



Elk Ridge Bugle

JUNE 2008

Message from the Mayor

We continue to have an ongoing problem with dogs in town. Our sheriff and the animal control officer spend an exceptional amount of time dealing with loose dogs that bite people, get into yards and leave deposits, tip over garbage cans and are a serious nuisance. It is a pet owner's responsibility to keep their dog on their own property and care for it.

The new law that passed in the state senate this year now makes it a felony to abuse any animals. This law is now in effect and will be taken very seriously. Letting your animals loose may not be abuse, but what other people do to protect their property and family could result in your pet being introduced to the animal shelter. That experience can and will be costly to you if you are the owner.

If you are a pet owner, please be accountable and care for them. Do not be irresponsible by causing your pets to become someone else's problem.

The city is also dealing with illegal animals in areas that the code simply does not allow them to be. Only a couple of areas in town allow farm animals such as chickens, ducks, and horses, yet those animals are being raised in areas of town that do not allow it. If you are presently raising those animals and are unsure if you have animal rights, please contact the office to determine if you are in an animal rights area. If you discover that

you are not allowed to have them, then the city will give you a week or two to comply.

The goal here is to help you to understand if you have those rights to your property or not and to make things proper.

Another area that the city will be focusing in immediately is for those residents that have lived here over two (2) years and have not landscaped their front and side yards. Our code presently states that a new home owner has twenty four (24) months from receiving an occupancy permit to put the front and side yards in at their dwelling. This present code went into effect on 10 Feb. 2006. If you moved in prior to that date, our weed abatement and nuisance law can apply to your not having a yard in.

If you are aware of a good neighbor who could use your help in getting their yard in, now is the time to offer them some help. This summer is the last season that the city will look the other direction concerning this matter. It is a class C misdemeanor to neglect this code. Please do your best to make Elk Ridge look beautiful.

PUBLIC MEETING

On June 10th we will be holding a public meeting regarding a sewer rate adjustment. Public input will be taken beginning at 7:15 p.m. that night. Currently our operating and maintenance cost exceed our user fees so an adjustment will be necessary. So if you would like to know more please feel free to join us on this night.

Part time position open

The City is in need of a part time Planning Commission Assistant. If Interested please apply at the City Office. For more information call 423-2300

SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

When building a home in Elk Ridge, it is mandatory according to our building standards, to have put in a PRV (pressure reduction valve) at the location where the culinary water supply enters the foundation inside the home. You must have access to it. These valves are designed to protect your appliances and taps from pressure changes that result from any distribution changes that may happen. To determine if your dwelling has one installed, please look for a device that looks like the accompanying picture. If you are just not sure what you have, please call the City and we will come and look at your water supply plumbing and let you know if you should do anything different.



Sheriff's Corner

Thank you for the emails I have received about your concerns. I wish all of them could be solved, but as I have said in the past, I will try to find a resolution if possible. Sometimes the law does not always match our personal wishes and or desires, we do live in a society of different personalities and wants.

As I stated in last months article, Elk Ridge was victim to a few burglaries. It appears entry was made through an open or unlocked garage

doors. Since that time as I drive through our city I still see garage doors open and no one around. The ones that really catch my attention are the ones which have no vehicles in the garage which is a good indication that no one is home. This appearance is nothing short of putting a sign up saying,

“PLEASE COME TAKE MY PROPERTY.”

Please, I know we are all busy and perhaps we just ran down to the store, church, school, or just the neighbors down the street. Take the time to close your garage door after you leave your home. In the long run it will save you hours of time, money, and who knows how much lost personal that may not be able to be replaced.

FRAUD

As I promised each month I will write an article in your news letter which will hopefully be helpful to you, your family, and perhaps our community. I would like to talk about **Identity Fraud** this month. No doubt fraud has always been around and I'm sure will continue to be so. The years of buying what you wanted or needed by strictly cash and a hand shake are almost over. We as a society now have the convenience of a credit or debit cards, and internet purchasing etc. This is all designed for speed and convenience and if not used carefully can be dangerous. Sometimes I think how much the “good old days” made more sense. You saw, at the time of purchase, what you were buying etc. I am often asked, “how can my identity be protected?” I wish I had the answer.

Anytime you make a purchase using anything other than cash you are taking a chance of your information being used. From the store clerk, all the way to the bank teller who takes your deposit. There are currently hundreds of people within the financial institutions who have access to all or limited information of yours. Just think how many people looked at your 2007 income taxes this year. WOW! Now remember all that information you gave them, that's right, we gave that to them based on trust. Now that we are all really nervous, the best thing to limit and I mean limit the possibility of identity fraud is keep track of all purchases when not using cash. Check all of your accounts frequently. At anytime you see a problem call the Sheriff's Office and file a report. Prior to the deputy's arrival have all of your account information available to assist the deputy in the information needed. You will then need to file a report with the three main credit bureaus, **Equifax, TransUnion, and Experian.**

The responding deputy will provide you with a case number for your records.

A few rules to follow:

1. **NEVER**, give anyone your personal information over the phone, **NOT EVEN YOUR NAME**, unless you know **100%, NOT 99%** who or what it is for and who they are.
2. **NEVER**, send money to a foreign country to any **unknown person**, using wire transfer, such as Western Union etc. **Your money will never be recovered.**
3. **Phone solicitors**, again if you did not make the call hang up the phone immediately.
4. **Internet Email**, There have been cases of scholarships, grants, job opportunities on and on. The list is forever. Anytime you respond to these kind of solicitations at one point you are going to be requested to provide information, Please do not respond to them at all. You will be taking a chance.

STAYING SAFE!!!!

I have spoken with the city about Door-to-Door Sales person's. We are currently looking at Identification badges for the salesperson's to wear on their shirt. If you have a salesperson come to your door and you do not see an Elk Ridge Badge please call the Sheriff's Office Immediately and a deputy will respond. Again, any business which is conducted at your home is civil in nature, but with your safety in mind, Elk Ridge City and the Utah County Sheriff's Office is implementing the Door-to-Door Sales Badge for your safety. **Never conduct any business with door to door sales person inside your home. Please stay visible so your neighbors can see you. If you feel un-comfortable please do not answer the door. If you have any questions please ask.**

TRAFFIC

I would like to personally thank each of you for taking a personal interest in Elk Ridge Safety. As I drive through Elk Ridge I have noticed more vehicles have been observing speed limit signs and stop signs. THANK YOU SO MUCH. There is nothing worse than responding to an accident when lives have been changed forever. To assist us in remembering our traffic signs, upon my request, the Sheriff's Office has purchased LED Red and Yellow Lights. These lights will be temporarily placed on signs at various times to help us to remember stop or observe speed limits in your community. They are not permanent, so don't count on them always being there. **Hint, enforcement will follow.** Please

do not remove them, they are to help us and they are expensive. Thank you!

Tip of the month

DOGS: More citations are being issued for non registered, unvaccinated and running at large pets. Please keep your dogs secured. and it's never to late to get it's shots and have it registered. Remember, pay yourself not the court.

Please, voice your proactive concerns directly to me at: jt195@yahoo.com. Just include location of the concern. All others please call dispatch at 851-4100, and report the incident there. I will return your email as soon as possible and you will remain anonymous. Thank You!

Asphalt Work

For the past two years several citizens of Elk Ridge wanted to know how to get asphalt work done on their property and realized that the city had an asphalt company in the area working. Because the asphalt company only brings enough materials for the contracted job, they couldn't assist individual homeowners. However, this year the asphalt company, Staker & Parson, is willing to give estimates for individual work sites and when they come into Elk Ridge to do the city streets, they will bring enough materials to address the citizens who want work done. You will need to send your name and address with the particular work you want done, such as driveway, or driveway entrances to the city offices by June 27th. In turn your request will be collected and given to the asphalt representative and estimator. Should you decide to have the work done, the target date for the city to have street work done is the last of June or the first of July.

Please remember that the city contract with Staker & Parson may be lower than the price for non-governmental work. As always, the individual should check with other contractors to ensure they are getting the best price for the product they are requesting. The city will be purchasing approximately 207,000 s.f. of asphalt, so our price my be different than individuals.

Elk Ridge Fire Department June Newsletter

Many of our Elk Ridge residents have been requesting information on the use of open fire pits within city limits. The following guidelines and precautions should be followed:

- a. The fire pit should be encircled with a nonflammable material, such as a steel ring and setting on a nonflammable base. The sides of the fire ring should be between 6 to 8 inches tall. Fire brick enclosures are a great fire pit material. The use of rocks is not recommended because some rock will explode when heated and cause injuries.
- b. Metal and ceramic portable fire pits are preferred over open fire pits. The portable metal fire pits use a metal mesh screen enclosure and a metal cap to enclose the fire pit. The screen and cap help to eliminate the potential of sparks escaping from the fire. The cap can be used to smother the fire by taking off the mesh enclosure and placing it on top of the portable fire pit.
- c. Propane or natural gas fire pits are the safest to use because they are easy to control. There is no potential for sparks and there are no combustible materials around the fire pit. If you use a propane fire pit, make sure you have the propane tank at least ten feet from the fire. If the portable tank is too close to the fire, radiant heat from the fire can heat the tank and make it explode.
- d. Fire wood should be kept to a length of 12 to 14 inches and the flame of the fire should not reach more than two feet above the fire pit. Keep your fires small and under control at all times. Using larger or longer pieces of wood will cause a large fire that can get out of control. Burning of garbage materials such as cardboard, paper, or plastics are prohibited. Small amounts of newspaper or cardboard can be used to start the fire only.
- e. Always watch for sparks flying off the burning wood. Sparks can land on your roof, grass, or wood pile and cause a fire. Portable fire pit with mesh enclosures and a top cap will help eliminate this potential problem. Open fire pits are unprotected pits and sparks are allowed free range of your property or your neighbors.

- f. Keep all fire wood at least 10 feet from your fire pit. Do not stack your wood next to the pit or against the wall of the fire pit. Fire starting fluids or wood shavings should be immediately removed from the area once the fire has been started.
- g. Keep a charged garden hose ready for use at all times. If something should happen and your fire gets out of control or a spark has ignited grass, your wood pile, or even your roof, the garden hose will be ready to use. You do not want to waste time finding your hose, hooking it up, charging it and then spraying down the fire. By that time the fire has grown quickly. **ALWAYS CALL 911 IF YOUR ROOF CATCHING ON FIRE OR YOUR FIRE IS OUT OF CONTROL.**

The above guidelines are guidelines only. However you can be held responsible for damage to your property or your neighbors if these guidelines are not met. If you are found negligent, you could be charged for the Fire Department's costs and the cost to repair the damage to your neighbor's home or yard.

Make this summer a safe and rewarding time for you and your family. Make sure your children are supervised at all times when you use a fire pit. If you use a fire pit, be responsible and follow the above guidelines. Just remember, fire pits are fun and a great place to gather the family to have hot dogs, marshmallows, or smores. As Smokie the Bear said, "Only you can prevent fires."

ATTENTION

*The Elk Ridge Parade Committee
is looking for sponsors –
cash donations, gift certificates,
merchandise, candy ...
If you or your business are
interested in donating call
Connie Reece at 423-1906 or 787-2477*

*Any other questions call
Katherine Fillerup at 423-6431*

ELK RIDGE SPORTS

SOCCKER: Soccer sign ups are coming up. Early registration will be June 20th at the city office from 9:00-6:30. After that you will be charged a \$5 late fee. Any questions call Janna Barry at 465-5112.

Future Dates to Remember:
Flag Football sign ups – Aug. 15th
Basketball Sign ups – October 24th

SPORTS EQUIPMENT – If there are any coaches who still have equipment from past sports, please return it ASAP to Kara Cook at 91 W Hudson Lane. Thanks for your help!

THANKS to all for supporting my Eagle Project! We collected electronics to be recycled or disposed of properly, and we filled our entire trailer full of computers, monitors, televisions, printers and other things.

Jordan Riley

