



# LAFAYETTE CITY NEWSLETTER

Published by the City of Lafayette

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DECEMBER 2020

## Fire Department Toy Drive

We would like to send a huge THANK YOU to all those who have donated toys! Your generosity is greatly appreciated, especially during these difficult times. The Lafayette Fire Department is still accepting donations for our annual Toy drive. Donors can deliver any new, unwrapped toys or monetary donations at Lafayette City Hall (486 Third Street) from now until December 16th. Your donations are greatly appreciated as we help to make the holiday season a little brighter for the children of Lafayette.



For Lafayette residents that are in need of assistance, applications are now available at City Hall. Applications must be completed and returned to City Hall by 5:00 pm December 4th. This program is designed to supplement income-eligible families with children 12 and under. We cannot guarantee that everyone who completes an application will receive assistance, but the Lafayette Fire Department will try to provide gifts to all families in need.



## COVID Micro-Grants Awarded

Thanks to the great community response, the City Council was able to disburse \$97,500 to families and businesses affected by the pandemic. Within the first two days, the City received 370 applications, of which 299 grants were allocated. “These checks were mailed to residents on November 30th,” says Mayor Marie Sproul, “and families will be receiving these grants just in time for the holidays!” The City was able to distribute these state and federal funds, to ease the financial hardship for utilities and other essential expenditures.



## Safe & Strong Community

The City would like to remind everyone that risk reduction measures are critical in limiting the spread of COVID-19, especially to those who are more vulnerable to serious illness and death. We can all do our part to help one another by:

- Limiting social get-togethers (indoors and outdoors) to no more than six people, total, from no more than two households. Please avoid all unnecessary travel.
- Wear a face mask or face shield while you are in any indoor public space and in outdoor spaces when you can't stay six (6) feet apart.
- Call your family, friends and neighbors. Mental and emotional support is essential during these difficult times. Get support for yourself; it's okay to ask for help.



For additional information and resources, please visit [www.safestrongoregon.org](http://www.safestrongoregon.org).

## Winter Weather Preparedness

Freezing temperatures, rain, ice and snow can play havoc with water pipes. Below are tips for protecting your home's plumbing this winter:

- Close all foundation vents and fill vent openings with wood or Styrofoam™ blocks.
- Insulate pipes in unheated areas, such as attics, crawl spaces and basements.
- Outside your home, disconnect garden hoses and drain in-ground irrigation systems. Wrap outside faucets or hose bibs with insulation if you don't have a separate outside valve to turn them off.
- Let a slight drip of water run when temperatures dip below freezing, and use cold water to avoid water heating charges. Open cupboard doors in the kitchen and bathrooms to allow indoor heat to circulate around pipes.

### WHAT IF PIPES BREAK?

- Close your main water shut-off valve to your house. Most shutoff valves are located where the water line enters the house, either at the water meter, in the basement near the water heater, or inside the garage. Turn off your water heater as well.
- If you need to have the water meter shut off, this requires assistance from Public Works. Please call City Hall at 503-864-2451, or 971-237-2515 after normal office hours.
- Contact a plumber for repairs if needed.


## Homeowner Responsibilities for Water and Sewer Lines

You may not be aware that Lafayette home and business owners are responsible for repairs or replacements of their utility service lines. Owners are responsible for the water service line from the meter to the structure. Owners are responsible for the sewer service line from the main to the structure, which may extend to the opposite side of the street before it connects to the public main. Insurance policies typically do not cover the repair of service lines, but owners can seek insurance coverage for these service lines from several national providers.

### Time to Conserve Water

Customer sewer rates are determined by using your average water consumption during winter months. Now is the time to make sure all outdoor spigots are turned off and fix any water leaks at faucets, toilets and appliances, to keep your sewer rate as low as possible for the coming year. Consumption averages are calculated in March and you will see your recalculated sewer rate on your April 1, 2021 bill. If you have questions regarding how rates are calculated, please contact City Hall at 503-864-2451.

# DECEMBER

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 <i>6:00 PM City Council</i>	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 <i>City Hall Closed at Noon</i>	25 <i>City Hall Closed</i>	26
27	28	29	30	31	