

Public Works News

by Pete Vorbeck

Construction on the Butte Falls water improvement project is nearing startup time. All Town property, where ditches for waterlines are planned, must be cleared to make way for construction equipment. Town alleys are only 20 feet wide- woodpiles, vehicles, junk, every and anything that might get in the way of workers and equipment should be removed pronto! Questions? Call Public Works at 865-3220.

Been down to the Falls Lately? The road down has been graded and graveled. You'll find a large parking area, picnic tables, and a viewing platform that allows a good look at the Falls and a stretch upstream. Take a portable stove if you plan to cook- no campfires. Also, on your way back to Town, you might stop at the viewpoint on top. There's parking, a place to sit, and a spot to stand and look North across Big Butte Canyon.

There are several projects underway that have something to do with Public Works. The restrooms in the Town Park are getting a paint job, inside and out, thanks to Job Council summer employees Lindy and Angie Olson. Up at the Town Reservoirs, work has begun on an addition to the existing building that houses water valves and monitoring equipment. The new room will contain, because environmental regulations say it must be so, the chlorine injection system for the Town's water. Public Works is building the addition. Also, as part of the ongoing wastewater system improvement study, HGE engineering has begun testing sewer lines for leaks. The tests involve pressure-injection of smoke into the pipes and- where there's smoke there's fire? Nope, not this time- a puff of smoke rising in the middle of the lawn will only show where there's a leaky pipe that needs repair. Besides, the Fire Department might raise an eyebrow if you call them and ask them to rush over to your place because the lawn is on fire! So.... Not to worry. You will be notified when the tests are being done near your house.

The final part of news for the month of July is not even news yet, but maybe it should have been- WATERING HOURS!!! This last summer of the 20th century has, so far, been mostly on the cooler side- Yes, a few 100 + or near there days, more than a few cool evenings and chilly mornings, even warm thundershowers, but mostly on the cooler side of usual. So why, this July, WHY has the Town been using all (or more) of the water it's springs produce in a 24 hour period- 500 to 600 thousand gallons a day? The answer is overnight watering! Turning 'er on, going to bed, and letting 'er run all night long can waste somewhere between 100 and 200 thousand gallons of water a night! So.. In order to avoid the bother of WATERING HOURS in August, the prudent thing to do (as yesteryear President Bush used to say) is to turn 'er off before going to bed. Savvy gardeners and lawn fans know that the best watering hours are early mornings and early evenings. So...Let's avoid having to deal with WATERING HOURS by not letting 'er run all night long.

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AVON CALLING

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Butte Falls area representatives are:
Carol Gasperson 865-3995
Ellen Moore 865-3362

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FOR RENTAL INFORMATION
CONTACT CITY HALL
865-3262

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Sunday August 1st 9 am - 4 pm
Monday August 2nd 9 am - 3 pm

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For information call Ina Hilkey
865-3440