

we're preparing for



We are doing everything we can to assure that our City will work.

- We expect no disruptions in City services. We have plans, contingency plans and back-ups for the back-ups.
- We've held in-depth conversations with other essential service providers throughout our community.
 - Portland's utilities expect no Y2K-related disruptions in service. We expect to have power, fuel and water.
 - Local food suppliers, banks and medical institutions expect to meet the needs of their customers.

Of course, there are uncertainties. Nobody is in a position to make flat-out guarantees. We all recognize the regional, national and global aspects of interconnected computer systems.

That said, we feel reasonably optimistic. Portland's essential service providers have paid attention to Y2K concerns. Even so, nothing is perfect. And the Y2K rollover will happen in the middle of winter, along with typical seasonal challenges such as snow and ice, high winds and high water.

Unlike the usual situations for which we prepare, we know exactly when to expect the Y2K date rollover. If you are concerned, I encourage you to prepare your household for any disruption in service. Our recommendations are the same for any event that could disrupt community services.

- **It is always prudent to prepare for 3-7 days of self sufficiency;**
- **Create your own personal plan for weathering temporary disruptions in service;**
- **Assemble the supplies and equipment you feel you need.**
- **Identify neighbors who may need assistance coping with an emergency;**
- **Contribute to or volunteer for groups that will assist people with special needs;**
- **Maintain your readiness. Review plans and check supplies at least once a year.**

For more information on the City and Y2K, call 823-2000 or check our website at www.ci.portland.or.us. The American Red Cross also provides excellent information. You can request their preparedness information by calling **284-1234**.

We don't expect Y2K to create local service disruptions. But we do recognize the high profile of Y2K may create an opportunity for fraud. Unscrupulous individuals may take advantage of Y2K related fears and concerns. Use the same caution you normally would: don't give out financial information or personal identification numbers over the phone or to strangers. Carefully check out any Y2K related offers.

Throughout the next six months, we will provide you with more information.

- In early fall every household will receive a checklist for preparing your family for emergencies, including contacts for local service providers.
- Between now and January we will continue to monitor community readiness.
- We will continue to meet with other local service providers to assess and evaluate potential Y2K impacts.

We don't expect a problem, but we are prepared if one occurs. We all know it is better to have a plan and no emergency, than to have an emergency and no plan.

Vera Katz
Mayor, City of Portland



www.ci.portland.or.us

