches adjacent to the property free of noxious weeds. A full list of noxious weeds is available on the city website. The most common offenders sprouting around Whitefish are Orange Hawkweed, Knapweed, Houndstongue,

and Knotweed. If you have noxious weeds on your property, you are responsible for spraying, pulling, or mowing them.

If you would like to report a violation of a property in town you can do so by using our problem reporter at www.cityofwhitefish.org. If everyone does their part, we will keep Whitefish beautiful and weed free.



Japanese Knotweed



Canadian Thistle



Orange Hawkweed



Knapweed

TEMPORARY OR BANNER SIGN PERMITS

Each business is allowed two temporary banner permits per year in the City of Whitefish. Banners can be hung for a maximum of 30-days. The two 30-day periods must be 4 months apart. Submit applications to the Planning and Building Department along with the \$50 fee before the banner is hung. Banners are limited to 24 square feet in size. Along with banners, pennants, festoons, balloons, tethered objects, strings of flags, streamers, inflated objects or any other device intended as an attractant which is affected by the natural movement of the air may be temporarily allowed under this section. Only the specific items approved on the special temporary sign permit may be used

by the applicant. Items not approved on the special temporary sign permit remain prohibited. If you have any questions about banners, please contact the Planning and Building Department at 406-863-2410.



VACANT COMMITTEE POSITIONS

WHITEFISH LAKE AND LAKESHORE COMMITTEE - One position, complete term ending 12/31/2020. Lakefront property owner and resides within city limits.

BOARD OF APPEALS - One position for experience or training to pass on matters pertaining to building construction.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT - Two positions, complete term ending 12/31/2020, applicant shall reside within city limits.

If you are interested, contact Michelle Howke, City Clerk, 406-863-2402, or mhowke@cityofwhitefish.org

GOOD OL' H2O!

WATER CONSERVATION ORDINANCE “REFRESHER”

Wasting less water is critical for the sustainability of Whitefish’s water infrastructure. It is also key to maintaining the city’s commitment to the approved Climate Action Plan. Key priorities of this plan include ;conserving water, protecting the city’s watersheds, and diversifying the city’s water supply resources. In order to meet these goals, the GENERAL CONSERVATION STAGE will remain part of routine operation for the city. Here’s a quick refresher on the highlights of the city’s water conservation rules:

- All outdoor watering is prohibited between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- Commercial lodging establishments must provide guests the option of choosing not to have linens washed every day.
- Watering must not result in coverage of pavement areas or result in excess runoff.
- All hoses used for watering or car washing shall be equipped with a positive shut-off nozzle.
- Stage I, or Severe Water Shortage, will be declared whenever the city must utilize all of its water treatment infrastructure due to extreme demands, or when extreme drought conditions are declared.
- Stage II, or Extreme Water Shortage, will be declared if the city’s infrastructure experiences a critical equipment failure or when exceptional drought conditions are declared.

BILLING FOR IRRIGATION

Whitefish residential customers who do not have a separate irrigation meter are allowed a monthly summer watering maximum of 12,000 gallons for water at a reduced rate. This is based on the average consecutive and consistent use during the seven monthly billing periods of November through May. Sewer charges are based on the average used during the same seven-month period. For those who use larger amounts of water outside, such as for lawn or garden irrigation, it is possible to purchase a separate meter from the Utility Billing Department office. The meter cost and installation are the property owner’s responsibility. For more information, please call the Utility Billing Department. at 406- 863-2457.

GET WATER-WISE THIS SUMMER

Whitefish has recently made a commitment to saving water as a community and adopted a water conservation ordinance to prepare for summer drought. Being careful about how much water you use can save you money and preserve our most valuable natural resource for future generations. Below are some helpful tips you can use to waste less water while still maintaining your outdoor landscaping and indoor comfort.

1.Make Your Home Water-Smart: The EPA maintains a comprehensive WaterSense database you can use to find information about saving water both inside and outside your home. You can search for water-efficient products (like toilets, showerheads, or faucets), get landscaping tips, or learn about the biggest water wasters in your home. (epa.gov/watersense)

2.Cultivate a Successful Lawn: The City’s new water conservation ordinance prohibits watering of lawns during the heat of the day, from 9am-5pm, so it’s the perfect time to learn how to better maintain your grass while saving on water and fertilizer costs. This brochure from MSU Extension features insights and information on establishing and maintaining a lawn (bit.ly/MSUlawns). And make sure to check your sprinklers to prevent irrigation runoff and keep water from being wasted on a sidewalk or street.

3.Take Shorter Showers: Spending less time in the shower and being sure to turn off the water while you’re brushing your teeth or shaving can quickly add up to significant water savings.

4.Laundry Smarter: Only wash full loads of laundry and use cold rather than hot water to save money on electricity bills. To save even more energy, air-dry your clothes on a clothesline or rack during the hot summer months.

5.Check for Leaks: Small household leaks can lead to gallons of water waste per day. If you notice a leak, make sure to take care of it right away and periodically check your pipes to make sure you aren’t paying for water to drip into your walls or out into the dirt.

Using Less Water Should Be A Part of Our Daily Lives

WHITEFISH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

As per Governor Bullock's directive, the Whitefish Community Library closed its doors to the public at noon, March 16, 2020. Over 640 books were checked out to our library patrons during those two hours of operation. It made us realize the services we offered to our community are appreciated. It also made us realize how important our patrons are to us and how much we enjoy sharing a conversation, a smile, or "have a great day" with all of you. For two weeks we were able to provide curbside service, and filling requests and holds on materials. When the directive was announced that only essential services were to remain open, it was necessary to halt our curbside service. Closing the library to the public challenges our purpose: "The mission of the Whitefish Community Library is to bring people and ideas together by providing and sharing information, inspiring lifelong learning, advancing knowledge and strengthening our community." Closing was not an easy decision, but one we made to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our patrons and our staff.

During this closure, staff has been busy evaluating our collection, mending books, correcting data entries, cleaning and taking online courses to apply towards certification.

A variety of downloadable audio and electronic e-books remain available on our website. Go to the Montana Shared Catalog icon and scroll down to MTlibrary2Go. The Libby app may need to be downloaded on your device first. You will need to enter all 14 digits of your

library card. If you do not have a library card you will have the ability to apply for a digital card when prompted.

"Learn to Code" instructor Patrick Brodie is continuing his class remotely in the WFLearnToCode from 3:30-5:30 p.m. every Wednesday. This free class is open to everyone.

Mary Drew put a great deal of effort into planning for the Summer Reading Incentive. Unfortunately, with the current COVID-19 pandemic this very popular program will be postponed and possibly cancelled for the 2020 Summer.

The Board of Trustees officially welcomed new Trustee-in-Training Trevor Gosner to replace Kris Lierboe who recently retired. Trevor brings his government budgeting, fiscal management, IT and HR experience to the Board. A special thank you to Kris Lierboe for her enthusiasm and dedication to the Whitefish Community Library.

We are grateful to the Whitefish Library Association for procuring a grant from Flathead Electric's Roundup-for-Safety grant to replace the Library's fire alarm system. We want to thank Flathead Electric for their continued support not only to the library, but to our community.

The Whitefish Community Library website is continually updated to keep you informed of changes. We'd like to thank you for your support, patience and understanding during the pandemic. We all stand together as a community and we will get through this together. We look forward to seeing you.

Whitefish Community Library
9 Spokane Ave
Whitefish, MT 59937
(406)862-9914

Joey Kositzky, Director

Library Hours:

Monday – 10 a.m to 7 p.m
Tuesday – 10 a.m to 6 p.m
Wednesday – 10 a.m to 6 p.m
Thursday – 10 a.m to 6 p.m
Friday – 11 a.m to 5 p.m
Saturday – 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Follow us on Facebook for updates:
 @ [Whitefish Community Library](https://www.facebook.com/WhitefishCommunityLibrary)
 or visit whitefishlibrary.org

Curbside Service has resumed! Keep up to date with the website whitefishlibrary.org, or call the library at 406-862-9914

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