

Did You Know . . .

By Chief Mathew Workman
Vernonia Police Department



N o w that we are finally experiencing some warmer and dryer weather, as well as moving our way into summer, it is also time I revisit

the annual topics of nuisance violations, curfew ordinance, and park use. All of these topics can and do affect every one of us at one time or another so it is good to get the proper information out there and correct any misinformation.

City Ordinance 756, more commonly known as "Nuisance Abatement". The spring season has brought back the growth of grass, weeds, and tree foliage, all of which need to be main-

tained. Nuisances are an ongoing issue around Vernonia and often the source of much discontentment for many people on both sides of the subject. I often get asked why the police respond to this type of complaint with more serious crime issues around. The easy answer is that the department addresses most all complaints of statute and ordinance violations, regardless of seriousness. The deeper answer is

that nuisance complaints can affect the "livability" of a community or neighborhood or present safety issues. If your community wants to attract good citizens, visitors, and employers, we need to have attractive and safe neighborhoods.

The department and city are committed to working with citizens to correct nuisances in a timely manner but, if not corrected, there is the possibility of

being fined. As a quick review, "nuisances" cover trash, dangerous structures, vermin or fire hazards, stagnant water, junk vehicles, attractive nuisances, right-of-way obstructions, noxious vegetation, trees, illegal dumping, dumping in waterways, maintaining ditches or culverts, nuisance animals, radio interference, barbed or electric fences, and commercial zone violations.

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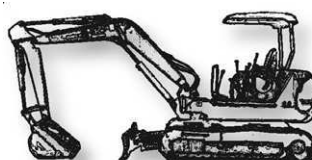
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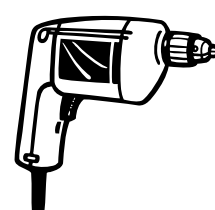
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