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A Bi-Monthly Newsletter from the City of Stayton

March / April 2013

# The Front Porch



## Mayor & Council

**Mayor A. Scott Vigil**

[MayorVigil@ci.stayton.or.us](mailto:MayorVigil@ci.stayton.or.us)

**Councilor Emily Gooch**

[egooch@ci.stayton.or.us](mailto:egooch@ci.stayton.or.us)

**Councilor Catherine Hemshorn**

[catherine.hemshorn@countryfinancial.com](mailto:catherine.hemshorn@countryfinancial.com)

**Councilor Jennifer Niegel**

[jniegel@ci.stayton.or.us](mailto:jniegel@ci.stayton.or.us)

**Councilor Henry Porter**

[henryp@wvi.com](mailto:henryp@wvi.com)

**Councilor Brian Quigley**

[bquigley@ci.stayton.or.us](mailto:bquigley@ci.stayton.or.us)

## Staff

**Don Eubank, City Administrator**

(503) 769-3425 / [deubank@ci.stayton.or.us](mailto:deubank@ci.stayton.or.us)

**Alissa Angelo, Deputy City Recorder**

(503) 769-3425 / [aangelo@ci.stayton.or.us](mailto:aangelo@ci.stayton.or.us)

**Christine Shaffer, Finance Director**

(503) 769-3425 / [cshaffer@ci.stayton.or.us](mailto:cshaffer@ci.stayton.or.us)

**Dan Fleishman, Planning & Development**

(503) 769-2998 / [dfleishman@ci.stayton.or.us](mailto:dfleishman@ci.stayton.or.us)

**David Kinney, Public Works Director**

(503) 769-2919 / [dkinney@ci.stayton.or.us](mailto:dkinney@ci.stayton.or.us)

**Rich Sebens, Police Chief**

(503) 769-3421 / [rsebens@ci.stayton.or.us](mailto:rsebens@ci.stayton.or.us)

**Louise Meyers, Library Director**

(503) 769-3313 / [lmeyers@ci.stayton.or.us](mailto:lmeyers@ci.stayton.or.us)

## Reserve a Spot in the Community Garden

*Stayton's Garden is located in Downtown Stayton at the corner of Fourth Avenue and Florence Street*

Did you know Stayton has our very own Community Garden? The garden began several years ago as a place for Stayton residents to grow and maintain their very own garden space.

There are 26 seasonal plots available for \$15 each. Spaces are first come, first serve. The Public Works Department is currently accepting applications for this year's growing season through May 1st.



Stayton's Community Garden

To reserve your space, please visit the Public Works office located at 311 N. 3rd Avenue. For questions or to learn more, contact Rachel Wolf at (503) 769-2919.

## Stayton Sprint Triathlon—Register Now!



Registration is now open for the third annual Stayton Sprint Triathlon, which will be held on May 18, 2013. This year's event will once again feature chip timing, which was a huge success in 2012. Also, registered participants have the opportunity to participate in local Triathlon Training at the Stayton Family Memorial Pool and Stayton Anytime Fitness.

Curious about what it takes to participate in a triathlon? Attend our FREE Triathlon 101 Workshop on Saturday, March 9 at 10:00 a.m. at the Stayton Family Memorial Pool to learn all you need to know. This workshop is open to anyone and everyone!

Finally, we are adding a fun, friendly competition to our event this year called "Triathlon Throwdown". We are inviting local schools and businesses to create teams and challenge each other (i.e. Stayton High vs. Regis High, etc.). To learn more and get your special registration form, contact us at (503) 769-2919.

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## High Water Consumption? You May Have a Leak

Water is our most precious resource. Doing everything in our power to prevent water waste helps to conserve this vital resource while saving money. What you may not realize is there can be many hidden leaks you cannot easily detect. Water leaks account for higher water bills and even structural damage. Any water leak that is located from the meter to the house is the responsibility of the owner to repair.



Water leaks may not just cost you more money on your water bill; they could also cost you your home. Water leaking into the structure of your house can weaken wood. Pooled water in hidden spaces can also encourage the growth of mold. Some molds are dangerous and can drive you from your home.

For many properties, the first suspicion of a leak occurs when high water consumption is noticed on the water bill. Water leaks can come from leaking toilets, pipes, irrigation systems, and water features such as ponds or fountains, among other areas.

### Did You Know?

A continuous leak at 60 psi water pressure would waste water in the approximate amounts shown below.				
Diameter of stream	Gallons per Month	Gallons per week	Gallons per 24 hours	Estimated additional cost to monthly utility bill at \$1.15/1,000 gallons
○ 1/4"	393,840	91,896	13,128	\$453
○ 3/16"	222,000	51,800	7,400	\$255
○ 1/8"	98,670	23,023	3,289	\$113
○ 1/16"	24,660	5,754	822	\$28

### Leaking Toilets

High volume water leaks often come from toilets. They are hard to detect and are usually caused by worn or misaligned parts. A toilet that continues to run after flushing could be wasting 5-11 gallons per hour – that's approximately 43,000 to 96,400 gallons per year, enough water to fill a swimming pool.

#### Checking for a Toilet Leak

- **Step 1**—Carefully remove the toilet tank lid. Place a dye tablet or food coloring in the tank.
- **Step 2**—After 15-20 minutes, check the water in your toilet bowl. If the water is colored, you've got a leak. Toilet repairs may require the assistance of a plumber.

### How to Check for an Overall Leak

The best way to check for overall leaks is to use your water meter. When accessing your water meter, use caution and do not attempt to operate the City side of the meter shut-off valve. If the meter is broken due to improper customer handling, the City has the right to bill the property owner for repairs.

- **Step 1**—Shut off all your water-using appliances and fixtures on the property. These include all water taps inside and outside the house, showers, sinks, washing machines and any appliances that use water.
- **Step 2**—Contact City Hall at (503) 769-3425 or the Public Works Department at (503) 769-2919 for your water meter location.
- **Step 3**—The water meter will have a small red/black triangle or a small red dial with a black line located on the face of the meter, which is called the "low flow indicator". If the "low flow indicator" is moving even slightly, then you have a leak. Even a small leak in a service line can add up to a significant amount of water loss.
- **Step 4**—If you have a leak, you will need to play detective to find the source. The most likely culprits are toilets, faucets, showerheads, service lines, sprinkler systems, and water features.

For more information, please call City Hall or the Public Works Department, and one of our staff would be happy to assist you.

## City Meeting Calendar

### City Council

7:00 p.m. at the Community Center  
March 4 / March 18 / April 1 / April 15

### Planning Commission

7:00 p.m. at the Community Center  
March 25 / April 29

### Parks & Recreation Board

7:00 p.m. at the Stayton Public Library  
March 5 / April 2

### Library Board

7:00 p.m. at the Stayton Public Library  
March 20 / April 17

### Commissioner's Breakfast

7:30 a.m. at the Covered Bridge Café  
March 12 / April 9

### Community Leaders Meeting

7:30 a.m. at the Covered Bridge Café  
March 8 / April 12

## Library Calendar

### Motion Monday

Mondays at 10:15 a.m.

### Story Time

Tuesdays & Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

### After School Story Time

Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m.

### Bedtime Story Time

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

### Loitering in the E.G. Siegmund Room

Wednesdays from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Open to ages 10 to 18

### Anime+

Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m.  
Open to ages 10 to 18

### Chapter Readers Book Club

Monday, March 25 at 3:30 p.m.

### FREE Computer Classes

First Friday of each month  
Please contact Library to register

## Santiam Senior Center Activities

### Game Day

Mondays at 11:00 a.m.

### Cribbage

Tuesdays at 12:00 p.m.

### Crafts & Hobbies

Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.

### Veterans Group

Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.

### Bingo

Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.

For more upcoming activities visit

[www.SantiamSeniorCenter.com](http://www.SantiamSeniorCenter.com)

or call (503) 767-2009

